

The G20 Research Group  
at Trinity College at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy  
in the University of Toronto  
presents the

## **2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance Report**

2 December 2018 to 10 May 2019

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“The University of Toronto ... produced a detailed analysis to the extent of which each G20 country has met its commitments since the last summit ... I think this is important; we come to these summits, we make these commitments, we say we are going to do these things and it is important that there is an organisation that checks up on who has done what.”

— *David Cameron, Prime Minister, United Kingdom, at the 2012 Los Cabos Summit*

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## Contents

Contents.....	2
Preface.....	3
Toronto Research Team .....	4
CIIR G20 Research Team .....	5
Introduction and Summary.....	6
Commitment Breakdown.....	7
Selection of Commitments .....	7
Final Compliance Scores.....	7
Final Compliance by Member .....	7
Final Compliance by Commitment .....	7
Table 1: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Commitments Selected for Compliance Monitoring .....	8
Table 2: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance Scores .....	10
Table 4: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance by Member .....	11
Table 5: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance by Commitment .....	12
Table 6: G20 Compliance by Member, 2008–2017 .....	13
Conclusions.....	14
Future Research and Reports .....	14
Considerations and Limitations .....	14
Appendix: General Considerations .....	15
1. Climate Change: Disaster Resilience.....	16
2. Development: Early Childhood Development .....	47
3. Digital Economy: Data Governance .....	74
4. Employment: Skills Development .....	104
5. Energy: Cleaner, Flexible and Transparent Systems .....	146
6. Financial Regulation: Tax Administration .....	208
7. Food Security: Malnutrition .....	240
8. Gender: Economic Empowerment.....	302
9. Reform of the International Financial Institutions: International Monetary Fund.....	358
10. Macroeconomics: Inclusive Growth.....	379
11. Climate Change: Paris Agreement.....	430
12. Digital Economy: Digital Infrastructure .....	461
13. Employment: Future of Work.....	490
14. Energy: Energy Security.....	513
15. Financial Regulation: Technology .....	541
16. Financial Regulation: International Taxation .....	567
17. Food and Agriculture: Sustainable Agriculture .....	584
18. Health: Universal Health Coverage.....	616
19. Infrastructure: Infrastructure Investment.....	651
20. Trade: Reform of the World Trade Organization .....	672

## **Preface**

Since the G20 leaders met at their first summit in 2008 in Washington, the G20 Research Group at the University of Toronto and the Center for International Institutions Research of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA), formerly with the International Organizations Research Institute at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE), in Moscow have produced reports on their progress in implementing the priority commitments made at each summit. These reports monitor each G20 member's efforts to implement a carefully chosen selection of the many commitments produced at each summit. The reports are offered to the general public and to policy makers, academics, civil society, the media and interested citizens around the world in an effort to make the work of the G20 more transparent, accessible and effective, and to provide scientific data to enable the meaningful analysis of the causes of compliance and the impact of this important informal international institution. Previous reports are available at the G20 Information Centre at <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis>.

The G20 Research Group has been working with Marina Larionova's team at RANEPA and previously at HSE since initiating this G20 compliance research in 2009, after the Washington Summit in November 2008. The initial report, covering only one commitment made at that summit, tested the compliance methodology developed by the G8 Research Group and adapted it to the G20.

To make its assessments, the G20 Research Group relies on publicly available information, documentation and media reports. To ensure accuracy, comprehensiveness and integrity, we encourage comments from stakeholders. Indeed, scores can be recalibrated if new material becomes available. All feedback remains anonymous. Responsibility for the contents of this report lies exclusively with the authors and analysts of the G20 Research Group.

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## Introduction and Summary

The G20 2018 Buenos Aires Final Compliance Report is prepared by the G20 Research Group based at the University of Toronto and its Russian partner at the Center for International Institutions Research of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA). The report analyzes compliance by G20 members with a selection of 20 priority commitments of a total of 128 commitments made at the Buenos Aires Summit hosted by Argentina on 30 November – 1 December 2018. The report covers relevant actions taken by the G20 members between 2 December 2018 to 10 May 2019.

Due to the short seven-month compliance cycle between the Buenos Aires and Osaka summits, there was not sufficient time to prepare an interim compliance report. As a result, there remain at least two questions regarding the interpretive guidelines and consequent scoring metrics and scores for at least two assessments in this report. One, regarding commitment 17 on food and agriculture, is the inclusion of the actions of state-owned enterprises as qualifying as government implementing action. The second question applies to the two climate change commitments with regard to including the depth as well as breadth of implementing action in the assessments.

## Methodology and Scoring System

This report draws on the methodology developed by the G8 Research Group, which has been monitoring G7/8 compliance since 1996 (the International Organisations Research Institute at the Higher School of Economics (IORI HSE) joined this multiyear project in 2005, and Bond University participated in 2014). The use of this methodology builds cross-institutional and cross-member consistency and also allows compatibility with compliance assessments of other institutions.

The methodology uses a scale from -1 to +1, where +1 indicates full compliance with the stated commitment, -1 indicates a failure to comply or action taken that is directly opposite to the stated instruments or goal of the commitment, and 0 indicates partial compliance or work in progress, such as initiatives that have been launched but are not yet near completion and whose full results can therefore not be assessed. Each member assessed receives a score of -1, 0 or +1 for each commitment. For convenience, the scores in the tables have been converted to percentages, where -1 equals 0 per cent and +1 equals 100 per cent.<sup>1</sup>

A -1 compliance score does not necessarily imply an unwillingness to comply on the part of G20 members. In some cases, policy actions can take multiple compliance cycles to implement and measure. As the G20 Research Group and RANEPA (formerly the research team at IORI HSE) continue to monitor developments, progress made by members can be recorded in future compliance reports.

The Compliance Coding Manual that describes the methodology in detail is available on the G20 Information Centre website at <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/index.html#method>.

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<sup>1</sup> The formula to convert a score into a percentage is  $P = 50 \times (S + 1)$ , where P is the percentage and S is the score.

<sup>2</sup> A commitment is defined as a discrete, specific, publicly expressed, collectively agreed statement of intent; a promise by summit members that they will undertake future action to move toward, meet or adjust to an identified target.

## **Commitment Breakdown**

The G20 made a total of 128 commitments at the Buenos Aires Summit.<sup>2</sup> These commitments, as identified by the G20 Research Group and RANEPa, are drawn from the official Buenos Aires Leaders' Declaration and the G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan.

## **Selection of Commitments**

For each compliance cycle (that is, the period between summits), the research team selects commitments that reflect the breadth of the G20 agenda and also reflect the priorities of the summit's host, while balancing the selection to allow for comparison with past and future summits, following the methodology developed by the G8 Research Group. The selection also replicates the breakdown of issue areas and the proportion of commitments in each one. Primary criteria for priority commitment selection are the comprehensiveness and relevance to the summit, the G20 and the world, as well as individual and collective pledges. Selected commitments must also meet secondary criteria of performance measurability and ability to comply to some degree within a year, as well as tertiary criteria of significance as identified by scientific teams and relevant stakeholders in the host country.

For the 2018 Buenos Aires Final Compliance Report, 20 priority commitments were selected for assessment by the University of Toronto and RANEPa teams from the 128 commitments made at the Buenos Aires Summit (see Table 1).

## **Final Compliance Scores**

The assessment is based on relevant, publicly available information relating to actions taken from 2 December 2018 to 10 May 2019. The final compliance scores by commitment are contained in Table 2. Country rankings are listed in Table 3 and commitment rankings are listed in Table 4.

For the full final report and including all 20 priority commitments, G20 members achieved an average final compliance score of 78%.

## **Final Compliance by Member**

For compliance with the Buenos Aires Summit's priority commitments, the European Union, has the highest rate of compliance at +1.00 (100%), followed by Australia at +0.80 (90%), and Argentina, Canada, China, Germany and the United Kingdom tied with +0.75 (88%). The lowest scoring member is South Africa with +0.05 (53%). The difference between the highest and lowest G20 member compliance scores is +0.95 (47%). All the scores by G20 members are listed in Table 3.

## **Final Compliance by Commitment**

This particular compliance cycle has produced a high level of compliance for several areas so far. The commitments on health (universal health coverage) and digital infrastructure ranked highest at +0.85 (93%), followed by the commitments on energy security and malnutrition at +0.80 (90%), and on clean energy systems at +0.75 (88%). The lowest score was on financial regulation on potential benefits of technology in the financial sector at +0.05 (53%). For more information on scoring by commitment, see Table 8.

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<sup>2</sup> A commitment is defined as a discrete, specific, publicly expressed, collectively agreed statement of intent; a promise by summit members that they will undertake future action to move toward, meet or adjust to an identified target. More details are contained in the Reference Manual for Summit Commitment and Compliance Coding).

**Table 1: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Commitments Selected for Compliance Monitoring**

1	Climate Change: Disaster Resilience	“[We recognize the importance of comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters.] In this sense, we support actions and cooperation in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.” (Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration)
2	Development: Early Childhood Development	“We launch the G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development and stand ready to join all stakeholders in enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs that consider the multidimensional approach of ECD, as means of building human capital to break the cycle of intergenerational and structural poverty, and of reducing inequalities, specially where young children are most vulnerable.” (Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration)
3	Digital Economy: Data Governance	“We support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.” (Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration)
4	Employment: Skills Development	[We remain committed to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting...] vocational training and skills development, [including reskilling workers and improving labour conditions in all forms of employment, recognizing the importance of social dialogue in this area, including work delivered through digital platforms, with a focus on promoting labour formalization and making social protection systems strong and portable, subject to national law and circumstances.] (Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration)
5	Energy: Cleaner, Flexible and Transparent Systems	“We encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.” (Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration)
6	Financial Regulation: Tax Administration	“We continue to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries, including through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.” (Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration)
7	Food Security: Malnutrition	“Building on the G20 Food Security and Nutrition Framework, we reaffirm our commitment to tackling the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.” (Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration)
8	Gender: Economic Empowerment	“We commit to promoting women’s economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.” (Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration)
9	International Finance Institution Reform: International Monetary Fund	“We reaffirm our commitment to further strengthening the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF at its centre.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)
10	Macroeconomics: Inclusive Growth	“We are steadfast in our commitment to ensure that growth is inclusive and that the benefits are shared widely amongst our citizens.” (Buenos Aires Action Plan)

11	Climate Change: Paris Agreement	“Signatories to the Paris Agreement, who have also joined the Hamburg Action Plan], commit to its full implementation, reflecting common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)
12	Digital Economy: Digital Infrastructure	“[To maximize the benefits of digitalization and emerging technologies for innovative growth and productivity], we will promote measures to ... improve ... digital infrastructure.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)
13	Employment: Future of Work	“We endorse the Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work which we will draw on, considering individual country circumstances, to: harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)
14	Energy: Energy Security	“We will promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability, acknowledging that there are varied sources of energy and technological advances to achieve a low emissions future.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)
15	Financial Regulation: Technology	“We will step up efforts to ensure that the potential benefits of technology in the financial sector can be realized while risks are mitigated.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)
16	Financial Regulation: International Taxation	“We will continue our work for a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system based, in particular on tax treaties and transfer pricing rules, and welcome international cooperation to advance pro-growth tax policies.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)
17	Food and Agriculture: Sustainable Agriculture	“We will promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture, conscious of the importance of sustainable soil, water and riverbanks management supported by individual countries voluntarily, taking into consideration the specific needs of family and small-holder farmers.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)
18	Health: Universal Health Coverage	“We reaffirm the need for stronger health systems providing cost effective and evidence-based intervention to achieve better access to health care and to improve its quality and affordability to move towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC), in line with their national contexts and priorities.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)
19	Infrastructure: Infrastructure Investment	“To address the persistent infrastructure financing gap, we reaffirm our commitment to attract more private capital to infrastructure investment.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)
20	Trade: World Trade Organization Reform	“We therefore support the necessary reform of the WTO to improve its functioning.” (G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan)

**Table 2: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance Scores**

	Argentina	Australia	Brazil	Canada	China	France	Germany	India	Indonesia	Italy	Japan	Korea	Mexico	Russia	Saudi Arabia	South Africa	Turkey	United Kingdom	United States	European Union	Average		
1	Climate Change: Disaster Resilience	0	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	-1	+1	+1	+1	0	-1	0	-1	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.40	70%
2	Development: Early Childhood Development	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	0	0	0	+1	0	0	+1	0	-1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.45	73%
3	Digital Economy: Data Governance	0	+1	0	0	+1	0	0	-1	+1	0	0	0	+1	0	-1	0	0	-1	+1	+1	+0.10	55%
4	Employment: Skills Development	0	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	0	-1	0	0	+1	0	0	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.40	70%
5	Energy: Cleaner, Flexible and Transparent Systems	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	-1	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
6	Financial Regulation: Tax Administration	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	0	0	+1	0	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+0.50	75%
7	Food Security: Malnutrition	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.80	90%
8	Gender: Economic Empowerment	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.65	83%
9	IFI Reform: IMF	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	-1	-1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	0	0	0	0	+1	+0.35	68%
10	Macroeconomics: Inclusive Growth	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	0	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.70	85%
11	Climate Change: Paris Agreement	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	0	0	+1	n/a	+1	+1	+0.74	87%
12	Digital Economy: Digital Infrastructure	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.85	93%
13	Employment: Future of Work	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	0	0	+1	0	+1	+0.65	83%
14	Energy: Energy Security	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.80	90%
15	Financial Regulation: Technology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	+1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	+1	0	+1	+0.05	53%
16	Financial Regulation: International Taxation	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	-1	0	+1	0	0	+1	0	+1	+0.60	80%
17	Food and Agriculture: Sustainable Agriculture	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	+1	0	0	+1	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+0.55	78%
18	Health: UHC	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.85	93%
19	Infrastructure: Infrastructure Investment	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	0	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.65	83%
20	Trade: WTO Reform	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	0	-1	-1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.60	80%
	Average	+0.75	+0.80	+0.70	+0.75	+0.75	+0.65	+0.75	+0.45	+0.35	+0.55	+0.60	+0.60	+0.35	+0.45	+0.45	+0.05	+0.25	+0.75	+0.37	+1.00	+0.57	78%
		88%	90%	85%	88%	88%	83%	88%	73%	68%	78%	80%	80%	68%	73%	73%	53%	63%	88%	69%	100%	78%	

Note: IFI = international financial institution; IMF = International Monetary Fund; UHC = universal health coverage; WTO = World Trade Organization.

**Table 3: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance by Member**

Rank	Member	Average	
1	European Union	+1.00	100%
2	Australia	+0.80	90%
3	Argentina	+0.75	88%
	Canada		
	China		
	Germany		
	United Kingdom		
8	Brazil	+0.70	85%
9	France	+0.65	83%
10	Japan	+0.60	80%
	Korea		
12	Italy	+0.55	78%
13	India	+0.45	73%
	Russia		
	Saudi Arabia		
16	United States	+0.37	69%
17	Indonesia	+0.35	68%
	Mexico		
19	Turkey	+0.25	63%
20	South Africa	+0.05	53%

**Table 4: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance by Commitment**

Rank	Commitment	Average	
1	Digital Economy: Digital Infrastructure	+0.85	93%
	Health: Universal Health Coverage		
3	Energy: Energy Security	+0.80	90%
	Food Security: Malnutrition		
5	Energy: Cleaner, Flexible and Transparent Systems	+0.75	88%
6	Climate Change: Paris Agreement	+0.74	87%
7	Macroeconomics: Inclusive Growth	+0.70	85%
8	Employment: Future of Work	+0.65	83%
	Gender: Economic Empowerment		
	Infrastructure: Infrastructure Investment		
11	Financial Regulation: International Taxation	+0.60	80%
	Trade: Reform of the World Trade Organization		
13	Food and Agriculture: Sustainable Agriculture	+0.55	78%
14	Development: Early Childhood Development	+0.45	73%
	Financial Regulation: Tax Administration		
16	Climate Change: Disaster Resilience	+0.40	70%
	Employment: Skills Development		
18	IFI Reform: International Monetary Fund	+0.35	68%
19	Digital Economy: Data Governance	+0.10	55%
20	Financial Regulation: Technology	+0.05	53%

**Table 5: G20 Compliance by Member, 2008–2017**

Member	Final Washington 2008		Final London 2009		Final Pittsburgh 2009		Final Toronto 2010		Final Seoul 2010		Final Cannes 2011		Final Los Cabos 2012		Final St. Petersburg 2013		Final Brisbane 2014		Final Antalya 2015		Final Hangzhou 2016		Final Hamburg 2017	
	Argentina	0	50%	-0.60	20%	-0.13	44%	0	50%	-0.08	46%	0	50%	+0.31	66%	+0.06	53%	+0.06	53%	+0.53	76%	+0.63	82%	+0.82
Australia	n/a	–	+0.60	80%	+0.50	75%	+0.56	78%	+0.85	93%	+0.67	84%	+0.94	97%	+0.63	81%	+0.59	79%	+0.65	82%	+0.79	89%	+0.71	85%
Brazil	+1.00	100%	+0.20	60%	-0.63	19%	+0.29	65%	+0.42	71%	+0.60	80%	+0.56	78%	+0.31	66%	+0.12	56%	+0.53	76%	+0.58	79%	+0.82	91%
Canada	+1.00	100%	+0.60	80%	+0.63	82%	+0.78	89%	+0.69	85%	+0.73	87%	+0.75	88%	+0.44	72%	+0.71	85%	+0.65	82%	+0.84	92%	+0.94	97%
China	0	50%	-0.40	30%	+0.13	57%	+0.38	69%	+0.42	71%	+0.53	77%	+0.38	69%	+0.19	59%	+0.59	79%	+0.59	79%	+0.74	87%	+0.76	88%
France	+1.00	100%	+0.80	90%	+0.63	82%	+0.56	78%	+0.77	89%	+0.60	80%	+0.69	85%	+0.69	84%	+0.63	81%	+0.71	85%	+0.63	82%	+0.94	97%
Germany	+1.00	100%	+0.80	90%	+0.63	82%	+0.56	78%	+0.54	77%	+0.67	84%	+0.56	78%	+0.75	88%	+0.69	84%	+0.71	85%	+0.79	89%	+0.88	94%
India	0	50%	-0.40	30%	-0.38	31%	-0.29	36%	+0.42	71%	+0.60	80%	+0.50	75%	+0.63	81%	+0.59	79%	+0.65	82%	+0.63	82%	+0.82	91%
Indonesia	n/a	–	-0.40	30%	-0.63	19%	-0.13	44%	+0.36	68%	+0.14	57%	+0.47	74%	+0.50	75%	+0.12	56%	+0.18	59%	+0.53	76%	+0.94	97%
Italy	+1.00	100%	0	50%	+0.13	57%	+0.56	78%	+0.77	89%	+0.80	90%	+0.19	60%	+0.44	72%	+0.13	56%	+0.71	85%	+0.32	66%	+0.76	88%
Japan	+1.00	100%	+0.20	60%	+0.50	75%	+0.56	78%	+0.62	81%	+0.47	74%	+0.50	75%	+0.31	66%	+0.65	82%	+0.35	68%	+0.68	84%	+0.76	88%
Korea	n/a	–	0	50%	+0.75	88%	+0.56	78%	+0.46	73%	+0.60	80%	+0.63	82%	+0.38	69%	+0.65	82%	+0.53	76%	+0.68	84%	+0.71	85%
Mexico	+1.00	100%	0	50%	+0.25	63%	-0.14	43%	+0.58	79%	+0.67	84%	+0.69	85%	+0.38	69%	+0.47	74%	+0.53	76%	+0.53	76%	+0.65	82%
Russia	0	50%	+0.40	70%	+0.38	69%	+0.13	57%	+0.59	80%	+0.60	80%	+0.63	82%	+0.44	72%	+0.47	74%	+0.47	74%	+0.68	84%	+0.65	82%
Saudi Arabia	n/a	–	+0.20	60%	-0.13	44%	-0.13	44%	+0.08	54%	+0.21	61%	+0.50	75%	+0.06	53%	-0.24	38%	+0.35	68%	+0.42	71%	+0.59	79%
South Africa	+1.00	100%	+0.40	70%	+0.63	82%	-0.14	43%	+0.33	67%	+0.47	74%	+0.47	74%	+0.25	63%	-0.12	44%	+0.24	62%	+0.37	68%	+0.65	82%
Turkey	n/a	–	+0.20	60%	-0.25	38%	-0.14	43%	+0.17	59%	+0.20	60%	+0.25	63%	+0.25	63%	0	50%	+0.41	71%	+0.37	68%	+0.29	65%
UK	+1.00	100%	+1.00	100%	+0.50	75%	+0.78	89%	+0.77	89%	+0.87	94%	+0.81	91%	+0.75	88%	+0.76	88%	+0.71	85%	+0.47	74%	+0.94	97%
US	0	50%	+0.40	70%	+1.00	100%	+0.33	67%	+0.38	69%	+0.53	77%	+0.81	91%	+0.69	84%	+0.76	88%	+0.71	85%	+0.42	71%	+0.35	68%
EU	+1.00	100%	+0.60	80%	+0.38	69%	+0.57	79%	+0.82	91%	+0.85	93%	+0.75	88%	+0.63	81%	+0.75	88%	+0.81	91%	+0.84	92%	0.94	97%
Average	+0.67	83%	+0.23	62%	+0.24	62%	+0.28	64%	+0.50	75%	+0.54	77%	+0.57	79%	+0.44	72%	+0.42	71%	+0.55	77%	+0.60	80%	0.75	87%

n/a = not available

## Conclusions

G20 compliance performance for the chosen priority commitments, measured as a summit average, improved incrementally from the 2009 London Summit and 2009 Pittsburgh Summit (both at 62%) to the 2010 Toronto Summit (64%) and then rose with the 2010 Seoul Summit (75%), the 2011 Cannes Summit (77%) and the 2012 Los Cabos Summit (79%). With the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, compliance dropped to 72% and the compliance with the 2014 Brisbane Summit commitments dropped to 71%. The final score for the 2015 Antalya Summit was 77%. The final score for the 2016 Hangzhou Summit is 80%. The final score for the 2017 Hamburg Summit is 87%. If the G20 can improve its performance on delivering on its promises, it may validate its claim for legitimacy as a global governance institution.

Many of the commitments assessed in this report have timelines that extend beyond the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit or reflect medium- and long-term priorities. A unique feature of this report is the incorporation of deadlines for commitments monitored over multiple compliance cycles. The convergence of medium- and long-term commitments and those with deadlines in the near future reflects the nature of G20 decisions as a crisis management forum and a global governance steering institution. It also illustrates the multifaceted nature of compliance assessment. As the relationship among short, medium, and long-term commitments becomes clearer, the compliance landscape for many of these priority commitments may change over the course of future compliance periods.

## Future Research and Reports

The information contained in this report provides G20 members and other stakeholders with an indication of their compliance in the period immediately following the Buenos Aires Summit. This report has been produced as an invitation for others to provide additional or more complete information on compliance during the period under study. Feedback should be sent to [g20@utoronto.ca](mailto:g20@utoronto.ca).

## Considerations and Limitations

Several elements affect the findings contained in this report. While the purpose of the report is to monitor compliance with G20 commitments, it is necessary to ensure that the monitoring mechanism is realistic and considers the context within which the commitments are made. With new commitments, more attention must be paid to the initial implementation constraints faced by members. One way to accommodate these constraints is to regard the intent to implement policy measures as an illustration of compliance or being “on track” towards compliance. This initial leeway should only be granted for new commitments; intent is not a suitable indicator of compliance for medium-term or longstanding commitments. Over time as commitments become integrated in the G20 compliance mechanism, compliance guidelines should become more stringent (as members become more accustomed to the nature of the issue and the requirements for compliance).

See also Appendix: General Considerations.

## Appendix: General Considerations

In evaluating the results of this report, the following considerations should be kept in mind.

Assessments contained in this report apply to commitment-related actions taken by G20 members only since the commitments were declared publicly at the last summit.

Compliance has been assessed against a selected set of priority commitments, rather than all commitments contained in the summit documents. The selection is intended to produce a representative subset of the total body of commitments. An ideal set of priority commitments represents proportionally the amount of attention paid to each policy area in summit documents, reflects the relative ambition of summit commitments, and holds as many G20 members to account for compliance as possible.

In addition to producing commitments, summits provide value by establishing new principles and norms, creating and highlighting issues and issue areas and altering the traditional discourse used to discuss priorities. Some of the most important decisions reached at summits may be done in private and not encoded in the public record of the summit documents.

Some commitments cover several years and thus compliance takes longer than the summit-to-summit timeframe applied in this report. For this reason, full compliance (denoted by a +1 score) might not require that G20 members carry out a given commitment completely, but might instead demand clear, visible progress commensurate with the overall timetable as well as public statements of support of commitment objectives.

In some cases, a G20 member might choose not to comply with a particular summit commitment for good reason, for example if global conditions have changed dramatically since the commitment was made or if new knowledge has become available about how a particular problem can best be solved.

As each G20 member has its own constitutional, legal and institutional processes for undertaking action at the national level (and in the case of the European Union at the supranational level), each member is free to act according to its own legislative schedule. Of particular importance here is the annual schedule for creating budgets, seeking legislative approval and appropriating funds.

Commitments in G20 summit documents might also be included, in whole or in part, in documents released by other international forums, as the decisions of other international organizations or even national statements such as the State of the Union Address in the US, the Queen's Speech in the UK and the Speech from the Throne in Canada. Merely repeating a G20 commitment in another forum does not count fully as compliant behaviour.

This report assesses G20 members' action in accordance with the text of actual, specific commitments made in G20 summit documents. Because commitments demand that policymakers and regulators act specifically to meet the identified objectives, this report holds policymakers accountable for pushing and passing recommended policies. Furthermore, compliance is assessed against the precise, particular commitment, rather than what might be regarded as a necessary or appropriate action to solve the problem being addressed.

As individual members can take different actions to comply with the same commitment, no standardized cross-national evaluative criterion can be universally applied. The interpretive guidelines attempt to provide an equitable method for assessing compliance.

Because the evaluative scale used in this compliance report runs from -1 to +1, any score in the positive range represents at least some degree of compliance.

## 1. Climate Change: Disaster Resilience

“[We recognize the importance of comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters.] In this sense, we support actions and cooperation in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.”

*Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada			+1
China		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia	-1		
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia	-1		
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa	-1		
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.40	

### Background

This commitment is the G20’s collective pledge to improving disaster risk reduction and climate resilience in the most environmentally vulnerable regions around the world. With a specific focus on developing countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), this commitment seeks to protect low-lying coastal communities by promoting adaptation strategies and infrastructural investment.

Coastal areas are disproportionately affected by the effects of climate change. Among other climate-related challenges, rising sea levels and shoreline erosion are two major threats to human security and coastal livelihoods. Preventative and adaptive measures such as building climate-resilient infrastructure and disaster-related mechanisms are a crucial part of the global response to climate change. This section presents past actions undertaken by the G7, the G20, and other institutions of global governance to address disaster risk reduction and climate resilience.

On 26 June 2010, G7 leaders adopted their Leaders’ Declaration at the Muskoka G8 Summit, entitled the “Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings.”<sup>3</sup> This declaration highlights the

<sup>3</sup> Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Muskoka) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>.

importance of low-emission development in developing countries, and proposed climate-resilient infrastructure and technological innovation as important ways of adapting to the effects of climate change.

On 26 May 2016, at the G7 summit in Ise-Shima, Japan, G7 leaders adopted a document entitled “Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment.”<sup>4</sup> The fourth principle of this document encourages climate change resilience as a key consideration for infrastructure investment by promoting ecosystem-based approaches and green infrastructure.

In June 2016, under China’s Presidency of the G20 Hangzhou summit cycle, the Climate Finance Study Group published a report entitled “Promoting efficient and transparent provision and mobilization of climate finance to enhance ambition of mitigation and adaptation actions.”<sup>5</sup> The report detailed the Global Climate Change Alliance’s support for climate-resilient development and climate adaptation in SIDS and Least Developed Countries (LDCs).<sup>6</sup>

On 8 July 2017, the G20 Hamburg Climate and Energy Action Plan for Growth was adopted in Hamburg, Germany.<sup>7</sup> This document noted the centrality of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in enhancing adaptation efforts and scaling up climate resilience. The Action Plan also promoted risk finance and insurance solutions to protect societies vulnerable to extreme weather events, including through regional sovereign disaster risk pools such as “the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility and the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company.”<sup>8</sup> This document also led to the creation of the InsuResilience Global Partnership for Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance Solutions in November 2017, which seeks to extend the aforementioned climate-related protection to the poorest and most vulnerable communities around the world.

On 20 September 2017, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization media services published a brief report entitled “A Caribbean strategy to cope with climate change.”<sup>9</sup> This report notes the efforts of CARICOM (the Caribbean Community) countries, including many SIDS, in adopting sustainable energy technologies, embracing regional approaches to disaster risk, and implementing the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Principles for Promoting Quality Infrastructure Investment, G7 Information Centre (Ise-Shima) 26 May 2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/infrastructure-investment.html>.

<sup>5</sup> Climate Finance Study Group - Promoting efficient and transparent provision and mobilization of climate finance to enhance ambition of mitigation and adaptation actions, G20 Information Centre (Hangzhou) June 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-promoting-efficient-transparent-provision.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> Climate Finance Study Group - Promoting efficient and transparent provision and mobilization of climate finance to enhance ambition of mitigation and adaptation actions, G20 Information Centre (Hangzhou) June 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-promoting-efficient-transparent-provision.pdf>.

<sup>7</sup> G20 Hamburg Climate and Energy Action Plan for Growth, G20 Information Centre (Hamburg) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-g20-climate-and-energy-en.pdf>.

<sup>8</sup> G20 Hamburg Climate and Energy Action Plan for Growth, G20 Information Centre (Hamburg) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-g20-climate-and-energy-en.pdf>.

<sup>9</sup> A Caribbean strategy to cope with climate change, UNESCO Media Services (Paris) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/a\\_caribbean\\_strategy\\_to\\_cope\\_with\\_climate\\_change/](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/a_caribbean_strategy_to_cope_with_climate_change/).

<sup>10</sup> A Caribbean strategy to cope with climate change, UNESCO Media Services (Paris) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/a\\_caribbean\\_strategy\\_to\\_cope\\_with\\_climate\\_change/](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/media-services/single-view/news/a_caribbean_strategy_to_cope_with_climate_change/).

On 15 November 2017, the World Bank released a report entitled “Climate and Disaster Resilient Transport in Small Island Developing States: A Call for Action.”<sup>11</sup> This report was published during the 2017 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bonn, Germany. The report highlighted climate and disaster-related risks facing SIDS, and proposed recommendations for the improvement of climate-resilient transport infrastructure.<sup>12</sup>

On 9 June 2018, the Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities was adopted in La Malbaie, Canada, at the 2018 G7 summit.<sup>13</sup> This document recognized that coastal communities and low-lying areas are disproportionately vulnerable to the impact of environmental degradation and issues of climate change, such as marine litter and plastics waste.<sup>14</sup> The blueprint also includes a section entitled “support[ing] better adaptation planning, emergency preparedness and recovery,” which details the G7’s commitment to supporting “resilient and quality infrastructure” and capacity-building for “effective early warnings of extreme weather and other geo-hazard related risks.”<sup>15</sup>

On 19 September 2018, Canada hosted the G7 Environment Ministers Meeting in Halifax as the last meeting under its Charlevoix G7 presidency in 2018.<sup>16</sup> The Chair’s Summary produced at the meeting acknowledged the aforementioned Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, and noted the climate-related vulnerability of SIDS and low-lying coastal communities.<sup>17</sup>

On 28 November 2018, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) published a report entitled “Financing Climate Futures: Rethinking Infrastructure,” co-authored by the World Bank and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP).<sup>18</sup> This report notes the climate risks faced by low-lying coastal areas and rapidly expanding cities in developing countries, which are particularly “vulnerable to economic losses from natural disasters.”<sup>19</sup> The release of this

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<sup>11</sup> Climate Resilience and Transport in Small Island Developing States, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/transport/publication/climate-resilience-and-transport-in-small-island-developing-states>.

<sup>12</sup> Climate Resilience and Transport in Small Island Developing States, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/transport/publication/climate-resilience-and-transport-in-small-island-developing-states>.

<sup>13</sup> Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

<sup>14</sup> Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

<sup>15</sup> Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

<sup>16</sup> G7 Environment Ministers Meeting on Climate Change and Clean Growth - Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Halifax) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2018-environment.html>.

<sup>17</sup> G7 Environment Ministers Meeting on Climate Change and Clean Growth - Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Halifax) 19 September 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2018-environment.html>.

<sup>18</sup> Financing Climate Futures: Rethinking Infrastructure, OECD Publishing (Paris) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/financing-climate-futures\\_9789264308114-en;jsessionid=zF9fnHU-NCJCS5Cv17rNrDI5.ip-10-240-5-182](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/financing-climate-futures_9789264308114-en;jsessionid=zF9fnHU-NCJCS5Cv17rNrDI5.ip-10-240-5-182).

<sup>19</sup> Financing Climate Futures: Rethinking Infrastructure, OECD Publishing (Paris) 28 November 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/financing-climate-futures\\_9789264308114-en;jsessionid=zF9fnHU-NCJCS5Cv17rNrDI5.ip-10-240-5-182](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/financing-climate-futures_9789264308114-en;jsessionid=zF9fnHU-NCJCS5Cv17rNrDI5.ip-10-240-5-182).

report called upon G20 leaders to adopt an agenda of low-carbon, climate-resilient, and green investment.<sup>20</sup>

On 1 December 2018, the G20 adopted the Buenos Aires Leaders' Declaration.<sup>21</sup> The Declaration identified a “persistent infrastructure financing gap,” which reflects one of the Argentinian presidency's priorities of “infrastructure for development.” The Declaration also referenced climate adaptation measures and responses to extreme weather events and disasters in the context of agriculture and energy access.<sup>22</sup>

Furthermore, under Argentina's G20 Presidency, three commissioned documents on the topic of climate adaptation were released: the G20 Climate Sustainability Working Group (CWSG) Adaptation Work Program (2018-2019) and two input documents for the CWSG. The latter two publications were respectively drafted by the OECD and UN Environment, entitled “Resilient infrastructure for a changing climate,” and “Aligning climate finance to the effective implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions and to Long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies.”<sup>23,24</sup>

The present G20 commitment builds upon relevant pledges previously made in the G7 and G20, and seeks to continue the improvement of adaptation strategies and investment in disaster and climate-resilient infrastructure. By focusing on economically marginalized communities, such as SIDS in the Caribbean, this commitment requires G20 members to act in support of and in cooperation with developing countries to fulfill its pledge.

### **Commitment Features**

In the Buenos Aires “G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development,” adopted on 1 December 2018, G20 leaders committed to “support[ing] actions and cooperation in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.”<sup>25</sup> The preface of this commitment “recognize[s] the importance of comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters.”

In the preface of this commitment, “comprehensive adaptation strategies” refer to measures that adjust to or cope with the effects of climate change. Examples include water resource and coastal zone management, climate-sensitive poverty alleviation policies, or monitoring, evaluating, and

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<sup>20</sup> OECD, UN Environment and World Bank call for a radical shift in financing for a low-carbon, climate-resilient future, UN Environment (Buenos Aires) 29 November 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/press-release/oecd-un-environment-and-world-bank-call-radical-shift-financing-low>.

<sup>21</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 18 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>22</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 18 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>23</sup> Resilient infrastructure for a changing climate, OECD (Buenos Aires) August 2018. Access Date: 18 January 2019. [https://g20.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/oecd\\_-\\_resilient\\_infrastructure\\_for\\_a\\_changing\\_climate.pdf](https://g20.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/oecd_-_resilient_infrastructure_for_a_changing_climate.pdf).

<sup>24</sup> Aligning climate finance to the effective implementation of NDCs and to LTSS, UN Environment (Buenos Aires) August 2018. Access Date: 18 January 2019. [https://g20.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/unep\\_-\\_aligning\\_climate\\_finance\\_to\\_the\\_effective\\_implementation\\_of\\_ndcs\\_and\\_to\\_ltss.pdf](https://g20.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/unep_-_aligning_climate_finance_to_the_effective_implementation_of_ndcs_and_to_ltss.pdf).

<sup>25</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

reporting practices.<sup>26</sup> In the context of coastal infrastructure, “climate-resilient infrastructure” refers to facilities that can withstand and/or mitigate the effects of climate change, notably including phenomenon such as ocean warming and acidification, sea-level rise, and extreme weather events.<sup>27</sup> Such infrastructure can include preventative measures, early warning systems, innovative risk assessment technologies, and other forms of physical public infrastructure that fall under the parameter of disaster risk reduction. “Investment in climate-resilient infrastructure” includes any financial contributions by G20 member governments to fill the crucial gap of infrastructural funding deficit in developing countries vulnerable to climate change.<sup>28</sup>

Due to economic and physical size, geographical location and often under-performing critical infrastructure, SIDS and developing countries are particularly affected by and vulnerable to climate-induced disasters. Directly threatened by rising sea levels and an increasing number of severe disasters, coastal communities in SIDS often experience “loss of life and damage to property and infrastructure that can easily cripple small economies,” thereby making them the focus of this commitment.<sup>29</sup> In the context of this commitment, “extreme weather events and disasters” include floods, hurricanes, droughts, famines, heat waves, storms, forest fires and more, the scale and frequency of which are exacerbated by climate change.

SIDS were first recognized as a group of countries “facing specific social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities” during the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.<sup>30</sup> A full list of Small Island Developing States can be found on the Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform housed at the United Nations.<sup>31</sup> According to this grouping, SIDS countries are located in the Caribbean and the Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Sea.<sup>32</sup>

On the other hand, there is no international designated definition of what constitutes a developing country. The term “developing countries” conventionally refers to countries with the following characteristics: low Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita, low Human Development Index statistics, and/or a relatively less developed industrial base. Other metrics of reference include the World Bank’s (WB) country income classifications and the International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) World Economic Outlook Database.<sup>33</sup> The former divides countries into four income groups - high,

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<sup>26</sup> EU Adaptation Strategy, European Commission. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

[https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/what\\_en#tab-0-1](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/what_en#tab-0-1).

<sup>27</sup> Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities, G7 Information Centre (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/oceans-blueprint.html>.

<sup>28</sup> International Workshop on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (New Delhi) 15 January 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/56132>.

<sup>29</sup> Climate Change: Small Developing States, Climate Change Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 2005. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/cc\\_sids.pdf](https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/cc_sids.pdf).

<sup>30</sup> About the Small Island Developing States, United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. Access Date: 19 January 2019. <http://unohrrls.org/about-sids/>.

<sup>31</sup> Small Island Developing States, Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform (New York) Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sids/list>.

<sup>32</sup> Small Island Developing States, Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform (New York) Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sids/list>.

<sup>33</sup> World Economic Outlook Database, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) October 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2018/02/weodata/index.aspx>.

upper-middle, lower-middle, and low – and the latter classifies countries into groups such as advanced economies and emerging market and developing economies.<sup>34</sup>

The term “support” qualifies this G20 commitment as a “politically-binding criteria.”<sup>35</sup> “Support” is defined as “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity,” and this term establishes the threshold of action for compliance with this commitment.<sup>36</sup> The commitment is divided into two parts: supporting action and supporting cooperation.

In the first part of the commitment, examples of supporting “action” include financial and technical contributions to enhancing climate resilience and adaptive capacity in SIDS, LDCs, and other under-developed communities that are vulnerable to climate change.<sup>37</sup> “Action” can refer to examples such as supporting the mainstreaming of climate issues in the developing country’s political agenda, capacity-building for the enforcement of new environmental regulations, and investing directly in climate-resilient infrastructure. However, a mere verbal affirmation of climate resilience and adaptation does not alone suffice as a G20 member’s compliance with this part of the commitment.

“Cooperation” is defined as “the action or process of working together to the same end.”<sup>38</sup> Actions that count towards compliance in the latter regard of this commitment include engaging bilateral and multilateral forums, establishing long-term partnerships, and sharing best practices with countries vulnerable to the effects of climate change. In contrast with the first part of this commitment, supporting cooperation requires the G20 member to actively engage developing countries, rather than provide unidirectional resources or expertise to another government’s domestic environmental governance. The latter half of this commitment emphasizes transboundary cooperation between G20 members and SIDS or developing countries and includes an international dimension to climate action.

To achieve full compliance, the G20 member must support both action and cooperation in developing countries vulnerable to climate change, including SIDS communities in the Caribbean. Any support pertaining to comprehensive adaptation strategies and investment in climate-resilient infrastructure to extreme weather events and disasters count towards compliance. Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be awarded if the G20 member only engages in supporting action OR cooperation in the aforementioned issue areas. Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be attributed to G20 members who fail to demonstrate support for relevant action and cooperation in relation to developing countries and SIDS in the Caribbean.

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<sup>34</sup> World Bank Country and Lending Groups, The World Bank (Washington D.C.) Access Date: 11 January 2019.

<https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>.

<sup>35</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

<sup>36</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

<sup>37</sup> C20 Working Group on Sustainability (Climate and Energy), C2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

[https://www.germanwatch.org/sites/germanwatch.org/files/press\\_release/17999.pdf](https://www.germanwatch.org/sites/germanwatch.org/files/press_release/17999.pdf).

<sup>38</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	[With regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters,] G20 member does not support actions NOR cooperation in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.
0	[With regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters,] G20 member supports actions OR cooperation in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.
+1	[With regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters,] G20 member supports actions AND cooperation in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

*Compliance Director: Angela Min Yi Hou  
Lead Analyst: Ian Stansbury*

**Argentina: 0**

Argentina partially complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 20 March 2019, Argentina hosted the Second United Nations High-Level Conference on South-South Cooperation in Buenos Aires, which was attended by all United Nations member states.<sup>39</sup> Argentina led the global debate on South-South cooperation, enhancing the implementations of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.<sup>40</sup> Climate change was one of the most important subjects, with members specifically discussing how to face climate change effects in vulnerable countries in the next decades.<sup>41</sup>

Within this compliance cycle, Argentina has facilitated climate cooperation and discussion about adaptive strategies with a focus on developing and climate-vulnerable countries. However, Argentina has not taken any direct actions to support developing countries in bolstering extreme weather infrastructure or adopting other preventative climate-related measures.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Ivette Ordóñez Núñez and Ian Stansbury*

**Australia: +1**

Australia fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to

<sup>39</sup> Concluyó en Buenos Aires la Segunda Conferencia de ONU sobre Cooperación Sur-Sur. Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto República Argentina. 22 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://cancilleria.gob.ar/es/destacados/concluyo-en-buenos-aires-la-segunda-conferencia-de-onu-sobre-cooperacion-sur-sur-paba-40>.

<sup>40</sup> Concluyó en Buenos Aires la Segunda Conferencia de ONU sobre Cooperación Sur-Sur. Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto República Argentina. 22 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://cancilleria.gob.ar/es/destacados/concluyo-en-buenos-aires-la-segunda-conferencia-de-onu-sobre-cooperacion-sur-sur-paba-40>.

<sup>41</sup> Hay que prepararse ya para las consecuencias del cambio climático, El País. 22 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. [https://elpais.com/internacional/2019/03/22/argentina/1553284554\\_756079.html](https://elpais.com/internacional/2019/03/22/argentina/1553284554_756079.html).

extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 10 January 2019, the Department of Foreign Affairs publicized the Australia-Indonesia Partnership in Disaster Risk Management.<sup>42</sup> Australia will invest AUD25 million over the next five years (2019-2024) to assist Indonesia in managing disaster risk, specifically by helping provinces, districts, and villages respond to and recover from disasters.<sup>43</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Trade Minister Simon Birmingham announced Australia's increased financial support for infrastructure development in the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>44</sup> The government will enact the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment (Support for Infrastructure Financing) Bill 2019 on 1 July 2019.<sup>45</sup> Foreign Affairs Minister Marise Payne further stated the Australian government will engage Pacific governments to design appropriate developmental priorities.<sup>46</sup>

On 10 March 2019, the Government of Australia and the EU issued a joint statement confirming collective support for the Pacific region's economic development and its priorities of sustainable infrastructure development.<sup>47</sup>

On 5 April 2019, Minister Payne and Minister for Defense Industry Linda Reynolds announced that Australia will host the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.<sup>48</sup> Set to take place in June 2020, the conference in Brisbane will engage Indo-Pacific countries to strengthen Australia's understanding of and ability to respond to disasters in the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>49</sup> This conference will also engage Australia in disaster mitigation and improve collective responses to disaster risk in the Indo-Pacific.<sup>50</sup>

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to support climate action and cooperate with developing countries with regards to climate-resilient adaptive strategies. It has invested in climate-resilient infrastructure and engaged the Indo-Pacific region to build networks of collective action and mitigate the damage of natural disasters.

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<sup>42</sup> Australia – Indonesia Partnership in Disaster Risk Management (AIP-DRM) Design, Department of Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 12 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/business-opportunities/Pages/australia-indonesia-partnership-in-disaster-risk-management-aip-drm-design.aspx>.

<sup>43</sup> Australia – Indonesia Partnership in Disaster Risk Management (AIP-DRM) Design, Department of Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 12 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/business-opportunities/Pages/australia-indonesia-partnership-in-disaster-risk-management-aip-drm-design.aspx>.

<sup>44</sup> Joint Media Release: Helping Enhance Infrastructure in the Pacific, Ministry of Trade, Tourism, and Investment (Canberra) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. [https://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/sb\\_mr\\_190221.aspx](https://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/sb_mr_190221.aspx).

<sup>45</sup> Joint Media Release: Helping Enhance Infrastructure in the Pacific, Ministry of Trade, Tourism, and Investment (Canberra) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. [https://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/sb\\_mr\\_190221.aspx](https://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/sb_mr_190221.aspx).

<sup>46</sup> Joint Media Release: Helping Enhance Infrastructure in the Pacific, Ministry of Trade, Tourism, and Investment (Canberra) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. [https://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/sb\\_mr\\_190221.aspx](https://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/sb_mr_190221.aspx).

<sup>47</sup> European Union and Australian Government Joint Statement, European External Action Service (Brussels) 10 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/fiji/59352/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement>.

<sup>48</sup> Joint Media Release: Australia to host International Disaster Risk Conference, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/mp\\_mr\\_190405.aspx](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/mp_mr_190405.aspx).

<sup>49</sup> Joint Media Release: Australia to host International Disaster Risk Conference, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/mp\\_mr\\_190405.aspx](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/mp_mr_190405.aspx).

<sup>50</sup> Joint Media Release: Australia to host International Disaster Risk Conference, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/mp\\_mr\\_190405.aspx](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/mp_mr_190405.aspx).

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Callista Ryan*

**Brazil: 0**

Brazil partially complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 18 March 2019, on the sidelines of the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40), the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovations and Communications co-hosted a dialogue on “Opportunities and Challenges of South-South Cooperation on Bioeconomy, in the light of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda.”<sup>51</sup> This meeting was co-hosted with the Center for Strategic Studies and Management and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), and it called for South-South and triangular cooperation in terms of sharing best practices on bioeconomy and climate change.<sup>52</sup>

Within this compliance cycle, Brazil has facilitated climate cooperation and discussion about adaptive strategies with a focus on developing and climate-vulnerable countries. However, Brazil has not taken any direct actions to finance or support developing countries in bolstering extreme weather infrastructure or adopting other preventative climate-related measures.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Raluca Gondor*

**Canada: +1**

Canada fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 7 December 2018, Global Affairs Canada committed a CAD15 million action fund to improving climate resilience for vulnerable populations in nine Caribbean countries.<sup>53</sup> Canada will assist Caribbean countries by providing technical expertise to departments responsible for managing climate change and disaster preparation. Further, Canada will help develop action plans for various nations and sectors, in accordance with the Caribbean Disaster and Emergency Management Agency guidelines.<sup>54</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> BAPA+40 Side Event: Opportunities and Challenges of South-South Cooperation in Bioeconomy, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (Buenos Aires) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2019/03/19/bapa40-opportunities-and-challenges-of-south-south-cooperation-in-bioeconomy/>.

<sup>52</sup> BAPA+40 Side Event: Opportunities and Challenges of South-South Cooperation in Bioeconomy, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (Buenos Aires) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2019/03/19/bapa40-opportunities-and-challenges-of-south-south-cooperation-in-bioeconomy/>.

<sup>53</sup> Canadian Action on Building Climate Resilience in the Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada. 7 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://international.gc.ca/gac-amc/news-nouvelles/climate\\_change\\_action-action\\_changements\\_climatiques.aspx?lang=eng](https://international.gc.ca/gac-amc/news-nouvelles/climate_change_action-action_changements_climatiques.aspx?lang=eng).

<sup>54</sup> Canadian Action on Building Climate Resilience in the Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada. 7 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://international.gc.ca/gac-amc/news-nouvelles/climate\\_change\\_action-action\\_changements\\_climatiques.aspx?lang=eng](https://international.gc.ca/gac-amc/news-nouvelles/climate_change_action-action_changements_climatiques.aspx?lang=eng).

On 13 December 2018, the World Bank announced the Canadian government's CAD275 million pledge to the Energy Transition and Coal Phase-Out program.<sup>55</sup> Canada's contributions will assist developing countries, particularly in Asia, scale up energy efficiency.<sup>56</sup> Canada will provide financial, technical, and advisory support to developing states that have committed to transitioning away from coal and into cleaner energy sources.<sup>57</sup> Canada's funding will support improvements in solar battery storage, geothermal and offshore wind development, and enhanced energy efficiency of physical infrastructure.<sup>58</sup>

On 23 March 2019, Global Affairs Canada announced that in response to Cyclone Idai in Southern Africa, Canada will provide up to CAD3.5 million in emergency assistance.<sup>59</sup> Minister of International Development Maryam Monsef reported that Canada's funding will be distributed to support disaster relief in Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe.<sup>60</sup>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support climate action and cooperate with developing countries with regards to climate-resilient adaptive strategies. Canada has invested in the Caribbean, and it is also cooperating with developing states in Asia to phase out coal and transition to climate-friendly infrastructure. Furthermore, Canada has financially assisted developing countries in Southern Africa in the aftermaths of a natural disaster.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Callista Ryan*

### **China: 0**

China partially complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 12 December 2018, the Ministry of Ecology and Environment and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) jointly hosted the High-level Forum on South-South

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<sup>55</sup> Press Release: World Bank, Canada, UK to Assist in Countries in Transition from Coal; Accelerate Uptake of Cleaner Energy, The World Bank (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/12/12/wb-canada-uk-to-assist-countries-in-transition-from-coal/>.

<sup>56</sup> Press Release: World Bank, Canada, UK to Assist in Countries in Transition from Coal; Accelerate Uptake of Cleaner Energy, The World Bank (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/12/12/wb-canada-uk-to-assist-countries-in-transition-from-coal/>.

<sup>57</sup> Press Release: World Bank, Canada, UK to Assist in Countries in Transition from Coal; Accelerate Uptake of Cleaner Energy, The World Bank (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/12/12/wb-canada-uk-to-assist-countries-in-transition-from-coal/>.

<sup>58</sup> Press Release: World Bank, Canada, UK to Assist in Countries in Transition from Coal; Accelerate Uptake of Cleaner Energy, The World Bank (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/12/12/wb-canada-uk-to-assist-countries-in-transition-from-coal/>.

<sup>59</sup> News Release: Canada providing emergency assistance to Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/03/canada-providing-emergency-assistance-to-malawi-mozambique-and-zimbabwe.html>.

<sup>60</sup> News Release: Canada providing emergency assistance to Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/03/canada-providing-emergency-assistance-to-malawi-mozambique-and-zimbabwe.html>.

Cooperation on Climate Change on the sidelines of COP24 in Poland.<sup>61</sup> The session also convened ministers from developing countries to discuss the key challenges and opportunities facing the Global South with regards to the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. At this session, China's Special Representative on Climate Change Affairs Xie Zhenhua stated that China will continue to provide "financial, technical assistance and capacity-building for least developed countries, small island countries, and African countries based on the South-South Cooperation Framework."<sup>62</sup>

On 15 December 2018, Special Representative on Climate Change Affairs Xie Zhenhua met with press and non-governmental representatives and attended the BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India and China) press conference to voice the concerns of developing countries on topics such as low-carbon development and South-South cooperation.<sup>63</sup>

On 16 January 2019, China and Korea jointly hosted the 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Joint Committee on Environmental Cooperation.<sup>64</sup> This joint meeting explored the potential for bilateral cooperation between Korea and China with regards to shared climate concerns pertaining to air pollution, water contamination, environmental industry and technology, and increasing environmental cooperation at the regional and global levels.<sup>65</sup>

On 1 April 2019, Premier Li Keqiang and the Prime Minister of New Zealand Jacinda Ardern jointly released a statement reaffirming their commitment to "enhancing support for developing countries" in the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement.<sup>66</sup>

On 27 April 2019, under China's leadership at the Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, UN agencies and heads of state adopted a communique underscoring the centrality of climate action and the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>67</sup> The leaders also committed to disaster risk reduction and management, as well as "high-quality, reliable, resilient and sustainable infrastructure" that contributes to the sustainable development of participating countries and industrialization of

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<sup>61</sup> COP24: High-Level Forum on South-South Cooperation on Climate Change 2018, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (Katowice) 12 December 2018. <https://www.unsouthsouth.org/2018/12/14/cop24-high-level-forum-on-south-south-cooperation-on-climate-change-2018/>.

<sup>62</sup> Nation vows climate change assistance for developing countries, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, The People's Republic of China (Katowice) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 2 May 2019. [http://english.mee.gov.cn/News\\_service/media\\_news/201812/t20181214\\_684780.shtml](http://english.mee.gov.cn/News_service/media_news/201812/t20181214_684780.shtml).

<sup>63</sup> China contributes to climate action rulebook adoption, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, The People's Republic of China (Katowice) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 2 May 2019. [http://english.mee.gov.cn/News\\_service/media\\_news/201812/t20181217\\_684931.shtml](http://english.mee.gov.cn/News_service/media_news/201812/t20181217_684931.shtml).

<sup>64</sup> Press Release: 23rd Meeting of ROK-China Joint Committee on Environmental Cooperation to Take Place on Jan.23-24, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 19 January 2019. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320336&srchFr=&%3BsrchTo=&%3BsrchWord=&%3BsrchTp=&%3Bmulti\\_itm\\_seq=0&%3Bitm\\_seq\\_1=0&%3Bitm\\_seq\\_2=0&%3Bcompany\\_cd=&%3Bcompany\\_nm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320336&srchFr=&%3BsrchTo=&%3BsrchWord=&%3BsrchTp=&%3Bmulti_itm_seq=0&%3Bitm_seq_1=0&%3Bitm_seq_2=0&%3Bcompany_cd=&%3Bcompany_nm=).

<sup>65</sup> Press Release: 23rd Meeting of ROK-China Joint Committee on Environmental Cooperation to Take Place on Jan.23-24, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 19 January 2019. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320336&srchFr=&%3BsrchTo=&%3BsrchWord=&%3BsrchTp=&%3Bmulti\\_itm\\_seq=0&%3Bitm\\_seq\\_1=0&%3Bitm\\_seq\\_2=0&%3Bcompany\\_cd=&%3Bcompany\\_nm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320336&srchFr=&%3BsrchTo=&%3BsrchWord=&%3BsrchTp=&%3Bmulti_itm_seq=0&%3Bitm_seq_1=0&%3Bitm_seq_2=0&%3Bcompany_cd=&%3Bcompany_nm=).

<sup>66</sup> New Zealand-China Leaders' Statement on Climate Change, New Zealand Foreign Affairs & Trade (Beijing) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/media-and-resources/ministry-statements-and-speeches/new-zealand-china-leaders-statement-on-climate-change/>.

<sup>67</sup> Second Belt and Road Forum Results in Over 283 Deliverables, IISD. 2 May 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/second-belt-and-road-forum-results-in-over-283-deliverables/>.

developing countries.<sup>68</sup> The forum also launched the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Environmental Big Data Platform and the Belt and Road South-South Cooperation Initiative on Climate Change.<sup>69</sup>

China has spearheaded multiple platforms of multilateral climate cooperation on behalf of and in tandem with developing countries that are vulnerable to climate change. However, it has not engaged in bilateral or direct partnerships with developing countries to fulfill the action dimension of this commitment, which entails supporting climate action with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies and climate-resilient infrastructure.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Olga Tumurova & Angela Min Yi Hou*

### **France: +1**

France fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 18 December 2018, at the Ministerial Meeting on Climate Finance at COP24, the French government announced that it will increase funding for climate change adaptation initiatives in developing countries from EUR3 billion per year to EUR5 per year by 2020.<sup>70</sup> France also pledged EUR15 million to UN funds for “climate adaptation for developing countries,” and an additional EUR20 million for “least developed countries.”<sup>71</sup> France also reiterated its commitment to “replenishing the Green Climate Fund.”<sup>72</sup>

On 14 February 2019, at the United Nations 2019 Climate Summit, France and Jamaica formed a coalition to address climate finance and carbon pricing.<sup>73</sup> The coalition, along with eight others formed by different countries to address various issues at the summit, was established to ensure that the summit would result in “transformative outcomes” for climate action.<sup>74</sup>

On 4 March 2019, President Emmanuel Macron published an article entitled “Pour une Renaissance européenne,” launching his Europe-wide campaign in 28 newspapers.<sup>75</sup> The article lists a series of

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<sup>68</sup> Second Belt and Road Forum Results in Over 283 Deliverables, IISD. 2 May 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/second-belt-and-road-forum-results-in-over-283-deliverables/>.

<sup>69</sup> Second Belt and Road Forum Results in Over 283 Deliverables, IISD. 2 May 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/second-belt-and-road-forum-results-in-over-283-deliverables/>.

<sup>70</sup> COP 24: France Increases its Contribution to Climate Funding, French Government (Paris) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/cop-24-france-increases-its-contribution-to-climate-funding>.

<sup>71</sup> COP 24: France Increases its Contribution to Climate Funding, French Government (Paris) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/cop-24-france-increases-its-contribution-to-climate-funding>.

<sup>72</sup> COP 24: France Increases its Contribution to Climate Funding, French Government (Paris) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/cop-24-france-increases-its-contribution-to-climate-funding>.

<sup>73</sup> Nine Coalitions to Craft Transformative Outcomes from Climate Summit, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Winnipeg) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 24 March 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/nine-coalitions-to-craft-transformative-outcomes-from-climate-summit/>.

<sup>74</sup> Nine Coalitions to Craft Transformative Outcomes from Climate Summit, International Institute for Sustainable Development (Winnipeg) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 24 March 2019. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/nine-coalitions-to-craft-transformative-outcomes-from-climate-summit/>.

<sup>75</sup> Pour une Renaissance européenne, L'Élysée (Paris) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2019/03/04/pour-une-renaissance-europeenne>.

initiatives that aim to address climate change as a core issue. Macron suggested the need to recover the spirit of progress and drive forward a project of convergence rather than competition. He also proposed further support for Africa's development and the creation of a European Climate Bank to finance ecological transitions.<sup>76</sup>

On 14 March 2019, President Emmanuel Macron co-hosted the third One Planet Summit, along with the World Bank and the United Nations in Nairobi, Kenya.<sup>77</sup> This third rendition of the summit aimed to address the impacts of climate change on the African continent, encourage funding for climate mitigation, and foster multilateral cooperation between African countries and France.<sup>78</sup>

France has fully complied with this commitment by cooperating with developing countries to address the impacts of climate change. France has facilitated climate action by hosting and participating in multilateral climate forums, where France has also announced direct action in support of the adoption of comprehensive climate adaptation strategies.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Ivette Ordóñez Núñez & Ian Stansbury*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 12 December 2018, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Federal Environment Ministry announced EUR68 million in funding for the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Partnership, which aims to aid developing countries in their efforts to meet climate change goals outlined in the Paris Agreement.<sup>79</sup>

On 12 December 2018, Germany contributed an additional EUR15 million to the Central America and Caribbean Catastrophe Insurance Risk Program (CACCRIP), constituting the largest contribution to the CACCRIP by a single donor.<sup>80</sup> The CACCRIP program aims to improve the affordability of high-quality sovereign catastrophe risk transfer associated with earthquakes and climate risk for CACCRIP's member states.<sup>81</sup>

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<sup>76</sup> Pour une Renaissance européenne, L'Élysée (Paris) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019.

<https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2019/03/04/pour-une-rennaissance-europeenne>.

<sup>77</sup> L'Engagement de L'Afrique, One Planet Summit (Nairobi) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 24 March 2019.

<https://www.oneplanetsummit.fr/sites/default/files/2019-03/AFRICA%20PLEDGE%20-%20VF%20-19-03.pdf>.

<sup>78</sup> L'Engagement de L'Afrique, One Planet Summit (Nairobi) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 24 March 2019.

<https://www.oneplanetsummit.fr/sites/default/files/2019-03/AFRICA%20PLEDGE%20-%20VF%20-19-03.pdf>.

<sup>79</sup> Germany helps developing countries and emerging economies implement climate targets, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Katowice) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 25 March 2019. [http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2018/dezember/181212\\_pm\\_059\\_Germany-helps-developing-countries-and-emerging-economies-implement-climate-targets/index.html](http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2018/dezember/181212_pm_059_Germany-helps-developing-countries-and-emerging-economies-implement-climate-targets/index.html).

<sup>80</sup> Caribbean and Central American Countries to Improve Insurance Coverage against Earthquake and Climate Risks. 12 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/12/12/caribbean-and-central-american-countries-to-improve-insurance-coverage-against-earthquakes-and-climate-risks>.

<sup>81</sup> Central America and Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Project, World Bank. Access Date: 17 February 2019 <http://projects.worldbank.org/P149670?lang=en>.

On 1 January 2019, Germany began its two-year term as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. As a part of its term, Germany promised to represent the interests of small island states on matters such as climate change and the sustainable development goals.<sup>82</sup>

On 13 February 2018, the Federal Environment Ministry and the Indian Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change mutually agreed to promote closer cooperation with regards to environmental and climate policy and the prevention of marine litter. Germany will also provide EUR35 million in funding to Indian climate action projects.<sup>83</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation adopted a partnership with Kenya and Rwanda to realize the countries' respective Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) within the frame of the One Planet Summit.<sup>84</sup>

On 13 April 2019, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development signed a declaration with the World Bank Group to foster cooperation with regards to sustainable and inclusive development in the Middle East and North Africa Region (MENA). Six countries are included in the partnership: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya and Yemen.<sup>85</sup>

Germany has fully complied with this commitment by taking actions to aid and financially support developing countries in their responses to climate change. Germany has also engaged in direct partnership with developing countries and further committed to voicing their climate concerns in the international community.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Ivette Ordóñez Núñez & Ian Stansbury*

### **India: +1**

India fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 17 December 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with the President of the Maldives Mohamed Ibrahim Solih, jointly acknowledged the importance of combating the detrimental impacts of climate change on developing and Small Island Developing States.<sup>86</sup> This joint statement

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<sup>82</sup> Speech by Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the opening of the second Partner Towns Conference on Sustainability in Bremen, Federal Foreign Office (Bremen) 3 March 2019. Access Date: 25 March 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-partner-towns-conference-sustainability/2197526>.

<sup>83</sup> Minister Schulze agrees closer environmental cooperation with India, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-vereinbart-engere-umweltzusammenarbeit-mit-indien/>.

<sup>84</sup> Climat: la Banque mondiale met le paquet pour aider l'Afrique, Les Echos (Paris) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.lesechos.fr/monde/enjeux-internationaux/climat-la-banque-mondiale-met-le-paquet-pour-aider-lafrique-1000351>.

<sup>85</sup> World Bank Group and Germany Announce Enhanced Cooperation in the Middle East and North Africa, The World Bank (Washington DC) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/04/13/world-bank-group-and-germany-announce-enhanced-cooperation-in-the-middle-east-and-north-africa>.

<sup>86</sup> Joint Statement on the occasion of State Visit of the President of the Republic of Maldives to India, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/30765/joint-statement-on-the-occasion-of-state-visit-of-the-president-of-the-republic-of-maldives-to-india-december+17+2018>.

reaffirmed the leaders' commitment to strengthening global responses to climate change under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement.<sup>87</sup>

On 8 January 2019, Prime Minister Modi and the Prime Minister of Norway Erna Solberg reaffirmed their bilateral commitment to cooperation and collective climate action.<sup>88</sup> Prime Minister Solberg expressed interest in India's leadership of the Coalition for Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), which aims to provide risk analysis and capacity-building to disaster-prone countries.<sup>89</sup>

On 26 January 2019, India's permanent representative at the UN Syed Akbaruddin, delivered a statement at the UN Security Council's open debate on the agenda item of "Addressing the impacts of climate-related disaster on international peace and security."<sup>90</sup> He called for the adoption of a cautionary approach with regards to linking climate change and security. He also strongly encouraged collaboration between the UN and Member States, in order to tackle the problem of climate change and the unpredictable and ambiguous linkages between climate disasters and security. He further emphasized the implementation of climate action through the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities.<sup>91</sup>

On 19 March 2019, in collaboration with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank Group and the Global Commission on Adaptation, India initiated the Second International Workshop on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (IWDRI) in New Delhi.<sup>92</sup> This workshop brought together more than 270 participants from 33 national governments, multilateral development banks, United Nations agencies, policy think tanks, and other private sector actors.<sup>93</sup> This workshop was also attended by G20 members such as Japan, who reaffirmed its commitment to disaster-resilient infrastructure and compliance with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.<sup>94</sup>

On 23 March 2019, India released a statement confirming that three Indian naval ships were diverted to the port city of Beira to aid the Republic of Mozambique in damage control and relief in the

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<sup>87</sup> Joint Statement on the occasion of State Visit of the President of the Republic of Maldives to India, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/30765/joint-statement-on-the-occasion-of-state-visit-of-the-president-of-the-republic-of-maldives-to-india-december-17-2018>.

<sup>88</sup> Joint Statement during the State Visit of Prime Minister of Norway to India, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/30894/Joint\\_Statement\\_during\\_the\\_State\\_Visit\\_of\\_Prime\\_Minister\\_of\\_Norway\\_to\\_India\\_January\\_08\\_2019](https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/30894/Joint_Statement_during_the_State_Visit_of_Prime_Minister_of_Norway_to_India_January_08_2019).

<sup>89</sup> Joint Statement during the State Visit of Prime Minister of Norway to India, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/30894/Joint\\_Statement\\_during\\_the\\_State\\_Visit\\_of\\_Prime\\_Minister\\_of\\_Norway\\_to\\_India\\_January\\_08\\_2019](https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/30894/Joint_Statement_during_the_State_Visit_of_Prime_Minister_of_Norway_to_India_January_08_2019).

<sup>90</sup> India Calls for Cautionary Approach to Link Climate Change, The Times of India (New Delhi) 26 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/environment/global-warming/india-calls-for-cautionary-approach-to-link-climate-change/articleshow/67701050.cms>.

<sup>91</sup> India Calls for Cautionary Approach to Link Climate Change, The Times of India (New Delhi) 26 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/environment/global-warming/india-calls-for-cautionary-approach-to-link-climate-change/articleshow/67701050.cms>.

<sup>92</sup> Outcome Document, Second International Workshop on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (New Delhi) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://resilientinfra.org/iwdri/index.php#section4>.

<sup>93</sup> Outcome Document, Second International Workshop on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (New Delhi) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://resilientinfra.org/iwdri/index.php#section4>.

<sup>94</sup> 'Now is the time to do bold things...', Reliefweb (Geneva) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/now-time-do-bold-things>.

aftermaths of Cyclone Idai.<sup>95</sup> Another Indian ship, loaded with relief materials, was assigned to follow-up on the initial three. Assistance was also sent to other areas affected by Cyclone Idai, including Zimbabwe and Malawi.<sup>96</sup>

On 29 March 2019, President Ram Nath Kovind welcomed Bolivia as a new partner in the Solar Alliance.<sup>97</sup> President Kovind stated that India aims to produce 175 gigawatts of renewable energy by 2022, of which 100 gigawatts will be solar energy. President Kovind further asserted the possibility of collaboration with Bolivia in the areas of solar, wind, and bio-fuel energy.<sup>98</sup>

India has addressed the importance of comprehensive adaptation strategies and the need for investment in resilient infrastructure. India has taken direct action to assist states that are suffering from extreme weather events. It has also collaborated with the participants of the Coalition for Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure, both in the public and private sectors, to provide further assistance to developing states.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jennifer Wang*

### **Indonesia: -1**

Indonesia failed to comply with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

Within this compliance cycle, Indonesia has not supported actions and cooperation in countries vulnerable to climate change, specifically with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies. It has not taken any actions or made any collaborative commitments to support developing countries in bolstering extreme weather infrastructure or adopting other preventative climate-related measures. No actions were found for this report after searching publicly available online sources published by the government, relevant ministries, and international organizations.<sup>99</sup>

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Eunbi Lee*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to

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<sup>95</sup> Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief to Mozambique-Operation Sahayata 2019, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/31174/humanitarian+assistance+and+disaster+relief+to+mozambiqueoperation+sahayata+2019>.

<sup>96</sup> Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief to Mozambique-Operation Sahayata 2019, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/31174/humanitarian+assistance+and+disaster+relief+to+mozambiqueoperation+sahayata+2019>.

<sup>97</sup> Address by President at India - Bolivia Business Forum, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.mea.gov.in/Speeches-Statements.htm?dtl/31194/address+by+president+at+india++bolivia+business+forum>.

<sup>98</sup> Address by President at India - Bolivia Business Forum, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.mea.gov.in/Speeches-Statements.htm?dtl/31194/address+by+president+at+india++bolivia+business+forum>.

<sup>99</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: [www.deplu.go.id](http://www.deplu.go.id), <https://www.esdm.go.id/>, <https://www.undp.org/> and <https://www.theguardian.com/international>.

extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 1 December 2018, the government of Italy was commended by the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) for contributing USD600,000 to its new Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) system.<sup>100</sup> The LiDAR system will improve the CCCCC's ability to observe changes in the Caribbean's land and marine environments.<sup>101</sup>

On 12 December 2018, at COP24, Italy pledged EUR7 million to the Adaptation Fund in support of climate adaptation projects in the most vulnerable communities and developing countries.<sup>102</sup> This contribution also aims to facilitate innovative climate finance models such as Direct Access, which engages in national capacity-building and promotes ownership of climate change adaptation initiatives.<sup>103</sup>

On 28 January 2019, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte opened the new Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development in Rome.<sup>104</sup> Based on its demand-driven mechanism, the centre will provide African countries with resources to support practices relevant to climate change, water supply, and food security. The centre aims to facilitate cooperation among African countries and G7 members, in order to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda.<sup>105</sup>

On 7 March 2019, the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea signed an agreement with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization to provide technical support to Sudan's National Council for the Environment.<sup>106</sup> In an effort to address both climate mitigation and adaptation, this agreement approved two projects aimed at improving food security and rural livelihoods and enhancing the resilience of communities in drought-prone areas. These two projects have a total budget of EUR1.6 million.<sup>107</sup>

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<sup>100</sup> US Government continues to support Caribbean in managing impacts of natural disasters. 6 December 2016. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.breakingbelizenews.com/2018/12/06/us-government-continues-to-support-caribbean-in-managing-impacts-of-natural-disasters/>.

<sup>101</sup> CCCCC adds LiDar to Caribbean Climate change fight, Caribbean News Service. 1 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://caribbeannewsservice.com/now/ccccc-adds-lidar-to-caribbean-climate-change-fight/>.

<sup>102</sup> Adaptation Fund Breaks Single-Year Resource Mobilization Record with Nearly US\$ 129M in New Pledges Received, Adaptation Fund (Katowice) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/adaptation-fund-breaks-single-year-resource-mobilization-record-nearly-us-129m-new-pledges-received/>.

<sup>103</sup> Adaptation Fund Breaks Single-Year Resource Mobilization Record with Nearly US\$ 129M in New Pledges Received, Adaptation Fund (Katowice) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/adaptation-fund-breaks-single-year-resource-mobilization-record-nearly-us-129m-new-pledges-received/>.

<sup>104</sup> Italy Prime Minister Conte Opens Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development in Rome, United Nations Development Programme (Rome) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2018/Italy-PM-Conte-Opens-Africa-Centre-for-Climate-Sustainable-Development.html>.

<sup>105</sup> Italy Prime Minister Conte Opens Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development in Rome, United Nations Development Programme (Rome) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2018/Italy-PM-Conte-Opens-Africa-Centre-for-Climate-Sustainable-Development.html>.

<sup>106</sup> News Release: Seeds Taking Roots: FAO, Italy and Sudan Substantiate their Partnership, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <http://www.fao.org/partnerships/resource-partners/news/news-article/en/c/1184446/>.

<sup>107</sup> News Release: Seeds Taking Roots: FAO, Italy and Sudan Substantiate their Partnership, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <http://www.fao.org/partnerships/resource-partners/news/news-article/en/c/1184446/>.

On 15 March 2019, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte declared climate change as a crucial challenge for the future of the planet and committed Italy to the climate change agenda and respect for the Paris Agreement.<sup>108</sup>

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to adaptation strategies by providing technical and financial support to climate-vulnerable countries, engaging in multilateral cooperation, and establishing partnerships with developing countries.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Eunbi Lee*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 26 December 2018, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed an agreement with the government of Indonesia to develop the Regional Disaster Risk Resilience project in Central Sulawesi.<sup>109</sup> This project will promote the construction of physical infrastructure and public facilities that are more resilient to natural disasters, following an earthquake in Central Sulawesi in 2018.<sup>110</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the Japanese government held a technical briefing in conjunction with the World Bank. This session convened Japanese insurance providers under the Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF) to discuss new tools and approaches to innovative disaster risk finance in ASEAN nations.<sup>111</sup>

From 28-30 January 2019, the Ministry of the Environment collaborated with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) to organize a three-day training program in Male, Maldives.<sup>112</sup> The purpose of this training program was to “support the development of project proposals to access climate finance by various SIDS (Small Island Developing States) stakeholders through various entities including local banks and climate finance entities.”<sup>113</sup>

On 11 February 2019, Japan participated in the second annual Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Tabletop Exercise, hosted in Thailand and co-sponsored by the United States.<sup>114</sup> This event

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<sup>108</sup> Climate change, a challenge for the future of the planet. President Conte's message, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <http://www.governo.it/articolo/climate-change-una-sfida-il-futuro-del-pianeta-il-messaggio-del-presidente-conte/11122>.

<sup>109</sup> Press Release: Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Samoa: Support for strengthening climate in the Pacific region, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) December 2018. Access Date: 29 March 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/181220\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/181220_01.html).

<sup>110</sup> Press Release: Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Samoa: Support for strengthening climate in the Pacific region, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) December 2018. Access Date: 29 March 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/181220\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/181220_01.html).

<sup>111</sup> Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF) Technical Briefing for Japanese Insurance Industry, World Bank (Tokyo) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2019/01/17/southeast-asia-disaster-risk-insurance-facility-seadrif-technical-briefing-for-japanese-insurance-industry-drmhubtokyo>

<sup>112</sup> Capacity building workshop on preparation of bankable concept notes for climate finance in SIDS, SIDS Lighthouses (Abu Dhabi) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://islands.irena.org/Events>.

<sup>113</sup> Capacity building workshop on preparation of bankable concept notes for climate finance in SIDS, SIDS Lighthouses (Abu Dhabi) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://islands.irena.org/Events>.

<sup>114</sup> Cobra Gold19: Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response Exercise Commenced in Thailand,

sought to promote guidelines and responsible practices for civil-military coordination in response to unexpected natural disasters.<sup>115</sup>

On 14 February 2019, State Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Toshiko Abe welcomed more than 100 government representatives and international organizations to the first meeting of the 2019 G20 Climate Sustainability Working Group.<sup>116</sup> The meeting discussed a variety of topics related to climate change, including cooperation with multilateral development banks to enhance climate action and provide opportunities for climate-related investment.<sup>117</sup> Specifically, the meeting sessions on 15 February 2019 discussed adaptation and resilient infrastructure and sharing best practices in promoting adaptation measures.<sup>118</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the government of Japan announced its contribution of USD10.6 million to increasing resilience to natural disasters in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh, and Balochistan provinces in Pakistan.<sup>119</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs co-hosted an event titled “Prospects on Achieving Disaster Risk Reduction Agenda,” along with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the United Nations Development Program and the Japan International Cooperation Agency.<sup>120</sup> This meeting sought to reaffirm the importance of formulating national and local disaster risk reduction strategies in small island nations.<sup>121</sup>

On 22 February 2019, Japan co-hosted the 2019 Kansai Resilience Forum alongside the International Academic Forum (IAFOR).<sup>122</sup> This one-day forum discussed disaster risk reduction strategies and recognized the importance of innovative engineering for resilient disaster infrastructure.<sup>123</sup>

On 4 March 2019, Japan announced its support for the implementation of Tonga’s nationwide early warning system and disaster communication (NEWS) program.<sup>124</sup> The purpose of the program is to

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U.S Indo-Pacific Command (Phitsnulok) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019.

<https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/1754444/cobra-gold19-humanitarian-assistance-and-disaster-response-exercise-commenced-i/>.

<sup>115</sup> Cobra Gold19: Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response Exercise Commenced in Thailand,

U.S Indo-Pacific Command (Phitsnulok) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019.

<https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/1754444/cobra-gold19-humanitarian-assistance-and-disaster-response-exercise-commenced-i/>.

<sup>116</sup> Press Release: Remarks by Dr. Toshiko Abe, State Minister for Foreign Affairs at the 1st Meeting of the G20 Climate Sustainability Working Group, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000447210.pdf/>.

<sup>117</sup> Press Release: Remarks by Dr. Toshiko Abe, State Minister for Foreign Affairs at the 1st Meeting of the G20 Climate Sustainability Working Group, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000447210.pdf/>.

<sup>118</sup> G20 Climate Sustainability Working Group (CSWG): 1st Meeting 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page25e\\_000301.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page25e_000301.html).

<sup>119</sup> Japan supports vulnerable families in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan, ReliefWeb (Islamabad) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/pakistan/japan-supports-vulnerable-families-khyber-pakhtunkhwa-sindh-and-balochistan>.

<sup>120</sup> News Release: Side Event of the G20 Development Working Group “Prospects on Achieving Disaster Risk Reduction Agenda” (Tokyo) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/gic/page23e\\_000548.html/](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/gic/page23e_000548.html/).

<sup>121</sup> News Release: Side Event of the G20 Development Working Group “Prospects on Achieving Disaster Risk Reduction Agenda” (Tokyo) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/gic/page23e\\_000548.html/](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/gic/page23e_000548.html/).

<sup>122</sup> The Kansai Resilience Forum 2019, Kansai Resilience Forum (Kobe) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019.

<https://kansai-resilience-forum.jp/programme/>.

<sup>123</sup> The Kansai Resilience Forum 2019, Kansai Resilience Forum (Kobe) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019.

<https://kansai-resilience-forum.jp/programme/>.

“reduce risks and damages to basic services, infrastructure and the environments at the time of natural disasters.”<sup>125</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the government of Japan and the UN Human Settlements Programme jointly announced a project in support of recovery and strengthened resilience for communities affected by floods.<sup>126</sup> The project aims to reduce further climate risk and contribute to sustainable growth in Cambodia.<sup>127</sup>

On 10 March 2019, JICA signed a project agreement with the government of Djibouti.<sup>128</sup> This agreement seeks to establish efficient strategies for the management and sustainable usage of water in response to severe climate temperatures.<sup>129</sup>

On 19 March 2019, Japan participated in the Second International Workshop on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure hosted in New Delhi.<sup>130</sup> Kenji Hiramatsu, the Japanese Ambassador to India, reaffirmed Japan’s commitment to formulating “proposals for quality infrastructure” and creating disaster-resilient infrastructure in compliance with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.<sup>131</sup>

On 31 March 2019, JICA signed an agreement with the government of Sudan to form a scientific and technological research partnership.<sup>132</sup> The partnership seeks to develop innovative strategies for sustainable wheat production in response to severe weather and droughts.<sup>133</sup>

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<sup>124</sup> News Release: New Early Warning System and Disaster Communications for Tonga, ReliefWeb (Nuku'alofa) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/tonga/new-early-warning-system-and-disaster-communications-tonga>.

<sup>125</sup> News Release: New Early Warning System and Disaster Communications for Tonga, ReliefWeb (Nuku'alofa) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/tonga/new-early-warning-system-and-disaster-communications-tonga>.

<sup>126</sup> Government of Japan supports recovery and strengthens resilience of flood victims in Cambodia, PreventionWeb (Geneva) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. [https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/64170?fbclid=IwAR0Elere8UU44BWKrZD1uoxLSjcBUZ0sDg\\_riqqBBpHOK9HkV581cYddAaw](https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/64170?fbclid=IwAR0Elere8UU44BWKrZD1uoxLSjcBUZ0sDg_riqqBBpHOK9HkV581cYddAaw).

<sup>127</sup> Government of Japan supports recovery and strengthens resilience of flood victims in Cambodia, PreventionWeb (Geneva) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. [https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/64170?fbclid=IwAR0Elere8UU44BWKrZD1uoxLSjcBUZ0sDg\\_riqqBBpHOK9HkV581cYddAaw](https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/64170?fbclid=IwAR0Elere8UU44BWKrZD1uoxLSjcBUZ0sDg_riqqBBpHOK9HkV581cYddAaw).

<sup>128</sup> Press Release: Signing of Record of Discussions with Djibouti for a Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS): Supporting research for establishing a sustainable water resource management model, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190319\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190319_01.html).

<sup>129</sup> Press Release: Signing of Record of Discussions with Djibouti for a Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS): Supporting research for establishing a sustainable water resource management model, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190319\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190319_01.html).

<sup>130</sup> ‘Now is the time to do bold things...’, Reliefweb (Geneva) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/now-time-do-bold-things>.

<sup>131</sup> ‘Now is the time to do bold things...’, Reliefweb (Geneva) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/now-time-do-bold-things>.

<sup>132</sup> Press Release: Signing of Record of Discussions with Sudan for a Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS): Support for the research and extension of drought- and heat-tolerant wheat cultivars that can be sustainably produced, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20190401\\_31\\_en.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20190401_31_en.html).

On 1 April 2019, Japan contributed USD24 million to Tonga's NEWS program.<sup>134</sup>

On 2 April 2019, Japan participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> special meeting of the United Nations Economic and Social Council's 2019 session in New York.<sup>135</sup> The meeting discussed a variety of topics pertaining to climate finance, climate mitigation strategies and relief efforts in response to damage caused by Cyclone Idai in regions such as Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe.<sup>136</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Japanese government sent a second Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Medical Team to Mozambique for the purpose of further assisting vulnerable communities affected by the cyclone.<sup>137</sup>

On 23 April 2019, the Japanese government announced an emergency funding package of USD11.7 million for Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe in the aftermaths of Cyclone Idai. This funding will be used to protect vulnerable communities, provide temporary shelter, and promote early recovery.<sup>138</sup>

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support climate action and cooperate with climate-vulnerable developing countries with regards to climate adaptive strategies and investment in climate-resilient infrastructure. It has engaged in capacity-building partnerships with a variety of stakeholders ranging from small island states to international organizations and provided unilateral and direct assistance to developing countries.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Justin Lall*

#### **Korea: +1**

Korea fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 16 December 2018, Korea contributed USD5.2 million to a disaster mitigation program in Metro Manila, Philippines.<sup>139</sup> The purpose of this project is to increase responsiveness to natural disasters

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<sup>133</sup> Press Release: Signing of Record of Discussions with Sudan for a Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS): Support for the research and extension of drought- and heat-tolerant wheat cultivars that can be sustainably produced, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20190401\\_31\\_en.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20190401_31_en.html).

<sup>134</sup> Ground breaking of Japan's Grant Aid for the "Nationwide Early Warning System (NEWS) Project" value at 56 million pa'anga, Reliefweb (Nuku'alofa) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/tonga/ground-breaking-japan-s-grant-aid-nationwide-early-warning-system-news-project-value-56>.

<sup>135</sup> At Special Economic and Social Council Meeting on Destruction by Cyclone Idai, Speakers Stress Urgent Need for More Emergency Funding, Resilience Assistance, Reliefweb (New York) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/special-economic-and-social-council-meeting-destruction-cyclone-idai-speakers>.

<sup>136</sup> At Special Economic and Social Council Meeting on Destruction by Cyclone Idai, Speakers Stress Urgent Need for More Emergency Funding, Resilience Assistance, Reliefweb (New York) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/special-economic-and-social-council-meeting-destruction-cyclone-idai-speakers>.

<sup>137</sup> Dispatch of the second Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Medical Team in Response to the Cyclone Damage in Mozambique, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002409.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002409.html).

<sup>138</sup> Emergency Grant Aid for three countries in Southern Africa affected by Cyclone Idai, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002436.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002436.html).

and mitigate flood-related damages in residential areas near the Tullahan and Pasig-Marikina river basins.<sup>140</sup>

On 16 January 2019, Korea and China jointly hosted the 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Joint Committee on Environmental Cooperation.<sup>141</sup> This joint meeting explored the potential for bilateral cooperation between Korea and China with regards to shared climate concerns pertaining to air pollution, water contamination, environmental industry and technology, and increasing environmental cooperation at the regional and global levels.<sup>142</sup>

On 11 February 2019, Korea participated in the second annual Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Tabletop Exercise hosted in Thailand.<sup>143</sup> The event sought to promote guidelines and responsible practices for civil-military coordination strategies in response to unexpected natural disasters.<sup>144</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Korea attended the first 2019 G20 Climate Sustainability Working Group meeting held in Tokyo, Japan, where it shared best practices of promoting climate adaptation practices and resilient infrastructure with other G20 members.<sup>145</sup>

On 15 February 2019, Vice Foreign Minister Lee Tae-ho met with the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana. The meeting discussed inter-governmental environmental policy efforts.<sup>146</sup> Both sides

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<sup>139</sup> South Korea grants \$5.2 million for disaster mitigation in Metro Manila, Business Mirror (Makati) 16 December 2018. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2018/12/16/south-korea-grants-5-2-million-for-disaster-mitigation-in-metro-manila/>.

<sup>140</sup> South Korea grants \$5.2 million for disaster mitigation in Metro Manila, Business Mirror (Makati) 16 December 2018. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2018/12/16/south-korea-grants-5-2-million-for-disaster-mitigation-in-metro-manila/>.

<sup>141</sup> Press Release: 23rd Meeting of ROK-China Joint Committee on Environmental Cooperation to Take Place on Jan.23-24, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 19 January 2019. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320336&srchFr=&%3BsrchTo=&%3BsrchWord=&%3BsrchTp=&%3Bmulti\\_itm\\_seq=0&%3Bitm\\_seq\\_1=0&%3Bitm\\_seq\\_2=0&%3Bcompany\\_cd=&%3Bcompany\\_nm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320336&srchFr=&%3BsrchTo=&%3BsrchWord=&%3BsrchTp=&%3Bmulti_itm_seq=0&%3Bitm_seq_1=0&%3Bitm_seq_2=0&%3Bcompany_cd=&%3Bcompany_nm=).

<sup>142</sup> Press Release: 23rd Meeting of ROK-China Joint Committee on Environmental Cooperation to Take Place on Jan.23-24, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 19 January 2019. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320336&srchFr=&%3BsrchTo=&%3BsrchWord=&%3BsrchTp=&%3Bmulti\\_itm\\_seq=0&%3Bitm\\_seq\\_1=0&%3Bitm\\_seq\\_2=0&%3Bcompany\\_cd=&%3Bcompany\\_nm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320336&srchFr=&%3BsrchTo=&%3BsrchWord=&%3BsrchTp=&%3Bmulti_itm_seq=0&%3Bitm_seq_1=0&%3Bitm_seq_2=0&%3Bcompany_cd=&%3Bcompany_nm=).

<sup>143</sup> Cobra Gold19: Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response Exercise Commenced in Thailand, U.S Indo-Pacific Command (Phitsanulok) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/1754444/cobra-gold19-humanitarian-assistance-and-disaster-response-exercise-commenced-i/>.

<sup>144</sup> Cobra Gold19: Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response Exercise Commenced in Thailand, U.S Indo-Pacific Command (Phitsanulok) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/1754444/cobra-gold19-humanitarian-assistance-and-disaster-response-exercise-commenced-i/>.

<sup>145</sup> Press Release: G20 Climate Sustainability Working Group (CSWG): 1st Meeting 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Seoul) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page25e\\_000301.html/](https://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page25e_000301.html/).

<sup>146</sup> Press Release: Vice Foreign Minister Lee Tae-ho Meets with Executive Secretary of UNESCAP, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320393&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=disaster&srchTp=1&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=&age=1&titleNm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320393&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=disaster&srchTp=1&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&age=1&titleNm=).

reaffirmed their commitment to pursuing cooperative strategies pertaining to sustainable energy, resource efficiency, and disaster reduction.<sup>147</sup>

On 6 March 2019, Korea contributed USD15 million to Laos's flood recovery program in the Attapeu province.<sup>148</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Korea jointly hosted a national conference on Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) in Seoul, alongside the International Organization for Migration (IOM).<sup>149</sup> The workshop sought to enhance the practical knowledge and responsibilities of humanitarian workers deployed in disaster-prone regions.<sup>150</sup>

On 2 April 2019, Korea participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> special meeting of the United Nations Economic and Social Council's 2019 session in New York.<sup>151</sup> The meeting discussed a variety of topics pertaining to climate finance, climate mitigation strategies and relief efforts in response to damage caused by Cyclone Idai in regions such as Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe.<sup>152</sup>

On 3 April 2019, Korea participated in the 2019 Asian Development Outlook Conference.<sup>153</sup> The conference sought to promote strategies of investment in disaster-resilient and climate-effective infrastructure and incorporate sustainable recovery strategies in the aftermath of natural disasters.<sup>154</sup>

On 14 April 2019, the Korean Ambassador to Iran met with the Secretary of the Iranian Red Crescent Society Mahmoud Reza Peyravi.<sup>155</sup> The ambassador re-affirmed Korea's contribution of

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<sup>147</sup> Press Release: Vice Foreign Minister Lee Tae-ho Meets with Executive Secretary of UNESCAP, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320393&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=disaster&srchTp=1&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=&age=1&titleNm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320393&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=disaster&srchTp=1&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&age=1&titleNm=)

<sup>148</sup> South Korea approaches US\$15 million to Laos for Attapeu flood recovery, Eleven Media Group (Yangon) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/south-korea-approves-us15-million-to-laos-for-attapeu-flood-recovery-asianewsnetwork>.

<sup>149</sup> Korean Humanitarian Stakeholders Train in Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction, ReliefWeb (Geneva) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.iom.int/news/korean-humanitarian-stakeholders-trained-community-based-disaster-risk-reduction>.

<sup>150</sup> Korean Humanitarian Stakeholders Train in Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction, ReliefWeb (Geneva) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.iom.int/news/korean-humanitarian-stakeholders-trained-community-based-disaster-risk-reduction>.

<sup>151</sup> At Special Economic and Social Council Meeting on Destruction by Cyclone Idai, Speakers Stress Urgent Need for More Emergency Funding, Resilience Assistance, Reliefweb (New York) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/special-economic-and-social-council-meeting-destruction-cyclone-idai-speakers>.

<sup>152</sup> At Special Economic and Social Council Meeting on Destruction by Cyclone Idai, Speakers Stress Urgent Need for More Emergency Funding, Resilience Assistance, Reliefweb (New York) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/special-economic-and-social-council-meeting-destruction-cyclone-idai-speakers>.

<sup>153</sup> Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2019: Strengthening Disaster Resilience, Asian Development Bank (Mandaluyong) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.adb.org/publications/asian-development-outlook-2019-strengthening-disaster-resilience>.

<sup>154</sup> Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2019: Strengthening Disaster Resilience, Asian Development Bank (Mandaluyong) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.adb.org/publications/asian-development-outlook-2019-strengthening-disaster-resilience>.

<sup>155</sup> South Korea Offers Cash Contribution to Iranian Flood-Affected People, ReliefWeb (Tehran) 14 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/iran-islamic-republic/south-korea-offers-cash-contribution-iranian-flood-affected-people>.

USD200,000 to provide relief for flood-affected communities in the Iranian provinces of Golestan, Fars, Lorestan and Khuzestan.<sup>156</sup>

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to support climate action and cooperation by fostering adaptive strategies and investment in infrastructure. It has also assisted developing countries through direct action.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Justin Lall*

### **Mexico: 0**

Mexico partially complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 18 December 2018, Mexico and the United States signed on to a development plan for Central America to address climate-induced migration.<sup>157</sup> This development plan will benefit Mexico, along with Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, provided that they reduce climate-induced migration to the United States. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs pledged to invest USD5 billion annually starting in 2019, along with the United States' investment of USD4.8 billion.<sup>158</sup>

Mexico has provided aid alongside other G20 members to developing countries in the Caribbean and Central America by pledging funding to address climate change-induced migration. However, Mexico has not engaged climate-vulnerable countries in partnership, particularly small island states.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Raluca Gondor*

### **Russia: -1**

Russia failed to comply with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 11 December 2018, Russia stated that it sees the activities and recommendations of the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Person in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change and the Platform on Disaster Displacement to be inappropriate.<sup>159</sup> Russia asserted that there

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<sup>156</sup> South Korea Offers Cash Contribution to Iranian Flood-Affected People, ReliefWeb (Tehran) 14 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/iran-islamic-republic/south-korea-offers-cash-contribution-iranian-flood-affected-people>.

<sup>157</sup> US and Mexico pledge development funds for Central America, Financial Times (Mexico City) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/90a953d4-0300-11e9-99df-6183d3002ee1>.

<sup>158</sup> US and Mexico pledge development funds for Central America, Financial Times (Mexico City) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/90a953d4-0300-11e9-99df-6183d3002ee1>.

<sup>159</sup> Statement of the Russian Federation on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, Marrakesh, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Russia) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/iniciativy-rossii-v-oon/-/asset\\_publisher/lt9FJKw0JOXM/content/id/3440694](http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/iniciativy-rossii-v-oon/-/asset_publisher/lt9FJKw0JOXM/content/id/3440694).

is no reliable and invariably recognized evidence that confirms the correlation between climate change and displacement, or the predominance of environmental factors in displacement.<sup>160</sup>

On 9 April 2019, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov acknowledged that the Arctic is witnessing rapid climate-induced change, referring to climate change as a serious global challenge.<sup>161</sup> He further stated that Russia understands the importance of the Paris Climate Agreement. However, the minister also stated that climate change offers new opportunities such as receding ice-opening that enables the use of the Northern Sea Route for shipping.<sup>162</sup>

Russia has not taken steps to fulfill its commitment to support actions and cooperation in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean. Furthermore, Russia has rejected the activities and recommendations of global initiatives relating to climate action.

Thus, Russia receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Jennifer Wang*

### **Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 30 December 2018, the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center, a humanitarian agency established by King Salman bin Abdulaziz, signed two agreements with Tajikistan's Emergency and Civil Defense Committee and the Land Reclamation and Irrigation Agency.<sup>163</sup> The agreements pledged support for flood relief projects by providing equipment, establishing disaster prevention mechanisms, and deploying rapid response teams to affected regions.<sup>164</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken steps to fulfill its commitment to support actions, but not cooperation in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Eunbi Lee*

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<sup>160</sup> Statement of the Russian Federation on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, Marrakesh, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Russia) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/iniciativy-rossii-v-oon/-/asset\\_publisher/lt9FJKw0J0XM/content/id/3440694](http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/iniciativy-rossii-v-oon/-/asset_publisher/lt9FJKw0J0XM/content/id/3440694).

<sup>161</sup> Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's remarks and answers to media questions at the opening of the ministerial session of the 5th International Arctic Forum, The Arctic: Territory of Dialogue, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (St. Petersburg) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. [http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/meropriyatiya\\_s\\_uchastiem\\_ministra/-/asset\\_publisher/xK1BhB2bUjd3/content/id/3608543](http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/meropriyatiya_s_uchastiem_ministra/-/asset_publisher/xK1BhB2bUjd3/content/id/3608543).

<sup>162</sup> Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's remarks and answers to media questions at the opening of the ministerial session of the 5th International Arctic Forum, The Arctic: Territory of Dialogue, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (St. Petersburg) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. [http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/meropriyatiya\\_s\\_uchastiem\\_ministra/-/asset\\_publisher/xK1BhB2bUjd3/content/id/3608543](http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/meropriyatiya_s_uchastiem_ministra/-/asset_publisher/xK1BhB2bUjd3/content/id/3608543).

<sup>163</sup> KSA's humanitarian aid agency chief meets Tajikistan envoy, Arab News (Jeddah) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 25 June 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1427986/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>164</sup> KSA's humanitarian aid agency chief meets Tajikistan envoy, Arab News (Jeddah) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 25 June 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1427986/saudi-arabia>.

### **South Africa: -1**

South Africa failed to comply with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

Within this compliance cycle, South Africa has not supported actions and cooperation in countries vulnerable to climate change, specifically with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies. It has not taken any actions or made any collaborative commitments to support developing countries in bolstering extreme weather infrastructure or adopting other preventative climate-related measures. No actions were found for this report after searching publicly available online sources published by the government, relevant ministries, and international organizations.<sup>165</sup>

Thus, South Africa receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Jennifer Wang*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey partially complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 25 February 2019, Turkey pledged to support Ghana in addressing issues of sanitation and introducing sustainable water supply. Although Turkey's own water resources are affected by climate change, it has promised to assist Ghana in mitigating climate-related risks to clean water supply.<sup>166</sup>

Turkey has taken steps towards climate action in developing countries by contributing to climate-resilient infrastructure. However, Turkey has not engaged in direct cooperation with developing countries and small island states.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Raluca Gondor*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 13 December 2018, the World Bank announced the UK's GBP20 million pledge to the World Bank's Energy Sector Management Assistance Program.<sup>167</sup> Administered by the World Bank, the assistance program supports global knowledge and technical assistance to low and middle-income

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<sup>165</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites:

<https://www.environment.gov.za>, <http://www.dirco.gov.za>, <http://www.treasury.gov.za>, <http://www.statssa.gov.za>, and <https://www.iol.co.za>.

<sup>166</sup> Ghana: Turkey to Support Ghana On Water, Sanitation, AllAfrica (Accra) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201902250819.html>.

<sup>167</sup> Press Release: World Bank, Canada, UK to Assist in Countries in Transition from Coal; Accelerate Uptake of Cleaner Energy, The World Bank (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/12/12/wb-canada-uk-to-assist-countries-in-transition-from-coal/>.

countries by providing sustainable energy solutions.<sup>168</sup> The UK's financial support will finance improvements in solar battery storage, geothermal and offshore wind development, and enhanced energy efficiency in developing states that have committed to transitioning away from coal and into cleaner energy sources.<sup>169</sup>

On 17 December 2018, Minister of Energy and Clean Growth Claire Perry reaffirmed the UK's continued support for the Pacific Islands in building resiliency against climate change. Perry expressed the UK's commitment by stating: "despite hardly contributing to climate change, [the Pacific Islands] are driving international action to... building resilience of their communities."<sup>170</sup> Perry's statement confirmed GBP1.2 million in funding for the Pacific Nationally Determined Contributions Hub, an international cooperative that supports vulnerable island states in their fight against climate change.<sup>171</sup>

On 21 January 2019, the UK and New Zealand issued a joint statement to reaffirm their continued support for partnerships with the Pacific Islands to fight climate change. "The UK and New Zealand recognise that individual and coordinated action is required to address the vulnerabilities of Pacific Island countries to support their sustainable and prosperous future."<sup>172</sup> The UK will seek to improve multilateral support by opening three new diplomatic posts in Vanuatu, Samoa, and Tonga. It will also send a regional development expert to Fiji to address the climate vulnerability of Pacific Island countries.<sup>173</sup>

The UK has fully complied with its commitment to climate action and cooperation with developing countries with regards to climate-resilient adaptive strategies. The UK has invested in climate-friendly infrastructure in developing states that are transitioning away from coal. Recently, the Ministry of Energy and Clean Growth has also dedicated increased funding and engaged in multilateral efforts in collaboration with Pacific Island States.

Thus, the UK receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Callista Ryan*

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<sup>168</sup> Press Release: World Bank, Canada, UK to Assist in Countries in Transition from Coal; Accelerate Uptake of Cleaner Energy, The World Bank (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/12/12/wb-canada-uk-to-assist-countries-in-transition-from-coal/>.

<sup>169</sup> Press Release: World Bank, Canada, UK to Assist in Countries in Transition from Coal; Accelerate Uptake of Cleaner Energy, The World Bank (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/12/12/wb-canada-uk-to-assist-countries-in-transition-from-coal/>.

<sup>170</sup> Press Release: UK Deepens Climate Change Partnership with Pacific Islands, Ministry of Energy and Clean Growth, The Honourable Minister Claire Perry, 17 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-deepens-climate-change-partnership-with-pacific-islands>.

<sup>171</sup> Press Release: UK Deepens Climate Change Partnership with Pacific Islands, Ministry of Energy and Clean Growth, The Honourable Minister Claire Perry, 17 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-deepens-climate-change-partnership-with-pacific-islands>.

<sup>172</sup> New Zealand and United Kingdom Joint Statement on Climate Change and Resilience in the Pacific, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and Department for International Development. 21 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-zealand-and-united-kingdom-joint-statement-on-climate-change-and-resilience-in-the-pacific>.

<sup>173</sup> New Zealand and United Kingdom Joint Statement on Climate Change and Resilience in the Pacific, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and Department for International Development. 21 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-zealand-and-united-kingdom-joint-statement-on-climate-change-and-resilience-in-the-pacific>.

**United States: +1**

The United States fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 18 December 2018, the United States and Mexico signed on to a development plan for Central America to address climate-induced migration.<sup>174</sup> This development plan will benefit Mexico, along with Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, provided that they reduce climate-induced migration to the United States. The United States invested USD4.8 billion.<sup>175</sup>

On 11 February 2019, the US co-sponsored the second annual Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Tabletop Exercise, hosted in Thailand and attended by countries including Japan.<sup>176</sup> This event sought to promote guidelines and responsible practices for civil-military coordination in response to unexpected natural disasters.<sup>177</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the US Embassy in Cote d'Ivoire announced a new initiative funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID). This initiative supports increased environmental and economic resilience in climate-vulnerable regions such as Cote d'Ivoire.<sup>178</sup>

On 12 April 2019, US Secretary of State convened a meeting with the disaster management officials of 18 Caribbean countries to discuss the new "U.S.-Caribbean Resilience Partnership."<sup>179</sup> The partnership aims to promote resilience and build regional capacity in disaster response.<sup>180</sup>

The United States has supported climate action and cooperation by ameliorating environmental plight in Small Island Developing States and participating in multilateral climate partnerships pertaining to disaster risk resilience.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.<sup>181</sup>

*Analyst: Olga Tumurova*

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<sup>174</sup> US and Mexico pledge development funds for Central America, Financial Times (Mexico City) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/90a953d4-0300-11e9-99df-6183d3002ee1>.

<sup>175</sup> US and Mexico pledge development funds for Central America, Financial Times (Mexico City) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/90a953d4-0300-11e9-99df-6183d3002ee1>.

<sup>176</sup> Cobra Gold19: Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response Exercise Commenced in Thailand, U.S Indo-Pacific Command (Phitsanulok) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/1754444/cobra-gold19-humanitarian-assistance-and-disaster-response-exercise-commenced-i/>.

<sup>177</sup> Cobra Gold19: Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response Exercise Commenced in Thailand, U.S Indo-Pacific Command (Phitsanulok) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/1754444/cobra-gold19-humanitarian-assistance-and-disaster-response-exercise-commenced-i/>.

<sup>178</sup> Coastal Resilience Project Launches in Fresco- Cote d'Ivoire, to Protect Ecosystems and Improve Lives of Thousands, Embassy of the United States in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire (Abidjan) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://www.africanews.com/2019/02/13/coastal-resilience-project-launches-in-fresco-cote-divoire-to-protect-ecosystems-and-improve-lives-of-thousands/>.

<sup>179</sup> USA: The U.S.-Caribbean Resilience Partnership, Prevention Web (Geneva) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/64855>.

<sup>180</sup> USA: The U.S.-Caribbean Resilience Partnership, Prevention Web (Geneva) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/64855>.

<sup>181</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <https://www.usaid.gov>, <https://www.state.gov>, <https://www.epa.gov>, <https://www.bbc.com>, and <https://www.nytimes.com>.

### European Union: +1

The European Union fully complied with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to comprehensive adaptation strategies, including investment in infrastructure that is resilient to extreme weather events and disasters, in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable, including small island states such as those in the Caribbean.

On 9 December 2018, during COP24, the EU agreed to scale up pre-arranged finance for climate-vulnerable communities as a member of the steering body of the InsuResilience Global Partnership.<sup>182</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the EU signed two agreements with the World Bank, providing EUR30.7 million to strengthen disaster management in the Caribbean.<sup>183</sup> The programs will support Caribbean countries in planning for long-term resilience and climate-smart growth strategies and designing investment initiatives.<sup>184</sup> The Caribbean Regional Resilience Building Facility will support 15 Caribbean countries in expanding financial protection and reducing climate vulnerability.<sup>185</sup>

On 24 February 2019, the EU Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica approved a EUR1.6 million programme dedicated to reducing Palau's dependency on fossil fuel.<sup>186</sup>

On 26 February 2019, EU Commissioner Neven Mimica signed the Pacific-European Union Waste Management programme and the Global Climate Change Alliance Plus - Scaling-up Pacific Adaptation Programme (GCCA-SUPA).<sup>187</sup> The Pacific-European Union Waste Management programme will allocate EUR16.5 million to addressing marine litter and biodiversity conservation issues in the Pacific region. The program will be implemented in partnership with key regional partner agencies. The GCCA-SUPA will provide the Pacific region with a total amount of EUR14.89

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<sup>182</sup> EU Joins the InsuResilience Global Partnership to Boost Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance, European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development. 28 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/devco/item-detail.cfm?item\\_id=641729&utm\\_source=devco\\_newsroom&utm\\_medium=Website&utm\\_campaign=devco&utm\\_content=EU joins the InsuResilience Global Partnership to boost disaster risk finan&lang=en](https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/devco/item-detail.cfm?item_id=641729&utm_source=devco_newsroom&utm_medium=Website&utm_campaign=devco&utm_content=EU+joins+the+InsuResilience+Global+Partnership+to+boost+disaster+risk+finan&lang=en).

<sup>183</sup> Euro 30 Million to Help Caribbean Enhance Climate Resilience and Adaption, World Bank (Washington) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/01/31/euro-30-million-to-help-caribbean-enhance-climate-resilience-and-adaptation?fbclid=IwAR0ZnoARLQeKqgeCFy2zv4zcy2ue6QMqnr-jlq3nv6LDJ1TmTqZwOr3vFLU>.

<sup>184</sup> Euro 30 Million to Help Caribbean Enhance Climate Resilience and Adaption, World Bank (Washington) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/01/31/euro-30-million-to-help-caribbean-enhance-climate-resilience-and-adaptation?fbclid=IwAR0ZnoARLQeKqgeCFy2zv4zcy2ue6QMqnr-jlq3nv6LDJ1TmTqZwOr3vFLU>.

<sup>185</sup> Euro 30 Million to Help Caribbean Enhance Climate Resilience and Adaption, World Bank (Washington) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/01/31/euro-30-million-to-help-caribbean-enhance-climate-resilience-and-adaptation?fbclid=IwAR0ZnoARLQeKqgeCFy2zv4zcy2ue6QMqnr-jlq3nv6LDJ1TmTqZwOr3vFLU>.

<sup>186</sup> EU gives EUR1.6 million to support Palau in improving Energy Efficiency, European External Action Service (Brussels) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/fiji/58998/eu-gives-€16m-support-palau-improving-energy-efficiency>.

<sup>187</sup> The Pacific and the EU sign programmes worth almost EUR32 million for waste management and climate change adaptation, European External Action Service (Brussels) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/58911/pacific-and-eu-sign-programmes-worth-almost-eur-32-million-waste-management-and-climate-change>.

million in financial aid. The program will be implemented in partnership with the Pacific Community, the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme, and the University of the South Pacific.<sup>188</sup>

On 1 March 2019, at the 17th Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT)-EU Forum, the EU signed five cooperation programmes totalling EUR44 million.<sup>189</sup> EUR18 million will be allocated to a climate mitigation and sustainable energy programme, which will assist the EU's OCTs in building resilience to climate change, curbing disaster risks, and moving towards low-carbon energy-efficient economies.<sup>190</sup> The EU also contributed EUR9 million to supporting infrastructural reconstruction in Sint Maarten and the British Virgin Islands in the aftermath of hurricanes Irma and Maria.<sup>191</sup>

On 10 March 2019, the EU issued a joint statement with the government of Australia, confirming collective support for the Pacific region's economic development and its priorities of sustainable infrastructure development.<sup>192</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the European Development Fund announced a EUR12 million contribution to the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Building (PACRES) project.<sup>193</sup> PACRES will be financed under the Intra-African Caribbean Pacific (ACP) GCCA+ Programme. EU programme manager for the Intra-ACP GCCA+ PACRES Project Jenny Brown confirmed that "the European Union remains committed and will continue to support climate change adaptation in the Pacific and to coordinate and partner up with the CROP agencies to deliver concrete results in line with the strategies elaborated by the Pacific governments."<sup>194</sup>

On 17 April 2019, the EU issued a policy document outlining its vision for deepened relations with partner countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. The EU pledged to facilitate coordination with regards to disaster management, specifically by leveraging the EU Civil Protection Mechanism and Emergency Response Coordination Centre.<sup>195</sup>

The EU has invested in climate initiatives in Small Island Developing States throughout this compliance cycle. It has also signed partnerships with developing countries aimed at efficient energy

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<sup>188</sup> The Pacific and the EU sign programmes worth almost EUR32 million for waste management and climate change adaptation, European External Action Service (Brussels) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/58911/pacific-and-eu-sign-programmes-worth-almost-eur-32-million-waste-management-and-climate-change>.

<sup>189</sup> EU and Overseas Countries and Territories boost cooperation at annual Forum with €44 million, European Commission (Brussels) 1 March 2019, Access Date: 1 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-and-overseas-countries-and-territories-boost-cooperation-annual-forum-eu44\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-and-overseas-countries-and-territories-boost-cooperation-annual-forum-eu44_en).

<sup>190</sup> EU and Overseas Countries and Territories boost cooperation at annual Forum with €44 million, European Commission (Brussels) 1 March 2019, Access Date: 1 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-and-overseas-countries-and-territories-boost-cooperation-annual-forum-eu44\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-and-overseas-countries-and-territories-boost-cooperation-annual-forum-eu44_en).

<sup>191</sup> EU and Overseas Countries and Territories boost cooperation at annual Forum with €44 million, European Commission (Brussels) 1 March 2019, Access Date: 1 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-and-overseas-countries-and-territories-boost-cooperation-annual-forum-eu44\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-and-overseas-countries-and-territories-boost-cooperation-annual-forum-eu44_en).

<sup>192</sup> European Union and Australian Government Joint Statement, European External Action Service (Brussels) 10 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/fiji/59352/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement>.

<sup>193</sup> Pacific Resilience to Climate Change Across 15 Countries, The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (Apia) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://www.sprep.org/news/building-pacific-resilience-to-climate-change-across-15-countries>.

<sup>194</sup> Pacific Resilience to Climate Change Across 15 Countries, The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (Apia) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://www.sprep.org/news/building-pacific-resilience-to-climate-change-across-15-countries>.

<sup>195</sup> Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, European Commission (Brussels) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/eu-lac-communication\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/eu-lac-communication_en.pdf).

development, waste reduction and biodiversity conservation in the Pacific region, in tandem with the region's governments and relevant agencies.

Thus, the EU receives the score of +1.

*Analyst: Olga Tumurova*

## 2. Development: Early Childhood Development

“We launch the G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development and stand ready to join all stakeholders in enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs that consider the multidimensional approach of ECD, as means of building human capital to break the cycle of intergenerational and structural poverty, and of reducing inequalities, specially where young children are most vulnerable.”

*Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China		0	
France		0	
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey	-1		
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.45	

### Background

Early Childhood Development (ECD) as a field of policy and development has emerged through a multitude of international partnerships and frameworks, beginning with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. On 20 November 1989, the United Nations General Assembly recognized the “importance of international co-operation for improving the living conditions of children in every country, in particular in the developing countries.”<sup>196</sup>

ECD has increasingly become incorporated in various global development agendas. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were developed on 20-22 June 2012 at the Rio 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Here the UN General Assembly “acknowledge[d] the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development

<sup>196</sup> Convention on the Rights of the Child, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (New York) 20 November 1989. Access Date: 12 January 2019.  
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>.

in all its dimensions.”<sup>197</sup> The SDGs contain many targets that specifically address ECD, such as SDG 4.2 which aims to ensure that by 2030, “all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.”<sup>198</sup> The G20 has recognized the “indisputable linkages between early childhood and sustainable development, and how ECD can contribute to the overall achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals.”<sup>199</sup>

On 13-16 July 2015, the UN agreed to the Addis Ababa Action Agreement, which lays out the steps for the international community to fund a sustainable development agenda. The Agreement recognized that “investing in children and youth is critical to achieving inclusive, equitable and sustainable development for present and future generations” and “the need to support countries that face particular challenges to make the requisite investments in this area.”<sup>200</sup>

On 15-16 November 2015, at the Antalya Summit, the G20 committed to “aligning its work with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to ensure that no one is left behind in our efforts to eradicate poverty, achieve sustainable development and build an inclusive and sustainable future for all.”<sup>201</sup> The G20 also reiterated its commitment to work on “human resources development both at home and abroad to substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant technical and vocational skills for employment.”<sup>202</sup>

On 21-26 May 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF and the World Bank Group (WBG), launched the Nurturing Care Framework at the 71st World Health Assembly. The framework lays out why investing in early childhood development as it is “one of the best investments a country can make to boost economic growth, promote peaceful and sustainable societies, and eliminate extreme poverty and inequality” and it “is necessary to uphold the right of every child to survive and thrive.”<sup>203</sup>

At the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit, the G20 leaders recognized the importance of ECD and launched the G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development. This was the first time the G20 took specific action to focus on supporting children at the earliest stage of their lives. The ECD focused on how the roles of parents, caregivers, families, play, early stimulation, responsive care, and health and nutrition shape a child’s development. In addition, the G20 also recognized that “ECD is a powerful equalizer that can help narrow the wide gaps in outcomes and opportunities that exist between children from higher and lower socioeconomic backgrounds and also the gender gap between boys and girls, consistently with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.”<sup>204</sup> They also emphasized the need to

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<sup>197</sup> Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Development Programme (New York). Access date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>.

<sup>198</sup> Sustainable Development Goal 4, United Nations (New York) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg4>.

<sup>199</sup> G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

<sup>200</sup> Addis Ababa Action Agenda, United Nations (New York) 13-16 July 2015. Access Date 13 January 2019. [https://www.un.org/esa/ffd/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/AAAA\\_Outcome.pdf](https://www.un.org/esa/ffd/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/AAAA_Outcome.pdf).

<sup>201</sup> G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 21 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/g20-action-plan-on-2030-agenda.pdf>.

<sup>202</sup> G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 21 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/g20-action-plan-on-2030-agenda.pdf>.

<sup>203</sup> Nurturing Care for Early Childhood Development, World Health Organization (Geneva) 2018. Access Date: 13 January 2019. <http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/272604/WHO-FWC-MCA-18.02-eng.pdf?ua=1>.

<sup>204</sup> G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs that take a multidimensional approach to ECD.

### **Commitment Features**

At Buenos Aires the G20 committed to launching “the G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development” and to “stand ready to join all stakeholders in enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs that consider the multidimensional approach of ECD, as means of building human capital to break the cycle of intergenerational and structural poverty, and of reducing inequalities, specially where young children are most vulnerable.”

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), “early child development (ECD) encompasses physical, socio emotional, cognitive and motor development between 0-8 years of age.”<sup>205</sup>

At the core of this commitment is the recognition that ECD “brings clear benefits both to the individual and society, reducing health and economic problems that children can carry throughout their entire lives. It paves the way for intervening at the most critical stage of human development in order to break the vicious cycle of intergenerational and structural poverty, societal disparities and inequality of opportunities, ensuring that no child, anywhere, is left behind.”<sup>206</sup> Thereby, only through strengthening “quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs” can G20 members: 1) build human capital, and 2) reduce inequalities, amongst young children.

For this commitment, the multidimensional approach of ECD incorporates “health, food security and quality nutrition, responsive caregiving, physical and emotional security and safety, and early learning and stimulation.” All of these dimensions interact in a manner that is “mutually reinforcing.”<sup>207</sup> Thus, there are five dimensions of Early Childhood Development members must consider:

1. Access to quality primary, preventive and curative healthcare. In practical terms, this refers to “reinforcing social protection and providing access to universal health coverage for all children and women, especially during pregnancy, child-birth and breastfeeding, consistent with national contexts.”<sup>208</sup>
2. Encouraging good nutrition early in a child’s life and working towards the collective goals of ending hunger and achieving food security.
3. Promoting “secure and safe environments “free of condemnation, hostility, exploitation, abuse, neglect, conflict and stress.” This refers to taking actions for preventing “child maltreatment and gender-based violence and discrimination, including the elimination of harmful practices such as female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage; the promotion of birth registration for every child; the provision of adequate housing and basic services such as safe water,

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<sup>205</sup> Early child development, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 May 2019.  
<https://www.who.int/topics/early-child-development/en/>.

<sup>206</sup> G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.  
[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

<sup>207</sup> G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.  
[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

<sup>208</sup> G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.  
[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

sanitation and hygiene; and efforts to provide environments free of violence, conflict, war, natural and man-made hazards, and pollution.”<sup>209</sup>

4. Underscoring the need for responsive care through “providing community and centre-based organized play-based early programs that complement the parents’ role.”<sup>210</sup>
5. The necessity of early learning and stimulation play during early childhood. This refers to programs that provide “effective stimulation, including the enhancement of parents’ and caregivers’ capabilities to promote development and learning, are a way of preparing children to benefit from all forms and levels of education.”<sup>211</sup>

In the context of the commitment, G20 members are ready to “join all stakeholders in enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs that consider the multidimensional approach of ECD.” Thereby encouraging these various quality and sustainability financed programs requires three forms of action.

The first involves financing and investing in Early Childhood Development programs through “effective, equitable and sustainably financed ECD interventions.” This specifically refers to “increasing resources to quality programs that consider the holistic approach of ECD, comprising interventions in health, food security and nutrition, gender equality and women’s empowerment, responsive caregiving, security and safety, early learning and stimulation, and social protection,” especially amongst those in vulnerable situations, poor households and the informal economy. This can be accomplished through financing by International Organizations, Multilateral Development Banks, financial institutions, and private public-partnerships.<sup>212</sup>

The second form of action involves data monitoring, and evaluation of Early Childhood Development programs. This refers to “monitoring and evaluating the results and impact of ECD investments,” effective research and evidence, aimed to better inform and target policy decisions and program improvements, and addressing the data gap in ECD programs through data collection. Actions can include capturing ECD outcomes in population-based surveys and strengthening “systems that can monitor ongoing child development interventions globally, such as the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF)’s Early Childhood Development Index and the inter-agency Measuring Early Learning and Quality and Outcomes (MELQO).”<sup>213</sup>

Another form of action involves engaging in international cooperation and/or knowledge sharing. This aims to improve “the quality and accessibility of multi-sector ECD programs, particularly in supporting low-income and developing countries.” Furthermore, members can coordinate with various International Organizations, Multilateral Development Banks, and financial institutions to

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209 G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

210 G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

211 G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

212 G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

213 G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

promote opportunities for collaboration. This specifically includes collaborating with the ECD Action Network (ECDAN), in order to promote knowledge exchange and learning across countries.<sup>214</sup>

Thus, in order to receive full compliance, members must enhance quality and sustainably financed ECD programs by taking all three of the aforementioned actions. Partial compliance occurs when a member takes either one or two of the aforementioned actions, while negative compliance occurs when a member fails to take any action.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	G20 member does not take action to enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through any of the following: 1) financing and investing; 2) data, monitoring, and evaluation; 3) international cooperation and knowledge sharing
0	G20 member takes action to enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through one or two of the following: 1) financing and investing; 2) data, monitoring, and evaluation; 3) international cooperation and knowledge sharing
+1	G20 member takes action to enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through all three of the following: 1) financing and investing; 2) data, monitoring, and evaluation; 3) international cooperation and knowledge sharing

*Compliance Director: David Manocchio  
Lead Analyst: Emily Chu*

### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

Between 3-7 December 2018, coordinators from the Primera Infancia (“Early Childhood”) Program met with their counterparts in Brazil to foster knowledge sharing and train state-level multipliers from the Argentine program.<sup>215</sup> The program, called “Strengthening of actions for the promotion of Child Development,” focused on training, planning visits between the two groups, continuing education and intersectoral coordination.<sup>216</sup>

On 26 December 2018, Minister of Health and Social Development Carolina Stanley launched the “Plan de Igualdad de Oportunidades y Derechos” (“Plan for Equality of Opportunities and Rights”). The Plan presents the federal law bill “Equidad de Genero” (Gender Equality) which guarantees maternity leave for part-time workers and increasing the flexibility of maternity/paternity leave within four years of the child’s birth. The Plan also structures a national gendered in-depth data evaluation project.<sup>217</sup>

On 2 March 2019, Minister of Health and Social Development Carolina Stanley ratified a 46 per cent increase in the Asignaciones Universales por Hijo, a conditional cash-transfer program for low-

<sup>214</sup> G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development Building human capital to break the cycle of poverty and inequality, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_initiative\\_for\\_early\\_childhood\\_development.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_initiative_for_early_childhood_development.pdf).

<sup>215</sup> Third mission of First Childhood Development Program representatives in Brazil, Gobierno Argentino (Buenos Aires) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/tercera-mision-de-referentes-del-programa-primera-infancia-brasil>.

<sup>216</sup> Tercera misión de referentes del programa Primera Infancia a Brasil, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 4 May 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/tercera-mision-de-referentes-del-programa-primera-infancia-brasil>.

<sup>217</sup> Equality of Opportunities and Rights Plan, Gobierno Argentino (Buenos Aires) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/plan-de-igualdad-de-oportunidades-y-derechos>.

income parents. The increase from ARS1800 to ARS2644 per month aims to reduce the impact of inflation on early childhood development.<sup>218</sup>

In 2019, the Federal Treasury Ministry increased its financial support to the Primera Infancia Program by ARS46.7 million, representing a 56.7 per cent increase compared to the previous year.<sup>219</sup>

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment towards improving early childhood development. Argentina has invested in regional cooperation with Brazil, significantly increased financial support for the scaling of its early childhood development program and plans to evaluate labour laws to facilitate early child upbringing.

Thus, Argentina has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Leonardo Consenza*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 7 December 2018, the Australian government announced that it is providing AUD44.5 million to increase the Child Care Subsidy for families using In-Home Care. Additionally, the number of In-Home Care places will increase from 200 to 3,200.<sup>220</sup> Beginning 1 January 2019, the family hourly rate cap will increase from AUD25.48 to AUD32 per hour, and the Additional Child Care Subsidy rate will increase from AUD30.58 to AUD38.40. The increased rate cap will help eligible families access affordable In-Home Care and support providers.<sup>221</sup>

On 10 December 2018, the Australian government announced that it is increasing its funding contribution to state schools to 20 per cent of the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) by 2023. Additionally, the Australian government is providing AUD309.6 billion in recurrent funding to all Australian schools over the period of 2018 to 2029.<sup>222</sup>

On 1 January 2019, the Australian government announced it would provide AUD440 million to states and territories for preschool in 2019 under the National Partnership on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education.<sup>223</sup>

On 8 February 2019, Minister for Education Dan Tehan announced funding exceeding AUD2.5 million for 16 childcare providers. Through the government's Community Child Care Fund, more

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<sup>218</sup> The answer given by Carolina Stanley when asked about poverty in Argentina, El Intransigente (Buenos Aires) 2 March 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.elintransigente.com/politica/2019/3/2/la-respuesta-que-dio-carolina-stanley-al-ser-consultada-sobre-la-pobreza-en-argentina-545430.html>.

<sup>219</sup> Macri: "I am committed to create centers of Early Childhood and CONIN Centers all over the country", Chequeado (Mexico City) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://chequeado.com/ultimas-noticias/macri-me-estoy-comprometiendo-a-crear-centros-de-primera-infancia-y-centros-conin-por-todo-el-pais-2018/>.

<sup>220</sup> Helping more families access In-Home Care, Ministers for the Department of Education and Training (Canberra) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/tehan/helping-more-families-access-home-care>.

<sup>221</sup> Helping more families access In-Home Care, Ministers for the Department of Education and Training (Canberra) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/tehan/helping-more-families-access-home-care>.

<sup>222</sup> Beyond Year 12 Conference – Towards better Student outcomes, Ministers for the Department of Education and Training (Canberra) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/tehan/beyond-year-12-conference-towards-better-student-outcomes>.

<sup>223</sup> Improving preschool attendance, Ministers for the Department of Education and Training (Canberra) 1 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/tehan/improving-preschool-attendance>.

than 700 childcare services will split AUD110 million to improve sustainability, increase childcare participation, and create more childcare spaces.<sup>224</sup>

On 16 February 2019, Minister for Education Dan Tehan launched an AUD4 million information portal to support disability education. The portal improves access for education professionals seeking advice and guidance on how to provide students with disabilities the opportunities to succeed.<sup>225</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade opened applications for the New Colombo Plan Mobility Program.<sup>226</sup> The program provides funding to various universities in Australia with mobility scholarships, including funding for scholarships for the Early Childhood Education Japan Study Tour program with the University of New England.<sup>227</sup>

On 22 March 2019, Minister of Education Dan Tehan announced an investment of AUD8.3 billion in early childhood education and childcare in 2019. Additionally, the government published its 2018 Australian Early Development Census (AEDC), which collected data covering language and cognitive skills, communications skills, general knowledge, physical health and wellbeing, social competence and emotional maturity of more than 300,000 children.<sup>228</sup>

On 2 April 2019, Treasurer Josh Frydenberg released the Federal Budget, which included an investment of AUD453 million until the end of 2020 to extend the National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education.<sup>229</sup> However, the budget does not include the provision of services to improve the quality of early education or to address workforce challenges in the early childhood sector.<sup>230</sup>

On 11 April 2019, Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack, Treasurer Josh Frydenberg, and Minister of Education Dan Tehan announced an investment of AUD9.7 million to expand enrolment for Giant Steps Melbourne School, which provides a Prep to Year 12 specialist education for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.<sup>231</sup>

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<sup>224</sup> Support for remote and rural child care services, Ministers for the Department of Education and Training (Canberra) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/tehan/support-remote-and-rural-child-care-services>.

<sup>225</sup> Supporting students with disability, Minister for the Department of Education and Training (Canberra) 16 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/tehan/supporting-students-disability>.

<sup>226</sup> The New Colombo Plan Mobility Program, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 5 May 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/new-colombo-plan/mobility-program/Pages/mobility-program.aspx>.

<sup>227</sup> Japan — Early Childhood Short-term Study, University of New England (Armidale). Access Date: 4 May 2019. <https://www.une.edu.au/about-une/faculty-of-humanities-arts-social-sciences-and-education/school-of-education/short-term-international-study-opportunities/short-term-study-opportunity-in-japan>.

<sup>228</sup> Minister's Message on the Release of the 2018 AEDC Results (Canberra) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.aedc.gov.au/about-the-aedc/aedc-news/article/2019/03/22/minister-s-message-on-the-release-of-the-2018-aedc-results>.

<sup>229</sup> Budget 2019-20, The Government of Australia (Canberra) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gov.au/2019-20/content/services.htm>.

<sup>230</sup> Budget Fails to Deliver for Early Childhood Education, Women's Agenda (Sydney) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://womensagenda.com.au/latest/budget-fails-to-deliver-for-early-childhood-education/>.

<sup>231</sup> Giant Leap for Giant Steps Melbourne School for Children with Autism, Government of Australia (Canberra) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/mccormack/giant-leap-giant-steps-melbourne-school-children-autism>.

On 11 April 2019, the Government of Australia announced an investment of AUD300 billion in schools through the Quality Schools Package legislation designed to improve the quality of education for every child through 2020.<sup>232</sup>

Australia has invested in early childhood programs by creating online infrastructure and increasing funding to childcare programs and providers, facilitated data monitoring and evaluation, and has taken action internationally to promote ECD.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nammal Khan*

### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 3 December 2018, Minister of Social Development Alberto Beltrame presented at the sixth International Seminar of the magazine Pais&Filhos, Unibes Cultural in Sao Paulo, with the theme “Motherhood changes everything (still good!).” During the presentation, Beltrame emphasized the importance of the interactions between mother and child in early childhood. He addressed the Happy Child program coordinated by the Ministry of Social Development, which promotes early childhood care to help reduce social inequalities and generate more opportunities for the future.<sup>233</sup>

On 4 December 2018, the National Meeting of Happy Child was held in Brasília to celebrate more than nine million visits to beneficiary families that have been made throughout the country. About 200 managers, including state coordinators, program supervisors, as well as partners and consultants, met to assess service delivery and project expansion of actions.<sup>234</sup>

From 3-7 December 2018, Brazilian and Argentine technical teams participated in a program called “Strengthening of actions for the promotion of Child Development,” focusing on training, planning visits between the two groups, continuing education and intersectoral coordination.<sup>235</sup>

On 10 December 2018, during a lecture for professionals in the areas of health, education, social assistance and culture in the I Olga Kos Day - Inclusion of People with Disabilities in São Paulo, the Minister of Social Development Alberto Beltrame presented the Happy Child program which helps children with disabilities and receives the Continuous Benefit Programme (Benefício de Prestação Continuada, BPC).<sup>236</sup>

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<sup>232</sup> Quality Schools Package, Government of Australia (Canberra) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.education.gov.au/quality-schools-package>.

<sup>233</sup> Beltrame presents Happy Child at a seminar on child development, Ministry of Citizenship, Special Secretariat for Social Development (Sao Paulo) December 3 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://mds.gov.br/area-de-imprensa/noticias/2018/dezembro/beltrame-apresenta-crianca-feliz-em-seminario-sobre-desenvolvimento-infantil>.

<sup>234</sup> Happy Child celebrates more than 9 million home visits. Ministry of Citizenship, Special Secretariat for Social Development (Brasília) December 6 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://mds.gov.br/area-de-imprensa/noticias/2018/dezembro/crianca-feliz-comemora-mais-de-9-milhoes-de-visitadas-domiciliares>.

<sup>235</sup> Tercera misión de referentes del programa Primera Infancia a Brasil, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 4 May 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/tercera-mision-de-referentes-del-programa-primera-infancia-brasil>.

<sup>236</sup> Happy Child helps families overcome barriers imposed by disability, Ministry of Citizenship, Special Secretariat for Social Development (Sao Paulo) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://mds.gov.br/area-de-imprensa/noticias/2018/dezembro/crianca-feliz-ajuda-familias-a-superarem-barreiras-impostas-pela-deficiencia>.

Between 3-7 December 2018, coordinators from the Primera Infancia (“Early Childhood”) Program met with their counterparts in Brazil to foster knowledge sharing and train state-level multipliers from the Argentine program.<sup>237</sup>

On 7 February 2019, the National Council of Social Assistance (CNAS) approved the expansion of the Happy Child care for families enrolled in the federal government’s Single Registry for Social Programs, expanding access to more than 370,000 children who did not meet the previous criteria.<sup>238</sup>

On 8 February 2019, the Minister of Citizenship, Osmar Terra, made the statement that the 12<sup>th</sup> instalment of the Bolsa Família program will be guaranteed and its management improved. The income transfer program, which was created to contribute to the fight against poverty and social inequality in Brazil is among the priority goals of the federal government for this year.<sup>239</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the National Secretary for Human Development Promotion Ely Harasawa and Secretary for Articulation and Partnerships Eduardo Queiroz received members of the Joint Parliamentary Front for Early Childhood in Brasilia to discuss ways to integrate the Executive and the Legislative in joint actions to increase the federal budget for Early Childhood programs.<sup>240</sup>

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through increased international cooperation, monitoring and evaluation, and through financing and investing in new initiatives.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jamie Chen*

#### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 2 December 2018, Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, announced a CAD50 million investment to Education Cannot Wait to improve children’s education in countries facing humanitarian crises and emergencies, including for girls in war zones, refugee camps and in emergency settings.<sup>241</sup>

On 18 December 2018, as part of Canada’s First Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, launched the call for

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<sup>237</sup> Third mission of First Childhood Development Program representatives in Brazil, Gobierno Argentino (Buenos Aires) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/tercera-mision-de-referentes-del-programa-primera-infancia-brasil>.

<sup>238</sup> Children and pregnant women from the Cadastro Único will be attended by the Happy Child (Brasilia) February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://mds.gov.br/area-de-imprensa/noticias/2019/fevereiro/criancas-e-gestantes-do-cadastro-unico-passam-a-ser-atendidas-pelo-crianca-feliz>.

<sup>239</sup> Bolsa Família will gain strength through actions of productive inclusion and child development, Ministry of Citizenship, Special Secretariat for Social Development (Brasília) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://mds.gov.br/area-de-imprensa/noticias/2019/fevereiro/bolsa-familia-ganhara-forca-com-aco-es-de-inclusao-productiva-e-desenvolvimento-infantil>.

<sup>240</sup> Citizenship and the Parliamentary Front for Early Childhood draw partnership work, Ministry of Citizenship, Special Secretariat for Social Development (Brasília) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <http://mds.gov.br/area-de-imprensa/noticias/2019/fevereiro/cidadania-e-frente-parlamentar-da-primeira-infancia-tracam-trabalho-em-parceria>.

<sup>241</sup> Government of Canada announces US\$38 million pledge for Education Cannot Wait, Reliefweb (New York) 2 December 2018. Access Date: 5 May 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/government-canada-announces-us38-million-pledge-education-cannot-wait>.

applications for a National Advisory Council on Poverty. The council will aim in part to support children's well-being and ensure that poverty is addressed early in life.<sup>242</sup>

On 22 January 2019, Health Canada released a revised food guide encouraging Canadians to adopt healthy diets and lifestyle choices. The revised food guide emphasizes a plant-based diet, reducing sugar consumption, and limiting intake of processed foods. The food guide suggests that Canadian households increase the amount they cook at home and focus on teaching cooking skills to children.<sup>243</sup>

On 25 February 2019, Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, and the Honourable Maryam Monsef, Minister for Women and Gender Equality, delivered remarks at the Early Learning and Child Care Data and Research Conference. The Ministers highlighted a number of issues, including accomplishments made by the Government of Canada in early learning and child care and other supports for families, and the importance of addressing data gaps in this area moving forward.<sup>244</sup>

On 28 February 2019, The Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Tourism, Official Languages and La Francophonie, has announced a CAD2.1 million federal grant for the creation of a childcare centre at the Université de Saint-Boniface.<sup>245</sup>

On 6 March 2019, Chandra Arya, Member of Parliament for Nepean, on behalf of the Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, along with the President of the Métis National Council (MNC), Clément Chartier, and Métis Nation Minister of Social Development, David Chartrand, announced the signing of the first ever Métis Nation Early Learning and Child Care Accord. The Accord aims to create culturally relevant and supportive early learning and child care for Métis children and their families.<sup>246</sup>

On 19 March 2019, Finance Minister Bill Morneau tabled the 2019 federal budget, which contained a number of provisions aimed at enhancing the quality of services and programs for children. Firstly, the federal budget guarantees improved services for First Nations and Inuit children through Bill C-92. In partnership with the First Nations Inuit, and Metis Nations, Bill C-92 addresses the overrepresentation of Indigenous children in the welfare system and supports the rights of

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<sup>242</sup> Minister of Families, Children and Social Development launches call for applications for the National Advisory Council on Poverty, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/12/minister-of-families-children-and-social-development-launches-call-for-applications-for-the-national-advisory-council-on-poverty.html>.

<sup>243</sup> Young, Leslie. Canada's new food guide emphasizes eating plants, drinking water and cooking at home, Global News (Toronto), 22 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://globalnews.ca/news/4873598/new-canada-food-guide-2019/>

<sup>244</sup> Minister Duclos addresses data gaps in early learning and child care, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/02/minister-duclos-addresses-data-gaps-in-early-learning-and-child-care.html>.

<sup>245</sup> New Child Care Centre Coming to l'Université de Saint-Boniface, Time for Childcare (Ottawa) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://timeforchildcare.ca/2019/02/28/new-child-care-centre-coming-to-luniversite-de-saint-boniface/>.

<sup>246</sup> The Government of Canada and the Métis National Council sign historic Early Learning and Child Care Accord, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/the-government-of-canada-and-the-metis-national-council-sign-historic-early-learning-and-child-care-accord.html>.

Indigenous Peoples over child welfare services to develop their own policies that maintain the safety of their families and communities.<sup>247</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Canadian government announced its plan to invest CAD1.2 billion towards services for Indigenous children on the basis of Jordan's Principle as outlined in the federal budget.<sup>248</sup> Jordan's Principle guarantees that Indigenous children will receive the services they need and any arising payment disputes will be resolved after services are received. Additionally, the Canadian government proposed an investment in services for Inuit children of over CAD220 million over the course of five years, beginning in 2019 to improve the local capacity for delivering health and social services to Inuit children.<sup>249</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Canadian government declared their commitment to negotiating the renewal of learning and childcare agreements with Canadian provinces and territories and seeking stronger performances and additional funding where necessary.<sup>250</sup> The government also announced that they would fund additional weeks of parental leave when both parents agree to share parental leave<sup>251</sup> and fund childcare spaces in parliament to accommodate Members of Parliament with young children.<sup>252</sup> In addition, the Government of Canada affirmed their support to eliminate childhood maltreatment,<sup>253</sup> combating the sexual exploitation of children online,<sup>254</sup> and reducing the number of women and children living in food-insecure households.<sup>255</sup> Finally, the 2019 federal budget further detailed its Healthy Eating Strategy, which comprises of the revised food guide, teaching cooking skills to children, and the introduction of restrictions on the marketing of unhealthy food to children.<sup>256</sup>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through engaging in international cooperation and knowledge sharing, and financing and investing in early childhood programs.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

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<sup>247</sup> Better Services for First Nations and Inuit Children, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-03-en.html#Part-4-Better-Services-for-First-Nations-and-Inuit-Children>.

<sup>248</sup> Continuing Implementation of Jordan's Principle, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-03-en.html#Continuing-Implementation-of-Jordans-Principle>.

<sup>249</sup> Supporting Inuit Children, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-03-en.html#Supporting-Inuit-Children>.

<sup>250</sup> Supporting Economic Participation and Prosperity, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-05-en.html#supporting-economic-participation-and-prosperity>.

<sup>251</sup> Supporting Economic Participation and Prosperity, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-05-en.html#supporting-economic-participation-and-prosperity>.

<sup>252</sup> Promoting Leadership and Democratic Participation, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-05-en.html#promoting-leadership-and-democratic-participation>.

<sup>253</sup> Key Gender Indicators: Where We Stand, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-05-en.html#key-gender-results-indicators-where-we-stand>.

<sup>254</sup> Addressing Gender-Based Violence and Improving Access to Justice, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-05-en.html#addressing-gender-based-violence-and-improving-access-to-justice>.

<sup>255</sup> Key Gender Indicators: Where We Stand, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-05-en.html#key-gender-results-indicators-where-we-stand>.

<sup>256</sup> Introducing a Food Policy for Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-04-en.html#Introducing-a-Food-Policy-for-Canada>.

*Analyst: Alyssa Atef*

**China: 0**

China has partially complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 29 November 2018, the State Council of the People's Republic of China announced their plan to increase the enrollment rate of kindergarten to 85 per cent by the year of 2020, which will largely decrease the tuition fee of kindergartens and increase socioeconomic diversity in schools.<sup>257</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the National Women's Federation of China introduced regulation on children's activity centers. The new regulations ordered children's activity centers to focus on fostering security, children's hobbies, and organizing sports activities.<sup>258</sup>

On 22 January 2019, State Council of the People's Republic of China published a notice on the governance of kindergartens in urban communities. The notice identified the need to have kindergartens in urban communities in order to expand the resources to improve the livelihoods of children. The government outlined the ways that they can achieve this through adequate urban planning, rebuilding and supporting kindergartens in communities, and assisting local administrative education departments, to name a few.<sup>259</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the Ministry of Education, State Administration for Market Regulation and National Health Commission introduced the new Food and Nutrition Regulation for all Chinese schools including kindergartens. This policy specifies that each kindergarten should present their menu, nutrition facts and information of food suppliers weekly to all parents.<sup>260</sup>

On 7 April 2019, the Anhui Federation of Trade Unions announced their plan to build baby care rooms and after class programs. The Federation will build 1,000 baby care rooms and opening after-class programs to look after children across the province by 2020. These baby care rooms and after class programs in different companies in order to provide a private space for women employers in different companies. To date, 700 baby care rooms have been built across the province.<sup>261</sup>

China has partially complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through increased monitoring and evaluation and financing new initiatives. However, China has failed to engage in international cooperation and knowledge sharing.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Ruiyang Hu*

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<sup>257</sup> State Council of the People's Republic of China Announced the Increase Number of Public Kindergartens, Xin Hua News Agency (Beijing) 29 November 2018. Access Date 18 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/politics/2018-11/29/c\\_1123781720.html](http://www.xinhuanet.com/politics/2018-11/29/c_1123781720.html).

<sup>258</sup> The National Women's Federation of China Introduced the Regulation on Children's Activity Centers, The National Women's Federation of China (Beijing) 28 December 2018. Access Date 20 February 2019. [https://www.ccc.org.cn/art/2018/12/28/art\\_8\\_21578.html](https://www.ccc.org.cn/art/2018/12/28/art_8_21578.html).

<sup>259</sup> State Council of the People's Republic of China Published the Notice on Carrying Out the Work of Supporting Kindergartens in Urban Communities, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [http://www.gov.cn/zhengce/content/2019-01/22/content\\_5360002.htm](http://www.gov.cn/zhengce/content/2019-01/22/content_5360002.htm).

<sup>260</sup> The Ministry of Education, State Administration for Market Regulation and National Health Commission Announced the New Food and Nutrition Regulation to all Chinese Kindergartens, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. [http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2019-03/20/content\\_5375370.htm](http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2019-03/20/content_5375370.htm)

<sup>261</sup> The Anhui Federation of Trade Unions Built Baby Care Rooms and Open After Class Programs for Women Employers, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 07 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. [http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2019-04/07/content\\_5380274.htm](http://www.gov.cn/xinwen/2019-04/07/content_5380274.htm)

**France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 21 February 2019, parents, health professionals and advocacy groups met in Paris for the first time as part of a new committee under the French Ministry of Health to discuss high rates of congenital birth defects in three areas of France (Ain, Morbihan and Nantes).<sup>262</sup>

On 8 April 2019, the Global Partnership for Education announced USD176.6 million in new grants would allow them to carry out high-quality schooling for children in Benin, Burundi, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Tanzania and Uzbekistan. France was one of the main donors to the fund.<sup>263</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the French government introduced new tax breaks for childcare that provides up to EUR2,300. per family.<sup>264</sup>

France has partially complied with its commitment to enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs by succeeding in monitoring relevant data and engaging in international cooperation, thus satisfying two out of three key areas.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sophia Spiteri*

**Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 2 December 2018, the German government, with UNICEF, handed over 30 vehicles to the Afar and Somali Regional Health Bureaus for the provision of mobile health and nutrition services to children. This initiative aims to foster “healthy parents and healthy children.”<sup>265</sup>

On 14 December 2018, the German government approved the Good KiTa Act. With this act, the German government will invest a total of EUR5.5 billion by 2022 for the further development of quality in day-care centers and day care. Federal Minister of Family Affairs, Franziska Giffey, noted this will help “ensure that every child is supported from the beginning.”<sup>266</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the German government, through the KfQ Development Bank, pledged EUR50 million towards Lebanon’s Ministry of Education and Higher Education Reaching All

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<sup>262</sup> Parents search for answers over babies born without arms in France, France24 (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190221-france-baby-babies-born-arm-upper-limb-reduction-defect-remera-spf>.

<sup>263</sup> Global Partnership for Education scales up funding for children’s education, Global Partnership for Education (Washington) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 7 May 2019. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news-and-media/news/global-partnership-education-scales-funding-childrens-education>.

<sup>264</sup> The French tax breaks you don’t want to miss out on, Local.fr (Stockholm) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20190410/these-are-the-french-tax-breaks-you-need-to-know-about>.

<sup>265</sup> Germany and UNICEF hand over 30 vehicles to support mobile health and nutrition services for children in Afar and Somali regions, Africa News (Pointe-Noire) 2 December 2018. Access Date: 7 April 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/02/12/germany-and-unicef-hand-over-30-vehicles-to-support-mobile-health-and-nutrition-services-for-children-in-afar-and-somali-regions/>

<sup>266</sup> Dr. Franziska Giffey to the Good KiTa law, The Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/mediathek/dr--franziska-giffey-zum-gute-kita-gesetz/131354>.

Children with Education plan. The funding, through UNICEF, covers costs to send 120,000 Lebanese and non-Lebanese girls and boys from 3-14 years old.<sup>267</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Caren Marks, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Family Affairs, welcomed a research project that aims to further develop child and youth welfare services in order to strengthen the child protection and to improve the support of families.<sup>268</sup> She also announced that the government is setting up an independent contact point at the Institute for Child and Youth Services, available in April, to hear about experiences in the child and youth welfare service.<sup>269</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the German government passed the “strong family law” which aims to protect families with small and middle-income more effectively against poverty and to secure the needs of children, through increasing the child supplement.<sup>270</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the German government officially submitted the Fifth and Sixth States Report of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Convention on the Rights of the Child at the United Nations in Geneva. The report highlights German progress on promoting children’s right.<sup>271</sup>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through financing and evaluating its early childhood programs, and engaging in international cooperation and knowledge sharing.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sophia Spiteri*

### **India: 0**

India has partially complied with its commitment to enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 12 December 2018, the Partners Forum 2018 with the theme on “Power of Partnership” to bring different constituencies together for cross-sectoral action for women’s, children’s and adolescents’ health was held by the Indian government at VigyanBhawan in New Delhi. The forum was attended by Health Ministers from various countries, partner organizations, civil society organizations, academics, state representatives and youth representatives. The participants discussed issues

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<sup>267</sup> Germany contributes to the Lebanese Education Sector with an additional €50million through UNICEF, UNICEF Lebanon (Beirut) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 5 May 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/press-releases/germany-contributes-lebanese-education-sector-additional-50million-through-unicef>.

<sup>268</sup> Caren Marks for the further development of child and youth welfare, The Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/mediathek/caren-marks-zur-weiterentwicklung-der-kinder--und-jugendhilfe-/133934>.

<sup>269</sup> Caren Marks for the further development of child and youth welfare, The Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/mediathek/caren-marks-zur-weiterentwicklung-der-kinder--und-jugendhilfe-/133934>.

<sup>270</sup> Bundestag resolves "strong family law", The Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 4 May 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/bundestag-beschliesst--starke-familien-gesetz-/134738>.

<sup>271</sup> Open lesson with Minister: Children need to know their rights, The Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 4 May 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/offene-schulstunde-mit-ministerin--kinder-muessen-ihre-rechte-kennen/135158>.

including multi-sectoral collaboration for early childhood development, adolescent health, child health in challenging contexts, humanitarian & fragile setting, quality, equity and dignity.<sup>272</sup>

On 21 December 2018, the Ministry of Women and Children Development decided to carry out a Pilot on Conditional Cash for children malnutrition in a small area of two districts, each in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, following the direction of National Council on India's Nutrition Challenges.<sup>273</sup>

On 1 February 2019, according to the Union Budget for 2019-2020, the total budget allocation to the Ministry of Women and Child Development increased by 20 per cent compared to the previous year, with focus on the protection and empowerment of women and children. The government continued to identify malnutrition as its critical focus. Furthermore, the budget of the programme component of the National Nutrition Mission has been increased by Rs.400 crores.<sup>274</sup>

On 25 April 2019, UNICEF reported that 2.9 million children in India missed out on the first dose of the measles vaccine between 2010 and 2017. In the first three months of 2019, reports of measles cases was up nearly 300 per cent worldwide from last year, posing an increased risk to children's health.<sup>275</sup>

India has partially complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Jamie Chen*

### **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 8 February 2019, the National Commission on Child Protection Chairman Arist Merdeka Sirait made a statement on the ten children rights that must be fulfilled by parents, including the right to education, food, health access and equality.<sup>276</sup>

On 19 February 2019, Indonesia along with the UN Environment (UNEP), UN Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Global Environment Facility, Conservation International and various other governments, launched a global program to address The Global Opportunities for Long-term Development "GOLD" in the Artisanal Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) sector. The programme aims to remove mercury from artisanal

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<sup>272</sup> Adolescent Health, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (New Delhi) 4 January 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1558641>.

<sup>273</sup> Committee constituted to decide parameters and operational modalities for pilot study on Conditional Cash Transfer in lieu of THR, Ministry of Women and Child Development (New Delhi) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>274</sup> Total Budget allocation for the WCD Ministry enhanced by Rs.4856 crores for the year 2019-20 showing an increase of 20%, Ministry of Women and Child Development (New Delhi). 1 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>275</sup> 2.9 million children in India miss first dose of measles vaccine: UNICEF, Times of India (New Delhi) April 25 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/2-9-million-children-in-india-miss-first-dose-of-measles-vaccine-unicef/articleshow/69050298.cms>.

<sup>276</sup> The 10 Children's Rights Parents Must Know, InfoPublik (Jakarta) February 8 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://infopublik.id/kategori/public-welfare/326947/the-10-children-s-rights-parents-must-know>.

gold mining processes, which according to studies, puts miners and their communities at risk of brain damage; vision and hearing loss; and delayed childhood development.<sup>277</sup>

Indonesia has partially complied with its commitment to enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through financing new initiatives, but has failed to increase international cooperation, and monitoring and evaluation.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Jamie Chen*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 29 December 2018, the Italian Parliament approved a revised budget for 2019.<sup>278</sup> As part of the budget were funds to strengthen nursery schools and extensions for paternity leave.<sup>279</sup>

On 22-23 January 2019, the Department for Family Policies took part in the periodic constructive dialogue in New York about the implementation of the New York Convention on rights of the child.<sup>280</sup>

On 8 April 2019, the Five Star Senator and President of the Senate's health committee, Pierpaolo Sileri, put forth a new amendment which abolishes the need to provide proof of vaccination for children to go to school, even in the case of a public health emergency. It is no longer mandatory for children between 0 to 6 to be excluded from kindergartens and day-care centres should they not provide proof of vaccination.<sup>281</sup>

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to supporting early childhood programs by sharing knowledge for implementing children's rights and improving their childhood development policies. However, Italy has failed to monitor or evaluate early childhood development programs.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sophia Spiteri*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

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<sup>277</sup> UN launches new programme for mercury-free mining, Mining Technology (New York) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.mining-technology.com/mining-safety/un-programme-mercury-free-gold-mining>.

<sup>278</sup> Italy budget: Parliament passes budget after EU standoff, BBC (London) 29 December 2018. Access Date: 8 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-46710472>.

<sup>279</sup> Manovra, Minister Fontana: "Satisfied, almost 3 billion for family and disability", Family Policy Department (Rome) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. <http://www.politichefamiglia.it/it/notizie/notizie/notizie/manovra-ministro-fontana-soddisfatto-quasi-3-miliardi-per-famiglia-e-disabilita/>.

<sup>280</sup> 80th Session of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva, Family Policy Department (Rome) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. <http://www.politichefamiglia.it/it/notizie/notizie/notizie/80a-sessione-del-comitato-onu-sui-diritti-dell-infanzia-e-dell-adolescenza-a-ginevra/>.

<sup>281</sup> Italy's governing parties struggle to find path forward on vaccines, POLITICO (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.politico.eu/article/italys-government-struggles-to-find-path-forward-on-vaccines-italy-5stars-matteo-salvini-league-public-health-children/>.

On 11 December 2018, Senior Adviser for the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Keiko Osaki, shared information on JICA's experience with creating, developing, and providing maternal and child health handbooks, after the World Health Organization's (WHO) publicized guidelines on maternal and child health records.<sup>282</sup>

On 23 December 2018, JICA dispatched an Egyptian delegation to Japan to exchange experience on early childhood development with the aim to support increasing the understanding and application of the Japanese system in nurseries in Egypt.<sup>283</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the Japanese government approved a free preschool education program for all children aged between three and five, starting in October 2019. Along with this program, the Japanese government will make daycare services free of charge for children from low-income families up to the age of two. The Japanese government also planned to set a monthly subsidy cap at JPY25,700 for various private kindergartens.<sup>284</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the JICA Egypt office hosted the third seminar on universal health coverage with participants including officials from Egypt's ministries of health and finance, World Bank and the WHO.<sup>285</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the Japanese Embassy in Phnom Penh granted USD529,068 to the Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA), for efforts to improve early childhood education in the Battambang Province, Cambodia.<sup>286</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the Japanese government donated USD3.4 million to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for lifesaving health and food assistance to vulnerable children in Iraq.<sup>287</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Japanese government approved a plan for April 2020 to amend child abuse prevention legislations by including physical punishments.<sup>288</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the Japanese government donated USD2.6 million to UNICEF's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene activities in Lebanon. The funding is for efforts to increase access to safe drinking water and improve child health, survival, sanitation and environmental conditions.<sup>289</sup>

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<sup>282</sup> JICA Senior Adviser Keiko Osaki on WHO's Publication of Guidelines on Home-Based Maternal and Child Health Records, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/181211\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/181211_01.html).

<sup>283</sup> JICA dispatches Egyptian delegation to Japan to exchange experience on early childhood development, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 23 December 2018. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <https://dailynewssegyp.com/2018/12/23/jica-dispatches-egyptian-delegation-to-japan-to-exchange-experience-on-early-childhood-development/>.

<sup>284</sup> Government approves free preschool education program starting Oct. 2019, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/12/28/national/government-approves-free-preschool-education-program-starting-oct-2019/#.XHSp15NKjBJ/>.

<sup>285</sup> Japan shares its universal health coverage knowledge with Egypt, Daily News Egypt (Giza) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://dailynewssegyp.com/2019/02/06/japan-shares-its-universal-health-coverage-knowledge-with-egypt/>.

<sup>286</sup> Japan donates \$500k for Battambang education, The Phnom Penh Post (Phnom Penh) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national/japan-donates-500k-battambang-education>.

<sup>287</sup> Japan donates US\$ 3.4 million to support the health and nutrition needs of children in Iraq, UNICEF (Baghdad). 4 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/iraq/press-releases/japan-donates-us-34-million-support-health-and-nutrition-needs-children-iraq>.

<sup>288</sup> Japan approves plan to ban parents from physically punishing children after string of fatal child abuse cases, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong). 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/east-asia/article/3002308/japan-approves-plan-ban-parents-physically-punishing-children>.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to supporting early childhood programs by sharing knowledge for health handbooks and healthcare programs and by supporting developing countries in their efforts to improve early childhood development. However, Japan has failed to monitor or evaluate early childhood development programs.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Brandon Yih*

**Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 18 December 2018, the Korean government pledged USD500,000 for a UNICEF-supported education programme in Misurata, Libya. The partnership extends for two years and funds will help provide school supplies, equipment and support to students with non-formal education opportunities in three schools.<sup>290</sup>

On 27 December 2018, the Korean Ministry of Education organized a Korea-Myanmar Educational Informational International Forum aiming to promote information communication technology (ICT) education policies and establish ICT in classrooms throughout developing countries. This includes the establishment of an ICT classroom in Myanmar that includes five-year training and instructional software to assist teachers in their instruction. Attendees included representatives from Laos, Peru, Nepal, Vietnam, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan.<sup>291</sup>

On 12 April 2019, the Korean government announced a USD900,000 contribution to the recently launched World Bank Group Partnership Fund for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG fund). The SDG fund will support member countries (Kazakhstan, Vietnam, and Egypt) to achieve inclusive and sustainable development goals, including capacity building, quality data, knowledge generation, and institutional strengthening for the achievement of the SDGs.<sup>292</sup>

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs by financing a UNICEF initiative and engaging with various international actors on the issue, and engaged with data, monitoring and evaluation.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Wing Ka Tsang*

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<sup>289</sup> The Government of Japan provides lifesaving support to the most vulnerable children and communities in Lebanon, UNICEF (Beirut). 21 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/lebanon/press-releases/government-japan-provides-lifesaving-support-most-vulnerable-children>.

<sup>290</sup> Republic of Korea pledges US\$500,000 to support children's education in Misurata, Libya, UNICEF (Misurata) 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/mena/press-releases/republic-korea-pledges-us500000-support-childrens-education-misurata-libya>.

<sup>291</sup> Korea leads Myanmar's Innovation of "Smart Education", Ministry of Education (Seoul) Access Date: 23 February 2019. <http://english.moe.go.kr/boardCnts/view.do?boardID=265&boardSeq=76314&lev=0&searchType=null&statusYN=W&page=1&s=english&m=0301&opType=N>.

<sup>292</sup> World Bank Group, Government of Korea join forces to support achievement of SDGs, The World Bank Group (Washington, United States). Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/04/12/world-bank-group-government-of-korea-join-forces-to-support-achievement-of-sdgs>.

**Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 7 February 2019, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador announced a bimestrial financial support of MXN1600 to children in childcare homes. The funds will be given directly to guardians.<sup>293</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the Secretary of Welfare María Luisa Albores González, announced that Mexico's Children's Stay Program will continue to be funded, but with other Rules of Operation aimed at the well-being of children, with the direct delivery of support to parents or guardians. Up to MXN600 will be funded for girls and boys up to one day before they reach the age of four, and MXN3,600 pesos every two months for children with disabilities.<sup>294</sup>

On 3 April 2019, the Mexican Secretary of Welfare, María Luisa Albores González, accompanied this morning to President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, confirmed the commitment of the Government of Mexico to guarantee the care and attention of the girls and boys of the country. Additionally, the government announced that the results of the census for the Children's Stays Program will be sent to the transparency bodies, with unrestricted adherence to the legal framework of data protection so that the information can be consulted by the interested parties.<sup>295</sup>

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through increased financing and investing in cultural programs and increased efforts to monitor and evaluate its initiatives, thus satisfying two of the three components.

Thus, Mexico has received a score of 0.

*Analyst: Leonardo Consenza*

**Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 6 February 2019, the World Health Organization documented that Russia has stopped rubella transmission for almost three years. Rubella is a highly infectious disease that is very dangerous for a pregnant woman and her developing baby, it is most threatening in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. Wide dispersal of vaccinations have steadily reduced the instances of rubella.<sup>296</sup>

On 15 February 2019, Russia moved to introduce a cultural program for school kids. Culture Minister Vladimir Medinsky stated the program will require every child to visit a certain number of plays, museums, art exhibitions, classical music concerts and architectural monuments, while writing

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<sup>293</sup> AMLO announces how the wellbeing funds will be divided, *El Economista* (Mexico City) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.eleconomista.com.mx/politica/AMLO-anuncia-como-se-repartiran-los-fondos-para-el-bienestar-20190207-0050.html>.

<sup>294</sup> Support for girls and boys will be maintained through a scheme of honesty and transparency: María Luisa Albores González, *Gobierno Mexicano* (Mexico City) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/se-mantendra-el-apoyo-a-las-ninas-y-ninos-mediante-un-esquema-de-honestidad-y-transparencia-maria-luisa-albores-gonzalez>.

<sup>295</sup> The Secretariat of Welfare ratifies its commitment to the children of the country: María Luisa Albores González, *Government of Mexico* (Mexico City) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 4 May 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/ratifica-la-secretaria-de-bienestar-su-compromiso-con-las-ninas-y-ninos-del-pais-maria-luisa-albores-gonzalez?idiom=es>.

<sup>296</sup> Pregnancy and Rubella, *Centre for Disease Control and Prevention* (Washington) 15 September 2017. Access Date 19 April 2019. <https://www.cdc.gov/rubella/pregnancy.html>.

about their experience in a special print and online diary for their friends, parents, and teachers to read. Minister of Education Olga Vasileva explains the program will help children develop a sense of aesthetics and love for their homeland through the knowledge of its culture, the culture of its peoples, and regions.<sup>297</sup>

On 1 March 2019 the Russian government held the International Women's Forum in Novokuznetsk. The Russian Ministry of Health stated its principal tasks to be the reduction of maternal mortality, the prevention of cancer and cardiovascular diseases, the motivation to maintain a healthy lifestyle, and the protection of reproductive health.<sup>298</sup>

On 21-22 March 2019 the Russian government organized the Second National Interdisciplinary Congress, "Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in Pediatrics: Traditions and Innovations," held in Moscow. At the meeting, the draft document "The procedure for organizing the medical rehabilitation of the children's population" was submitted for discussion. The procedure describes in detail the rehabilitation route of the child, considering the stage of the disease and its severity. For the first time, the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) is used for determining the rehabilitation diagnosis and rehabilitation prognosis, and the department regulated the treatment of children with hearing impairments. Other regulations assist children with cancer, diseases of the central and peripheral nervous system, the musculoskeletal system and the consequences of injuries. Furthermore, new types of equipment have been added to the equipment division of the wards, which meet the modern needs of rehabilitation.<sup>299</sup>

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through increased financing and investing in cultural programs. However, Russia has failed to increase efforts in monitoring and evaluation and international cooperation initiatives.

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Turina Simanduyev*

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 5 December 2018, the Saudi Council of Ministers approved an initiative to construct educational buildings with the participation of the private sector. According to the initiative, a budgetary allocation not exceeding SR400 million will be approved annually to build at least 120 schools in major regions of the Kingdom for a period of not more than 28 years.<sup>300</sup>

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<sup>297</sup> Russia to introduce cultural program for school kids, Russia Beyond (Moscow) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.rbth.com/education/329981-schools-cultural-program>.

<sup>298</sup> The International Women's Forum raised issues of the importance of maintaining and strengthening women's health, Ministry of Health (Moscow) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2019/03/01/10963-na-mezhdunarodnom-zhenskom-forume-podnimalis-voprosy-vazhnosti-sohraneniya-i-ukrepleniya-zdorovya-zhenschin>.

<sup>299</sup> The draft Order for the organization of children's medical rehabilitation is submitted for public discussion, Ministry of Health (Moscow) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2019/03/25/11148-proekt-poryadka-organizatsii-meditsinskoy-reabilitatsii-detskogo-naseleniya-vynesen-na-obschestvennoe-obsuzhdenie>.

<sup>300</sup> Saudi Arabia Approves SR400M Annually to Build 120 Schools with Private Sector, Al Arabiya (Dubai) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/gulf/2018/12/05/Saudi-Arabia-approves-SR400m-annually-to-build-120-schools-with-private-sector.html>.

On 11 December 2018, the Sabya Directorate of Education in Jazan launched the first virtual school for students with special needs. Assistant Director of Education in Sabya stated the virtual school addresses hardships faced by students with special needs and helps those who otherwise would be unable to continue their studies. The Saudi Education Ministry has contributed by making all its digital textbooks available through an online portal.<sup>301</sup>

On 20 December 2018, Saudi Arabia's Council of Cooperative Health Insurance announced it will apply fines and other punitive measures to firms that fail to provide both Saudis and expats with health insurance. All private sector companies are required to provide health insurance to their Saudi and expat employees as well as their dependants including spouse, unmarried daughters and male children under age 25.<sup>302</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Saudi government banned the marriage of minors following a ruling by the Kingdom's Shoura Council. The ban includes all minors, male or female.<sup>303</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Saudi Education Minister promised both new and old schools owned by the ministry would remain free.<sup>304</sup>

On 28 February 2019, Saudi Education Ministry joins the global education forum hosted by the Emirati Education Ministry. The Saudis participated and witnessed the signing of multiple agreements aimed at improving education levels in the Kingdom. One example includes the Memorandum of Understanding between the Tatweer Company for Education Services and the Emirati Alef Company to enrich digital content and provide digital solutions for the public and private education sectors.<sup>305</sup>

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through increased monitoring and evaluation, financing new initiatives, and engaging in international cooperation and knowledge sharing.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Turina Simanduyev*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 15 February 2019, Minister of Basic Education Angie Motshekga in collaboration with the National Education and Collaboration Trust (NECT), launched the National Reading Coalition (NRC).<sup>306</sup> The NRC is intended to mobilize and provide support and coordination for reading

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<sup>301</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual School Launched in Jazan's Sabya, Arab News (Riyadh) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1419431/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>302</sup> Saudi Arabia to fine firms that fail to provide health insurance, International Investment (London) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.internationalinvestment.net/news/4000248/saudi-arabia-fine-firms-fail-provide-health-insurance>.

<sup>303</sup> Saudi Arabia's Shoura Council Bans Child Marriage, Arab News (Riyadh) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1433416/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>304</sup> Public-Private Partnership to Boost Education Sector in Saudi Arabia, Arab News (Riyadh) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1432591/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>305</sup> Saudi Education Ministry Joins Global Education Forum, Arab News (Riyadh) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1459611/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>306</sup> Minister Angie Motshekga: Launch of National Reading Coalition, Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-angie-motshekga-launch-national-reading-coalition-15-feb-2019-0000>.

initiatives across class, gender, and geographies.<sup>307</sup> The NRC has recognized six areas for improvement: initial teacher preparation, access to relevant resources; continuing professional development; community support; policy, research and evaluation.<sup>308</sup>

On 25-27 February 2019, the Department of Basic Education of the Republic of South Africa, together with UNICEF South Africa, the LEGO Foundation, and the ADEA, hosted the inaugural Continental Play-Based Learning for the 21st century skills Conference in Pretoria. The conference brought together Ministers responsible for education and early childhood development from across the continent, academics, policy-makers, high-level representatives from development agencies, the private sector, civil society, and the media. The conference offered education Ministers and stakeholders an opportunity to interact with the leading scientists and together, embrace the practice of learning through play.<sup>309</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the Department of Social Development announced it will launch a multimedia centre for children with dyslexia at the Tlhokomelo Special School in Meadowlands, Soweto - Gauteng.<sup>310</sup>

South Africa has invested in early childhood programs through its creation of the NRC and did cooperate internationally in knowledge sharing of childhood development practices, but has not facilitated data monitoring and evaluation.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nammal Khan*

### **Turkey: -1**

Turkey has failed to comply with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 17 December 2018, Youth and Sports Minister Muharrem Kasapoğlu spoke to the Daily Sabah and outlined the ministry's goals for 2019. Such goals included increasing the number of volunteering positions for Turkish youth, growing youth participation in sports activities through the "Sports Turkey" program, further investing for young athletes from five to 12 years-old, preventing drug abuse within the youth population, and improving the visibility and participation of disabled youth within society through the "Enabled Turkey" program.<sup>311</sup>

Within the compliance cycle, there is no evidence to suggest Turkey invested in early childhood programs or engaged in knowledge sharing to improve early childhood programs.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of -1.

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<sup>307</sup> Minister Angie Motshekga: Launch of National Reading Coalition, Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-angie-motshekga-launch-national-reading-coalition-15-feb-2019-0000>.

<sup>308</sup> What is the National Reading Coalition? National Education Collaboration Trust (Centurion) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <http://nect.org.za/in-the-media/nect-news/what-is-the-national-reading-coalition>.

<sup>309</sup> South Africa hosts first-ever Africa Continental Play-based Learning Conference, Africa News (Pointe-Noire) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <http://www.africanews.com/2019/02/11/south-africa-hosts-first-ever-africa-continental-play-based-learning-conference/>.

<sup>310</sup> SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT LAUNCHES THE FIRST MULTIMEDIA CENTRE WITH SPECIALISED PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN WITH DYSLEXIA IN GAUTENG, Department of Social Development (Pretoria) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 4 May 2019. [http://www.dsd.gov.za/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=987&Itemid=1](http://www.dsd.gov.za/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=987&Itemid=1).

<sup>311</sup> Youth and Sports Minister Kasapoğlu: The priority is to integrate children into sports early on, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/2018/12/17/youth-and-sports-minister-kasapoglu-the-priority-is-to-integrate-children-into-sports-early-on>.

*Analyst: Alyssa Atef*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 20 December 2018, the National Health Service (NHS) announced it will work with schools and colleges to make expert mental health support available to children and young people across England, after reports indicated that one in nine people aged five to 15 had a mental health condition in 2017. This is an expanded effort to help children and young people with more severe needs to access the right support and provide a link to specialist NHS services.<sup>312</sup>

On 30 December 2018, the UK announced measures aimed to improve safety, quality and continuity of care to halve stillbirths, maternal and infant deaths and serious brain injuries in new-born babies by 2025.<sup>313</sup>

On 4 January 2019, the Minister for Family Support, Housing and Child Maintenance, Justin Tomlinson, announced that GBP2.7 million will be invested to increase support for disadvantaged families at risk of parental conflict. The funding will aim to address parental conflict as part of these wider family challenges and better improve access to digital support for families at risk of parental conflict.<sup>314</sup>

On 7 January 2019, the NHS launched the NHS Long Term Plan, which aims to provide better access to mental health services for adults and children.<sup>315</sup> This Plan pledges to establish a Children and Young People's Transformation Programme, which oversees the delivery of children and young people's commitments the Plan entails, and moves towards person-centered and age-appropriate care for mental and physical health needs instead of generalized services.<sup>316</sup>

On 21 January 2019, British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt asserted the importance of funding girls' education after a new report was published by the Platform for Girls' Education. This report evaluated the state of girls' education in 53 Commonwealth countries, including Great Britain.<sup>317</sup>

On 25 January 2019, International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt announced the establishment of a research program across Africa, Asia and the Middle East, aimed at early

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<sup>312</sup> NHS and schools in England will provide expert mental health support, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-and-schools-in-england-will-provide-expert-mental-health-support>.

<sup>313</sup> Wide-ranging new maternity plans announced by the government, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 30 December 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/wide-ranging-new-maternity-plans-announced-by-the-government>.

<sup>314</sup> £2.7 million fund to tackle parental conflict, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/27-million-fund-to-tackle-parental-conflict>.

<sup>315</sup> NHS Long Term Plan Launched, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-long-term-plan-launched>.

<sup>316</sup> NHS Long Term Plan – A summary of child health proposals, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (London) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/nhs-long-term-plan-summary-child-health-proposals/>.

<sup>317</sup> Girls' education should be development priority for Commonwealth, Open Access Government (Cheshire) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.openaccessgovernment.org/development-priority-commonwealth/57253/>.

childhood development. The UK has committed to invest GBP20.5 million over five years to address issues of food insecurity, and poor physical, social, and psychological development.<sup>318</sup>

On 27 March 2019, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development committed GBP4 million in support of UNICEF's efforts in Chad to increase treatment of severe acute malnutrition for children.<sup>319</sup>

On 1 April 2019, England's NHS launched the National Child Mortality Database, the world's first database of child mortality. This database will record the circumstances of all child deaths in England for the purposes of aiding health and other public organization leaders improve childcare or take preventive measures.<sup>320</sup>

On 8 April 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom announced an additional 600 health visitors will be trained starting in May 2019 in support of the Department of Education's early years initiative to improve early language and communication outcomes. This follows the training of 1000 health visitors since February 2019 focused on identifying early childhood language needs.<sup>321</sup>

On 8 April 2019, the United Kingdom announced that GBP84 million of new investment for projects designed to strengthen and support families.<sup>322</sup>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to supporting early childhood programs by investing into healthcare developments, evaluating child education initiatives, financing research programs to further support child development, and collaborate with international visitors to promote knowledge exchange.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Brandon Yih*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood.

On 18 December 2018, the U.S. Department of Education released a final report of the Federal Commission on School Safety (FCSS). The Commission was established on 12 March 2018 to research and recommend solutions to improve the safety of schools in light of recent occurrences of violence at schools.<sup>323</sup> The report recommended the federal government to streamline information regarding the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). This will educate law

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<sup>318</sup> Early Childhood Development programme, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/early-childhood-development-programme/>.

<sup>319</sup> UK Government supports UNICEF Chad in treating over 58,000 Chadian children suffering from severe acute malnutrition, Africanews (Brazzaville) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/03/27/uk-government-supports-unicef-chad-in-treating-over-58000-chadian-children-suffering-from-severe-acute-malnutrition/>.

<sup>320</sup> Health dept opens UK child death database, SBS News (Sydney) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/health-dept-opens-uk-child-death-database>.

<sup>321</sup> New training for experts to boost early communication skills, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-training-for-experts-to-boost-early-communication-skills>.

<sup>322</sup> New projects to strengthen families and keep children out of care, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 4 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-projects-to-strengthen-families-and-keep-children-out-of-care>.

<sup>323</sup> Final Report of the Federal Commission on School Safety, U.S. Department of Education (Washington) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www2.ed.gov/documents/school-safety/school-safety-report.pdf>.

enforcement and local school leaders to better protect student privacy and ensuring the health and safety of students in the community.<sup>324</sup>

On 7 February 2019, Ivanka Trump, senior advisor to President Trump, launched the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative. The initiative aligns with the government's National Security Strategy with goals to "advance women's equality, protect the rights of women and girls, and promote women and youth empowerment programs."<sup>325</sup> The initiative creates a USD50 million fund from the U.S. Agency for International Development and calls on U.S. foreign assistance agencies to dedicate USD300 million annually to advance the program initiatives. The initiative will have a yearly reporting and evaluation progress with a goal to empower 50 million women by 2025.

On 26 February 2019, the House Committee on Education and Labour, House subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education, and Senate Democrats introduced the Child Care for Working Families Act to ensure affordable, high-quality child care for working middle class families<sup>326</sup> The Act would create estimates of 770,000 child care jobs and enable 1.6 million parents, mainly mothers, to go to work and lift millions of family out of poverty. Families under 75 per cent of the state median income will not have to pay for access to high-quality preschool programs for all children 3 to 4 years old.<sup>327</sup>

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through monitoring and evaluation and financing new initiatives and taking international action.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Wing Ka Tsang*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs.

On 3 December 2018, the European Parliament voted on the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) for the period 2021-2027, stipulating that member states will have to allocate at least 5 per cent of ESF+ resources to the European Child Guarantee scheme. The Child Guarantee aims to tackle child

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<sup>324</sup> U.S. Department of Education Acts on School Safety Report Recommendation to Improve Understanding of Student Privacy Law, U.S. Department of Education (Washington) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-acts-school-safety-report-recommendation-improve-understanding-student-privacy-law>.

<sup>325</sup> Presidential Memorandum on Promoting Women's Global Development and Prosperity, The White House (Washington) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-memorandum-promoting-womens-global-development-prosperity/>.

<sup>326</sup> House and Senate Democrats introduce comprehensive child care and early learning bill to ensure child care for all, Just The Real News (United States). Access Date: 27 April 2019. <https://www.justtherealnews.com/2019/02/26/house-and-senate-democrats-introduce-comprehensive-child-care-and-early-learning-bill-to-ensure-child-care-for-all-house-committee-on-education-labor-2/>.

<sup>327</sup> U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin helps introduce legislation to ensure child care for all, Senator Tammy Baldwin, (Wisconsin, US). Access Date: 27 April 2019. <https://www.justtherealnews.com/2019/02/26/house-and-senate-democrats-introduce-comprehensive-child-care-and-early-learning-bill-to-ensure-child-care-for-all-house-committee-on-education-labor-2/>.

poverty and social exclusion by encouraging countries to invest in services and initiatives to support positive child development and wellbeing.<sup>328</sup>

On 1 January 2019, the EU's new youth strategy for the period 2019-2027 came into force. Approved by the Council of the EU in November, the new strategy focuses on three areas of action: Engage, Connect and Empower. The strategy will develop a cross-sectoral approach to address the needs of young people in various policy areas, including the establishment of a new EU youth coordinator.<sup>329</sup>

On 23 January 2019, the European Platform for Investing in Children (EPIC) has published a policy memo which provides an overview of policies and practices across EU Member States in supporting access to quality education for children with special educational needs (SEN). This policy memo highlights the main approaches used in Member States and identifies some key challenges for policy-makers and practitioners in helping to support access to quality education for children with SEN.<sup>330</sup>

As of 10 February 2019, the EU contributed EUR8.3 million towards UNICEF at the end of 2018 to support vulnerable children and families in Syria. The funding help over one million people, specifically children and women, access protection, health, nutrition, education and water.<sup>331</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the European Commission published an inception report for a wide-ranging feasibility study into the prospect of a Child Guarantee. The study aims to assess the feasibility, implementation options and added value of a Child Guarantee, focusing on four specific groups of vulnerable or disadvantaged children. The groups include children residing in institutions, children with disabilities and other children with special needs, children of recent migrants and refugees, and children living in precarious family situations. The study also outlines a plan for further research activity, including stakeholder workshops and an online consultation to be held over the course of 2019.<sup>332</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Eurochild, a network that promotes the rights and wellbeing of children in Europe, released their analysis of the European Commission's 2019 Country Reports, which demonstrate a strong awareness for early investment to address larger societal challenges for children and families in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion. According to Eurochild, there will be a greater focus on investment in children, especially those living in poverty or social exclusion. For

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<sup>328</sup> European Parliament Committee backs Child Guarantee in European Social Fund Plus, Eurochild (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [https://www.eurochild.org/media/press-releases/article/european-parliament-committee-backs-child-guarantee-in-european-social-fund-plus/?tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=d0aff882d2f1675ee493a3286de4b60a](https://www.eurochild.org/media/press-releases/article/european-parliament-committee-backs-child-guarantee-in-european-social-fund-plus/?tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=d0aff882d2f1675ee493a3286de4b60a).

<sup>329</sup> January 2019 developments in child and family policy in EU Member States, European Commission (Brussels) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=9300&furtherNews=yes>.

<sup>330</sup> EPIC publishes policy memo on access to quality education for children with special educational needs, European Commission (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1246&newsId=9284&furtherNews=yes>.

<sup>331</sup> The European Union contributes over €8 million to towards UNICEF programmes for the most vulnerable children and families in Syria, UNICEF Middle East and North Africa (Damascus) 10 February 2019. Access Date: 5 May 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/mena/press-releases/european-union-contributes-over-8-million-towards-unicef-programmes-most-vulnerable>.

<sup>332</sup> Inception report of Child Guarantee feasibility study published, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1246&furtherNews=yes&newsId=9315>.

instance, the transition from institutional to family- and community-based care was recommended as an investment area in 20 of the 27 Country Reports.<sup>333</sup>

On 5 April 2019, the Initiative for Children in Migration, together with Eurochild and other partners, developed a joint publication that provides informative descriptions of developments regarding child immigration detention at the global level, with a focus on European law and conduct. The publication suggests next steps towards ending child immigration detention and implementing alternatives. The initiative comes in response to the widespread detention of migrant children, alone or with their families.<sup>334</sup>

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to enhance quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs through increased monitoring and evaluation, financing new initiatives, and engaging in international knowledge sharing.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Turina Simanduyev*

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<sup>333</sup> European Semester: Eurochild welcomes new priority investment areas, Eurochild (Brussels) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [https://www.eurochild.org/news/news-details/article/european-semester-eurochild-welcomes-new-priority-investment-areas/?tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=f9d2b5c58e4a6c93476ed18ba5efcc46](https://www.eurochild.org/news/news-details/article/european-semester-eurochild-welcomes-new-priority-investment-areas/?tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=f9d2b5c58e4a6c93476ed18ba5efcc46).

<sup>334</sup> Child Immigration Detention in the EU, Eurochild (Brussels) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [https://www.eurochild.org/news/news-details/article/child-immigration-detention-in-the-eu/?tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx\\_news\\_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=58f9ef7ca846aaca7d00e54b3ace5c33](https://www.eurochild.org/news/news-details/article/child-immigration-detention-in-the-eu/?tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=58f9ef7ca846aaca7d00e54b3ace5c33).

### 3. Digital Economy: Data Governance

“We support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

*Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration*

#### Assessment

Country	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada		0	
China			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
India	-1		
Indonesia			+1
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
Korea		0	
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa	-1		
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States	-1		
European Union			+1
Average		+0.10	

#### Background

The Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion’s G20 Policy Guide on Digitisation and Informality describes digitalization as “an unprecedented opportunity to address eligibility and affordability barriers to formal financial inclusion faced by informal individuals and firms.”<sup>335</sup> As such, the G20 recognizes the digital economy as a means of promoting sustainable economic growth and development in the Internet age.<sup>336</sup>

Prior to the 2015 Antalya Summit, G20 members committed to promoting the flow and sharing of information in areas outside of the economic growth and development. Their commitments focused solely on sharing best practices to protect the integrity of financial markets, to exchange tax information, and converge regulatory practices between members.<sup>337</sup> The sharing of information as a means to achieve their broader commitments continued to be part of communiqués and leader

<sup>335</sup> G20 Policy Guide: Digitisation and informality, Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (Salta) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 26 December 2018. <https://www.gpfi.org/publications/g20-policy-guide-digitisation-and-informality-harnessing-digital-financial-inclusion-individuals-and->

<sup>336</sup> G20 Digital Economy Development and Cooperation Initiative, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 November 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-digital.html>.

<sup>337</sup> Declaration of the Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2008. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2008/2008declaration1115.html>.

declarations in subsequent summits.<sup>338</sup> It was not until the Antalya Summit where commitments by G20 members explicitly addressed explicitly the digital economy.

At the 2015 Antalya Summit, G20 members made their first explicit commitment in the area of digital economy. For the first time, the Leaders' Declaration signified the role of the Internet and information and communications technologies (ICTs) as a collective means of bolstering “economic growth and development around the world.”<sup>339</sup> Also, members committed to bridging the “digital divide” and the need to secure the use of ICTs by not engaging in “ICT-enabled theft of intellectual property” while respecting user privacy and international law.<sup>340</sup> Further, the declaration emphasized that in the digital realm, “states have a special responsibility to promote security, stability, and economic ties with other nations,” as in the physical realm.<sup>341</sup>

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, leaders recognized the role of the digital economy as part of their broader economic growth and innovation agenda. Leaders also endorsed the *G20 Digital Economy Development and Cooperation Initiative*, which expands on their commitment during the 2015 Antalya summit to seize opportunities in the Internet age.<sup>342</sup> The initiative outlined: specific guiding principles, areas of focus and next steps for the digital economy.<sup>343</sup> In particular, the G20 recognized that the free flow of information, and the protection of intellectual property (IP) rights, personal data, and privacy “are essential to strengthening confidence and trust in the digital economy.”<sup>344</sup>

At the 2017 Hamburg Summit, leaders echoed the commitment they made to develop trust in digital technologies and to “foster favourable conditions for the development of the digital economy.”<sup>345</sup> Leaders recognized that trust in the digital economy requires effective consumer protection, IP rights protection, and the free flow of information that respects “applicable legal frameworks for privacy, data protection and [IP] rights.”<sup>346</sup> Germany's G20 presidency also produced a declaration of ministers responsible for the digital economy, which elaborates on the work done by the G20, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other international organizations to develop a common framework to “maximize the contributions that digitalisation can provide to the economy.”<sup>347</sup>

Argentina's G20 presidency continued work done on the digital economy during the two previous presidencies. On 23-24 August 2018, G20 ministers responsible for the digital economy convened to

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<sup>338</sup> G20 Leaders Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2012. Access Date: 26 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2012/2012-0619-loscabos.html>.

<sup>339</sup> G20 Leaders' Communiqué, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 26 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communiqué.html>.

<sup>340</sup> G20 Leaders' Communiqué, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 26 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communiqué.html>.

<sup>341</sup> G20 Leaders' Communiqué, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 26 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communiqué.html>.

<sup>342</sup> G20 Digital Economy Development and Cooperation Initiative, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-digital.html>.

<sup>343</sup> G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communiqué.html>.

<sup>344</sup> G20 Digital Economy Development and Cooperation Initiative, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-digital.html>.

<sup>345</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>346</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 22 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>347</sup> G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Declaration: Shaping Digitalisation for an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 April 2017. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/170407-digitalization.html>.

“strengthen a digital agenda for development” in Salta, Argentina.<sup>348</sup> Ministers acknowledged the need to close the digital divide, build digital infrastructure, engage entrepreneurs and non-large enterprises, and “empower and protect vulnerable and disadvantaged consumers.”<sup>349</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

Within the context of the development of the digital economy, G20 members committed to 1) “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks” and to work to build 2) consumer trust, 3) consumer privacy, 4) data protection, and 5) intellectual property rights protection. Compliance with this commitment depends on members’ actions on the above five features of the commitment.

The “free flow of information, ideas and knowledge” refers to actions in the realm of the digital economy and digital financial inclusion. In particular, actions must support “improving access, adoption, and effective use of digital technologies that allow [G20 members] to learn from each other in a more agile way.”<sup>350</sup> The purpose of this commitment feature is to facilitate the digitalization of national governments as a step to strengthen the digital economy. The “applicable legal frameworks” that need to be “respected” refer to domestic law and international legal frameworks. In the domestic realm, actions that support the free flow of “information, ideas and knowledge” must be consistent with local laws and regulations.<sup>351</sup> In the international realm, these actions must be consistent with non-binding UN resolution A/C.1/70/L.45 and the UN Charter, among other relevant laws.<sup>352</sup> Together, there should be an “environment that empowers entrepreneurs and fosters research, innovation and competition.”<sup>353</sup>

Building “consumer trust” in the context of this commitment consists of actions that provide “strong, effective, proportionate and easily accessible legal and judicial or supervisory mechanisms” that sanctions fraud, abuse, technical errors, and promotes consumer protection.<sup>354</sup> Actions must build consumer trust and confidence in the acquisition and use of digital financial services, “especially for consumers with limited financial literacy or the resources to absorb losses.”<sup>355</sup> Members should also conduct “sound measurement” of the digital economy and how it influences consumer trust and confidence.<sup>356</sup> Actions or initiatives that aim to increase digital financial literacy and awareness, to

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<sup>348</sup> G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 August 2018. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-08-24-digital.html>.

<sup>349</sup> G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 August 2018. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-08-24-digital.html>.

<sup>350</sup> G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 August 2018. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-08-24-digital.html>.

<sup>351</sup> G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 August 2018. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-08-24-digital.html>.

<sup>352</sup> G20 Leaders' Communiqué, G20 Information Centre (Antalya) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 26 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communication.html>.

<sup>353</sup> G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 August 2018. Access Date: 26 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-08-24-digital.html>.

<sup>354</sup> Building a digital world consumers can trust, Consumers International and The Federation of German Consumer Organisations (Berlin) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 4 January 2019. <https://www.consumersinternational.org/media/1251/g20-digital-recs-english-visual.pdf>.

<sup>355</sup> G20 High-Level Principles for Digital Financial Inclusion, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 August 2016. Access Date: 4 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/high-level-principles-for-digital-financial-inclusion.pdf>.

<sup>356</sup> Building a digital world consumers can trust, Consumers International and The Federation of German Consumer Organisations (Berlin) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 4 January 2019. <https://www.consumersinternational.org/media/1251/g20-digital-recs-english-visual.pdf>.

make internal dispute mechanisms more accessible, and to facilitate more competition in the digital provider market are indications of compliance with this feature.<sup>357</sup>

Actions which build “privacy” within the digital economy should “enhance secure and effective consent models.”<sup>358</sup> Compliance with this feature includes actions where industry participants build privacy “into all stages” of their practices, minimize data collection, gaining explicit consumer consent for data collection, and the use of “alternative data” in a neutral manner.<sup>359</sup>

Actions and/or policies that build “data protection” include, but are not limited to: enhancing “access, rectification, cancellation and opposition...rights,” and addressing data security.<sup>360</sup> An example of a data protection framework is the EU’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) framework.<sup>361</sup> The GDPR consolidates national data protection laws into one framework while strengthening individual rights and clarifying rules on businesses throughout the EU.<sup>362</sup> Data protection focuses on the conduct of using collected data, whereas privacy deals with consumer access to their data.

Compliance with the “intellectual property rights protection” feature of the commitment must involve new actions which “promote, as ... Government policy, creativity and the dissemination and application of its results and to encourage fair trading which would contribute to economic and social development.”<sup>363</sup> Protection of these rights prevents unfair competition within both branches of intellectual property: “industrial property” (i.e., patents, trademarks, industrial designs, geographical indications) and “copyright.”<sup>364</sup>

Thus, full compliance with this commitment entails taking action in all five features, while partial compliance entails taking action in two to four of those features. Negative compliance constitutes taking no action or taking action in one feature.

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<sup>357</sup> Building a digital world consumers can trust, Consumers International and The Federation of German Consumer Organisations (Berlin) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 4 January 2019.

<https://www.consumersinternational.org/media/1251/g20-digital-recs-english-visual.pdf>.

<sup>358</sup> G20 Policy Guide: Digitisation and informality, Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (Salta) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 29 December 2018. <https://www.gpfi.org/publications/g20-policy-guide-digitisation-and-informality-harnessing-digital-financial-inclusion-individuals-and>.

<sup>359</sup> G20 Policy Guide: Digitisation and informality, Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (Salta) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 29 December 2018. <https://www.gpfi.org/publications/g20-policy-guide-digitisation-and-informality-harnessing-digital-financial-inclusion-individuals-and>.

<sup>360</sup> G20 Policy Guide: Digitisation and informality, Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (Salta) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 4 January 2019. <https://www.gpfi.org/publications/g20-policy-guide-digitisation-and-informality-harnessing-digital-financial-inclusion-individuals-and>.

<sup>361</sup> G20 Policy Guide: Digitisation and informality, Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (Salta, Argentina) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 4 January 2019. <https://www.gpfi.org/publications/g20-policy-guide-digitisation-and-informality-harnessing-digital-financial-inclusion-individuals-and>.

<sup>362</sup> Data Protection in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 24 May 2016. Access Date: 17 January 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/data-protection-eu\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/data-protection-eu_en).

<sup>363</sup> WIPO Intellectual Property Handbook: Policy, Law and Use, World Intellectual Property Organization (Geneva) 2004. Access Date: 4 January 2019. [https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/intproperty/489/wipo\\_pub\\_489.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/intproperty/489/wipo_pub_489.pdf).

<sup>364</sup> WIPO Intellectual Property Handbook: Policy, Law and Use, World Intellectual Property Organization (Geneva) 2004. Access Date: 4 January 2019. [https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/intproperty/489/wipo\\_pub\\_489.pdf](https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/intproperty/489/wipo_pub_489.pdf).

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G20 member has taken action in zero OR one feature(s) out of the five features of the commitment to 1) “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks,” OR to work to build 2) consumer trust, OR 3) consumer privacy, OR 4) data protection, OR 5) intellectual property rights protection.
0	The G20 member has taken action in TWO to FOUR features out of the five features of the commitment to 1) “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks,” OR to work to build 2) consumer trust, OR 3) consumer privacy, OR 4) data protection, OR 5) intellectual property rights protection.
+1	The G20 member has taken action in ALL five features of the commitment to 1) “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks” AND to work to build 2) consumer trust AND 3) consumer privacy AND 4) data protection, AND 5) intellectual property rights protection.

*Compliance Director: Steven Camit  
Lead Analyst: Arshia Hassani*

**Argentina: 0**

Argentina has partially complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 7 December 2018, the Agency of Access to Public Information published Resolution No.159/2018.<sup>365</sup> The resolution approved guidelines for binding corporate rules that companies can use to legitimize international intra-group data transfers and ensure that they comply with relevant regulations. These corporate rules align with regulations set out by existing Argentinian data protection laws and resemble regulations in the EU’s General Data Protection Regulation.<sup>366</sup>

On 26 January 2019, Argentina was one of the 76 countries that signed the Joint Declaration of Davos, an initiative which starts negotiations to collaborate on electronic commerce (e-commerce).<sup>367</sup> The signatories further recognized the particular challenges and opportunities that e-commerce represents for developing countries and micro, small and medium enterprises. Argentine Secretary of Foreign Economic Relations of the Foreign Ministry Horacio Reyser recognized that e-commerce “represents an enormous opportunity for Argentine products” to reach new markets worldwide and to participate in global value chains.<sup>368</sup>

<sup>365</sup> Argentine DPA approves guidelines for Binding Corporate Rules, International Association of Privacy Professionals (Portsmouth) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://iapp.org/news/a/argentine-supervisory-authority-approved-guidelines-for-binding-corporate-rules/#>.

<sup>366</sup> Argentine DPA approves guidelines for Binding Corporate Rules, International Association of Privacy Professionals (Portsmouth) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://iapp.org/news/a/argentine-supervisory-authority-approved-guidelines-for-binding-corporate-rules/#>.

<sup>367</sup> Agreement in Davos to begin negotiations on electronic commerce, Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (Buenos Aires) 26 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/en/announcements/news/agreement-davos-begin-negotiations-electronic-commerce>.

<sup>368</sup> Agreement in Davos to begin negotiations on electronic commerce, Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (Buenos Aires) 26 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/en/announcements/news/agreement-davos-begin-negotiations-electronic-commerce>.

On 6 March 2019, Argentina and Peru began the first round of negotiations for the “Bilateral Expansion and Strengthening of the Economic Complementarity Agreement.”<sup>369</sup> The objective of these negotiations is to expand “the current economic complementarity agreement” in fields such as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and e-commerce.<sup>370</sup>

On 6 April 2019, the second round of trade negotiations between Mercosur and Korea closed. The two parties are working on a trade agreement which address e-commerce, technical barriers to trade, and intellectual property.<sup>371</sup> Both parties will continue trade negotiations on July 2019.

Argentina has taken action to strengthen data protection and privacy through implementing binding corporate rules of data protection, in accordance to existing Argentine data protection laws. Argentina has also taken action to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks through its participation in the Joint Declaration of Davos initiative and bilateral efforts to promote SMEs and e-commerce. However, Argentina has not taken new actions to build consumer trust.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alykhan Jetha*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.

On 18 December 2018, the Australian Minister for Industry, Science and Technology Karen Andrews unveiled a new government strategy that will help small businesses go digital.<sup>372</sup> The government has committed AUD3 million, in the creation of a new independent body which will provide small business owners with up to date information on the best digital practices, tailored for each business.<sup>373</sup>

On 19 December 2018, Minister Karen Andrews unveiled a new digital economy strategy, “Australia’s Tech Future.”<sup>374</sup> The strategy highlights four areas: people, services, digital assets, and

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<sup>369</sup> 1st Round of Argentina-Peru Trade Negotiations begins in Buenos Aires, Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (Buenos Aires) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/en/announcements/news/1st-round-argentina-peru-trade-negotiations-begins-buenos-aires>.

<sup>370</sup> 1st Round of Argentina-Peru Trade Negotiations begins in Buenos Aires, Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (Buenos Aires) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/en/announcements/news/1st-round-argentina-peru-trade-negotiations-begins-buenos-aires>.

<sup>371</sup> Mercosur - Korea: Second Round of Trade Negotiations in Seoul, Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (Buenos Aires) 6 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/es/actualidad/noticias/mercosur-corea-ii-ronda-de-negociaciones-comerciales-en-seul>.

<sup>372</sup> Helping Australia's small businesses go digital, Department of Industry, Science and Technology (Canberra) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 25 January 2019. <https://www.minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/karenandrews/media-releases/helping-australias-small-businesses-go-digital>.

<sup>373</sup> Helping Australia's small businesses go digital, Department of Industry, Science and Technology (Canberra) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/karenandrews/media-releases/helping-australias-small-businesses-go-digital>.

<sup>374</sup> Australia finally gets a new digital economy strategy, iNews (Canberra) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

the enabling environment.<sup>375</sup> This new digital economy strategy aims to increase digital financial literacy through education and training. This strategy also facilitates the free flow of information across borders, while increasing data accessibility. This plan also gives consumers greater control of their data and transaction activities. And ensures Australian infrastructure remains secure, and new technologies are designed to be secure.<sup>376</sup>

On 24 February 2019, IP Australia, an agency within the Department of Industry, Science and Technology enacted intellectual property legislation changes.<sup>377</sup> The changes include clarifying formality requirements for patent specifications, a reduction in the grace period of when a trademark can be challenged for non-use and improvements to the Plant Breeder's Right Enforcement.<sup>378</sup> The proposed changes further improve intellectual property rights within the country.

On 4 March 2019, Australia signed the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA) with Indonesia.<sup>379</sup> This trade agreement includes provisions that regulate the "flow of data" between the two countries and commitments to protect "privacy and consumer rights."<sup>380</sup> The agreement also contains provisions which "promote confidence in the online environment," which include privacy and consumer protection.<sup>381</sup>

Australia has taken action to support the free flow of information, ideas, and knowledge while respecting applicable legal frameworks. As well, Australia has taken action to build consumer trust, consumer privacy, data protection, and intellectual property rights protection.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Shafna Kallil*

## **Brazil: 0**

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to "support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection."

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<https://www.itnews.com.au/news/australia-finally-gets-a-new-digital-economy-strategy-517102>.

<sup>375</sup> Australia's Tech Future - Introduction, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science (Canberra) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/australias-tech-future/introduction>.

<sup>376</sup> Australia's Tech Future, Department of Industry, Science and Technology (Canberra) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

<https://www.industry.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-12/australias-tech-future.pdf>.

<sup>377</sup> Changes affecting all IP rights commencing February 2019, Department of Industry, Science and Technology (Canberra) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/about-us/news-and-community/news/changes-affecting-all-ip-rights-commencing-february-2019>.

<sup>378</sup> Changes affecting all IP rights commencing February 2019, Department of Industry, Science and Technology (Canberra) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/about-us/news-and-community/news/changes-affecting-all-ip-rights-commencing-february-2019>.

<sup>379</sup> Australia and Indonesia sign landmark trade agreement, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/news/news/Pages/indonesia-australia-comprehensive-economic-partnership-agreement0304-2643.aspx>.

<sup>380</sup> IA-CEPA Outcomes and background documents - Outcomes: Electronic Commerce, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/not-yet-in-force/iacepa/outcomes-documents/Pages/outcomes-electronic-commerce.aspx>.

<sup>381</sup> IA-CEPA Outcomes and background documents - Outcomes: Electronic Commerce, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/not-yet-in-force/iacepa/outcomes-documents/Pages/outcomes-electronic-commerce.aspx>.

On 12 December 2018, the Constitution and Justice Commission approved the creation of special courts designed to efficiently handle lesser offenses related to computing and resolve conflicts within the digital sphere.<sup>382</sup>

On 12 December 2018, Brazil signed an agreement promoting the development of an integrated system of regulation of agricultural defenses in Brazil, Latin America and the Caribbean.<sup>383</sup> The agreement consists of the development of an integrated agrochemical system that unifies the registration process of pesticides in Brazil.<sup>384</sup> Another system will also be developed for use throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

On 21 December 2018, Brazil's Central Bank (BCB) published guidelines for the Brazilian instant payments through Communiqué 32,927.<sup>385</sup> The communiqué is the start of Brazil's development of an instant payment system in the country, which sets out rule-making procedures, forms of participation, settlement infrastructure, connectivity services and liquidity provisions. BCB's guidelines emphasizes an "instant payments ecosystem" that has a "flexible and open structure" and that works with existing business models and market participants.<sup>386</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the Central Bank of Brazil launched Din, an online chatbot application that helps citizens access information regarding their finances.<sup>387</sup> Din assists with analyzing reports on debt, foreign exchange operations, accounts and other matters within the financial system.<sup>388</sup> The artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies within Din allow for guided conversations.<sup>389</sup> Din Alos can issue a certificate attesting that the user has no engagements with financial institutions, which can be used as a low-income certification for scholarship, legal aid, and other services.<sup>390</sup>

On 6 April 2019, the second round of trade negotiations between Mercosur and Korea closed. The two parties are working on a trade agreement which address e-commerce, technical barriers to trade, and intellectual property.<sup>391</sup> Both parties will continue trade negotiations on July 2019.

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<sup>382</sup> CCJ aprova criação de juizados especiais digitais, Brazilian Federal Senate (Brasília) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/audios/2018/12/ccj-aprova-criacao-de-juizados-especiais-digitais>.

<sup>383</sup> Cooperação técnica contribuirá para efetividade e transparência no registro de agrotóxicos na AL e Caribe, Brazilian Cooperation Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Brasília) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <http://www.abc.gov.br/imprensa/mostrarconteudo/1083>.

<sup>384</sup> Cooperação técnica contribuirá para efetividade e transparência no registro de agrotóxicos na AL e Caribe, Brazilian Cooperation Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Brasília) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <http://www.abc.gov.br/imprensa/mostrarconteudo/1083>.

<sup>385</sup> Banco Central do Brasil announces the guidelines for the Brazilian instant payments ecosystem, Central Bank of Brazil (Brasília) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/en/#!/c/news/1867>.

<sup>386</sup> Banco Central do Brasil announces the guidelines for the Brazilian instant payments ecosystem, Central Bank of Brazil (Brasília) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/en/#!/c/news/1867>.

<sup>387</sup> Central Bank launches a virtual assistant service to keep you on track with your finances, Central Bank of Brazil (Brasília) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/en/#!/c/news/1868>.

<sup>388</sup> Central Bank launches a virtual assistant service to keep you on track with your finances, Central Bank of Brazil (Brasília) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/en/#!/c/news/1868>.

<sup>389</sup> Central Bank launches a virtual assistant service to keep you on track with your finances, Central Bank of Brazil (Brasília) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/en/#!/c/news/1868>.

<sup>390</sup> Central Bank launches a virtual assistant service to keep you on track with your finances, Central Bank of Brazil (Brasília) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/en/#!/c/news/1868>.

<sup>391</sup> Mercosur - Korea: Second Round of Trade Negotiations in Seoul, Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (Buenos Aires) 6 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/es/actualidad/noticias/mercosur-corea-ii-ronda-de-negociaciones-comerciales-en-seul>.

Brazil has taken action to build consumer trust with the creation of the special “digital” courts, the publication of new guidelines to govern the instant payment realm of the economy, and the creation of Din. Brazil has also taken action to support the free flow of information through the Brazil government’s agreement with Latin American and Caribbean countries to integrate agricultural defense regulations. Brazil did not take actions to build privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Atykhan Jetha*

### **Canada: 0**

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 30 December 2018, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) took effect, a trade agreement which strengthened IP rights.<sup>392</sup> The CPTPP contains provisions which strengthen intellectual property rights protection and enforcement by creating a “transparent and predictable standard” between Canada and ten other member countries.<sup>393</sup>

On 11 January 2019, the Canadian Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Navdeep Bains committed to an investment of up to CAD750,000 to a project by the Peel Multicultural Council to develop essential computing skills.<sup>394</sup> The investment is part of the larger Digital Literacy Exchange Program which helps to provide digital training to groups most likely to be “left behind” by digital technology adoption.<sup>395</sup>

On 24 January 2019, Minister Navdeep Bains announced an investment of CAD40 million to support Nokia Canada’s research in protecting data in telecommunications networks in Canada.<sup>396</sup> This investment will allow Nokia to develop cybersecurity tools and to conduct research to build up

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<sup>392</sup> At long last, 11-member Pacific trade deal takes effect, Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/12/30/business/long-last-11-member-pacific-trade-deal-takes-effect/>.

<sup>393</sup> How to read the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2019. [https://international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/cptpp-ptpgp/chapter\\_summaries-sommaires\\_chapitres.aspx?lang=eng](https://international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/cptpp-ptpgp/chapter_summaries-sommaires_chapitres.aspx?lang=eng).

<sup>394</sup> Government of Canada investing in teaching digital skills to Canadians who need them most, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Mississauga) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-investing-in-teaching-digital-skills-to-canadians-who-need-them-most.html>.

<sup>395</sup> Government of Canada investing in teaching digital skills to Canadians who need them most, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Mississauga) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-investing-in-teaching-digital-skills-to-canadians-who-need-them-most.html>.

<sup>396</sup> Minister Bains finalizes new agreements with world-leading companies, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Davos) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/minister-bains-finalizes-new-agreements-with-world-leading-companies.html>.

the infrastructure of telecommunications networks needed for the future implementation of 5G technology.<sup>397</sup>

On 13 February 2019, Minister Bains announced a CAD30 million investment in the “Patent Collective pilot program.”<sup>398</sup> This pilot program assists small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in ensuring their patent and IP needs. The CAD30 million investment is spread over four years and is aimed to help SMEs use their IP “more strategically” to build their business and compete in the world market.<sup>399</sup>

On 18 March 2019, Canada joined three World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) treaties that promote the worldwide use of trademarks, giving a boost to Canadian brand owners as well as consumers and underlining Canada’s strong multilateral engagement with WIPO.<sup>400</sup>

On 18 March 2019, Canada joined three World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) treaties which better align Canada’s trademark regime with other signatories of these three treaties.<sup>401</sup> The treaties include the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, the Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks and the Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks.<sup>402</sup> This set of agreements allow Canadian trademark owners to better protect their trademarks around the world. On 17 June 2019, the three treaties will enter into force.

On 25 April 2019, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada announced that the Office will take Facebook to federal court “to force the company to correct its privacy practices.”<sup>403</sup> Privacy Commissioner Daniel Therrien said that Facebook committed “serious contraventions” of privacy laws neglected to actively protect personal information of Canadians.<sup>404</sup>

Canada has taken action to build consumer trust in its efforts to build digital literacy, to build data protection in building up telecommunications networks, and to build intellectual property rights protection through the enactment of the CPTPP and efforts to equip SMEs with the tools necessary

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<sup>397</sup> Minister Bains finalizes new agreements with world-leading companies, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Davos) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/minister-bains-finalizes-new-agreements-with-world-leading-companies.html>.

<sup>398</sup> Government of Canada announces call to launch intellectual property collective, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-call-to-launch-intellectual-property-collective.html>.

<sup>399</sup> Government of Canada announces call to launch intellectual property collective, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-announces-call-to-launch-intellectual-property-collective.html>.

<sup>400</sup> Canada Joins Three Key WIPO Trademark Treaties (Geneva) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2019. [https://www.wipo.int/portal/en/news/2019/article\\_0012.html](https://www.wipo.int/portal/en/news/2019/article_0012.html).

<sup>401</sup> Canada Joins Three Key WIPO Trademark Treaties (Geneva) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2019. [https://www.wipo.int/portal/en/news/2019/article\\_0012.html](https://www.wipo.int/portal/en/news/2019/article_0012.html).

<sup>402</sup> Canada Joins Three Key WIPO Trademark Treaties (Geneva) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2019. [https://www.wipo.int/portal/en/news/2019/article\\_0012.html](https://www.wipo.int/portal/en/news/2019/article_0012.html).

<sup>403</sup> Facebook refuses to address serious privacy deficiencies despite public apologies for “breach of trust,” Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (Ottawa) 25 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. [https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/opc-news/news-and-announcements/2019/nr-c\\_190425/](https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/opc-news/news-and-announcements/2019/nr-c_190425/).

<sup>404</sup> Facebook refuses to address serious privacy deficiencies despite public apologies for “breach of trust,” Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (Ottawa) 25 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. [https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/opc-news/news-and-announcements/2019/nr-c\\_190425/](https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/opc-news/news-and-announcements/2019/nr-c_190425/).

to build their IP. However, Canada has not taken new actions to build privacy, as well as to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Omolade Ogunsanya*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 18 December 2018, China published a policy paper on measures to enhance the China-European Union Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and development of China-EU relations.<sup>405</sup> The policy paper encourages “...advancing the reform of the global internet governance system for a peaceful, secure, open, cooperative and orderly cyberspace.”<sup>406</sup> The policy paper also notes the higher requirements of the EU on the necessities on privacy protection and data security under the General Data Protection Regulation.<sup>407</sup>

On 19 December 2019, the National Intellectual Property Administration (NIPA) announced that China will step up to protect intellectual property rights by imposing tougher punishments on intellectual property rights infringements.<sup>408</sup> In addition, 38 governmental departments jointly signed a memorandum to strengthen cooperation in the crackdown on intellectual property rights infringement.<sup>409</sup> Repeated patent infringements, declining to execute punishments on patent violations and using fake documents in patent applications are some of the six types of infractions listed in the memorandum.<sup>410</sup>

On 1 January 2019, China’s new e-commerce law took effect, which encompasses chapters that promote data protection, consumer protection and fair competition, and requires online businesses to register and acquire all necessary licenses.<sup>411</sup> The new law strengthens intellectual property protection by addressing the problem of manufacturing and sale of counterfeit goods. Counterfeiters and e-commerce operators who fail to take necessary measures to prevent and stop sellers in violation of intellectual property rights can be fined up to RMB2 million. The new e-commerce law fosters consumer trust by requiring e-commerce operators to disclose accurate product and service information and avoid engaging in deceptive practices such as misleading promotions, fake reviews

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<sup>405</sup> Full text of China's Policy Paper on the European Union, Xinhua (Beijing) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/18/c\\_137681829.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/18/c_137681829.htm).

<sup>406</sup> Full text of China's Policy Paper on the European Union, Xinhua (Beijing) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/18/c\\_137681829.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/18/c_137681829.htm).

<sup>407</sup> Full text of China's Policy Paper on the European Union, Xinhua (Beijing) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/18/c\\_137681829.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/18/c_137681829.htm).

<sup>408</sup> China to boost crackdown on IPR infringement, Xinhua (Beijing) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 10 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/19/c\\_137684821.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/19/c_137684821.htm).

<sup>409</sup> China to boost crackdown on IPR infringement, Xinhua (Beijing) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 10 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/19/c\\_137684821.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/19/c_137684821.htm).

<sup>410</sup> China to boost crackdown on IPR infringement, Xinhua (Beijing) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 10 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/19/c\\_137684821.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/19/c_137684821.htm).

<sup>411</sup> China's new e-commerce law: A step in the right direction, China.org.cn (Beijing) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. [http://www.china.org.cn/opinion/2019-01/09/content\\_74355741.htm](http://www.china.org.cn/opinion/2019-01/09/content_74355741.htm).

and attempts to manipulate the market.<sup>412</sup> Consumers will be able to opt-out of particular services in effort to restrict abuse of consumer profiling.<sup>413</sup>

On 3 January 2019, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology published a list of 14 mobile applications that excessively and illegally collected sensitive personal data without user consent.<sup>414</sup> The inspectors put these companies on a blacklist and now face public pressure to change how they handle data.<sup>415</sup> The China Internet Society organized an expert council deployed by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology to conduct the investigations in December 2018.<sup>416</sup>

On 25 January 2019, the Cyberspace Administration of China, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and the State Administration of Market Regulation jointly announced in a press conference in Beijing that they will conduct a national crackdown on mobile applications to assess how they collect personal data.<sup>417</sup> Mobile applications that excessively collect or use consumers' personal information will have their business licenses revoked.<sup>418</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the Cyberspace Administration of China issued new regulations that prohibit financial information service providers from producing, copying, publishing or disseminating information containing false financial information or information that may distort national fiscal and monetary policies.<sup>419</sup> The regulations define the scope of financial information services, clarifies responsibilities on financial information service providers and penalties for breaches.<sup>420</sup>

On 23 March 2019, the Chinese government announced that its National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) will take measures to "strengthen IP protection."<sup>421</sup> The deputy head of CNIPA Gan Shaoning said that the measures will consist of "optimizing the mechanisms governing IP," raising fines for IP infringements and equalizing treatment of all entities when protecting their IP.<sup>422</sup>

China has taken action to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, to build consumer trust, to build privacy, to build data protection, and to build intellectual property rights protection.

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<sup>412</sup> China's new e-commerce law: A step in the right direction, China.org.cn (Beijing) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. [http://www.china.org.cn/opinion/2019-01/09/content\\_74355741.htm](http://www.china.org.cn/opinion/2019-01/09/content_74355741.htm).

<sup>413</sup> China's new e-commerce law: A step in the right direction, China.org.cn (Beijing) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. [http://www.china.org.cn/opinion/2019-01/09/content\\_74355741.htm](http://www.china.org.cn/opinion/2019-01/09/content_74355741.htm).

<sup>414</sup> China's Privacy Conundrum, Slate Group (New York) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://slate.com/technology/2019/02/china-consumer-data-protection-privacy-surveillance.html>.

<sup>415</sup> China's Privacy Conundrum, Slate Group (New York) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://slate.com/technology/2019/02/china-consumer-data-protection-privacy-surveillance.html>.

<sup>416</sup> China's Privacy Conundrum, Slate Group (New York) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://slate.com/technology/2019/02/china-consumer-data-protection-privacy-surveillance.html>.

<sup>417</sup> Authorities launch national crackdown on illegal information use by apps, China Daily (Beijing) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201901/25/WS5c4ab87ca3106c65c34e6937.html>.

<sup>418</sup> Authorities launch national crackdown on illegal information use by apps, China Daily (Beijing) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201901/25/WS5c4ab87ca3106c65c34e6937.html>.

<sup>419</sup> China tells domestic online financial info providers to keep 'economic order,' Reuters (Beijing) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-internet-finance/china-tells-domestic-online-financial-info-providers-to-keep-economic-order-idUSKCN1OPOJH>.

<sup>420</sup> China tells domestic online financial info providers to keep 'economic order,' Reuters (Beijing) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-internet-finance/china-tells-domestic-online-financial-info-providers-to-keep-economic-order-idUSKCN1OPOJH>.

<sup>421</sup> China to cut patent review time by 15 pct, Xinhua (Beijing) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/23/c\\_137918421.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/23/c_137918421.htm).

<sup>422</sup> China to cut patent review time by 15 pct, Xinhua (Beijing) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/23/c\\_137918421.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/23/c_137918421.htm).

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Florence Chan*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 13 February 2019, France ratified the agreement on New EU Copyright Rules in the Digital Single Market.<sup>423</sup> The agreement reinforces the protection of the “intellectual properties of European authors and performers” in a digitalized environment.<sup>424</sup> In particular, the agreement brings “tangible benefits” to creative sectors and gives European journalists rights to “receive a greater share of the revenues generated by the online uses of press publications.”<sup>425</sup> The agreement also brought forward new licencing rules, which allows citizens and internet users to upload copyright protected content on digital platforms legally.<sup>426</sup>

On 21 January 2019, the French National Commission on Informatics and Liberty (CNIL) imposed a financial penalty of EUR50 million against Google LLC. in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) for the first time.<sup>427</sup> The aim of the penalty is to comply with the obligations on the matter of data protection raised by the GDPR. It is imposed to “enable the users to control their data and therefore to sufficiently inform them and allow them to validly consent.”<sup>428</sup> CNIL’s EUR50 million penalty on Google not only reiterates the importance of GDPR’s national data protections, but also helps to reduce the abuse of collected data and builds consumer trust in using digital services.

On 15 April 2019, the French Parliament passed a new law that regulates cryptocurrencies.<sup>429</sup> The new regulations allow cryptocurrency issues and traders to gain some legal recognition, as well as allow the French government to collect tax on their profits.<sup>430</sup> France’s Finance Minister Bruno Le

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<sup>423</sup> Digital Single Market: EU negotiators reach a breakthrough to modern copyright rules, European Commission (Brussels) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-528\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-528_en.htm).

<sup>424</sup> Digital Single Market: EU negotiators reach a breakthrough to modern copyright rules, European Commission (Brussels) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-528\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-528_en.htm).

<sup>425</sup> Digital Single Market: EU negotiators reach a breakthrough to modern copyright rules, European Commission (Brussels) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-528\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-528_en.htm).

<sup>426</sup> Digital Single Market: EU negotiators reach a breakthrough to modern copyright rules, European Commission (Brussels) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-528\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-528_en.htm).

<sup>427</sup> The CNIL’s restricted committee imposes a financial penalty of 50 Million euros against GOOGLE LLC, CNIL (Paris) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.cnil.fr/en/cnils-restricted-committee-imposes-financial-penalty-50-million-euros-against-google-llc>.

<sup>428</sup> The CNIL’s restricted committee imposes a financial penalty of 50 Million euros against GOOGLE LLC, CNIL (Paris) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.cnil.fr/en/cnils-restricted-committee-imposes-financial-penalty-50-million-euros-against-google-llc>.

<sup>429</sup> France to ask EU partners to adopt its cryptocurrency regulation, Reuters (Paris) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-cryptocurrencies/france-to-ask-eu-partners-to-adopt-its-cryptocurrency-regulation-idUSKCN1RR1Y0>.

<sup>430</sup> France to ask EU partners to adopt its cryptocurrency regulation, Reuters (Paris) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-cryptocurrencies/france-to-ask-eu-partners-to-adopt-its-cryptocurrency-regulation-idUSKCN1RR1Y0>.

Maire encouraged other European countries to use this regulation as a model for a larger “single regulatory framework on crypto-assets.”<sup>431</sup>

France has taken action to build intellectual property rights protection, to build data protection, and to build privacy by ratifying the agreement on New EU Copyright Rules in the Digital Single Market as well as imposing a financial penalty against Google LLC. in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). France has also taken action to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge by being one of the first major countries to create a framework on regulating cryptocurrencies. But France has not taken new actions to build consumer trust.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Gabriella Shiyuan Zhao*

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 14 January 2019, the Trade Mark Law Modernization Act came into force.<sup>432</sup> The German Patent and Trade Mark Office (DPMA) announced that applicants were able to apply for a new category of trademarks that “strengthen the rights of trade mark owners.” The new “quality trademarks” would disclose the standards by which products were created rather than solely disclosing the origin of the product. It ensures greater transparency by having “licences or the willingness to grant licences entered in the Trade Mark Register.”<sup>433</sup> Due to the expansion of the digital economy, the certificates of the DPMA will contain a QR code that leads to its corresponding electronic Trade Mark Register.<sup>434</sup>

On 7 February 2019, the German Federal Cartel Office (Bundeskartellamt), Germany’s national competition regulator, imposed data restrictions on Facebook’s practice of combining user data from different sources.<sup>435</sup> The restriction mainly covers two different data sources. Firstly, Facebook-owned services such as WhatsApp and Instagram can continue to collect data, however, the permission of assigning the data to Facebook user accounts will only be possible through voluntary consent.<sup>436</sup> Secondly, collecting data from third party websites and assigning them to a Facebook user

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<sup>431</sup> France to ask EU partners to adopt its cryptocurrency regulation, Reuters (Paris) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-cryptocurrencies/france-to-ask-eu-partners-to-adopt-its-cryptocurrency-regulation-idUSKCN1RR1Y0>.

<sup>432</sup> New types of trade marks and changed procedures, German Patent and Trade Mark Office (Berlin) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [https://www.dpma.de/english/services/public\\_relations/press\\_releases/20190111.html](https://www.dpma.de/english/services/public_relations/press_releases/20190111.html).

<sup>433</sup> New types of trade marks and changed procedures, German Patent and Trade Mark Office (Berlin) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [https://www.dpma.de/english/services/public\\_relations/press\\_releases/20190111.html](https://www.dpma.de/english/services/public_relations/press_releases/20190111.html).

<sup>434</sup> New types of trade marks and changed procedures, German Patent and Trade Mark Office (Berlin) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [https://www.dpma.de/english/services/public\\_relations/press\\_releases/20190111.html](https://www.dpma.de/english/services/public_relations/press_releases/20190111.html).

<sup>435</sup> Bundeskartellamt prohibits Facebook from combining user data from different sources, Bundeskartellamt (Berlin) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [https://www.bundeskartellamt.de/SharedDocs/Meldung/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/07\\_02\\_2019\\_Facebook.html](https://www.bundeskartellamt.de/SharedDocs/Meldung/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/07_02_2019_Facebook.html).

<sup>436</sup> Bundeskartellamt prohibits Facebook from combining user data from different sources, Bundeskartellamt (Berlin) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [https://www.bundeskartellamt.de/SharedDocs/Meldung/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/07\\_02\\_2019\\_Facebook.html](https://www.bundeskartellamt.de/SharedDocs/Meldung/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/07_02_2019_Facebook.html).

account will also be voluntary.<sup>437</sup> The data restriction aims to eliminate Facebook’s “abuse of market power based on the extent of collecting, using and merging data in a user account.”<sup>438</sup> The restriction demonstrates Germany’s commitment to prevent misconduct of collected data and ensure a fair competition between businesses.

Germany has taken action to build consumer trust, data protection and to build privacy with the Bundeskartellamt restrictions on Facebook. Germany has taken action to build intellectual property rights protection with the implementation of the Trade Mark Law Modernization Act. However, Germany has not taken new action to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Gabriella Shiyuan Zhao*

### **India: -1**

India has not complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 6 January 2019, Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ravi Shankar Prasad stated that the Indian government’s intention to pass the Data Protection Bill.<sup>439</sup> The proposed bill would regulate how data is used and processed by government and private entities.<sup>440</sup> The bill did not become law prior to the 2019 General Election, which took place in April and May.<sup>441</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the Indian Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Chairman of the Centre for Excellence for Data Analysts to India, and the Saudi Crown Prince and the Saudi Ministry of Communications and information Technology signed two memorandums aimed at localization of technology, transfer of knowledge within Saudi Arabia.<sup>442</sup>

India has taken action to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks. However, India has failed to take new actions that build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.

Thus, India receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Susba Guan*

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<sup>437</sup> Bundeskartellamt prohibits Facebook from combining user data from different sources, Bundeskartellamt (Berlin) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019.

[https://www.bundeskartellamt.de/SharedDocs/Meldung/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/07\\_02\\_2019\\_Facebook.html](https://www.bundeskartellamt.de/SharedDocs/Meldung/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/07_02_2019_Facebook.html).

<sup>438</sup> Bundeskartellamt prohibits Facebook from combining user data from different sources, Bundeskartellamt (Berlin) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019.

[https://www.bundeskartellamt.de/SharedDocs/Meldung/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/07\\_02\\_2019\\_Facebook.html](https://www.bundeskartellamt.de/SharedDocs/Meldung/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/07_02_2019_Facebook.html).

<sup>439</sup> Government to bring Data Protection Law, says Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, Hindustan Times (New Delhi) 6 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/government-to-bring-data-protection-law-says-union-minister-ravi-shankar-prasad/story-aSVvvd4PKMzq6htKSBPa6l.html>.

<sup>440</sup> Personal Data Protection Bill only after new government takes over, The Economic Times (Mumbai) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/internet/personal-data-protection-bill-only-after-new-government-takes-over/articleshow/67374919.cms>.

<sup>441</sup> India’s Data Protection Bill Will Now Be Tabled in June, Analytics India Magazine (Bengaluru) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.analyticsindiamag.com/indias-data-protection-bill-in-june/>.

<sup>442</sup> Ministry Of ICT Concludes Partnerships With Major Indian Companies For Technology Localization, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Saudi Arabia) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.mcit.gov.sa/en/media-center/news/145668>.

**Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.

On 20 December 2018, the Indonesian government proposed a bill that would protect the personal data of the Indonesian people on digital platforms.<sup>443</sup> Subject to ratification by the People's Representative Council of Indonesia, the bill would eliminate the need for a separate council to handle data protection matters and prevent Indonesians' personal data from being accessed abroad. As of 6 March 2019, the Council has yet to ratify the bill.<sup>444</sup>

On 22 January 2019, Indonesia's Creative Economy Agency, or Bekraf, called for collaboration with the Directorate General of Intellectual Property and the Ministry of Law and Human Rights; to work on programs that promote intellectual property (IP).<sup>445</sup> The Indonesian Director General of Intellectual Property emphasized that Indonesia needs to prioritize the promotion of IP rights in order to "move forward" as an ASEAN member, to protect IP rights of communities and entrepreneurs, and to leverage Indonesian IP that generates economic value.<sup>446</sup>

On 19 February 2019, Indonesia's Ministry of Communication and Information collaborated with Saudi Arabia's Digital Transformation Team to hold, a two-day workshop aiming to advance digital cooperation between the two states.<sup>447</sup> Both signed a memorandum of understanding, which in part, commits to developing "joint centres for digital innovation," collaborating in research and development of digital technologies and allowing exchange of information on "Information Technology (IT) policies, techniques and regulations."<sup>448</sup>

On 4 March 2019, Indonesia signed the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA) with Australia.<sup>449</sup> This trade agreement includes provisions that regulate the "flow of data" between the two countries, commitments to protect "privacy and consumer rights."<sup>450</sup>

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<sup>443</sup> Pemerintah Siapkan Pengaturan Perlindungan Data Pribadi di Platform Digital, Indonesia Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Jakarta) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 6 March 2019. [https://www.kominfo.go.id/content/detail/15721/pemerintah-siapkan-pengaturan-perlindungan-data-pribadi-di-platform-digital/0/berita\\_satker](https://www.kominfo.go.id/content/detail/15721/pemerintah-siapkan-pengaturan-perlindungan-data-pribadi-di-platform-digital/0/berita_satker).

<sup>444</sup> Indonesia to protect personal data of citizens on digital platforms, OpenGov Asia (Singapore) 5 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.opengovasia.com/indonesia-to-protect-personal-data-of-citizens-on-digital-platforms/>.

<sup>445</sup> Synergy between Institutions Strengthens Intellectual Property Protection, Directorate General of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Law and Human Rights Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://en.dgip.go.id/synergy-between-institutions-strengthens-intellectual-property-protection>.

<sup>446</sup> Synergy between Institutions Strengthens Intellectual Property Protection, Directorate General of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Law and Human Rights Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://en.dgip.go.id/synergy-between-institutions-strengthens-intellectual-property-protection>.

<sup>447</sup> Indonesia and Saudi Arabia hold workshop for digital collaboration, OpenGov Asia (Singapore) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.opengovasia.com/indonesia-and-saudi-arabia-hold-workshop-for-digital-collaboration/>.

<sup>448</sup> Indonesia and Saudi Arabia hold workshop for digital collaboration, OpenGov Asia (Singapore) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.opengovasia.com/indonesia-and-saudi-arabia-hold-workshop-for-digital-collaboration/>.

<sup>449</sup> Australia and Indonesia sign landmark trade agreement, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/news/news/Pages/indonesia-australia-comprehensive-economic-partnership-agreement0304-2643.aspx>.

<sup>450</sup> IA-CEPA Outcomes and background documents - Outcomes: Electronic Commerce, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/not-yet-in-force/iacepa/outcomes-documents/Pages/outcomes-electronic-commerce.aspx>.

The agreement also contains provisions which “promote confidence in the online environment,” which include privacy and consumer protection.<sup>451</sup>

Indonesia has taken action in all five features of this commitment: supporting the free of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, building consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Diego Vasquez*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 7 December 2018, Italian government regulators fined Facebook EUR10 million for misleading users on how their personal data is used and Facebook’s “aggressive” practices of data transmission to third parties and for commercial purposes.<sup>452</sup> The penalty helps to reiterate the importance of data protections and to reduce the abuse of collected data, thus protects consumer privacy in using digital services.

On 29 December 2018, the Italian Parliament approve the 2019 Budget Law, which introduces a new tax on digital services.<sup>453</sup> The digital services tax would apply to resident and non-resident individuals and enterprises. This law is the Italian government’s acknowledgement of the need to create a safe and well-built digital environment for consumers within the realm of digitalization as national services become digitalised.<sup>454</sup>

On 25 January 2019, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Enzo Moavero Milanesi met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China. The meeting was held to discuss further development of Euro-Asian connectivity, specifically emphasizing the importance of assuring “full protection of intellectual property rights and designations of origin.”<sup>455</sup>

Italy has taken action to build consumer trust through the digital services tax and the ECU and to build data protection in fining Facebook for their misuse of data of Facebook users. However, Italy has not taken new actions to build privacy and intellectual property rights protection, and to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

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<sup>451</sup> IA-CEPA Outcomes and background documents - Outcomes: Electronic Commerce, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/not-yet-in-force/iacepa/outcomes-documents/Pages/outcomes-electronic-commerce.aspx>.

<sup>452</sup> Italian regulator fines Facebook £8.9m for misleading users, The Guardian (London) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/dec/07/italian-regulator-fines-facebook-89m-for-misleading-users>.

<sup>453</sup> Italy approves 2019 budget law, Ernst & Young Global Limited (London) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--italy-approves-2019-budget-law>.

<sup>454</sup> Italy approves 2019 budget law, Ernst & Young Global Limited (London) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--italy-approves-2019-budget-law>.

<sup>455</sup> 9th Meeting of the Joint Italy-China Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. [https://www.esteri.it/MAe/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/ix-riunione-del-comitato-congiunto-italia-cina.html](https://www.esteri.it/MAe/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/ix-riunione-del-comitato-congiunto-italia-cina.html)

*Analyst: Gabriella Shiyuan Zhao*

**Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 21 December 2018, the Financial Services Agency published the “Report from the Study Group on the Virtual Currency Exchange Services,” which proposed recommendations to address virtual currency issues, such as “[theft] of customers’ virtual currencies,” the “high [fluctuation] in price” of virtual currencies, the trading of virtual currencies “based on speculation,” the failure of service providers “to develop appropriate internal management capabilities in response to rapid business expansion,” and the emergence of “new types transactions involving virtual currencies (trading on margin and ICOs).”<sup>456</sup>

On 30 December 2018, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) took effect, a trade agreement which strengthened intellectual property (IP) rights.<sup>457</sup> The CPTPP contains provisions which strengthen intellectual property rights protection and enforcement by creating a “transparent and predictable standard” between Japan and ten other member countries.<sup>458</sup>

On 23 January 2019, the European Commission adopted the adequacy decision on Japan, which allows personal data to flow freely between EU and Japan “on the basis of strong protection guarantees”<sup>459</sup> subject to European standards. These guarantees include “a set of rules (Supplementary Rules) that will bridge several differences between the two data protection systems,”<sup>460</sup> assurance by the Japanese government “to the Commission regarding safeguards concerning the access of Japanese public authorities for criminal law enforcement and national security purposes,”<sup>461</sup> and a “complaint-handling mechanism” to handle complaints regarding Japanese public authorities’ access to data of EU citizens.<sup>462</sup> The adoption of this decision

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<sup>456</sup> Publication of Report from Study Group on Virtual Currency Exchange Services, Financial Services Agency (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Date Accessed: 20 April 2019. <https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/refer/councils/virtual-currency/20181228.html>.

<sup>457</sup> At long last, 11-member Pacific trade deal takes effect, Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/12/30/business/long-last-11-member-pacific-trade-deal-takes-effect/>.

<sup>458</sup> How to read the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2019. [https://international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/cptpp-ptpgp/chapter\\_summaries-sommaires\\_chapitres.aspx?lang=eng](https://international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/cptpp-ptpgp/chapter_summaries-sommaires_chapitres.aspx?lang=eng).

<sup>459</sup> European Commission Adopts Adequacy Decision on Japan, Creating the World's Largest Area of Safe Data Flows, European Union (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-421\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-421_en.htm).

<sup>460</sup> European Commission Adopts Adequacy Decision on Japan, Creating the World's Largest Area of Safe Data Flows, European Union (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-421\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-421_en.htm).

<sup>461</sup> European Commission Adopts Adequacy Decision on Japan, Creating the World's Largest Area of Safe Data Flows, European Union (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-421\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-421_en.htm).

<sup>462</sup> European Commission Adopts Adequacy Decision on Japan, Creating the World's Largest Area of Safe Data Flows, European Union (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-421\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-421_en.htm).

harmonizes data protection and privacy regulations in Japan with existing regulations in the EU, particularly those in the EU General Data Protection Regulation.<sup>463</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (Japan-EU EPA) took force.<sup>464</sup> The Japan-EU EPA allows for greater collaboration between both parties in the fields of e-commerce, intellectual property and small and medium-sized enterprises.<sup>465</sup> The EPA also regulates data transfers, the protection of IP, and the “free and secure cross-border flow of data” between Japan and the EU.<sup>466</sup>

As of 1 February 2019, the Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) between the EU and Japan entered into force on a provisional basis.<sup>467</sup> The agreement will “strengthen cooperation” between the two countries on many issues affecting both parties, such as “international peace and security, cyber crime, energy security [and] climate change mitigation.”<sup>468</sup> The SPA will be in full force when all EU members ratify the agreement in their respective legislatures.<sup>469</sup>

Japan has taken action to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge while respecting applicable legal frameworks, as well as building privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection through the enactment of the Japan-EU EPA. However, Japan has not yet committed new actions to build consumer trust.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Susba Guan*

### **Korea: 0**

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On December 2018, Korea updated the “Act on the Promotion of IT Network Use and Information Protection,” or the “Network Act.”<sup>470</sup> The amendments to the act focus on aligning with the EU General Data Protection Regulation in terms of protecting personal data in the hands of companies.

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<sup>463</sup> Japan data adequacy and economic partnership agreement will strengthen EU digital economy, DigitalEurope (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.digitaleurope.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Japan-adequacy-press-release-23012019.pdf>.

<sup>464</sup> EU-Japan trade agreement enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-785\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-785_en.htm).

<sup>465</sup> Exchange of Diplomatic Notes concerning Entry into Force of the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e\\_000110.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000110.html).

<sup>466</sup> Japan-EU trade deal offers model for cross-border data rules, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 1 February 2019, Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Japan-EU-trade-deal-offers-model-for-cross-border-data-rules>.

<sup>467</sup> EU-Japan trade agreement enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-785\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-785_en.htm).

<sup>468</sup> EU-Japan trade agreement will enter into force on 1 February 2019, European Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/12/21/eu-japan-trade-agreement-will-enter-into-force-on-1-february-2019/>.

<sup>469</sup> EU-Japan trade agreement will enter into force on 1 February 2019, European Council of the European Union (Brussels) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/12/21/eu-japan-trade-agreement-will-enter-into-force-on-1-february-2019/>.

<sup>470</sup> South Korea Privacy Law Changes May Help EU Data Transfer Talks, Bloomberg Law (Washington DC) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/privacy-and-data-security/south-korea-privacy-law-changes-may-help-eu-data-transfer-talks>.

As of 19 March 2019, the Korean Communications Commission will “limit data transfers to countries that implemented data localization requirements.”<sup>471</sup>

On 17 December 2018, the Korean Ministry of Strategy and Finance devised the framework for 2019 economic policies, “with the goal of inclusive growth in mind.”<sup>472</sup> The Ministry outlined their priority to promote innovative growth and a fair economy for the purpose of “boost the economy, work on industrial restructuring, pursue inclusive growth, address mid- to long-term challenges.”<sup>473</sup>

On 9 January 2019, the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP) signed an agreement with the Korean Intellectual Property Office. The memorandum of understanding, a patent prosecution highway agreement, aims to develop a bilateral relationship in the field, streamline Saudi patent registration procedures in Korea and to attract patent applications from Korea in Saudi Arabia. In addition, it aimed to enhance the efficiency of patent granting procedures by the SAIP.<sup>474</sup>

On 7 March 2019, the Financial Services Commission released their roadmap for financial literacy for the year.<sup>475</sup> Policies in this roadmap include enacting “a comprehensive bill on financial consumer protection” and to reform the regulatory framework on “electronic financial business.”<sup>476</sup> The roadmap also include aims to boost financial innovation, ensure “trust in finance” and secure financial stability.<sup>477</sup>

Korea has taken action to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, as well as to build data protection through the update of the Network Act and intellectual property protections. Though the Korean Ministry of Strategy and Finance’s framework for their economic policies and the Financial Services Commission’s Financial Policy Roadmap indicate opportunities to build consumer trust, there have not yet been actions that follow through on those plans. In addition, Korea has not taken new actions to build privacy.

Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Susba Guan*

### **Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 30 December 2018, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) took effect, a trade agreement which strengthened intellectual property (IP)

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<sup>471</sup> South Korea Privacy Law Changes May Help EU Data Transfer Talks, Bloomberg Law (Washington DC) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/privacy-and-data-security/south-korea-privacy-law-changes-may-help-eu-data-transfer-talks>.

<sup>472</sup> 2019 Economic Policies, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4600>.

<sup>473</sup> 2019 Economic Policies, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4600>.

<sup>474</sup> Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property Signed First PPH Agreement, Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (Seoul). 9 April 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/saudi-authority-for-intellectual-property-signed-first-pph-agreement/>.

<sup>475</sup> Financial Policy Roadmap for 2019, Financial Services Commission (Seoul) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019 [http://meng.fsc.go.kr/common/pdfjs/web/viewer.html?file=/upload/press1/20190308085738\\_decadca7.pdf](http://meng.fsc.go.kr/common/pdfjs/web/viewer.html?file=/upload/press1/20190308085738_decadca7.pdf).

<sup>476</sup> Financial Policy Roadmap for 2019, Financial Services Commission (Seoul) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019 [http://meng.fsc.go.kr/common/pdfjs/web/viewer.html?file=/upload/press1/20190308085738\\_decadca7.pdf](http://meng.fsc.go.kr/common/pdfjs/web/viewer.html?file=/upload/press1/20190308085738_decadca7.pdf).

<sup>477</sup> Financial Policy Roadmap for 2019, Financial Services Commission (Seoul) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019 [http://meng.fsc.go.kr/common/pdfjs/web/viewer.html?file=/upload/press1/20190308085738\\_decadca7.pdf](http://meng.fsc.go.kr/common/pdfjs/web/viewer.html?file=/upload/press1/20190308085738_decadca7.pdf).

rights.<sup>478</sup> The CPTPP contains provisions which strengthen intellectual property rights protection and enforcement by creating a “transparent and predictable standard” between Mexico and ten other member countries.<sup>479</sup>

On 8 January 2019, Central Bank Governor Alejandro Díaz de León, Finance Minister Carlos Urzúa, and Finance Vice Minister Arturo Herrera outlined a plan to improve the electronic transfer payment system, which would allow smartphones to complete transactions.<sup>480</sup> The plan also includes revising regulations for repurchase and securities lending transactions to allow more financial entities to complete these operations. Improvements to the electronic transfer payment system will allow smartphones to be used to execute transactions. President Andrés Manuel López Obrador committed to allow at least 30 million people to join operations, including vulnerable groups, and to encourage entry of new companies into the stock market, as a part of the Program to Promote the Financial Sector. Alejandro Díaz de León, governor of the Bank of Mexico, announced that the fiber optic infrastructure of the Federal Electricity commission will be used to achieve connectivity throughout the country.<sup>481</sup>

On 9 January 2019, the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI), the patent and trademark administration body of Mexico, published information about the services IMPI offer.<sup>482</sup> It explains common administrative procedures for obtaining patents, trademark registration, requesting bibliographic searches or patent document techniques, and the filing of lawsuits against patents.<sup>483</sup>

On 28 January 2019, the National Center for Energy Control (CENACE) affirmed its commitment to follow the “Ley General de Protección de Datos Personales en Posesión de Sujetos Obligados,” or the General Law of the Protection of Personal Data in Possession of Obligated Subjects.<sup>484</sup> This commitment consists of training CENACE staff on protecting personal data, coordinating with energy-related government agencies to handle personal data appropriately and issuing privacy notices to CENACE’s administrative bodies to inform them of how their data will be used.<sup>485</sup>

Mexico has worked to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection through its Program to Promote the Final Sector, its entry into the CPTPP and CENACE’s implementation of personal data protections. However, Mexico has not taken action in

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<sup>478</sup> At long last, 11-member Pacific trade deal takes effect, Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/12/30/business/long-last-11-member-pacific-trade-deal-takes-effect/>.

<sup>479</sup> How to read the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2019. [https://international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/cptpp-ptppg/chapter\\_summaries-sommaires\\_chapitres.aspx?lang=eng](https://international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/cptpp-ptppg/chapter_summaries-sommaires_chapitres.aspx?lang=eng).

<sup>480</sup> Mexico launches major new initiative to boost financial sector, Business News Americas (Santiago) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <http://www.bnamericas.com/en/news/privatization/mexico-launches-major-initiative-to-boost-financial-sector>.

<sup>481</sup> Mexico launches major new initiative to boost financial sector, Business News Americas (Santiago) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <http://www.bnamericas.com/en/news/privatization/mexico-launches-major-initiative-to-boost-financial-sector>.

<sup>482</sup> Servicios que ofrece el IMPI, Instituto Mexicano de la Propiedad industrial (Mexico City) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/imp/acciones-y-programas/servicios-que-ofrece-el-imp>.

<sup>483</sup> Servicios que ofrece el IMPI, Instituto Mexicano de la Propiedad industrial (Mexico City) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/imp/acciones-y-programas/servicios-que-ofrece-el-imp>.

<sup>484</sup> CENACE refrenda su compromiso con el respeto y protección de datos personales, National Energy Control Center (Mexico City) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/cenace/articulos/cenace-refrenda-su-compromiso-con-el-respeto-y-proteccion-de-datos-personales>.

<sup>485</sup> CENACE refrenda su compromiso con el respeto y protección de datos personales, National Energy Control Center (Mexico City) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/cenace/articulos/cenace-refrenda-su-compromiso-con-el-respeto-y-proteccion-de-datos-personales>.

“supporting the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks.”

Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alykhan Jettha*

**Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 1 January 2019, Russia implemented the “honest mark labelling system,” which is part of the amended Consumer Protection Act.<sup>486</sup> This system mandates that certain consumer products must be marked with labels containing a QR code to prevent counterfeiting.<sup>487</sup> Manufacturers, importers, distributors, suppliers and retailers are required to submit information on the circulation of the products.<sup>488</sup> The new labelling requirements will be monitored by consumer supervisory authority Rospotrebnadzor to ensure compliance.<sup>489</sup> Russia also proposed to increase fines by three to six times for the sale of poor quality products, providing misleading information and failure to provide information about products and services.<sup>490</sup>

On 21 January 2019, Roskomnadzor, Russia’s federal executive body for censorship and telecommunications regulation, “opened administrative proceedings” against Facebook and Twitter for not elaborating on how the platforms will store data.<sup>491</sup> Roskomnadzor emphasizes that these platforms must comply with legislation that requires all servers which store personal data of Russians must be stored inside Russia.

On 13 February 2019, the Government of the Russian Federation issues the Executive Order N 146 “On approval of the Rules for the organization and implementation of state control and supervision of the processing of personal data.” The order requires the state agency Roskomnadzor to carry out periodical review of data operators once every three years to prevent violations of the Federal Law “On personal data” as a measure to build information services consumers trust.<sup>492</sup>

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<sup>486</sup> Russia: Recent developments in Russian consumer protection law, Noerr (Moscow) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [https://www.noerr.com/en/newsroom/News/russia-recent-developments-in-russian-consumer-protection-law.aspx?utm\\_source=Mondaq&utm\\_medium=syndication&utm\\_campaign=View-Original](https://www.noerr.com/en/newsroom/News/russia-recent-developments-in-russian-consumer-protection-law.aspx?utm_source=Mondaq&utm_medium=syndication&utm_campaign=View-Original).

<sup>487</sup> Russia: Recent developments in Russian consumer protection law, Noerr (Moscow) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [https://www.noerr.com/en/newsroom/News/russia-recent-developments-in-russian-consumer-protection-law.aspx?utm\\_source=Mondaq&utm\\_medium=syndication&utm\\_campaign=View-Original](https://www.noerr.com/en/newsroom/News/russia-recent-developments-in-russian-consumer-protection-law.aspx?utm_source=Mondaq&utm_medium=syndication&utm_campaign=View-Original).

<sup>488</sup> Russia: Recent developments in Russian consumer protection law, Noerr (Moscow) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [https://www.noerr.com/en/newsroom/News/russia-recent-developments-in-russian-consumer-protection-law.aspx?utm\\_source=Mondaq&utm\\_medium=syndication&utm\\_campaign=View-Original](https://www.noerr.com/en/newsroom/News/russia-recent-developments-in-russian-consumer-protection-law.aspx?utm_source=Mondaq&utm_medium=syndication&utm_campaign=View-Original).

<sup>489</sup> Russia: Recent developments in Russian consumer protection law, Noerr (Moscow) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [https://www.noerr.com/en/newsroom/News/russia-recent-developments-in-russian-consumer-protection-law.aspx?utm\\_source=Mondaq&utm\\_medium=syndication&utm\\_campaign=View-Original](https://www.noerr.com/en/newsroom/News/russia-recent-developments-in-russian-consumer-protection-law.aspx?utm_source=Mondaq&utm_medium=syndication&utm_campaign=View-Original).

<sup>490</sup> Russia: Recent developments in Russian consumer protection law, Noerr (Moscow) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [https://www.noerr.com/en/newsroom/News/russia-recent-developments-in-russian-consumer-protection-law.aspx?utm\\_source=Mondaq&utm\\_medium=syndication&utm\\_campaign=View-Original](https://www.noerr.com/en/newsroom/News/russia-recent-developments-in-russian-consumer-protection-law.aspx?utm_source=Mondaq&utm_medium=syndication&utm_campaign=View-Original).

<sup>491</sup> Russia opens civil cases against Facebook, Twitter: report, Reuters (Moscow) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-russia-facebook/russia-opens-civil-cases-against-facebook-twitter-report-idUSKCN1PFORX>.

<sup>492</sup> Executive Order on Personal Data Operators Review Approved 15 February 2019(in Russian). Access Date: 14 May 2019. <https://rkn.gov.ru/news/rsoc/news65696.htm>.

On 27 March 2019, the Ministry of Communications of the Russian Federation presented the draft law on digital profiles. Digital profiles will allow individuals, entrepreneurs and governmental bodies to exchange information briefly. Individual's digital profile will allow using various governmental services as well as financial services such as credit scoring. Private enterprises, on the other hand, will have better access to taxation instruments. This initiative is designed as a measure to improve privacy protection, but at the same time it eases flow of information between various entities thus supporting free flow of information.<sup>493</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the Government of the Russian Federation amended the maintenance rules of the Unified Register of Russian Software. The amendment requires that only Russian nationals and Russian companies are allowed to modernize and maintain software included in the Register. This amendment is basically aimed at improving data protection, but could also be viewed as a measure to enhance intellectual property rights protection.<sup>494</sup>

On 6 May 2019, the Government of the Russian Federation approved the procedure for digital marking of consumer goods. The order also implies establishment of an information system that will contain all the relevant information concerning consumer goods that have to be marked with a special code. The system will provide consumers with product data upon the request.<sup>495</sup>

Russia has taken action to build data protection, consumer trust, consumer privacy and intellectual property rights protection and has taken actions to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Florence Chan*

### **Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.

As of 3 December 2018, Saudi Arabia has a “freedom of information and protection of private data law under review by the Advisory Shoura Council.”<sup>496</sup> As of 6 March 2019, the law has not been ratified.

On 11 December 2018, the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (CITC) launched a partnership with Chinese telecommunications manufacturer Huawei to launch the country's first Internet of Things (IoT) lab with a fund of USD1 million.<sup>497</sup> This partnership is part of the Kingdom's plan to build the knowledge economy through building up local skillsets, accelerate

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<sup>493</sup> Ministry of Communications to Present Draft Law on Individual Digital Profile 27 March 2019 (in Russian). Access Date: 14 May 2019. <https://digital.ac.gov.ru/news/824>.

<sup>494</sup> Government Amends Procedure for Maintaining the Unified Register of Russian Software 09 April 2019 (in Russian). Access Date: 14 May 2019. <https://digital.ac.gov.ru/news/887>.

<sup>495</sup> Cabinet Approved Procedure for Digital Marking of Goods 6 May 2019 (In Russian). Access Date: 14 May 2019. <https://digital.ac.gov.ru/news/933>.

<sup>496</sup> New EU data protection law a harbinger of change, Saudi Gazette (Jeddah) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/549425>.

<sup>497</sup> Ministry Of ICT Partners With Huawei To Launch First IoT Lab In Saudi Arabia, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Riyadh) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://www.mcit.gov.sa/en/media-center/news/137055>.

the adoption of digital technologies and promote innovation of information and communications technologies.<sup>498</sup>

On 2 January 2019, the CITC launched a document about the modernization of SMS service conditions to improve the service of SMS services and their delivery conditions. The purpose of this launch was to enhance both competition in the telecom market and user experiences.<sup>499</sup>

On 9 January 2019, the CITC organized a workshop for the information and communications technology (ICT) sector with the National Risk Unit. The aim of the workshop was to define national risk, its objectives, principles and methodology and increase awareness amongst ICT stakeholders about identifying and assessing risks.<sup>500</sup>

On 9 January 2019, the Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP) signed an agreement with the Korean Intellectual Property Office. The memorandum of understanding, a patent prosecution highway agreement, aims to develop a bilateral relationship in the field, streamline Saudi patent registration procedures in Korea and to attract patent applications from Korea in Saudi Arabia. In addition, it aimed to enhance the efficiency of patent granting procedures by the SAIP.<sup>501</sup>

On 17 February 2019, the CITC launched a public consultation document on a draft of the IoT regulatory framework and on the “Special Conditions for Type B Licenses” for the provision of Internet access services.<sup>502</sup>

On 19 February 2019, Saudi Arabia’s Digital Transformation Team, in collaboration with Indonesia’s Ministry of Communication and Information, held a two-day workshop aiming to advance digital cooperation between the two states.<sup>503</sup> Both parties signed a memorandum of understanding, which in part, commits to developing “joint centres for digital innovation,” collaborating in research and development of digital technologies and allowing exchange of information on “Information Technology (IT) policies, techniques and regulations.”<sup>504</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia in collaboration with Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Chairman of the Centre of Excellence for Data Analytics to the Republic of India, and the Ministry of Communications and information Technology signed two

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<sup>498</sup> MCIT, Huawei launch Kingdom’s first IoT Lab, Arab News (Riyadh) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1418626/corporate-news>.

<sup>499</sup> الرسائل خدمة تقديم شروط تحديث حول العموم مرئيات وثيقة طرح عن تعلن المدعومات وتقنية الاتصالات هيئة القصرية، Communications and Information Technology Commission (Riyadh) 2 January 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/mediacenter/pressreleases/Pages/2019010201.aspx>.

<sup>500</sup> المدعومات وتقنية الاتصالات لقطاع الوطنية المخاطر تقويم عمل ورشة تقييم المدعومات وتقنية الاتصالات هيئة، Communications and Information Technology Commission (Riyadh) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/mediacenter/pressreleases/Pages/2019010902.aspx>.

<sup>501</sup> Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property Signed First PPH Agreement, Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (Seoul). 9 April 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.saip.gov.sa/en/saudi-authority-for-intellectual-property-signed-first-pph-agreement/>.

<sup>502</sup> التنظيدي الإطار مسودة حيال العموم مرئيات طلب وثيقة طرح عن تعلن المدعومات وتقنية الاتصالات هيئة، Communications and Information Technology Commission (Riyadh) 17 February 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/mediacenter/pressreleases/Pages/2019021701.aspx>.

<sup>503</sup> Indonesia and Saudi Arabia hold workshop for digital collaboration, OpenGov Asia (Singapore) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.opengovasia.com/indonesia-and-saudi-arabia-hold-workshop-for-digital-collaboration/>.

<sup>504</sup> Indonesia and Saudi Arabia hold workshop for digital collaboration, OpenGov Asia (Singapore) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.opengovasia.com/indonesia-and-saudi-arabia-hold-workshop-for-digital-collaboration/>.

memorandums aimed at localization of technology, transfer of knowledge within Saudi Arabia.<sup>505</sup> The memorandum is in line with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, preparing the way "for a future digital society, digital government, and thriving digital economy."<sup>506</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken new actions in two features: supporting the free flow of information, ideas, and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks and intellectual property rights protection. However, Saudi Arabia has failed to take new actions in the other four features: building consumer trust, consumer privacy, data protection.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Diego Vasquez*

### **South Africa: -1**

South Africa has not complied with its commitment to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.

On 28 March 2019, the upper house of the South African Parliament, the National Council of Provinces, passed the Copyright Amendment Bill.<sup>507</sup> South African Minister of Trade and Industry Rob Davies says this bill updates South Africa's regulatory framework on copyright and that the bill "allows fair use of copyright works."<sup>508</sup> As of 16 April 2019, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has yet to sign the bill into law.<sup>509</sup>

South Africa has taken action to build protection of intellectual property rights with the Copyright Amendment Bill, but the bill has yet to become law. Otherwise, South Africa has not taken new actions to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks. In addition, South Africa has not taken actions to build consumer trust, privacy and data protection.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Shafna Kallil*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to "support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection."

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<sup>505</sup> Ministry Of ICT Concludes Partnerships With Major Indian Companies For Technology Localization, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Riyadh) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.mcit.gov.sa/en/media-center/news/145668>.

<sup>506</sup> Ministry Of ICT Concludes Partnerships With Major Indian Companies For Technology Localization, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Riyadh) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.mcit.gov.sa/en/media-center/news/145668>.

<sup>507</sup> Parliament Passed 11 Bills Today, Parliament of the Republic of South Africa (Cape Town) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.parliament.gov.za/press-releases/parliament-passed-11-bills-today>.

<sup>508</sup> The National Assembly Passed the Copyright Amendment Bill, the Performers' Protection Amendment Bill and the Gambling Amendment Bill, Africanews (Cape Town) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2018/12/06/the-national-assembly-passed-the-copyright-amendment-bill-the-performers-protection-amendment-bill-and-the-gambling-amendment-bill/>

<sup>509</sup> Ramaphosa petitioned not to sign Copyright Amendment Bill into law, The Sunday Times (Johannesburg) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2019-04-16-ramaphosa-petitioned-not-to-sign-copyright-amendment-bill-into-law/>.

On 1 January 2019, Turkey implemented Law 7155 which requires a mediation procedure before instituting court action for commercial disputes, including the collection of receivables or compensation claims.<sup>510</sup> Intellectual property disputes involving monetary compensation claims are included under this provision, which encompasses trademark and patent disputes, copyright infringements involving compensation claims, disputes regarding payment of calculation of remuneration for employee inventions and designs and disputes regarding license agreements.<sup>511</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the Turkish Data Protection Authority (DPA) introduced the procedure that should be followed by data controllers in the event of a data breach under the purview of the Turkish Data Protection Law.<sup>512</sup> The new procedure includes provisions such as the responsibility for the data controller to notify the DPA of the data breach within 72 hours after becoming aware of the breach, to notify the concerned data subjects in the shortest time possible following the determination of affected individuals, to document effects and measures taken regarding the data breach and explain any reasons if the notification to the DPA is not made within 72 hours.<sup>513</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the Data Officers Registry Information System registration (VERBİS) for public institutions began.<sup>514</sup> Data processing companies in Turkey and non-resident legal entities must appoint a representative and register with VERBİS.<sup>515</sup> Administrative fines will be applied to those responsible for personal data if the disclosure requirement is not fulfilled, if VERBİS is not registered or if data security is violated and necessary measures are not taken.<sup>516</sup>

Turkey has taken action to build privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights. However, Turkey has not taken action to build consumer trust, and support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Florence Chan*

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<sup>510</sup> Turkey Introduces Mandatory Mediation for Money-Related IP Disputes, Managing Intellectual Property (Istanbul) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.managingip.com/Article/3857104/Turkey-Turkey-introduces-mandatory-mediation-for-money-related-ip-disputes.html?ArticleId=3857104>.

<sup>511</sup> Turkey Introduces Mandatory Mediation for Money-Related IP Disputes, Managing Intellectual Property (Istanbul) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.managingip.com/Article/3857104/Turkey-Turkey-introduces-mandatory-mediation-for-money-related-ip-disputes.html?ArticleId=3857104>.

<sup>512</sup> Turkish Data Protection Authority Announces The Procedure To Be Taken By Companies In Cases Of Data Breaches, Mondaq (Istanbul) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <http://www.mondaq.com/turkey/x/783136/data+protection/Turkish+Data+Protection+Authority+Announces+The+Procedure+To+Be+Taken+By+Companies+In+Cases+Of+Data+Breaches>.

<sup>513</sup> Turkish Data Protection Authority Announces The Procedure To Be Taken By Companies In Cases Of Data Breaches, Mondaq (Istanbul) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <http://www.mondaq.com/turkey/x/783136/data+protection/Turkish+Data+Protection+Authority+Announces+The+Procedure+To+Be+Taken+By+Companies+In+Cases+Of+Data+Breaches>.

<sup>514</sup> Facebook sends 30-page plea to Turkish data protection authority, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/technology/2019/03/25/facebook-sends-30-page-plea-to-turkish-data-protection-authority>.

<sup>515</sup> Facebook sends 30-page plea to Turkish data protection authority, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/technology/2019/03/25/facebook-sends-30-page-plea-to-turkish-data-protection-authority>.

<sup>516</sup> Facebook sends 30-page plea to Turkish data protection authority, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/technology/2019/03/25/facebook-sends-30-page-plea-to-turkish-data-protection-authority>.

## United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.

On 6 January 2019, the UK Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport contributed GBP400,000 to the Digital Inclusion Innovation Fund, part of which was to a project which will introduce “smart homes” for “older and disabled people” in rural areas.<sup>517</sup> This initiative encourages the attainment of digital skills through learning from fellow elders, especially regarding the operation of smart technologies within their smart home.<sup>518</sup>

On 28 January 2019, the UK Information Commissioner’s Office issued guidance to organizations currently sharing personal data with organizations in the European Economic Area (EEA).<sup>519</sup> The Commissioner’s Office warned these organization that they may need to take extra measures to comply with data protection laws if the UK Parliament does not ratify an exit agreement with the European Union. Personal data transfers from the UK to the EEA will remain the same as the UK does not plan to impose any additional requirements.<sup>520</sup>

On 31 January 2019, Digital Secretary Jeremy Wright announced that the Government will contribute GBP30 million, to the Social Tech Venture Fund. The government intends that their contribution will further allow for greater access to finance for “socially transformative” and innovative technology that promotes community connectedness.<sup>521</sup>

On 31 January 2019, Digital Secretary Jeremy Wright announced that the government would be contributing GBP700,000 to a “data trust” pilot project.<sup>522</sup> The Open Data Institute and the Government’s Office for Artificial Intelligence-run project will facilitate data exchange between organizations with raw data and those who are able to process it. This project aims to capitalize the

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<sup>517</sup> ‘Smart homes’ to help older and disabled people get digital skills and tackle loneliness in rural areas, Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 6 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/smart-homes-to-help-older-and-disabled-people-get-digital-skills-and-tackle-loneliness-in-rural-areas>.

<sup>518</sup> ‘Smart homes’ to help older and disabled people get digital skills and tackle loneliness in rural areas, Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 6 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/smart-homes-to-help-older-and-disabled-people-get-digital-skills-and-tackle-loneliness-in-rural-areas>.

<sup>519</sup> Data Protection and Brexit - Is your organisation prepared?, Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/data-protection-and-brexit-is-your-organisation-prepared>.

<sup>520</sup> Data Protection and Brexit - Is your organisation prepared?, Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/data-protection-and-brexit-is-your-organisation-prepared>.

<sup>521</sup> Digital revolution to use the power of data to combat illegal wildlife trade and reduce food waste, Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/digital-revolution-to-use-the-power-of-data-to-combat-illegal-wildlife-trade-and-reduce-food-waste>.

<sup>522</sup> Digital revolution to use the power of data to combat illegal wildlife trade and reduce food waste, Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/digital-revolution-to-use-the-power-of-data-to-combat-illegal-wildlife-trade-and-reduce-food-waste>.

“power of data exchange” in a in a “safe, fair and ethical way” between these entities to tackle global issues.<sup>523</sup>

The United Kingdom has taken action in supporting the free flow of information, ideas, and knowledge while respecting applicable legal frameworks and has worked in building consumer trust, consumer privacy, and data protection. The United Kingdom has not currently undertaken any initiatives to improve intellectual property rights.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Shafna Kallil*

### **United States: -1**

The United States has not complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 6 December 2018, the US Department of Commerce and the National Institute of Standards and Technology announced a green paper to modernize the U.S. system of technology transfer and innovation.<sup>524</sup> The green paper outlines actions which would create a better return on investment in the United States government’s yearly investment in research and development of USD150 billion. The actions also aim to develop a modern, user friendly federal intellectual property (IP) data reporting system to more effectively track IP and streamline regulations.<sup>525</sup> However, this green paper merely a “discussion document, not a policy commitment or decision by the [United States] federal government.”<sup>526</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the United States Patent and Trademark Office announced their ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled.<sup>527</sup> This treaty would protect intellectual property rights of blind, visually impaired, or print disable people as well as expand their access to information and resources. It would also allow limited copyright exceptions for the reproduction of published works in formats accessible to these people.<sup>528</sup>

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<sup>523</sup> Digital revolution to use the power of data to combat illegal wildlife trade and reduce food waste, Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/digital-revolution-to-use-the-power-of-data-to-combat-illegal-wildlife-trade-and-reduce-food-waste>.

<sup>524</sup> Commerce’s NIST Announces Actions to Stimulate Commercialization of Federally Funded R&D, National Institute of Standards and Technology (Gaithersburg) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.nist.gov/news-events/news/2018/12/commerces-nist-announces-actions-stimulate-commercialization-federally>.

<sup>525</sup> Commerce’s NIST Announces Actions to Stimulate Commercialization of Federally Funded R&D, National Institute of Standards and Technology (Gaithersburg) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.nist.gov/news-events/news/2018/12/commerces-nist-announces-actions-stimulate-commercialization-federally>.

<sup>526</sup> Commerce’s NIST Announces Actions to Stimulate Commercialization of Federally Funded R&D, National Institute of Standards and Technology (Gaithersburg) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.nist.gov/news-events/news/2018/12/commerces-nist-announces-actions-stimulate-commercialization-federally>.

<sup>527</sup> U.S. ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty, United States Patent and Trademark Office (Washington) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.uspto.gov/about-us/news-updates/us-ratification-marrakesh-treaty>.

<sup>528</sup> U.S. ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty, United States Patent and Trademark Office (Washington) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.uspto.gov/about-us/news-updates/us-ratification-marrakesh-treaty>.

The United States has taken action to build intellectual property rights protection in its ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty. However, the United States has not taken any new actions to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks; to build consumer trust; to build privacy; and to build data protection.

Thus, the United States receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Omolade Ogunsanya*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to “support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks, and working to build consumer trust, privacy, data protection and intellectual property rights protection.”

On 7 December 2018, the European Commission presented a plan to “foster the development and use of artificial intelligence (AI) in Europe” between EU members, Norway, Switzerland and the European Commission.<sup>529</sup> The parties will act jointly to increase investment in AI, availability of data, and to ensure trust in AI that is “cutting-edge, ethical and secure.”<sup>530</sup>

On 10 December 2018, the EU struck a “political agreement” on the Cyber-Security Act, which strengthens the European Union Agency for Network and Information and Security (ENISA).<sup>531</sup> The Act reinforces the ENISA’s mandate and empower EU members to handle cybersecurity threats and attacks through creating an EU framework for “cybersecurity certification, boosting the cybersecurity of online services and consumer devices.”<sup>532</sup>

On 22 January 2019, the European Union reached an agreement on the revised Directive on Open Data and Public Sector Information.<sup>533</sup> This directive stipulates rules and guidelines for the facilitation of the reuse of public sector data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the 2003 EU Open Data Policy and the current reality of data in the present day. These data will be used by a variety of actors with the intention to spark innovation within the EU.<sup>534</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the Japan-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (Japan-EU EPA) took force.<sup>535</sup> The Japan-EU EPA allows for greater collaboration between both parties in the fields of e-commerce, intellectual property and small and medium-sized enterprises.<sup>536</sup> The EPA also regulates

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<sup>529</sup> Member States and Commission to work together to boost artificial intelligence “made in Europe,” European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6689\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6689_en.htm).

<sup>530</sup> Member States and Commission to work together to boost artificial intelligence “made in Europe,” European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6689\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6689_en.htm).

<sup>531</sup> EU negotiators agree on strengthening Europe's cybersecurity, European Commission (Brussels) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6759\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6759_en.htm).

<sup>532</sup> EU negotiators agree on strengthening Europe's cybersecurity, European Commission (Brussels) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6759\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6759_en.htm).

<sup>533</sup> Digital Single Market: EU negotiators agree on new rules for sharing of public sector data, European Commission (Brussels) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-525\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-525_en.htm).

<sup>534</sup> Digital Single Market: EU negotiators agree on new rules for sharing of public sector data, European Commission (Brussels) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-525\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-525_en.htm).

<sup>535</sup> EU-Japan trade agreement enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-785\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-785_en.htm).

<sup>536</sup> Exchange of Diplomatic Notes concerning Entry into Force of the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for an Economic Partnership, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e\\_000110.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000110.html).

data transfers, the protection of IP, and the “free and secure cross-border flow of data” between Japan and the EU.<sup>537</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the European Parliament passed the “Open Data and Public Sector Information Directive.”<sup>538</sup> This directive revises existing regulations that govern the use of public sector data for commercial and non-commercial purposes.<sup>539</sup> The revised regulations aim to reduce market barriers for small and medium-sized enterprises and increase the availability of data for non-large companies.<sup>540</sup> As well, the regulations of this directive were revised to comply with the EU General Data Protection Regulation.<sup>541</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the Council of the EU adopted the EU Copyright Directive.<sup>542</sup> The directive updates the existing legal framework on copyright to strengthen copyright protection within the EU in the “digital single market.”<sup>543</sup> The new regulations offers copyright reforms for authors and performers, allowing them to upload copyright protected content on platforms legally.<sup>544</sup>

The European Union has taken action to support the free flow of information, ideas and knowledge, while respecting applicable legal frameworks; to build consumer trust; to build privacy; to build data protection; and to build intellectual property rights protection.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Omolade Ogunsanya*

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<sup>537</sup> Japan-EU trade deal offers model for cross-border data rules, Nikkei Asian Review (Brussels) 1 February 2019, Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Japan-EU-trade-deal-offers-model-for-cross-border-data-rules>.

<sup>538</sup> Digital Single Market: Commission welcomes European Parliament's vote on new rules for sharing public sector data, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STATEMENT-19-1935\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1935_en.htm).

<sup>539</sup> Digital Single Market: Commission welcomes European Parliament's vote on new rules for sharing public sector data, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STATEMENT-19-1935\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1935_en.htm).

<sup>540</sup> Proposal for a revision of the Public Sector Information (PSI) Directive, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/proposal-revision-public-sector-information-psi-directive>.

<sup>541</sup> Digital Single Market: Commission welcomes European Parliament's vote on new rules for sharing public sector data, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STATEMENT-19-1935\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-1935_en.htm).

<sup>542</sup> Copyright reform clears final hurdle: Commission welcomes approval of modernised rules fit for digital age, European Commission (Luxembourg) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-2151\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2151_en.htm).

<sup>543</sup> EU adjusts copyright rules to the digital age, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/04/15/eu-adjusts-copyright-rules-to-the-digital-age/>.

<sup>544</sup> Copyright reform clears final hurdle: Commission welcomes approval of modernised rules fit for digital age, European Commission (Luxembourg) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-2151\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2151_en.htm).

#### 4. Employment: Skills Development

[We remain committed to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting...] vocational training and skills development, [including reskilling workers and improving labour conditions in all forms of employment, recognizing the importance of social dialogue in this area, including work delivered through digital platforms, with a focus on promoting labour formalization and making social protection systems strong and portable, subject to national law and circumstances.]

*Buenos Aires Leaders' Declaration*

##### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada			+1
China		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia			+1
Italy		0	
Japan	-1		
Korea		0	
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.40	

##### Background

Despite a growing body of research in this area, there is no universally accepted definition of what exactly the “Future of Work” encompasses<sup>545</sup> nor of how to best prepare or build for it.<sup>546</sup> G20 members came together at a time of financial crisis in order to coordinate their efforts to boost the global economy as the US financial crisis spread into Europe and Asia. With high unemployment and instability across all sectors, the ‘Future of Work’ has been a focus for leaders since their initial meeting, though the term was not yet used.<sup>547</sup> Today, with the economic crisis no longer affecting

<sup>545</sup> The Future of Work: A Literature Review, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 1 March 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---inst/documents/publication/wcms\\_625866.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---inst/documents/publication/wcms_625866.pdf).

<sup>546</sup> The Future of Work: A Literature Review, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 1 March 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---inst/documents/publication/wcms\\_625866.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---inst/documents/publication/wcms_625866.pdf).

<sup>547</sup> London Summit – Leader’s Statement (London) 2 April 2009. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0402.pdf>.

millions globally, the ‘Future of Work’ is impacted by broader trends such as technology, climate change, globalization, and demography. Each are contributing challenges to a stable labour force.<sup>548</sup>

One method to prepare a labour force to face these challenges is through vocational training.<sup>549</sup> Promoting education on the roles that technology, climate change, globalization, and demography play in the global economy is essential, as is teaching about how to protect those most at risk of these challenges. These present a strategy for all members of the G20 at a time when job security and economic stability are not guaranteed.

The links between the economy and human members of the labour forces being affected by the 2008 global financial crisis was recognized in the 2009 London Summit G20 Action Plan for Recovery and Reform.<sup>550</sup> There is clear mention of the “human dimension” of the crisis, and members supported employment “by stimulating growth, investing in education and training.”<sup>551</sup>

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, the summit chair invited relevant ministers to review the International Labour Organization (ILO) findings for “the impact of policies [that have been] adopted, report on whether further measures are desirable, and consider medium-term employment and skills development policies, social protection programs, and best practices to ensure workers are prepared to take advantage of advances in science and technology.”<sup>552</sup>

With global unemployment rates still high, G20 members acknowledged in their statement that “it is no longer sufficient to train workers to meet their specific current needs; we should ensure access to training programs that support lifelong skills development and focus on future market needs”<sup>553</sup> and that it is up to developed countries to support developing ones to build their capacity in this area.<sup>554</sup>

By the 2010 Toronto Summit, the meetings requested in Pittsburgh for relevant labour and employment ministers had occurred, of whom agreed to “place quality jobs at the heart of the recovery.”<sup>555</sup> Retraining and skills development for advanced economies was listed as a labour market reform priority in the 2010 Framework for Strong, Sustainable and Balanced Growth.<sup>556</sup>

At the 2010 Seoul Summit, jobs continued to be “at the heart of the recovery,” with greater focus on accelerating the recovery and growth of low-income countries (LICs).<sup>557</sup> Contrary to the Toronto Summit, vocational training and skills development was mostly described as a strategy for LICs in the

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<sup>548</sup> The Future of Work: A Literature Review, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 1 March 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---inst/documents/publication/wcms\\_625866.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---inst/documents/publication/wcms_625866.pdf).

<sup>549</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 7 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>550</sup> London Summit – Leader’s Statement (London) 2 April 2009. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0402.pdf>.

<sup>551</sup> London Summit – Leader’s Statement (London) 2 April 2009. Access Date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0402.pdf>.

<sup>552</sup> G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 24-25 September 2009. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0925.html>.

<sup>553</sup> G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 24-25 September 2009. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0925.html>.

<sup>554</sup> G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 24-25 September 2009. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0925.html>.

<sup>555</sup> Draft G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-leakedcommunique.html>.

<sup>556</sup> Draft G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-leakedcommunique.html>.

<sup>557</sup> The G20 Seoul Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 11 November 2010. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/g20seoul.pdf>.

Seoul Development Consensus for Shared Growth and its Multi-Year Action Plan on Development.<sup>558</sup> A High-Level Panel was established for the purpose of providing infrastructure financing recommendations and reviews for Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) as they implement their policy frameworks, of which may include plans for skill development.<sup>559</sup>

At the 2011 Cannes Summit, the High-Level Panel chaired by Mr. Tidjane Thiam was responsible for finding new measures to scale-up and diversify sources of financing for infrastructure as requested by MDBs in developing a joint action plan to address bottlenecks.<sup>560</sup> G20 members recommended supporting the development of local capacities to improve supply and quality of projects, make them bankable and enhance knowledge sharing on skills for employment in low income countries.<sup>561</sup> However, vocational training and skills development all but remained off of the key priorities in addressing the slower-than-expected recovery of the West or ‘Future of Work’.

Education, vocational training and skills development to improve labour conditions was reintroduced by the host, Mexico, at the 2012 Los Cabos Summit. The G20 made commitments to “intensify our efforts to strengthen cooperation in education, skills development and training policies.”<sup>562</sup> The commitments in the issue area of employment sought to achieve greater social protection systems and addressed youth and minority populations.<sup>563</sup>

At the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, members advocated for “coordinated and integrated public policies” covering macroeconomic, financial, fiscal, education, skills development, innovation, employment and social protection issues to increase the quality and productivity of jobs, with the exchange of country-specific plans or sets of actions, developed as appropriate according to our different constitutional circumstances.<sup>564</sup> Members also promoted continued investment in people’s skills, quality education and life-long learning programs to give them skill portability and better prospects, to facilitate mobility and enhance employability.

With skills and training unmentioned, the 2014 Brisbane Summit emphasized education in two ways: 1) as a tool for young people and members ability to reduce youth unemployment<sup>565</sup> and 2) in its relationship to financial security and anti-corruption.<sup>566</sup> This approach was inconsistent with commitments and priorities made by the previous two hosts, where vocational training and skills development was interpreted as a means to improving labour conditions and strengthening social systems.

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<sup>558</sup> The Seoul Summit Document, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 11 November 2010. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/g20seoul-doc.pdf>.

<sup>559</sup> The Seoul Summit Document, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 11 November 2010. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/g20seoul-doc.pdf>.

<sup>560</sup> Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html>.

<sup>561</sup> Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html>.

<sup>562</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 19 June 2012. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2012/2012-0619-loscabos.html>.

<sup>563</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 19 June 2012. Access Date: 6 June 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2012/2012-0619-loscabos.html>.

<sup>564</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>.

<sup>565</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communiqué, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communiqué.html>.

<sup>566</sup> 2014 Financial Inclusion Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2 September 2014. Access Date: 6 January 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014\\_g20\\_financial\\_inclusion\\_action\\_plan.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014_g20_financial_inclusion_action_plan.pdf).

At the 2015 Antalya Summit, the G20 Skills Strategy for Developing and Using Skills for the 21st Century was released in partnerships with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and with feedback from the ILO.<sup>567</sup> The strategy invited the investment of skills for both the macroeconomic gains of G20 GDP and reduction of inequality and poverty, and was a supporting document of the summit.<sup>568</sup> This robust understanding of what skills development and vocational training can provide at its relationship to social inclusion and labour formalization is very aligned with the current commitments in 2019.

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, the G20 recognized “that the digital economy may pose risks and challenges in terms of skills shortages and mismatches and rising inequality for those who might be left behind because they lack skills”<sup>569</sup> and that it is “important to promote the dissemination of digital skills and more competitive workforces through cooperation among academic institutions and technical schools, libraries, businesses and community organizations.”<sup>570</sup>

At the 2017 Hamburg Summit, digitalization as an enabler of new and better jobs but for skills and social protection was recognized, with vocational training and skills development at the forefront of the Leaders’ Declaration.<sup>571</sup> Few commitments were made in the area of employment, with less linking education to secure social systems or digitization as an enabler of this education.

Finally, the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit focused on the following three pillars; the future of work, infrastructure for development, a sustainable food future and incorporated a gender mainstreaming strategy. The commitment under review falls under the Future of Work category as a response to unsynchronized global economic growth and financial and geopolitical vulnerabilities being caused.<sup>572</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

As part of a longer and broader statement, the G20 committed to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development. This includes the reskilling of workers and improving labour conditions in all forms of employment, recognizing the importance of social dialogue in this area, including work delivered through digital platforms, with a focus on promoting labour formalization and making social protection systems strong and portable, subject to national law and circumstances.

This commitment should be read and broken down into two parts: vocational training and skill development.

The commitment upon members is to promote vocational training and skills development, including through the following three methods;

1. Reskilling workers;

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<sup>567</sup> The G20 Skills Strategy for Developing and Using Skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, OECD (Paris) 23 July 2015. Access Date: 7 July 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/The-G20-Skills-Strategy-Policies-for-Developing-and-Using-Skills-for-21st-Century.pdf>.

<sup>568</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communiqué, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 7 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communication.html>.

<sup>569</sup> Hangzhou Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-action.html>.

<sup>570</sup> G20 Digital Economy Development and Cooperation Initiative, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-digital.html>.

<sup>571</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>572</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 7 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

2. Improving labour conditions in all forms of employment;
3. Recognizing the importance social dialogue in this area, including work delivered through digital platforms

To “promote” commits members to support or renew old efforts or create new efforts in the area of vocational training and skills development.<sup>573</sup>

### **Part One: Vocational Training**

Vocational, of education or training, is directed at a particular occupation and its skills.<sup>574</sup> A vocational or technical school program can provide training that is concentrated solely on developing occupation-specific skills and knowledge, often to pursue careers in skilled trades.<sup>575</sup>

Actions toward compliance can include supporting programs that reskill workers in a changing industry, veterans, or workers recovering from injuries to join the labour force in new ways.

With regards to improving labour conditions in all forms of employment, members may support institutions providing vocational training and effective apprenticeship programs in the effort of helping students become and remain employed.<sup>576</sup>

In recognizing the importance of social dialogue in this area, including work delivered through digital platforms, actions that count toward compliance include the creation of accessible online training. Additionally, actions may include creating digital spaces that promote vocational training.

### **Part Two: Skill Development**

The Future of Work is one in which a skilled human labour force interacts with technology on a regular basis in some capacity. Rapid technological change and globalization are accelerating the need to learn and develop new skills; automation, robotics and artificial intelligence are a few examples of technologies that are part of the changing nature of work.<sup>577</sup> Specifically digitalization disproportionately affects young people entering the workforce.<sup>578</sup>

Actions toward compliance in the area of reskilling workers include offering accessible courses on digital skills in public institutions or entrepreneurs training to adapt to an economy that is increasingly reliant on short-term work.<sup>579</sup>

Actions to improve labour conditions in all forms of employment through skills development can include promoting alternative wage benefits motivated by human rights, such as profit-sharing and

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<sup>573</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

<sup>574</sup> Vocational, Oxford University Press (Oxford) 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/vocational>.

<sup>575</sup> Youth Apprenticeship Programs, Careers in Trades Canada (Ottawa) 11 October 2018. Access Date: 24 January 2019. <http://careersintrades.ca/whats-an-apprenticeship/youth-apprenticeship-programs/>.

<sup>576</sup> Responses to the Challenges of the Labour Market and the Work-Place, UNESCO (Bonn) 10 September 2005. Access Date: 24 January 2019. [https://unevoc.unesco.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/docs/8-Park.pdf](https://unevoc.unesco.org/fileadmin/user_upload/docs/8-Park.pdf).

<sup>577</sup> Backgrounder: Future Skills, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 May 2018. Access Date: 24 January 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/05/backgrounder-future-skills.html>.

<sup>578</sup> Futureproof: Preparing young Canadians for the Future of Work, Brookfield Institute (Toronto) March 2017. Access Date: 24 January 2019. [http://www.rbc.com/community-sustainability/\\_assets-custom/pdf/FINAL-FP-report-Online.pdf](http://www.rbc.com/community-sustainability/_assets-custom/pdf/FINAL-FP-report-Online.pdf).

<sup>579</sup> Futureproof: Preparing young Canadians for the Future of Work, Brookfield Institute (Toronto) March 2017. Access Date: 24 January 2019. [http://www.rbc.com/community-sustainability/\\_assets-custom/pdf/FINAL-FP-report-Online.pdf](http://www.rbc.com/community-sustainability/_assets-custom/pdf/FINAL-FP-report-Online.pdf).

collective bargaining. These are assets employers may need to develop and implement in order to adjust for a changing world of work.<sup>580</sup>

Regarding the importance of social dialogue in this area, actions include work delivered through digital platforms to engage in conversations around the technological changes affecting members of the workforce and collaborating with educators, workers and skills development providers to address the changing nature of work.<sup>581</sup> Some effective policies that come out of these conversations may include slowing the adoption of technology to protect workers.<sup>582</sup>

To achieve full compliance, members must support, renew or create new efforts to support vocations training and skills development especially in the following two of the three areas: 1) reskilling workers; 2) improving labour conditions in all forms of employment and; 3) recognizing the importance social dialogue in this area, including work delivered through digital platforms with the purpose recognizing the importance of labour formalization and making social protection systems strong and portable.

Members can achieve partial compliance in two ways. The first is by promoting both vocations training and skills development, but only take action in one key area. The second way is by promoting either vocational training or skills development, in only one key area.

Negative compliance entails not promoting vocational training or skills development, and thus fails to take action in any of the key areas.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	Member does not promote vocational training OR skills development and fails to take action in any of the key areas.
0	Member promotes vocational training AND skills development in only one key area OR member promotes either vocational training OR skills development in only one key area.
+1	Member must promote vocational training AND skills development in at least two of the key areas.

*Compliance Director: Sarah Mariani  
Lead Analyst: Kathryn Mannie*

**Argentina: 0**

Argentina has partially complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 12 January 2019, Production and Labour Minister Dante Sica spoke about his plans for Argentina’s economic recovery.<sup>583</sup> Sica recommended that retraining workers affected by the

<sup>580</sup> The Future of Work We Want: A Global Dialogue, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 17 August 2017. Access Date: 26 January 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---cabinet/documents/publication/wcms\\_570282.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---cabinet/documents/publication/wcms_570282.pdf).

<sup>581</sup> The Future of Work We Want: A Global Dialogue, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 17 August 2017. Access Date: 26 January 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---cabinet/documents/publication/wcms\\_570282.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---cabinet/documents/publication/wcms_570282.pdf).

<sup>582</sup> The Future of Work We Want: A Global Dialogue, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 17 August 2017. Access Date: 26 January 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---cabinet/documents/publication/wcms\\_570282.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---cabinet/documents/publication/wcms_570282.pdf).

<sup>583</sup> Sica: 'Crisis hit us but we are more competitive today than in 2015', Buenos Aires Times (Buenos Aires) 12 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <http://www.batimes.com.ar/news/economy/the-crisis-hit-us-but-we-are-more-competitive-today-than-in-2015.phtml>.

economic downturn is one motor of recovery.<sup>584</sup> He also acknowledged the impact demographic mobility has had on the country and said he hoped workers seize the niche job opportunities available to them in remote areas, rather than flooding the capital.<sup>585</sup> This action represents a social dialogue on employment trends in the country and is promoting retraining programs for the unemployed.

On 4 February 2019, the Labour Advisory Council was established within the Ministry for Labour and Production to assist Minister Sica.<sup>586</sup> The Council's remit includes issues related to the fundamental rights of workers, identifying local and global labour trends and providing advice on policies to generate employment and increase the productivity and equitable distribution of work.<sup>587</sup>

On 11 February 2019, Undersecretary of Institutional Evaluation, María Guillermina D'Onofrio presented a government webpage dedicated to "Gender Equity in Science, Technology and Innovation."<sup>588</sup> The objective is to publicize information about the role of women in science, technology and innovation, as well as raise awareness about gender gaps in these labour conditions.<sup>589</sup> Furthermore, the page aims to aid the dissemination of policy instruments in science and technology that incorporate a gender perspective.<sup>590</sup>

On 15 February 2019, President Mauricio Macri raised the non-taxable minimum paid by employers to those employees on salaries of up to ARS17,500, benefitting 200,000 workers and 19,500 companies.<sup>591</sup> The decision aims to promote labour competitiveness, employment and the reduction in labour informality.<sup>592</sup> This action represents a specific policy to encourage labour formalization as well as a more general effort to improve labour conditions across a variety of sectors.

Argentina has made some progress towards building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work. There have been continuous efforts to improve social dialogue on the matter as well as an attempt to enhance inclusivity. The member has promoted skills development in one key area of reskilling workers.

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<sup>584</sup> Sica: 'Crisis hit us but we are more competitive today than in 2015', Buenos Aires Times (Buenos Aires) 12 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <http://www.batimes.com.ar/news/economy/the-crisis-hit-us-but-we-are-more-competitive-today-than-in-2015.phtml>.

<sup>585</sup> Sica: 'Crisis hit us but we are more competitive today than in 2015', Buenos Aires Times (Buenos Aires) 12 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <http://www.batimes.com.ar/news/economy/the-crisis-hit-us-but-we-are-more-competitive-today-than-in-2015.phtml>.

<sup>586</sup> Dante Sica arma un consejo para que lo asesore en temas laborales sensibles, Clarín (Buenos Aires). 9 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. [https://www.clarin.com/politica/dante-sica-arma-consejo-asesorarlo-temas-laborales-sensibles\\_0\\_s4fL0IK3Y.html](https://www.clarin.com/politica/dante-sica-arma-consejo-asesorarlo-temas-laborales-sensibles_0_s4fL0IK3Y.html).

<sup>587</sup> Dante Sica arma un consejo para que lo asesore en temas laborales sensibles, Clarín (Buenos Aires). 9 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. [https://www.clarin.com/politica/dante-sica-arma-consejo-asesorarlo-temas-laborales-sensibles\\_0\\_s4fL0IK3Y.html](https://www.clarin.com/politica/dante-sica-arma-consejo-asesorarlo-temas-laborales-sensibles_0_s4fL0IK3Y.html).

<sup>588</sup> Información abierta sobre mujeres en ciencia y tecnología, Ministerio de Educación, Cultura, Ciencia y Tecnología (Buenos Aires) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/informacion-abierta-sobre-mujeres-en-ciencia-y-tecnologia>.

<sup>589</sup> Información abierta sobre mujeres en ciencia y tecnología, Ministerio de Educación, Cultura, Ciencia y Tecnología (Buenos Aires) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/informacion-abierta-sobre-mujeres-en-ciencia-y-tecnologia>.

<sup>590</sup> Información abierta sobre mujeres en ciencia y tecnología, Ministerio de Educación, Cultura, Ciencia y Tecnología (Buenos Aires) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/informacion-abierta-sobre-mujeres-en-ciencia-y-tecnologia>.

<sup>591</sup> Macri anunció un alivio para las economías regionales y los empresarios piden más medidas, La Nación (Buenos Aires). 14 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.lanacion.com.ar/2220063-macri-anuncio-alivio-economias-regionales-empresarios-piden>.

<sup>592</sup> Contribuciones Patronales Decreto 128/2019, Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina (Buenos Aires) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/#!DetalleNorma/201706/20190215>.

Thus, Argentina has received a score of 0.

*Analyst: Max Somer*

**Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 17 December 2018, Senator Michaelia Cash reaffirmed the Government of Australia's continued investment in Australia's Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Apprenticeship sectors.<sup>593</sup> The renewed funding is intended to support a range of new initiatives, including a job-match program to deliver training for around 160 school-based apprentices, the delivery of five mobile welding simulators for Burnie, the establishment of a new Apprenticeships Scholarships Pilot for priority industry sectors which will provide up to 200 scholarships, and an agriculture skills initiative for up around 150 workers in the sector.<sup>594</sup>

On 1 January 2019, the Department of Jobs and Small Business launched the new Skills and Training Incentive which aims to assist older Australians to update their skills to remain in the workforce. It also aims to help individuals and businesses by providing up to AUD2200 to fund training for those aged 45-70.<sup>595</sup>

As of 7 February 2019, the Australian government will be working with the Indonesian government to attract direct and foreign investment to expand employment opportunities within Indonesia.<sup>596</sup> The partnership will target employment issues and cooperate with policymakers to expand the labour market within Indonesia.<sup>597</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the Australian government pledged AUD3 million to launch a new National Career Education Strategy called Future Ready.<sup>598</sup> This program will promote the development of skills in young people to prepare them to join the workforce.<sup>599</sup> Future Ready will accomplish this by

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<sup>593</sup> More investment in Australian vocational education, skills and apprenticeships, Ministers for the Department of Education and Training Media Centre (Canberra) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/cash/more-investment-australian-vocational-education-skills-and-apprenticeships>.

<sup>594</sup> More investment in Australian vocational education, skills and apprenticeships, Ministers for the Department of Education and Training Media Centre (Canberra) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/cash/more-investment-australian-vocational-education-skills-and-apprenticeships>.

<sup>595</sup> Skills and Training Incentive, Department of Jobs and Small Business (Canberra) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 5 May 2019. <https://www.jobs.gov.au/skills-and-training-incentive>.

<sup>596</sup> Government teams up with Australia to improve employment, workforce, The Jarkarta Post (Jakarta) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/07/government-teams-up-with-australia-to-improve-employment-workforce.html>.

<sup>597</sup> Government teams up with Australia to improve employment, workforce, The Jarkarta Post (Jakarta) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/07/government-teams-up-with-australia-to-improve-employment-workforce.html>.

<sup>598</sup> Preparing young Australians for the jobs of the future, Ministers for the Department of Education and Training Media Centre (Canberra) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/tehan/preparing-young-australians-jobs-future-0>.

<sup>599</sup> Preparing young Australians for the jobs of the future, Ministers for the Department of Education and Training Media Centre (Canberra) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/tehan/preparing-young-australians-jobs-future-0>.

working with higher education and vocational institutions while placing equal value on both these options for young people.<sup>600</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the Government of Australia introduced legislation to Parliament to establish a right for all casual workers to request full or part-time employment from their employers.<sup>601</sup> By broadening this right, the proposed legislation aims to increase casual work conversion.<sup>602</sup> The legislation does not obligate employers to fulfill these requests, however employers may only refuse the requests on reasonable grounds.<sup>603</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the Government of Australia and the Government of Indonesia implemented the Indonesia-Australia Skills Development Exchange Pilot Project, which enables skilled individuals to engage in skills training through assigned work placements within multiple business sectors.<sup>604</sup> The Pilot Project will be held for a maximum duration of six months, as the individuals involved will be eligible to travel between both countries, while receiving training within sectors related to finance, engineering, telecommunication services and mining.<sup>605</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Australian government announced a partnership with the National Rugby League (NRL) to encourage young players to engage in VET alongside their athletic pursuits.<sup>606</sup> In support of this initiative, the Australian government pledged AUD350,000 to the NRL's VET Apprenticeship Program.<sup>607</sup>

On 2 April 2019, Australia's Minister for Jobs and Industrial Relations and Minister for Women Kelly O'Dwyer announced that Budget 2019 invests AUD249.8 million over five years to "pilot transformational change to Australia's employment services model to deliver better outcomes for both job seekers and employers as part of our plan for a stronger economy."<sup>608</sup> In addition, the government will invest AUD24.1 million to encourage more seasonal work amongst Australians, will create a 12-month pilot project to help small farmers in regional areas address agricultural workforce

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<sup>600</sup> Future Ready: A student focused National Career Education Strategy, Department of Education and Training, (Canberra) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019.

[https://docs.education.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/ed19-0029\\_-\\_sch\\_-\\_national\\_career\\_education\\_strategy\\_nces\\_accessible\\_pdf\\_acc.pdf](https://docs.education.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/ed19-0029_-_sch_-_national_career_education_strategy_nces_accessible_pdf_acc.pdf).

<sup>601</sup> Giving choice and flexibility to casual workers, Ministers' Media Centre (Canberra) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://ministers.jobs.gov.au/odwyer/giving-choice-and-flexibility-casual-workers>.

<sup>602</sup> Extending the right for casuals to convert to part-time or full-time employment, Ministers' Media Centre (Canberra) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://ministers.jobs.gov.au/odwyer/extending-right-casuals-convert-part-time-or-full-time-employment>.

<sup>603</sup> Extending the right for casuals to convert to part-time or full-time employment, Ministers' Media Centre (Canberra) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://ministers.jobs.gov.au/odwyer/extending-right-casuals-convert-part-time-or-full-time-employment>.

<sup>604</sup> Memorandum of Understanding on the Indonesia-Australia Skills Development Exchange Pilot Project, Australian Government | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/not-yet-in-force/iacepa/iacepa-text/Pages/iacepa-mou-indonesia-aus-skills-development-exchange-pilot-project.aspx>.

<sup>605</sup> Memorandum of Understanding on the Indonesia-Australia Skills Development Exchange Pilot Project, Australian Government | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/not-yet-in-force/iacepa/iacepa-text/Pages/iacepa-mou-indonesia-aus-skills-development-exchange-pilot-project.aspx>.

<sup>606</sup> Supporting NRL players gain real skills for real careers, Ministers' Media Centre (Canberra) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/cash/supporting-nrl-players-gain-real-skills-real-careers>.

<sup>607</sup> Supporting NRL players gain real skills for real careers, Ministers' Media Centre (Canberra) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/cash/supporting-nrl-players-gain-real-skills-real-careers>.

<sup>608</sup> Budget 2019 — Significant reforms to boost Australian jobs, Ministers' Media Centre: For the Department of Jobs and Small Business (Canberra) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://ministers.jobs.gov.au/odwyer/budget-2019-significant-reforms-boost-australian-jobs>.

shortages, and will protect vulnerable workers. They will do this by boosting resources for the Fair Work Ombudsman to investigate and enforce workplace laws, establish a National Labour Hire Registration Scheme to ensure compliance and transparency, and implement an education campaign to raise awareness on migrant workers' labour rights.<sup>609</sup>

On 9 April 2019, Prime Minister Scott Morrison introduced the Energising Tasmania initiative, which will invest AUD17 million in providing vocational training in the renewable energy sector for young Tasmanians.<sup>610</sup> The initiative will eliminate upfront costs for courses in designated priority skills areas and will provide up to AUD1000 for costs associated with training in order to make participation more accessible.<sup>611</sup>

Australia has put resources toward vocational education and reshaping its programs for the modern workforce and has taken action to reskill workers and improve labour conditions.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Emi Yasuda*

### **Brazil: 0**

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 7 January 2019, President Jair Bolsonaro sanctioned the conversion into law of Provisional Measure 851/18, leading to the creation of endowment funds to secure private investment in projects for the public interest.<sup>612</sup> The objective is to establish a sustainable source of funding for government projects in areas including education, science, technology, research and innovation.<sup>613</sup>

On 10 January 2019, Minister for Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications Marcos Pontes outlined his objective to make science and technology more prevalent in elementary and middle school education.<sup>614</sup> Pontes stated that his department has “partnered with the Ministry of

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<sup>609</sup> Budget 2019 — Significant reforms to boost Australian jobs, Ministers' Media Centre: For the Department of Jobs and Small Business (Canberra) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://ministers.jobs.gov.au/odwyer/budget-2019-significant-reforms-boost-australian-jobs>.

<sup>610</sup> Skills and training for Tasmania's future, Ministers' Media Centre (Canberra) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/morrison/skills-and-training-tasmanias-future>.

<sup>611</sup> Skills and training for Tasmania's future, Ministers' Media Centre (Canberra) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://ministers.education.gov.au/morrison/skills-and-training-tasmanias-future>.

<sup>612</sup> President sanctions law creating endowment funds, Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (Brasilia) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 16 February 2019. <http://www.brazil.gov.br/about-brazil/news/2019/01/president-sanctions-law-creating-endowment-funds>.

<sup>613</sup> President sanctions law creating endowment funds, Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (Brasilia) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 16 February 2019. <http://www.brazil.gov.br/about-brazil/news/2019/01/president-sanctions-law-creating-endowment-funds>.

<sup>614</sup> A technology-driven country will be the spearhead of development, Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (Brasilia) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. [http://www.brazil.gov.br/about-brazil/news/2019/01/a-technology-driven-country-will-be-the-spearhead-of-development?TSPD\\_101\\_R0=085a4e86fe358c307acbc86f270f182q1W00000000000000000049f2338affff0000000000000000005c5b5e320085a8c39e08282a9212ab2000c3eef20e1e89a22869ece53e4e733f666ebc4de04342638ebc3f5cf8ff73328808d62810bb0a28003e7a4438cea33a5e7e4c1b89bec0ae61617fb91336232ed61db452db14844c3022370694a2631b45](http://www.brazil.gov.br/about-brazil/news/2019/01/a-technology-driven-country-will-be-the-spearhead-of-development?TSPD_101_R0=085a4e86fe358c307acbc86f270f182q1W000000000000000049f2338affff0000000000000000005c5b5e320085a8c39e08282a9212ab2000c3eef20e1e89a22869ece53e4e733f666ebc4de04342638ebc3f5cf8ff73328808d62810bb0a28003e7a4438cea33a5e7e4c1b89bec0ae61617fb91336232ed61db452db14844c3022370694a2631b45).

Education to bring robotics, astronomy, amateur radio and electronics to public elementary schools throughout Brazil.”<sup>615</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Brazilian Senate approved legislation that will introduce fines for employers that use age, sex, race, or family situation as a consideration when determining payment or opportunities for vocational training and career advancement.<sup>616</sup> The bill aims to cut the prominent gender wage gap present across Brazilian enterprises of all sizes.<sup>617</sup>

Brazil has made some progress towards building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work. There has been a focus on the Future of Work and social dialogue on the importance of technological skills. Additionally, the government has recognized the need for inclusivity within the labour market. Brazil has promoted skills development in only one key area.

Thus, Brazil has received a score of 0.

*Analyst: Max Somer*

### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 3 December 2018, the Government of Canada announced two new vocational training and skills development programs. Both the Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA) and the Workforce Development Agreement (WDA) will provide funding to Nunavut,<sup>618</sup> New Brunswick<sup>619</sup> and Manitoba<sup>620</sup> to deliver training and services. The total investment of the government in these programs is approximately CAD20 billion.<sup>621</sup>

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<sup>615</sup> A technology-driven country will be the spearhead of development, Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (Brasilia) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <http://www.brazil.gov.br/about-brazil/news/2019/01/a-technology-driven-country-will-be-the-spearhead-of-development>.

<sup>616</sup> Brazil’s Senate Approves Bill For Equal Wages, The Rio Times (Rio de Janeiro) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. <https://riotimesonline.com/brazil-news/rio-politics/brazils-senate-approves-bill-for-equal-wages/>.

<sup>617</sup> Brazil’s Senate Approves Bill For Equal Wages, The Rio Times (Rio de Janeiro) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. <https://riotimesonline.com/brazil-news/rio-politics/brazils-senate-approves-bill-for-equal-wages/>.

<sup>618</sup> Governments of Canada and Nunavut announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Canada Newswire (Gatineau) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/governments-of-canada-and-nunavut-announce-agreements-to-give-workers-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs-701781511.html>.

<sup>619</sup> Governments of Canada and New Brunswick announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Canada Newswire (Gatineau) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/governments-of-canada-and-new-brunswick-announce-agreements-to-give-workers-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs-701878131.html>.

<sup>620</sup> Governments of Canada and Manitoba announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Canada Newswire (Gatineau) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/governments-of-canada-and-manitoba-announce-agreements-to-give-workers-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs-701974061.html>.

<sup>621</sup> Governments of Canada and Nunavut announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Canada Newswire (Gatineau) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/governments-of-canada-and-nunavut-announce-agreements-to-give-workers-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs-701781511.html>.

On 7 December 2018, the Canadian government pledged CAD762,000 to UA Piping Industry College of BC to support its Diversity in the Workplace program.<sup>622</sup> This program helps high school graduates enter a profession in skilled trades, particularly graduates from traditionally under-represented groups in the sector.<sup>623</sup>

On 11 December 2018, the Government of Canada announced a grant increase of CAD3000 annually for women in apprenticeship programs through the Apprenticeship Incentive Grant for Women.<sup>624</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the Canadian government enacted legislation for proactive pay equity, giving workers in federally-regulated industries equal pay for work of equal value.<sup>625</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the Canadian government enacted legislation to improve workers' work-life balance and paid leave.<sup>626</sup>

On 14 December 2018, the Canadian government funded CAD285,000 to Iron Workers Local 736 for the purchase of mobile training equipment to increase training opportunities for underrepresented groups.<sup>627</sup>

On 23 January 2019, Canada pledged CAD181,000 to the Labourers' International Union of North America (LiUNA) Local 607 for its Mobile Training Classroom: Removing Barriers to Train project.<sup>628</sup> This project will better enable 300 apprentices to access jobs in skilled trades by providing work-site training opportunities, with a particular emphasis on outreach to Indigenous peoples, women, and other groups who face obstacles in entering skilled trades.<sup>629</sup>

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<sup>622</sup> Government of Canada announces funding to help apprentices in British Columbia complete their skilled trades training, Canada Newswire (Gatineau) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-apprentices-in-british-columbia-complete-their-skilled-trades-training-702182401.html>.

<sup>623</sup> Government of Canada announces funding to help apprentices in British Columbia complete their skilled trades training, Canada Newswire (Gatineau) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-apprentices-in-british-columbia-complete-their-skilled-trades-training-702182401.html>.

<sup>624</sup> Government of Canada launches new Apprenticeship Incentive Grant for Women to help them get certified in Red Seal trades - apply today, Canada Newswire (Gatineau) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-launches-new-apprenticeship-incentive-grant-for-women-to-help-them-get-certified-in-red-seal-trades---apply-today-702493931.html>.

<sup>625</sup> Historic proactive pay equity legislation receives Royal Assent, Canada Newswire (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/historic-proactive-pay-equity-legislation-receives-royal-assent-702728262.html>.

<sup>626</sup> Legislation to better protect workers and support good quality jobs receives Royal Assent, Canada Newswire (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/legislation-to-better-protect-workers-and-support-good-quality-jobs-receives-royal-assent-702728762.html>.

<sup>627</sup> Government of Canada funds project with Ironworkers Local 736 to help apprentices in Southern Ontario, Canada Newswire (Ancaster) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-funds-project-with-ironworkers-local-736-to-help-apprentices-in-southern-ontario-702774592.html>.

<sup>628</sup> Government of Canada helping reduce barriers to training in the skilled trades, Canada Newswire (Thunder Bay) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-helping-reduce-barriers-to-training-in-the-skilled-trades-856375193.html>.

<sup>629</sup> Government of Canada helping reduce barriers to training in the skilled trades, Canada Newswire (Thunder Bay) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-helping-reduce-barriers-to-training-in-the-skilled-trades-856375193.html>.

On 25 January 2019, the Canadian government announced CAD900,000 in continued funding to the Y Opportunities Employment Support Program to support skills development for persons with disabilities entering the workforce.<sup>630</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the Canadian government announced it would spend CAD6.6 million to fund skills development training for 450 youth in Newfoundland and Labrador.<sup>631</sup>

On 7 February 2019, Canada pledged CAD145,000 to R2 Employment Solutions in New Brunswick.<sup>632</sup> The program will help 12 youth receive additional skills training.<sup>633</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the Canadian government announced renewed, undisclosed investments in support of additional skills training for young people facing barriers entering the workforce and promoted past investments of over CAD5.9 million.<sup>634</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the Canadian government announced the creation of the Future Skills Centre and Future Skills Council, to “fund projects across Canada that develop, test and measure new approaches to skills assessment and development.”<sup>635</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the Canadian government announced the creation of an expert panel to advise policy makers on the needs of a changing workforce in order to improve the Canadian Labour code.<sup>636</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Canada announced CAD3,141,000 to support the Canadian Builders’ Union’s Women in Trades initiative, which will provide training for 750 apprentices to receive their Red Seal certifications.<sup>637</sup>

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<sup>630</sup> Government of Canada supports projects and organizations creating more employment opportunities and improving accessibility for persons with disabilities in Windsor, Canada Newswire (Windsor) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-supports-projects-and-organizations-creating-more-employment-opportunities-and-improving-accessibility-for-persons-with-disabilities-in-windsor-853504921.html>.

<sup>631</sup> Government of Canada provides skills training and job opportunities for 450 young Canadians in St. John's, Canada Newswire (Gatineau) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-provides-skills-training-and-job-opportunities-for-450-young-canadians-in-st-john-s-866615177.html>.

<sup>632</sup> Government of Canada provides skills training and job opportunities for young Canadians in New Brunswick, Canada Newswire (Atholville) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-provides-skills-training-and-job-opportunities-for-young-canadians-in-new-brunswick-842552838.html>.

<sup>633</sup> Government of Canada provides skills training and job opportunities for young Canadians in New Brunswick, Canada Newswire (Atholville) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-provides-skills-training-and-job-opportunities-for-young-canadians-in-new-brunswick-842552838.html>.

<sup>634</sup> Government of Canada provides skills training and job opportunities for young Canadians in Quebec and Ontario, Canada Newswire (Sherbrooke) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-provides-skills-training-and-job-opportunities-for-young-canadians-in-quebec-and-ontario-813359530.html>.

<sup>635</sup> Government of Canada takes action to ensure Canadian workers are prepared for the jobs of tomorrow, Canada Newswire (Toronto) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-takes-action-to-ensure-canadian-workers-are-prepared-for-the-jobs-of-tomorrow-816233202.html>.

<sup>636</sup> Expert Panel to provide advice on complex workplace issues facing Canadians, Canada Newswire (Gatineau) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/expert-panel-to-provide-advice-on-complex-workplace-issues-facing-canadians-833688675.html>.

On 5 March 2019, Canada announced CAD2 million in funding for a multi-year project for the creation of a web-based tool to assist those in rural and remote official language minority communities to receive the literacy training required to succeed in the workplace.<sup>638</sup>

On 5 March 2019, the Canadian government announced that an Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program would launch on 1 April 2019 to help Indigenous people train for good quality jobs.<sup>639</sup> This is in support of Canada's goal to reduce the employment gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people by 25 per cent.<sup>640</sup>

On 8 March 2019, Canada announced an agreement with the provincial government of Saskatchewan to provide CAD500 million over six years to benefit roughly 16,000 workers in the province.<sup>641</sup> This funding will provide apprenticeship training, employment assistance for persons with disabilities, adult basic education, and employer-sponsored training with the goal of increasing participation in these training programs by traditionally under-represented groups.<sup>642</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Government of Canada announced the creation of the Workplace Harassment and Violence Prevention Fund, which will give CAD3.5 million annually to projects that “prevent and address workplace harassment and violence” in federally-regulated workplaces.<sup>643</sup> These include projects that will create mandatory anti-harassment training and projects that empower vulnerable workers to speak up against workplace harassment.<sup>644</sup>

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<sup>637</sup> Government of Canada funds innovative project to help more women succeed in the skilled trades, Canada Newswire (Winnipeg) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-funds-innovative-project-to-help-more-women-succeed-in-the-skilled-trades-827928674.html>.

<sup>638</sup> Canadians in official language minority communities receive help to improve their essential skills and literacy, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/canadians-in-official-language-minority-communities-receive-help-to-improve-their-essential-skills-and-literacy.html>.

<sup>639</sup> Government of Canada supports skills training for Indigenous people in central British Columbia, Employment and Social Development Canada (Kamloops) 5 March 2019. Access date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-skills-training-for-indigenous-people-in-central-british-columbia.html>.

<sup>640</sup> Government of Canada supports skills training for Indigenous people in central British Columbia, Employment and Social Development Canada (Kamloops) 5 March 2019. Access date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-skills-training-for-indigenous-people-in-central-british-columbia.html>.

<sup>641</sup> Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/governments-of-canada-and-saskatchewan-announce-agreements-to-give-workers-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs.html>.

<sup>642</sup> Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan announce agreements to give workers the tools they need to find and keep good jobs, Employment and Social development Canada (Gatineau) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/governments-of-canada-and-saskatchewan-announce-agreements-to-give-workers-the-tools-they-need-to-find-and-keep-good-jobs.html>.

<sup>643</sup> On International Women's Day, Government of Canada announces program to provide \$3.5 million in annual funding to prevent workplace harassment and violence, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/on-international-womens-day-government-of-canada-announces-program-to-provide-35million-in-annual-funding-to-prevent-workplace-harassment-and-violence.html>.

<sup>644</sup> On International Women's Day, Government of Canada announces program to provide \$3.5 million in annual funding to prevent workplace harassment and violence, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/on-international-womens-day-government-of-canada-announces-program-to-provide-35million-in-annual-funding-to-prevent-workplace-harassment-and-violence.html>.

On 13 March 2019, the Government of Canada announced funding of CAD1,039,216 to the MAP Strategic Workforce Services Inc. (MAPSWS) for its First in Trades program.<sup>645</sup> The MAPSWS aims to increase diversity within New Brunswick's trade unions, and the First in Trades program in particular will open up 18-20 positions for Indigenous apprentices within New Brunswick's construction sector.<sup>646</sup> This program will also promote continued Indigenous participation in this sector by helping to "establish and refine effective workplace strategies and cultural requirements" for this group.<sup>647</sup>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to prepare its workforce for the future of work. This conclusion is based on the Canadian government's funding of several skills training programs, its efforts to diversify the skilled trades, and its efforts to make further changes to the Canadian Labour Code in consultation with its newly-created expert panel on the subject.

Thus, Canada has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sarah Jevnikar*

### **China: 0**

China has partially complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 5 December 2018, China's State Council announced incentives to encourage firms to avoid layoffs as the government looks to head off employment uncertainty.<sup>648</sup> With these incentives, qualified enterprises can receive a 50 per cent refund on the total one per cent rate of unemployment insurance contributions made both by the employer and the employee.<sup>649</sup>

On 30 January 2018, the Ministry of Veterans Affairs announced that they would improve the education and training for veteran soldiers to make them more competitive in the job market.<sup>650</sup> The ministry plans to encourage veteran soldiers to receive academic education and better implement supporting policies including providing free education and training.<sup>651</sup> The ministry will cooperate

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<sup>645</sup> Government of Canada announces funding to help Indigenous apprentices in New Brunswick complete their training, Employment and Social Development Canada (St. John) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-indigenous-apprentices-in-new-brunswick-complete-their-training.html>.

<sup>646</sup> Government of Canada announces funding to help Indigenous apprentices in New Brunswick complete their training, Employment and Social Development Canada (St. John) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-indigenous-apprentices-in-new-brunswick-complete-their-training.html>.

<sup>647</sup> Government of Canada announces funding to help Indigenous apprentices in New Brunswick complete their training, Employment and Social Development Canada (St. John) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-indigenous-apprentices-in-new-brunswick-complete-their-training.html>.

<sup>648</sup> China's Employment Incentives to Encourage Firms to Avoid Layoffs, China Briefing News (Beijing) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 7 February 2019. <https://www.china-briefing.com/news/china-incentives-employers-jobs-market/>.

<sup>649</sup> China's Employment Incentives to Encourage Firms to Avoid Layoffs, China Briefing News (Beijing) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 7 February 2019. <https://www.china-briefing.com/news/china-incentives-employers-jobs-market/>.

<sup>650</sup> China to Better Train Veterans for Employment, Chinadaily (Beijing) 30 January 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://2018.www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/30/WS5c27fd77a310d91214051c49.html>.

<sup>651</sup> China to Better Train Veterans for Employment, Chinadaily (Beijing) 30 January 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://2018.www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/30/WS5c27fd77a310d91214051c49.html>.

with both state-owned and private companies, organize regional job fairs for veterans, and set up information platforms to share job posts.<sup>652</sup>

On 13 February 2019, China committed to cultivating more quality labourers and skilled workers by reforming its vocational education systems, according to the State Council.<sup>653</sup> The plan details measures to improve national systems and policies relating to vocational education and lift the quality of both secondary and higher vocational education in the country.<sup>654</sup> A pilot program whereby students study for diploma plus skills certificates will be launched this year.<sup>655</sup> By 2020, it is expected that 50 high quality higher vocational schools and 150 core specialties will have been established.<sup>656</sup>

On 22 February 2019, the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, the Ministry of Education and other central departments issued a notice that forbids any gender discrimination against women in the workplace.<sup>657</sup> According to the notice, employers or companies focusing on providing human resource services cannot refuse to hire qualified female applicants or recruit them quid pro quo in a way that constrains them from having children.<sup>658</sup>

China has taken actions to promote vocational training to address two of three key areas.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Shubdeep Randhawa*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 18 December 2018, the Ministry of Labour and other private-sector companies in the wood products sector signed on to investigate the evolution of jobs, skills, and training for the French wood sector.<sup>659</sup> This includes distinguishing ways to further encourage and promote trades in the wood and construction sector, as abiding to the National Low Carbon Strategy, as well as analyzing areas in the sector that will require new skills training.<sup>660</sup>

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<sup>652</sup> China to Better Train Veterans for Employment, Chinadaily (Beijing) 30 January 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://2018.www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/30/WS5c27fd77a310d91214051c49.html>.

<sup>653</sup> Vocational Education Reform, Chinadaily (Beijing) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201902/19/WS5c6b412ca3106c65c34e9fc6.html](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201902/19/WS5c6b412ca3106c65c34e9fc6.html).

<sup>654</sup> State Council Releases Vocational Education Reform Implementation Plan, Xinhua (Beijing) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/13/c\\_137819109.html](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/13/c_137819109.html).

<sup>655</sup> Vocational Education Reform, Chinadaily (Beijing) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201902/19/WS5c6b412ca3106c65c34e9fc6.html](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201902/19/WS5c6b412ca3106c65c34e9fc6.html).

<sup>656</sup> Vocational Education Reform, Chinadaily (Beijing) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201902/19/WS5c6b412ca3106c65c34e9fc6.html](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201902/19/WS5c6b412ca3106c65c34e9fc6.html).

<sup>657</sup> New Rule Aims to Protect Female Employees, Chinadaily (Beijing) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201902/22/WS5c6f99ada3106c65c34eadb3.html>.

<sup>658</sup> New Rule Aims to Protect Female Employees, Chinadaily (Beijing) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201902/22/WS5c6f99ada3106c65c34eadb3.html>.

<sup>659</sup> Lancement du contrat d'études prospectives sur les métiers et les compétences pour le secteur des produits bois dans la construction et l'aménagement, Ministère de Travail (Paris) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/lancement-du-contrat-d-etudes-prospectives-sur-les-metiers-et-les-competences>.

<sup>660</sup> Lancement du contrat d'études prospectives sur les métiers et les compétences pour le secteur des produits bois dans la construction et l'aménagement, Ministère de Travail (Paris) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/lancement-du-contrat-d-etudes-prospectives-sur-les-metiers-et-les-competences>.

On 18 December 2018, the French Minister of Economy and Finance and the German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy met to discuss the continuation of industrial cooperation between Germany and France.<sup>661</sup> They aim to promote artificial intelligence (AI) technologies that allow for human interaction and innovation.<sup>662</sup> A joint working group was established to improve the ethical and technical standards of AI and the exchange of AI knowledge between businesses and people.<sup>663</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the Ministry of Work signed an accord with the Movement of the Enterprises of France and Opcalia to invest EUR1,046,100 to the development of skills related to AI.<sup>664</sup> This includes conducting a study on the impact of AI technologies in society and training enterprises to better understand the ethical and economic ramifications of AI.<sup>665</sup>

On 13 February 2019, various leading government officials signed the Industries for Construction contract with industry leaders and representatives from the construction sector.<sup>666</sup> This contract aims to increase competition, create new concepts, and develop skills and employment in the construction field.<sup>667</sup>

On 21 February 2019, the Ministry of Education announced a new plan to encourage students to enter the teaching field.<sup>668</sup> The plan will attempt to increase the attractiveness of the profession and create a new framework for the prerequisite skills required to become a teacher.<sup>669</sup>

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<sup>661</sup> Franco-German press release following the interview between Ministers Le Maire and Altmaier, Ministry of Finance and Economics (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019.

[https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930\\_-\\_franco-german\\_relese.pdf](https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930_-_franco-german_relese.pdf).

<sup>662</sup> Franco-German press release following the interview between Ministers Le Maire and Altmaier, Ministry of Finance and Economics (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019.

[https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930\\_-\\_franco-german\\_relese.pdf](https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930_-_franco-german_relese.pdf).

<sup>663</sup> Franco-German press release following the interview between Ministers Le Maire and Altmaier, Ministry of Finance and Economics (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019.

[https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930\\_-\\_franco-german\\_relese.pdf](https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930_-_franco-german_relese.pdf).

<sup>664</sup> Intelligence artificielle-une expérimentation en Hauts-de-France pour anticiper et accompagner la transformation des compétences, Ministère de Travail (Paris) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/intelligence-artificielle-une-experimentation-en-hauts-de-france-pour-anticiper>.

<sup>665</sup> Intelligence artificielle-une expérimentation en Hauts-de-France pour anticiper et accompagner la transformation des compétences, Ministère de Travail (Paris) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/l-actualite-du-ministere/article/intelligence-artificielle-une-experimentation-en-hauts-de-france-pour-anticiper>.

<sup>666</sup> Signature du contrat du Comité Stratégique de Filière <<Industries pour la construction >> 2018-2022, Federal Government (Paris) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

[https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=FF00F3F4-41A1-431C-900F-CAC1E98EB303&filename=1034.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=FF00F3F4-41A1-431C-900F-CAC1E98EB303&filename=1034.pdf).

<sup>667</sup> Signature du contrat du Comité Stratégique de Filière <<Industries pour la construction >> 2018-2022, Federal Government (Paris) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

[https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=FF00F3F4-41A1-431C-900F-CAC1E98EB303&filename=1034.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=FF00F3F4-41A1-431C-900F-CAC1E98EB303&filename=1034.pdf).

<sup>668</sup> Devenir enseignant: une meilleure formation initiale et des parcours plus attractifs pour entrer dans le métier, Ministry of Education (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019.

<http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid139256/devenir-enseignant-une-meilleure-formation-initiale-et-des-parcours-plus-attractifs-pour-entrer-dans-le-metier.html>.

<sup>669</sup> Devenir enseignant: une meilleure formation initiale et des parcours plus attractifs pour entrer dans le métier, Ministry of Education (Paris) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019.

<http://www.education.gouv.fr/cid139256/devenir-enseignant-une-meilleure-formation-initiale-et-des-parcours-plus-attractifs-pour-entrer-dans-le-metier.html>.

France has promoted both vocational training and skills development programs in the two key areas of creating social dialogue and reskilling workers.

Thus, France has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Isabel Davis*

**Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 13 December 2018, the Government of Germany announced that it will provide EUR45 million to the maritime sector in the next four years.<sup>670</sup> This funding will provide the industry with more projects to contribute to the clean energy transition as well as promote planning for companies to determine a strategy to adjust to the sectoral change, including the re-skilling of workers.<sup>671</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy and the French Minister of Economy and Finance met to discuss how to continue industrial cooperation between Germany and France.<sup>672</sup> They aim to promote AI technologies that allow for human interaction and innovation.<sup>673</sup> A joint working group was established to improve the ethical and technical standards of AI and the exchange of AI knowledge between businesses and people.<sup>674</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the Government of Germany adopted its Skilled Labour Strategy.<sup>675</sup> This strategy is an attempt to increase the supply of skilled labour of Germany by making it easier for

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<sup>670</sup> Zero-emission vessels as long-term vision – more funding for maritime research: Maritime Coordinator Brackmann calls for ideas in the context of the new funding priority ‘Maritime Green propulsion,’ Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181213-zero-emission-vessels-al-long-term-visison-more-funding-for-maritime-research.html>.

<sup>671</sup> Zero-emission vessels as long-term vision – more funding for maritime research: Maritime Coordinator Brackmann calls for ideas in the context of the new funding priority ‘Maritime Green propulsion,’ Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181213-zero-emission-vessels-al-long-term-visison-more-funding-for-maritime-research.html>.

<sup>672</sup> Franco-German press release following the interview between Ministers Le Maire and Altmaier, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019. [https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930\\_-\\_franco-german\\_relese.pdf](https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930_-_franco-german_relese.pdf).

<sup>673</sup> Franco-German press release following the interview between Ministers Le Maire and Altmaier, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019. [https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930\\_-\\_franco-german\\_relese.pdf](https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930_-_franco-german_relese.pdf).

<sup>674</sup> Franco-German press release following the interview between Ministers Le Maire and Altmaier, Ministry of Finance and Economics (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 8 February 2019. [https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930\\_-\\_franco-german\\_relese.pdf](https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/930_-_franco-german_relese.pdf).

<sup>675</sup> Minister Altmaier: More growth, prosperity and jobs due to the Skilled Immigration Act, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181219-altmaier-more-growth-prosperity-and-jobs-due-to-the-skilled-immigration-act.html>.

individuals with vocational training to participate in labour activities.<sup>676</sup> It targets skilled workers in Germany, Europe, and around the world.<sup>677</sup>

On 28 January 2019, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and their Commission on Growth, Structural Change and Employment agreed to phase out coal-fired power stations by 2038.<sup>678</sup> The project will provide billions of euros to countries that currently operate with coal energy so they can end their use of coal in power generation.<sup>679</sup> The Commission will create approximately 5,000 new jobs to promote energy efficient research facilities in coal regions.<sup>680</sup>

On 28 January 2019, the German government launched a project to attract more individuals to nursing careers.<sup>681</sup> The objective of this project is to modernize the nursing profession to limit the number of drop-out trainees.<sup>682</sup> The program will also focus on retraining current nurses so that they are modernized skilled workers.<sup>683</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the Ministry of Education introduced the MINT action plan.<sup>684</sup> The plan aims to encourage more students to get involved in mathematics, information technology, science, and technology to ensure that there are enough skilled workers in future MINT professions.<sup>685</sup> The Government of Germany has pledged to invest EUR55 million into the plan between 2019-2022.<sup>686</sup>

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<sup>676</sup> Minister Altmaier: More growth, prosperity and jobs due to the Skilled Immigration Act, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181219-altmaier-more-growth-prosperity-and-jobs-due-to-the-skilled-immigration-act.html>.

<sup>677</sup> Minister Altmaier: More growth, prosperity and jobs due to the Skilled Immigration Act, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181219-altmaier-more-growth-prosperity-and-jobs-due-to-the-skilled-immigration-act.html>.

<sup>678</sup> The beginning of the end of the age of coal, the Federal Government (Berlin) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/the-beginning-of-the-end-of-the-age-of-coal-1574864>.

<sup>679</sup> The beginning of the end of the age of coal, the Federal Government (Berlin) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/the-beginning-of-the-end-of-the-age-of-coal-1574864>.

<sup>680</sup> The beginning of the end of the age of coal, the Federal Government (Berlin) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/the-beginning-of-the-end-of-the-age-of-coal-1574864>.

<sup>681</sup> Attracting more people to the nursing profession, the Federal Government (Berlin) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/attracting-more-people-to-the-nursing-profession-1574976>.

<sup>682</sup> Attracting more people to the nursing profession, the Federal Government (Berlin) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/attracting-more-people-to-the-nursing-profession-1574976>.

<sup>683</sup> Attracting more people to the nursing profession, the Federal Government (Berlin) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/attracting-more-people-to-the-nursing-profession-1574976>.

<sup>684</sup> MINT for the future, the Federal Government (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/mint-for-the-future-1580792>.

<sup>685</sup> MINT for the future, the Federal Government (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/mint-for-the-future-1580792>.

<sup>686</sup> MINT for the future, the Federal Government (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/mint-for-the-future-1580792>.

On 21 February 2019, the Government of Germany announced that it will provide financial support to digitize the country's schools.<sup>687</sup> Funding will go towards improving digital infrastructure in schools, as well as providing teachers with the skills needed to adapt lessons to the new technologies.<sup>688</sup>

On 11 April 2019, the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD in partnership with the German Government and the South African Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) launched the Funding Window I.<sup>689</sup> This is a call for proposals for large skills development investment projects proposed by domestic training entities in partnership with companies under the Skills Initiative for Africa.<sup>690</sup>

Germany has promoted both vocational training and skills development to address two of the three key areas.

Thus, Germany has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Isabel Davis*

### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

As of 18 December 2018, a report revealed that the Modi government will roll out an apprenticeship program that targets students in the humanities and other nontechnical courses to enable them to transition to the workforce after graduation. The apprenticeship involves a six to 10-month apprenticeship and on-the-job training with employers for students in their final year of university, which is supported by government stipends.<sup>691</sup>

On 24 January 2019, Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Dharmendra Pradhan announced comprehensive reforms for Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) to strengthen skills training specifically for the underprivileged in society. The changes include matching the JSS course with the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) to standardize training, identifying and promoting traditional skills through upskilling, launching an online portal, and launching the Amrita University's Blended Training System at JSSs with e-content and selected skill courses to provide benefits for trainees.<sup>692</sup>

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<sup>687</sup> Green light for the "digital compact for schools," the Federal Government (Berlin) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/green-light-for-the-digital-compact-for-schools--1583250>.

<sup>688</sup> Green light for the "digital compact for schools," the Federal Government (Berlin) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/green-light-for-the-digital-compact-for-schools--1583250>.

<sup>689</sup> Launch of the Call for Proposals for Large Skills Development Investment Projects in South Africa, Skills Initiative for Africa (Johannesburg) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://skillsafrica.org/news/press-release-modified-for-cape-town>.

<sup>690</sup> Launch of the Call for Proposals for Large Skills Development Investment Projects in South Africa, Skills Initiative for Africa (Johannesburg) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://skillsafrica.org/news/press-release-modified-for-cape-town>.

<sup>691</sup> Modi govt about to roll out a mega jobs programme for undergraduates, The Economic Times (Mumbai) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/jobs/government-looks-to-find-jobs-for-humanities-undergraduates/articleshow/67121443.cms?from=mdr>.

<sup>692</sup> Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launches new reforms, guidelines to strengthen Jan Shikshan Santhans (JSS), Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship (New Delhi) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. [https://www.msde.gov.in/assets/images/latest%20news/Press%20Release\\_%20JSS%20Reforms.pdf](https://www.msde.gov.in/assets/images/latest%20news/Press%20Release_%20JSS%20Reforms.pdf).

In the government's interim budget in February 2019, the Modi administration pledged a USD10.5 billion farm income support program which includes transferring USD84 to farmers with less than two hectares of land.<sup>693</sup>The goal is to assist small and marginal farmers who face tough labour conditions.

On 30 January 2019, Juthika Patankar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship joined Japanese government officials at the Technical Intern Training Program (TITP) seminar in Delhi. The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in India will be sending 17 skilled candidates to Japan under the TITP to fuel the transfer of best practices to Indian skilled workers.<sup>694</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship began the second edition of a media campaign titled 'Fark Dikh Raha Hai', which specifically targets providing Indian youth with employment related skills.<sup>695</sup>

In February 2019, the Labour Ministry announced that unorganized workers up to 40 years old will be able to subscribe to the "Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan" (PMSYM) scheme which allows a minimum monthly pension. Finance Minister Piyush Goyal made this announcement in the Budget for 2019-2020.<sup>696</sup>

A government official also announced in February 2019 that common service centres e-Governance Services India Ltd., which is under the Ministry Electronics and IT, had also begun registration under the PMSYM scheme.<sup>697</sup>

On 2 March 2019, Shri M Venkaiah Naidu, the Vice-President of India, laid the foundation stone of Kaushal Bhawan, the new office building of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) at Chanakyapuri. The new office has eight floors of modern offices, an auditorium and convention centre, as well as new training rooms. The purpose of the building is to promote skills development programs especially for youth.<sup>698</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training & Research (NITTTR), under the aegis of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Shri Vishwakarma Skill University (SVSU), at the Ministry of Skill Development office. The MoU established a framework for cooperation and collaboration in line

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<sup>693</sup> Winners and losers in Narendra Modi's Interim Budget, The Economic Times (Mumbai) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/winners-and-losers-in-narendra-modis-interim-budget/articleshow/67792750.cms>.

<sup>694</sup> Skill India sends first batch of Care Workers under TITP to Japan, National Skills Network (Delhi) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://www.nationalskillsnetwork.in/care-workers-titp-to-japan/>.

<sup>695</sup> Skill India's 'Fark Dikh Raha Hai' campaign gets wings More than 1 crore youth join hands with Skill India every year, Skill India (New Delhi) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. [https://www.msde.gov.in/assets/images/latest news/Press release - Fark Dikh Raha Hai campaign gets new wings.pdf](https://www.msde.gov.in/assets/images/latest%20news/Press%20release%20-%20Fark%20Dikh%20Raha%20Hai%20campaign%20gets%20new%20wings.pdf).

<sup>696</sup> Informal sector workers can join PMSYM pension scheme from Feb 15, The Economic Times (Mumbai) 9 February 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/informal-sector-workers-can-join-pmsym-pension-scheme-from-feb-15/articleshow/67913767.cms>.

<sup>697</sup> Unorganised workers can now subscribe to Rs 3,000 monthly pension scheme at common service centres, The Economic Times (Mumbai) 17 February 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/unorganised-workers-can-now-subscribe-to-rs-3000-monthly-pension-scheme-at-common-service-centres/articleshow/68032925.cms>.

<sup>698</sup> Hon'ble Vice-President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu lays foundation stone for "Kaushal Bhawan", new office building of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship (New Delhi) 2 March 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://www.msde.gov.in/assets/images/latest%20news/Press%20Release%20Kaushal%20Bhawan.pdf>.

with Skill India Mission to promote, among others, managerial skill development programs and e-learning content of vocational courses.<sup>699</sup>

In March 2019, the government announced that it was planning to issue skill vouchers to pay for skill training at an approved skill training location, as a way to incentivize youth.<sup>700</sup>

India has taken actions to promote skills development and vocational training through action taken to promote apprenticeship programs, strengthen skills development programs and enhancing the conditions of farm workers.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sarangan Vaitbianathan*

### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 3 December 2018, the Government of Indonesia pledged USD66.5 million, along with a loan of USD200 million from the Asian Development Bank, towards improving training programs to assist future generations with necessary job skills through four improved educational institutions.<sup>701</sup> The conclusion of this joint project is expected to be completed in approximately 2023, as the Indonesian government is primarily focusing on skill development.<sup>702</sup>

On 4 December 2018, the Ministry of Manpower and Better Work Indonesia implemented guidelines towards improving working conditions for employees within Indonesian garment factories.<sup>703</sup> Nearly 400,000 employers will be protected by these guidelines, which aim to improve employment contracts and worker rights.<sup>704</sup>

On 21 December 2018, the Government of Indonesia and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) announced their partnership to aid vulnerable and disabled

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<sup>699</sup> Skill India receives further boost from the collaboration between Shri Vishwakarma Skill University and National Institute of Technical Teachers Training & Research, Skill India (New Delhi) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. [https://www.msde.gov.in/assets/images/latest%20news/Press%20Release\\_Shri%20Vishwakarma%20Skill%20University.pdf](https://www.msde.gov.in/assets/images/latest%20news/Press%20Release_Shri%20Vishwakarma%20Skill%20University.pdf).

<sup>700</sup> Government plans skill vouchers to make youth more skillful, The Economic Times (Mumbai) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/skill-vouchers-in-the-works-to-attract-youth-to-undertake-skilling-programmes/articleshow/68246617.cms>.

<sup>701</sup> ADB to Enhance Advanced Skills Development and Upgrade Higher Education Quality in Indonesia, Asian Development Bank (Jakarta) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.adb.org/news/adb-enhance-advanced-skills-development-and-upgrade-higher-education-quality-indonesia>.

<sup>702</sup> ADB to Enhance Advanced Skills Development and Upgrade Higher Education Quality in Indonesia, Asian Development Bank (Jakarta) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.adb.org/news/adb-enhance-advanced-skills-development-and-upgrade-higher-education-quality-indonesia>.

<sup>703</sup> Government teams up with Australia to improve employment, workforce, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/07/government-teams-up-with-australia-to-improve-employment-workforce.html>.

<sup>704</sup> Better Work Indonesia helps communicate employment rules across the country's garment industry, BetterWork (Jakarta) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 16 February 2019. <https://betterwork.org/blog/2018/12/04/better-work-indonesia-helps-communicate-employment-rules-across-the-countrys-garment-industry/>.

Indonesian youth.<sup>705</sup> This is accomplished through educational institutions and vocational schools providing high-quality training to increase employability.<sup>706</sup>

On 7 February 2019, the Indonesian government announced it will be working in partnership with the Government of Australia to attract direct and foreign investment to expand employment opportunities within Indonesia.<sup>707</sup> The partnership will target employment issues and cooperate with policymakers to expand the labour market within Indonesia.<sup>708</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the Government of Indonesia and the Government of Australia implemented the Indonesia-Australia Skills Development Exchange Pilot Project, which enables skilled individuals to engage in skills training through assigned work placements within multiple business sectors.<sup>709</sup> The Pilot Project will be held for a maximum duration of six months, as the individuals involved will be eligible to travel between both countries, while receiving training within sectors related to finance, engineering, telecommunication services and mining.<sup>710</sup>

The Indonesian government has taken action to promote both vocational training and skills development, in two key areas.

Thus, Indonesia has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Saranngan Vaithianathan*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 23 January 2019, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte declared at the World Economic Forum that the Italian government's newly announced income support program would lift five million Italians out of poverty and upgrade of its physical and digital infrastructure.<sup>711</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the Italian government launched the National Innovation Fund and invested EUR1 billion to help Italian startups. The fund allows support for innovative companies to generate opportunities for qualified work.<sup>712</sup>

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<sup>705</sup> Education, Youth and Training, USAID (Washington, D.C.) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/indonesia/education>.

<sup>706</sup> Education, Youth and Training, USAID (Washington, D.C.) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/indonesia/education>.

<sup>707</sup> Government teams up with Australia to improve employment, workforce, The Jarkarta Post (Jakarta) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/07/government-teams-up-with-australia-to-improve-employment-workforce.html>.

<sup>708</sup> Government teams up with Australia to improve employment, workforce, The Jarkarta Post (Jakarta) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/07/government-teams-up-with-australia-to-improve-employment-workforce.html>.

<sup>709</sup> Memorandum of Understanding on the Indonesia-Australia Skills Development Exchange Pilot Project, Australian Government | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/not-yet-in-force/iacepa/iacepa-text/Pages/iacepa-mou-indonesia-aus-skills-development-exchange-pilot-project.aspx>.

<sup>710</sup> Memorandum of Understanding on the Indonesia-Australia Skills Development Exchange Pilot Project, Australian Government | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/not-yet-in-force/iacepa/iacepa-text/Pages/iacepa-mou-indonesia-aus-skills-development-exchange-pilot-project.aspx>.

<sup>711</sup> Italy's prime minister promises to change Italy in two years, Reuters (Davos) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-davos-meeting-italy-conte/italys-prime-minister-promises-to-change-italy-in-two-years-idUSKCN1PH2PG>.

On 6 March 2019, the Italian government launched the “citizens’ income” program to combat Italy’s ongoing poverty and unemployment issues.<sup>713</sup> The program will address these issues through increased unemployment benefits, welfare subsidies and job training or locating programs.<sup>714</sup> Eligible members who annually earn less than EUR9,360, will receive payments of EUR780 on a monthly basis.<sup>715</sup>

In April 2019, the National Coordination of the New Italian Generations (CoNNGI) produced the Manifesto of the New Italian Generations 2019 which brought over 30 associations of young people of migrant backgrounds to discuss the enhancement of skills.<sup>716</sup>

Italy has taken action to promote skills development offerings but has not taken significant action to promote the reskilling workers

Thus, Italy has received a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sarannan Vaithianathan*

### **Japan: -1**

Japan has failed to comply with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 26 December 2018, the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare announced that it will change the reporting process for occupational accidents to include nationality, region, and residency status of the injured worker to gain more accurate knowledge on this issue.<sup>717</sup> This is based on a report looking to reduce occupational accidents among foreign workers.<sup>718</sup>

On 25 January 2019, the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare informed participating companies of its plans to cancel an existing technical training program.<sup>719</sup> Through cancelling this program, it hopes to install an ameliorated version in its place for foreign labourers.<sup>720</sup>

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<sup>712</sup> The National Innovation Fund Unveiled, Ministry of Economic Development (Rome) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 5 May 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/news/en/202-news-english/2039363-the-national-innovation-fund-unveiled>.

<sup>713</sup> Italy launches €7 billion ‘citizens’ income’ plan to combat poverty, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/italy-launches-7-billion-citizens-income-plan-to-combat-poverty/a-47798245>.

<sup>714</sup> Italy launches €7 billion ‘citizens’ income’ plan to combat poverty, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/italy-launches-7-billion-citizens-income-plan-to-combat-poverty/a-47798245>.

<sup>715</sup> Italy launches €7 billion ‘citizens’ income’ plan to combat poverty, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/italy-launches-7-billion-citizens-income-plan-to-combat-poverty/a-47798245>.

<sup>716</sup> The CoNNGI presents the "Manifesto of the New Italian Generations 2019", Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Rome) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 5 May 2019. <https://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Il-CoNNGI-presenta-il-Manifesto-delle-Nuove-Generazioni-Italiane-2019.aspx>.

<sup>717</sup> 「労働安全衛生規則の一部を改正する省令案要綱」の諮問と答申, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_03037.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_03037.html).

<sup>718</sup> 「労働安全衛生規則の一部を改正する省令案要綱」の諮問と答申, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_03037.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_03037.html).

<sup>719</sup> 技能実習計画の認定取消の通知と改善命令を行いました, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_03368.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_03368.html).

<sup>720</sup> 技能実習計画の認定取消の通知と改善命令を行いました, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_03368.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_03368.html).

On 30 January 2019, Yasuo Ariga, Deputy Director of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan attended the Technical Intern Training Program (TITP) seminar in Delhi, India. The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in India will be sending 17 skilled candidates to Japan under the TITP to fuel the transfer of best practices to Indian skilled workers.<sup>721</sup>

On 8 February 2019, the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry, the Saudi Ministry of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources, and other corporations completed an industrial training program for Saudi engineers, hosted by Saudi institute for Industrial Cities and Technology Zones (Modon).<sup>722</sup> A total of 100 engineers from 25 companies participated in the two intensive instructing sessions in Dammam and Riyadh.<sup>723</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the Government of Japan hosted a session “about the way of occupation of skill training” at the Ministry Health, Labour and Welfare.<sup>724</sup>

Japan has taken action toward addressing one of the key areas in improving labour conditions but has not done so through promoting vocational training or skills development.

Thus, Japan receives a score of -1.<sup>725</sup>

*Analyst: Emi Yasuda*

### **Korea: 0**

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 10 December 2018, 500 students started one-year courses designed by Samsung Electronics Co. to foster software experts as part of its project to educate 10,000 young people in the sector over the next five years.<sup>726</sup> The project is sponsored by the Ministry of Employment and Labor.<sup>727</sup> The company said it will recruit students twice a year, with an announcement on the next intake slated for May 2019.<sup>728</sup>

On 11 December 2018, Minister of Employment and Labor Mr. Lee Jae-kap briefed the Ministry’s 2019 policy priorities to the President, the Prime Minister, members of political parties and government officials at the Ministry’s headquarters in Sejong.<sup>729</sup> The briefing announced that there

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<sup>721</sup> Skill India sends first batch of Care Workers under TITP to Japan, National Skills Network (Delhi) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. <https://www.nationalskillsnetwork.in/care-workers-titp-to-japan/>.

<sup>722</sup> Saudi-Japanese Training Program for 100 Industrial Engineers, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/1883402>.

<sup>723</sup> Saudi-Japanese Training Program for 100 Industrial Engineers, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/1883402>.

<sup>724</sup> About holding of the fourth "examination team about the way of occupation of skill training", Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage\\_04401.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_04401.html).

<sup>725</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites:

<http://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/index-e.html>, <http://www.mof.go.jp/english/>, <http://www.miti.go.jp/index-e.html>.

<sup>726</sup> Samsung Starts Education Program to Foster Software Experts, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20181210002000320?section=search>.

<sup>727</sup> Samsung Starts Education Program to Foster Software Experts, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20181210002000320?section=search>.

<sup>728</sup> Samsung Starts Education Program to Foster Software Experts, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20181210002000320?section=search>.

<sup>729</sup> Minister briefed President on 2019 policy priorities, Ministry of Employment and Labor (Seoul) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews\\_view.jsp?idx=1504](http://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1504).

are plans to create a more inclusive labor market by focusing on expanding job opportunities and decent jobs.<sup>730</sup>

On 14 December 2018, the Presidential Committee on Job Creation finalized a new policy goal; aiming to create 55,000 new jobs in the healthcare services sector by 2022 and the plan includes the hiring of 9,300 nurses to help upgrade quality of medical services.<sup>731</sup> The presidential committee also approved a plan to establish “social services centers” nationwide to better take care of underprivileged children and senior citizens.<sup>732</sup>

On 6 January 2019, the Ministry of Employment and Labor and the Minimum Wage Committee announced a draft plan – a trilateral panel of business leaders, labor representatives, and outside experts assigned with deciding on a minimum hourly wage.<sup>733</sup> The plan includes having two subcommittees tasked with setting the legal upper and lower thresholds and deciding on the actual rate, respectively.<sup>734</sup>

On 7 January 2019, Minister Lee Jae-kap announced a draft agenda for discussion to improve the minimum wage-fixing machinery for the first time in 31 years.<sup>735</sup> The key items on the agenda aimed at improving the rationality, objectivity and fairness of the minimum wage setting process.<sup>736</sup>

On 8 January 2018, the government announced that it will pay KRW860 billion in subsidies to all universities and colleges nationwide this year to help upgrade their academic competitiveness.<sup>737</sup>

On 15 January 2019, President Moon Jae-in asked the country’s top conglomerates and large firms to increase their local investment and create more jobs.<sup>738</sup> The meeting was attended by the top executive officers and representatives of about 130 local companies.<sup>739</sup>

On 17 January 2019, Minister of SMEs and Startups Hong Jong-haak announced that the Korean government will be investing KRW4 trillion in venture capital market in 2019.<sup>740</sup> Korea has been seeking to nurture venture companies and start-ups as a part of its policy to support smaller businesses and reduce the youth unemployment rate.<sup>741</sup>

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<sup>730</sup> Minister briefed President on 2019 policy priorities, Ministry of Employment and Labor (Seoul) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews\\_view.jsp?idx=1504](http://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1504).

<sup>731</sup> Gov't to Create 55,000 Healthcare Services Jobs by 2022, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20181214004000325?section=search>.

<sup>732</sup> Gov't to Create 55,000 Healthcare Services Jobs by 2022, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20181214004000325?section=search>.

<sup>733</sup> Gov't to Alter Decision-Making Process for Minimum Wage to Soothe Criticism, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 6 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190107009600315?section=search>.

<sup>734</sup> Gov't to Alter Decision-Making Process for Minimum Wage to Soothe Criticism, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 6 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190107009600315?section=search>.

<sup>735</sup> MOEL to discuss ways to improve the minimum wage-fixing system, Ministry of Employment and Labor (Seoul) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews\\_view.jsp?idx=1505](http://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1505).

<sup>736</sup> MOEL to discuss ways to improve the minimum wage-fixing system, Ministry of Employment and Labor (Seoul) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews\\_view.jsp?idx=1505](http://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliNewsnews_view.jsp?idx=1505).

<sup>737</sup> Gov't to Give 860 Billion Won in Subsidies to Universities, Colleges This Year, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190108008000325?section=search>.

<sup>738</sup> (3rd LD) President Calls on Large Firms to Create More Jobs, Increase Investment, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190115008753315?section=search>.

<sup>739</sup> (3rd LD) President Calls on Large Firms to Create More Jobs, Increase Investment, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190115008753315?section=search>.

<sup>740</sup> Venture Minister Vows to Expand Support for Startups, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190117001600320?section=search>.

<sup>741</sup> Venture Minister Vows to Expand Support for Startups, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190117001600320?section=search>.

On 20 February 2019, the Korean government announced it had detected 182 suspected hiring irregularities at over 1,200 public companies and institutions, concluding its three-month-long inspection into fairness and transparency in their employment practices.<sup>742</sup>

On 24 April 2019 the Government of Korea announced that it has set aside KRW2.1 trillion in its next budget to further the social safety net.<sup>743</sup> Items receiving greater financial support include unemployment benefits for those between jobs, and vocational training for unemployed people, as well as job creation.<sup>744</sup>

Korea has taken actions to build an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocation training and skills development and addressing one key area.

Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Shubdeep Randhawa*

### **Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 10 January 2019, Secretary of Labour and Social Welfare Luisa María Alcalde Luján issued guidelines for the implementation of the apprenticeship program Youth Building the Future.<sup>745</sup> This initiative includes an objective to pay 2.3 million young people aged 18 to 29 to acquire or strengthen technical and soft skills for a period of up to twelve months.<sup>746</sup> The guidelines also include an educational grant of MXN3,600 per month to members of the program.<sup>747</sup>

On 18 February 2019, Undersecretary of Employment in the Secretariat of Labor and Social Welfare Horacio Duarte Olivares released an update on apprenticeship program Youth Building the Future.<sup>748</sup> He stated that from January 14 to date, 49,000 young people had been associated with a company to begin training.<sup>749</sup> This announcement indicates the Mexican government's intent to implement their initiative to provide vocational and technical skills to youth, thereby boosting their employment opportunities.

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<sup>742</sup> Gov't Inspection Uncovers 182 Hiring Irregularities at Public Institutions, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190220004900325?section=search>.

<sup>743</sup> S. Korea draws up 6.7 tln-won extra budget to tackle economic slowdown, fine dust, Korea Herald (Seoul) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190424000145>

<sup>744</sup> S. Korea draws up 6.7 tln-won extra budget to tackle economic slowdown, fine dust, Korea Herald (Seoul) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190424000145>

<sup>745</sup> Lineamientos para la operación del Programa Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro, Diario Oficial de la Federación (Mexico City) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [http://dof.gob.mx/nota\\_detalle.php?codigo=5547857&fecha=10/01/2019](http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5547857&fecha=10/01/2019).

<sup>746</sup> Concerns as Mexico's apprenticeship drive comes into play, Financial Times (London) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/d3645e26-1593-11e9-a581-4ff78404524e>.

<sup>747</sup> Lineamientos para la operación del Programa Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro, Diario Oficial de la Federación (Mexico City) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [http://dof.gob.mx/nota\\_detalle.php?codigo=5547857&fecha=10/01/2019](http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5547857&fecha=10/01/2019).

<sup>748</sup> El cambio en materia laboral está en marcha: Luisa María Alcalde, El Universal (Mexico City) 18 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/nacion/sindicatos-se-deben-democratizar-luisa-maria-alcalde>.

<sup>749</sup> El cambio en materia laboral está en marcha: Luisa María Alcalde, El Universal (Mexico City) 18 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/nacion/sindicatos-se-deben-democratizar-luisa-maria-alcalde>.

On 17 March 2019, Secretary of Labour and Social Welfare Luisa María Alcalde Luján stated the 2018-2024 National Development Plan would aim to ensure workers earn a living wage.<sup>750</sup> This labour reform aims to strengthen collective bargaining as a means to boost wages.<sup>751</sup> This commitment represents a social dialogue on the importance of social protections and improved formalization of labour.

On 13 April 2019, Secretary of Labour and Social Welfare Luisa María Alcalde Luján reaffirmed the status of the Youth Building the Future apprenticeship program, stressing that it was not a selective program but “a universal one.”<sup>752</sup> Less than a hundred days after initiation, almost 350,000 young people have been linked with firms, and a similar number are in the process of finding a center for training.<sup>753</sup>

Mexico has made substantial progress towards building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work through the promotion of skill development in two of the key areas.

Thus, Mexico has received a score of 0.

*Analyst: Max Somer*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 7 December 2018, the Minister of Labor and Social Protection of the Russian Federation, Maxim Topilin, and the Minister of Labor and Social Protection of the Republic of Belarus, Irina Kostevich, held a joint meeting of the colleges of the ministries. Minister Topilin spoke about health and labor protection of workers and the digitalization of the social sphere.<sup>754</sup>

On 30 December 2018, the Government of the Russian Federation released Order N 3025, which approved the Special Program and the plan of measures for the organization of vocational training and additional professional education of citizens of pre-retirement age for the period up to 2024.<sup>755</sup> The goal of the program is to promote the employment of citizens of pre-retirement age by organizing vocational training, additional vocational education to acquire or develop existing

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<sup>750</sup> Salarios tan bajos no nos convienen a nadie: Alcalde, El Universal (Mexico City) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019.

<https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/nacion/salarios-tan-bajos-no-convienen-nadie-alcalde>.

<sup>751</sup> Salarios tan bajos no nos convienen a nadie: Alcalde, El Universal (Mexico City) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019.

<https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/nacion/salarios-tan-bajos-no-convienen-nadie-alcalde>.

<sup>752</sup> “Moches” no serán tolerados en Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro: STPS, La Razón (Monterrey) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019.

<https://www.razon.com.mx/mexico/moches-no-seran-tolerados-en-jovenes-construyendo-el-futuro-stps-luisa-maria-alcalde/>.

<sup>753</sup> “Moches” no serán tolerados en Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro: STPS, La Razón (Monterrey) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019.

<https://www.razon.com.mx/mexico/moches-no-seran-tolerados-en-jovenes-construyendo-el-futuro-stps-luisa-maria-alcalde/>.

<sup>754</sup> The Ministers of Labor and Social Protection of Russia and Belarus discussed labor protection and IT projects in the social sphere, Russian Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (Minsk) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 17 May 2019. <https://rosmintrud.ru/social/68>.

<sup>755</sup> Order of the Government of the Russian Federation of December 30, 2018 N 3025-p On approval of the Special Program and the plan of measures for the organization of vocational training and additional professional education of citizens of pre-retirement age for the period up to 2024 (Moscow) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 17 May 2019. <https://www.garant.ru/products/ipo/prime/doc/72041820/>.

knowledge, competencies and skills that ensure competitiveness and professional mobility in the labor market.<sup>756</sup>

On 14-18 January 2019, the International Labour Organization (ILO) hosted a staff training workshop on Skills for Trade and Economic Diversification (STED) methodology within the framework of the Norwegian-funded SKILL-UP Global Component on knowledge-sharing amongst countries. STED offers approaches to integrating skills development into sector and development strategies. The training brought more than 20 project staff, including representatives from the G20 Training Strategy Project, funded by the Russian Federation.<sup>757</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the ILO's Project Applying the G20 Training Strategy: A Partnership of the ILO and the Russian Federation (Phase 2), National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) third meeting took place at the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic. The meeting discussed the progress of the project and relevant activities that took place in 2018.<sup>758</sup>

On 15 March 2019, Minister of Labor and Social Protection of the Russian Federation Maxim Topilin announced that 31 regions will receive funds to train workers in the framework of the national project on labour productivity. The goal of the program is to ensure that workers learn new competencies to increase labor productivity, and that the regions will receive new equipment and technologies for their workplaces.<sup>759</sup>

On 25 March 2019, the international educational program REGION-PROFI's ("Managing the changes in the VET system to strengthen regional economy") results were presented to the Head of the Republic of Sakha Aisen Nikolaev and his team. The program is part of the Russia-ILO initiative "Applying the G20 Training Strategy," which aimed to train VET management teams to develop and implement new educational programs in line with regional economic development goals.<sup>760</sup>

On 16 April 2019, the first educational programs under the plan for the implementation of measures of the federal project "Older generation" devoted to reskilling of elderly people started in mid-March, earlier than initially planned. The Ministry of Labor of Russia sets the task of the regions to interact with both citizens of pre-retirement age and employers for more active inclusion in the retraining program.<sup>761</sup>

The Russian government has taken action to promote both vocational training and skills development in two key areas.

Thus, Russia has received a score of +1.

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<sup>756</sup> Order of the Government of the Russian Federation of December 30, 2018 N 3025-p On approval of the Special Program and the plan of measures for the organization of vocational training and additional professional education of citizens of pre-retirement age for the period up to 2024 (Moscow) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 17 May 2019. <https://www.garant.ru/products/ipo/prime/doc/72041820/>.

<sup>757</sup> SKILL-UP project meeting and STED Training, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/skills/pubs/WCMS\\_669771/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/skills/pubs/WCMS_669771/lang--en/index.htm).

<sup>758</sup> Kyrgyzstan's Project Steering Committee to review Project's progress to date and planned interventions for 2019, International Labour Organization (Bishkek) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 10 May 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/skills/projects/g20ts/kyrgyzstan/WCMS\\_683783/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/skills/projects/g20ts/kyrgyzstan/WCMS_683783/lang--en/index.htm).

<sup>759</sup> Minister Maxim Topilin: 31 regions will receive funds to train workers in the framework of the national project on labor productivity, Russian Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (Moscow) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 17 May 2019. <https://rosmintrud.ru/employment/employment/732>.

<sup>760</sup> Results of the international educational program REGION-PROFI «Managing the changes in the VET system to strengthen regional economy», International Labour Organization (Geneva) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 4 May 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/skills/projects/g20ts/WCMS\\_681677/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/skills/projects/g20ts/WCMS_681677/lang--en/index.htm).

<sup>761</sup> Training for citizens of pre-retirement age began ahead of schedule, Russian Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (Moscow) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 17 May 2019. <https://rosmintrud.ru/employment/employment/738>.

*Analysts: Isabel Davis and Irina Popova*

### **Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skill development.

On 20 January 2019, the Unified Regulation of Women’s Work Environment was inaugurated by the Saudi Ministry of Labour and Social Development.<sup>762</sup> The Unified Regulation of Women’s Work Environment is an enterprise aimed at encouraging the participation of Saudi females in different sectors of the market-place, insuring comfortable and secure working conditions for women, in addition to promoting the presence of women in private industries of the market-place.<sup>763</sup>

On 23 January 2019, the Saudi Ministry of Housing, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, the Council of Saudi Chambers, the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF), and the Saudi Contractors Authority signed a scheme to localize 80,000 jobs in the public and private work industries for Saudi citizens between 2019 and December of 2020.<sup>764</sup> Under the governmental scheme partners will be committed to develop theadroitness of employees’ and provide job opportunities for citizens.<sup>765</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the Saudi Ministers of Education, Labour and Social Development, Communications and Information Technology instigates the National Labour Observatory Portal.<sup>766</sup> Mohammed Al Sudairy, Director General of the Human Resources Development Fund announced that “the launch of the portal commits to our work in accordance with partnership with a number of government entities to support and empower citizens in the labour market through training, qualifying and employment programs and initiatives.”<sup>767</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the Saudi Public Investment Fund inaugurated the graduate development project to empower Saudi competencies in the workforce, in addition to develop their skills to suit the needs of the current and future market.<sup>768</sup> The project aims to assign the participants in four fields: the investment field, the general field, the real estate and project management field.<sup>769</sup>

On 8 February 2019, the Saudi Ministry of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources, the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry, and other corporations completed an industrial training program for Saudi engineers, hosted by Saudi institute for Industrial Cities and Technology Zones

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<sup>762</sup> Ministry of Labor and Social Development announces launch of unified regulation of womens work environment, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 20 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/1876108>.

<sup>763</sup> Ministry of Labor and Social Development announces launch of unified regulation of womens work environment, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 20 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/1876108>.

<sup>764</sup> 80,000 jobs in real estate and contracting sectors, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/1877546>.

<sup>765</sup> 80,000 jobs in real estate and contracting sectors, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/1877546>.

<sup>766</sup> HRDF Launches NLO Portal to Encourage Localization and Regulate Labor Market, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1880741>.

<sup>767</sup> HRDF Launches NLO Portal to Encourage Localization and Regulate Labor Market, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1880741>.

<sup>768</sup> The Public investment Fund launch the graduate development program to qualify national competencies, Okaz (Jeddah) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.okaz.com.sa/article/1703008>.

<sup>769</sup> The Public investment Fund launch the graduate development program to qualify national competencies, Okaz (Jeddah) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2019. <https://www.okaz.com.sa/article/1703008>.

(Modon).<sup>770</sup> A total of 100 engineers from 25 companies participated in the two intensive instructing sessions in Dammam and Riyadh.<sup>771</sup>

On 22 February 2019, during a state visit to China, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, signed a memorandum to incorporate the Chinese language in curricula of all educational levels in the Saudi schools and universities.<sup>772</sup> The promotion of the Chinese language is intended to provide citizens with the skills demanded by the future global market, in the field of employment and education.<sup>773</sup>

On 15 March 2019, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Family Affairs Dr Hala Al Twaijri highlighted efforts by the Kingdom to eradicate obstacles facing the integration of women into the labour market.<sup>774</sup>

On 26 March 2019, the HRDF announced that they recently made adjustments to the program that assists women working in the private sector through licensed smart applications to provide safe transportation in partnership with private taxi companies. The changes focused on the conditions of enrollment to facilitate the registration of more female Saudi workers to support the empowerment of women.<sup>775</sup>

On 6 April 2019, the HRDF confirmed the development of a number of electronic training courses that aim to develop the skills of students and job seekers.<sup>776</sup>

On 12 April 2019, the Saudi Ministry of Labour and Social Development launched the National Transformation Program (NTP) which seeks the establishment of a more inclusive labour market for women, people with disabilities, and all citizens.<sup>777</sup> Through the NTP Initiative and the amendment of current legislature, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development seeks to achieve a 12 per cent employment rate among people with disabilities and a 25 per cent employment rate among women by the year 2020.<sup>778</sup>

On 17 April 2019, the HRDF held a conference in Riyadh for establishments with training programs to engage in workshops and learn about the opportunities offered by the Tamir Training Program.

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<sup>770</sup> Saudi-Japanese Training Program for 100 Industrial Engineers, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/1883402>.

<sup>771</sup> Saudi-Japanese Training Program for 100 Industrial Engineers, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/1883402>.

<sup>772</sup> Coinciding with Current State Visit of HRH Crown Prince to China, Starting Plan to Include Chinese Language, in Curricula of Educational Stages, in KSA, Agreed, Saudi Press Agency (Beijing) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1889032>.

<sup>773</sup> Coinciding with Current State Visit of HRH Crown Prince to China, Starting Plan to Include Chinese Language, in Curricula of Educational Stages, in KSA, Agreed, Saudi Press Agency (Beijing) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

<sup>774</sup> KSA Affirms Going Forward in Supporting Women's Full Participation in Sustainable Development (New York) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1899370>.

<sup>775</sup> Securing a means of transportation for female employees in the private sector through smart applications, Human Resources Development Fund (Riyadh) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.hrdf.org.sa/News/2969>.

<sup>776</sup> The Human Resources Development Fund develops online training courses to meet the needs of the labor market, Human Resources Development Fund (Riyadh) 6 April 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://www.hrdf.org.sa/News/2997>.

<sup>777</sup> Employment for Saudi Women is a 'right and a necessity' (Riyadh) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1481706/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>778</sup> Employment for Saudi Women is a 'right and a necessity' (Riyadh) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1481706/saudi-arabia>.

That program aims to provide university students with opportunities to develop skills required for the labour market through practical training.<sup>779</sup>

Saudi Arabia have taken actions to promote vocational training and skills development in one key area.

Thus, Saudi Arabia has received a score of 0.

*Analyst: Omar Abdellatif*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 4 December 2018, the National Assembly passed the iKamva National e-Skills Institute (iNeSI) Bill.<sup>780</sup> The bill seeks to promote the use of information, communication and technology through the iKamva National e-Skills Institute.<sup>781</sup>

On 30 January 2019, Chief Director for Statutory Services Fikiswa Mncanca announced that names of employers who fail to comply with the National Minimum Wage (NMW) will be published on the website of the Department of Labour.<sup>782</sup> The NMW was recently signed into law and enforced on 1 January 2019.<sup>783</sup>

On 30 January 2019, a joint initiative of the Commission for Conciliation Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) and Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) went live.<sup>784</sup> The tool allows entrepreneurs to source information on how to recruit staff; how to manage employees and build sound workplace.<sup>785</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the Department of Social Development called upon all unemployed social workers and auxiliary social workers to register on the Departmental database by 31 March 2019.<sup>786</sup> This is in order for the Department of Social Development to keep a record of unemployed qualified graduates in the aforementioned fields.<sup>787</sup>

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<sup>779</sup> Human Resources Development Fund brings together enterprises and researchers for training opportunities at "Tamhir", Human Resources Development Fund (Riyadh) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019.

<https://www.hrdf.org.sa/News/2999>.

<sup>780</sup> Boost for Digital Skills Training, SA News (Cape Town) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018.

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/boost-digital-skills-training>.

<sup>781</sup> Boost for Digital Skills Training, SA News (Cape Town) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2018.

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/boost-digital-skills-training>.

<sup>782</sup> Minister Mildred Oliphant Announces National Minimum Wage Commission, South African Government (Cape Town) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.gov.za/speeches/minister-mildred-oliphant-announces-national-minimum-wage-commission-30-jan-2019-0000](http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-mildred-oliphant-announces-national-minimum-wage-commission-30-jan-2019-0000).

<sup>783</sup> Minister Mildred Oliphant Announces National Minimum Wage Commission, South African Government (Cape Town) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.gov.za/speeches/minister-mildred-oliphant-announces-national-minimum-wage-commission-30-jan-2019-0000](http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-mildred-oliphant-announces-national-minimum-wage-commission-30-jan-2019-0000).

<sup>784</sup> New Web Tool for Small Businesses, Entrepreneurs, SA News (Cape Town) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/new-web-tool-small-businesses-entrepreneurs](http://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/new-web-tool-small-businesses-entrepreneurs).

<sup>785</sup> New Web Tool for Small Businesses, Entrepreneurs, SA News (Cape Town) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/new-web-tool-small-businesses-entrepreneurs](http://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/new-web-tool-small-businesses-entrepreneurs).

<sup>786</sup> Social Development on Registration of Unemployed Social Work Graduates, South African Government (Cape Town) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.gov.za/speeches/social-development-encourages-unemployed-social-work-graduates-register-departmental](http://www.gov.za/speeches/social-development-encourages-unemployed-social-work-graduates-register-departmental).

<sup>787</sup> Social Development on Registration of Unemployed Social Work Graduates, South African Government (Cape Town) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.gov.za/speeches/social-development-encourages-unemployed-social-work-graduates-register-departmental](http://www.gov.za/speeches/social-development-encourages-unemployed-social-work-graduates-register-departmental).

On 20 February 2019, the North West Department of Labour's Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) together with Compensation Fund (CF) and the Public Employment Services (PES) unit announced that it has embarked on a series of outreach campaigns which will run from 25 February 2019 to 28 February 2019.<sup>788</sup> The campaigns are aimed at bringing services to people and fast tracking business registrations and finalization of claims.<sup>789</sup>

On 11 April 2019, the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD in partnership with the German Government and the South African Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) launched the Funding Window I.<sup>790</sup> This is a call for proposals for large skills development investment projects proposed by domestic training entities in partnership with companies under the Skills Initiative for Africa.<sup>791</sup>

South Africa has taken actions that promote skills development but not vocational training to address the three key areas.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Emi Yasuda*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skill development.

On 13 January 2019, The President of The Republic of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan launched as part of an agreement with the State of Qatar the construction of a shared military manufacturing and technology base to enhance the military production in the two states.<sup>792</sup> Erdogan indicated that, "the investment value of the project will amount to 500 million dollars and will improve the skills of our youth in the field of military industry, after it enters full production in 2023 the project will provide production for ten thousand people."<sup>793</sup>

On 14 January 2019, 33 Turkish students were sent as part of an educational scholarship by the Turkish Ministry of Education to China and the Russian Federation in order to gain the soft-skills required for the management of a planned nuclear reactor in Turkey.<sup>794</sup> The Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources announced in a statement, "Twenty-five students will study at the St. Petersburg Polytechnic University to work at the Akoyo nuclear power plant after completion of training

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<sup>788</sup> Labour on Naming and Shaming of Employers Who Fail to Comply with National Minimum Wage, South African Government (Cape Town) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.gov.za/speeches/abide-nmw-30-jan-2019-0000](http://www.gov.za/speeches/abide-nmw-30-jan-2019-0000).

<sup>789</sup> Labour on Naming and Shaming of Employers Who Fail to Comply with National Minimum Wage, South African Government (Cape Town) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [www.gov.za/speeches/abide-nmw-30-jan-2019-0000](http://www.gov.za/speeches/abide-nmw-30-jan-2019-0000).

<sup>790</sup> Launch of the Call for Proposals for Large Skills Development Investment Projects in South Africa, Skills Initiative for Africa (Johannesburg) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://skillsafrica.org/news/press-release-modified-for-cape-town>.

<sup>791</sup> Launch of the Call for Proposals for Large Skills Development Investment Projects in South Africa, Skills Initiative for Africa (Johannesburg) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://skillsafrica.org/news/press-release-modified-for-cape-town>.

<sup>792</sup> Turkish President announces establishment of a Turkish defense cooperation base with Qatar, Kuwait News Agency (Ankara) 13 January 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2769721>.

<sup>793</sup> Turkish President announces establishment of a Turkish defense cooperation base with Qatar, Kuwait News Agency (Ankara) 13 January 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <https://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2769721>.

<sup>794</sup> Acting Governor of Jazan Region sponsors the signing of employment agreements for youth in the region in different sectors (Jizan) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?newsid=1888096>.

programs and will attend training at Russia's state nuclear energy institution Rosatom in a protocol signed between the two countries."<sup>795</sup>

On 9 February 2019, Cappadocia University inaugurated instructing programs on operating pilotless aircrafts in varying occupations, as part of an agreement with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the Turkish Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.<sup>796</sup> The drone training program is attracting different age groups due to their applications in industrial, agricultural and aerial surveying.<sup>797</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the Turkish government announced a program to subsidize businesses to promote employment.<sup>798</sup> Zehra Selcuk the Turkish Minister of Family, Labor and Social Services indicated that, "As a state, [the government will] pay salaries, taxes and premiums of every new personnel employed by businesses for three months."<sup>799</sup> The chief of the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges, Rifat Hisarciklioglu, added that unions are not engaged in the promotion of skill development to decrease unemployment.<sup>800</sup>

On 26 February 2019, a memorandum for mechanical and vocational instructing of students and educators in the sector of robotics, airplane servicing, mechanics, IT security, coding and mechanized technology, was signed by the Turkish Ministry of National Education and the Presidency of Defence Industries.<sup>801</sup> The program looks to enhance vocational instructing in college preparatory schools and promote consciousness of military manufacturing.<sup>802</sup>

On 1 March 2019, The Turkish Presidency sponsored the Academic and Scientific Cooperation Project (TABİP), inaugurated by the Institute of Yunus Emre.<sup>803</sup> The project installs the necessary conditions required for boosting Turkish human capital in addition to conducting global diplomatic ventures are principal goals of the TABİP scheme.<sup>804</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the Ministry of Labour, Social Services and Family announced the creation of vocational training initiatives for females in 16 Turkish regions to further promote a more

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<sup>795</sup> Acting Governor of Jazan Region sponsors the signing of employment agreements for youth in the region in different sectors (Jizan) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019.

<https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?newsid=1888096>

<sup>796</sup> Turkish University organizes educational courses for the use of drone, Anadolu Agency (Nevsehir) 9 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/ar/الحياة/جامعة تركية تنظم دورات تعليمية لاستخدام الطائرات بدون طيار/>1387625.

<sup>797</sup> Turkish University organizes educational courses for the use of drone, Anadolu Agency (Nevsehir) 9 February 2019. Access Date: 10 February 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/ar/الحياة/جامعة تركية تنظم دورات تعليمية لاستخدام الطائرات بدون طيار/>1387625.

<sup>798</sup> Turkey launches campaign to raise employment, Anadolu Agency (Istanbul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkey-launches-campaign-to-raise-employment/1402439>.

<sup>799</sup> Turkey launches campaign to raise employment, Anadolu Agency (Istanbul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkey-launches-campaign-to-raise-employment/1402439>.

<sup>800</sup> Turkey launches campaign to raise employment, Anadolu Agency (Istanbul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkey-launches-campaign-to-raise-employment/1402439>.

<sup>801</sup> Turkey's education ministry, defense body to train future tech experts, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/education/2019/02/26/turkeys-education-ministry-defense-body-to-train-future-tech-experts>.

<sup>802</sup> Turkey's education ministry, defense body to train future tech experts, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/education/2019/02/26/turkeys-education-ministry-defense-body-to-train-future-tech-experts>

<sup>803</sup> Minister of National Education Ziya Selçuk remarks on TABİP, Yunus Emre Institute (Brussels) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.yee.org.tr/en/news/minister-national-education-ziya-selcuks-remarks-tabip>

<sup>804</sup> Minister of National Education Ziya Selçuk remarks on TABİP, Yunus Emre Institute (Brussels) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.yee.org.tr/en/news/minister-national-education-ziya-selcuks-remarks-tabip>.

comprehensive integration of women in the labour market.<sup>805</sup> The Ministry has also offered microcredit loans to 180,000 women with low income and has introduced the Strategy Paper and Action Plan on Women's Empowerment to support the integration of women in the labour market using information technology.<sup>806</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Turkish Minister of Labour, Social Services and Family Zehra Selcuk announced that Turkey stands at the top of the list of European member states of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in terms of women empowerment in the workforce.<sup>807</sup> The aim is to increase the labour force participation rate among women to 41 per cent and has launched a five-year national plan to emancipate females in the community and workforce.<sup>808</sup>

Turkey has partially complied with its commitments by promoting both vocational training and skills development in one key area.

Thus, Turkey has received a score of 0.

*Analyst: Omar Abdellatif*

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 6 December 2018, Education Secretary Damian Hinds expressed renewed support for the Industrial Strategy launched last year in an effort to “boost our nation’s productivity”. The Industrial Strategy is a move to transition more workers to “highly productive industries” and put the UK at the forefront of the “AI and data revolution”.<sup>809</sup>

On 12 December 2019, the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation published two research documents on the strengthening of vocational and technical qualifications. The research evaluates the current functioning of the internal assessment of national technical and vocational qualifications.<sup>810</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the UK House of Commons Library published a briefing paper on ‘T Levels: Reforms to Technical Education.’ The briefing details planned reforms to the technical education

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<sup>805</sup> Gender equality leads to development: Turkish minister, Anadolu Agency (Washington, D.C.) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 29 March 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/americas/gender-equality-leads-to-development-turkish-minister/1415303>.

<sup>806</sup> Gender equality leads to development: Turkish minister, Anadolu Agency (Washington, D.C.) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 29 March 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/americas/gender-equality-leads-to-development-turkish-minister/1415303>.

<sup>807</sup> Turkey has seen sharp rise in women’s employment, Anadolu Agency (Washington, D.C.) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 18 March 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/-turkey-has-seen-sharp-rise-in-women-s-employment/1417472>.

<sup>808</sup> Turkey has seen sharp rise in women’s employment, Anadolu Agency (Washington, D.C.) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 18 March 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/-turkey-has-seen-sharp-rise-in-women-s-employment/1417472>

<sup>809</sup> Damian Hinds Technical Education Speech (London) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 25 June 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/damian-hinds-technical-education-speech>.

<sup>810</sup> Strengthening vocational and technical qualifications, OFQUAL (London) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strengthening-vocational-and-technical-qualifications>.

system, specifically the new T levels that will offer a technical option alongside A levels and a degree.<sup>811</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the UK government reiterated their commitment to focusing on technical and vocational skills education. The government will launch the first phase of its National Retraining Scheme starting this summer and an apprenticeship that will launch over 3 million new apprenticeships.<sup>812</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport launched a new pilot scheme to teach coding to carefully vetted prisoners.<sup>813</sup> CODE 4000, the organization that will be working with the prisoners, has been granted new funding by the Digital Department.<sup>814</sup> It is the hope that digital skills will help prisoners return to employment positions after their sentence has expired.<sup>815</sup>

From 1 April 2019 people will be able to claim up to GBP59,200 annually through the Access to Work scheme to help assist them with additional support that may be needed in the workplace.<sup>816</sup> From 8 April 2019, the government increased the maternity allowance for expectant mothers.<sup>817</sup>

On 10 April 2019, Education Secretary Damian Hinds announced the launch of Twelve Institutes of Technology, which will be set up across the UK to make technical education accessible to young people. The goal of the initiative is to provide higher level technical training in STEM and to align training with skills employers need.<sup>818</sup>

On 10 May 2019, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Amber Rudd gave a speech at the Recruitment and Employment Confederation about the future of work. Rudd stated that the UK government's labour strategy sought to provide better access to the labour force for everyone, to create opportunities for progression and better protections for those struggling to navigate the labour force.<sup>819</sup>

The United Kingdom has published research to promoting vocational training to address only one of the three key areas and skill development in three areas.

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<sup>811</sup> Member of Parliament Briefing Paper: T Levels: Reforms to Technical Education, House of Commons Library (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-7951/CBP-7951.pdf>.

<sup>812</sup> Spring Statement 2019: Phillip Hammond's Speech (London). 13 March 2019. Access Date: 25 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/spring-statement-2019-philip-hammonds-speech>.

<sup>813</sup> Coding to be taught in prison to help offenders return to the world of work, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coding-to-be-taught-in-prison-to-help-offenders-return-to-the-world-of-work>.

<sup>814</sup> Coding to be taught in prison to help offenders return to the world of work, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coding-to-be-taught-in-prison-to-help-offenders-return-to-the-world-of-work>.

<sup>815</sup> Coding to be taught in prison to help offenders return to the world of work, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (London) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coding-to-be-taught-in-prison-to-help-offenders-return-to-the-world-of-work>.

<sup>816</sup> UK economy delivering record employment, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-economy-delivering-record-employment>.

<sup>817</sup> UK economy delivering record employment, Department for Work and Pensions (London) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-economy-delivering-record-employment>.

<sup>818</sup> The First Twelve Institutes of Technology Announced (London). 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 June 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-first-twelve-institutes-of-technology-announced>.

<sup>819</sup> The Future of the Labour Market (London) 9 May 2019. Access Date: 25 June 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-future-of-the-labour-market>.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.<sup>820</sup>

*Analyst: Chantal Elias*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 21 December 2018, the United States government partnered with the Florida Department of Military Affairs to expand the Florida National Guard Youth ChalleNge program by creating a new Job Corps project for at-risk youth.<sup>821</sup> USD3.1 million has already been invested into the program, which will provide career and technical education for youth.<sup>822</sup>

On 21 December 2018, the United States government announced a grant would be given to Idaho's Job Corps program to allow this program to be run by the state of Idaho.<sup>823</sup> The intent was to make this program better-suited to the specific needs of Idaho Job Corps trainees.<sup>824</sup>

On 16 January 2019, the United States government pledged USD1,863,815, and approved a maximum of USD5,591,446, to New York state to provide employment services in sectors that will help combat the opioid crisis.<sup>825</sup> This includes positions such as peer supports, peer recovery navigators, and intake/coordinator aids, as well as careers in healthcare professions related to addiction, treatment, prevention, and pain management.<sup>826</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the United States government pledged USD85 million to 81 YouthBuild Programs in 32 states.<sup>827</sup> These programs provide at-risk youth with aid in completing their high school equivalency training and training in high-demand local industries.<sup>828</sup> This grant marks an expansion from construction training to other industries, such as health care or information technology.<sup>829</sup>

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<sup>820</sup> Additional information has been provided on a confidential basis suggesting progress on women leadership training, parallel training and other skills development programs but cannot be included towards the scoring assessment.

<sup>821</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor And Florida Department Of Military Affairs Partner To Train At-Risk Youth With Job Corps Demonstration Project, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20181221-0>.

<sup>822</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor And Florida Department Of Military Affairs Partner To Train At-Risk Youth With Job Corps Demonstration Project, U.S. Department of Labor (Washington) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20181221-0>.

<sup>823</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Provides Idaho Flexibility To Better Serve Job Corps Students, Department of Labor, (Washington) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20181221-1>.

<sup>824</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Provides Idaho Flexibility To Better Serve Job Corps Students, Department of Labor, (Washington) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20181221-1>.

<sup>825</sup> Updated: U.S. Department of Labor Provides National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Grant to Combat Opioid Crisis in New York State, United States Department of Labor (Washington) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190116>.

<sup>826</sup> Updated: U.S. Department of Labor Provides National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Grant to Combat Opioid Crisis in New York State, United States Department of Labor (Washington) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190116>.

<sup>827</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Awards \$85 Million In Youthbuild Grants, U.S. Department of Labour (Washington) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190130>.

<sup>828</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Awards \$85 Million In Youthbuild Grants, U.S. Department of Labour (Washington) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190130>.

<sup>829</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Awards \$85 Million In Youthbuild Grants, U.S. Department of Labour (Washington) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190130>.

On 8 March 2019, the United States government announced that a grant of USD1,363,435, with a maximum of USD4,090,306, would be given to the Missouri Division of Workforce Development to provide employment services in sectors that will help combat the opioid crisis in specific counties of Missouri.<sup>830</sup> This includes positions such as peer supports, peer recovery navigators, and intake/coordinator aids, as well as careers in healthcare professions related to addiction, treatment, prevention, and pain management.<sup>831</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the US Department of Labor released a statement regarding the 2020 Budget. US Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta said that “The budget expands apprenticeship opportunities,” as the budget works towards investing USD160 million in apprenticeships to develop a skilled workforce in various sectors, supporting transitioning service members’ move to civilian life by enhancing employment support services, protecting the rights of more than 143 million American workers, and enhancing paid family leave following the birth of a child.<sup>832</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the United States government announced that USD886,860 would be given to the Washington State Department of Employment Security to provide employment services in sectors that will help combat the opioid crisis.<sup>833</sup> The funding will also help those affected by the opioid crisis access career training and support services.<sup>834</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the United States government held a forum to discuss the challenges faced by individuals attempting to enter the workforce from the justice system, in order to reduce recidivism and fill open positions.<sup>835</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the United States announced it had made USD82.5 million available in Reentry Employment Opportunity grants and USD5 million in Fidelity Bonding Demonstration grants to improve employment opportunities for those exiting the justice system.<sup>836</sup> This program is available to young adults aged 18-24 or adults 25 and older within two years of release.<sup>837</sup>

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<sup>830</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Provides National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Grant to Combat Opioid Crisis in Missouri, United States Department of Labor (Washington) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190308>.

<sup>831</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Provides National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Grant to Combat Opioid Crisis in Missouri, United States Department of Labor (Washington) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190308>.

<sup>832</sup> PRESIDENT’S 2020 BUDGET EXPANDS OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICA’S WORKFORCE, US Department of Labor (Washington DC) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 4 May 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20190311>.

<sup>833</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Provides National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Grant to Combat Opioid Crisis in Washington, United States Department of Labor (Washington) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190315>.

<sup>834</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Provides National Health Emergency Dislocated Worker Grant to Combat Opioid Crisis in Washington, United States Department of Labor (Washington) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190315>.

<sup>835</sup> U.S. Department of Labor Holds Strengthening America’s Workforce Event to Discuss Paths for Americans Transitioning from Justice System to Workforce, United States Department of Labour (Washington) 1 April 2019. Access date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osec/osec20190401>.

<sup>836</sup> U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$87.5 Million in Grants to Improve Employment Opportunities for Americans Exiting the Criminal Justice System, United States Department of Labor (Washington) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190410>.

<sup>837</sup> U.S. Department of Labor Announces \$87.5 Million in Grants to Improve Employment Opportunities for Americans Exiting the Criminal Justice System, United States Department of Labor (Washington) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190410>.

On 16 April 2019, the United States government announced a grant to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to provide career training to those affected by Hurricane Michael and to further continue disaster-relief efforts.<sup>838</sup>

The United States has taken action to promote vocational training and skills development in at least two of the key areas.

Thus, the United States has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sarah Jevnikar*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting vocational training and skills development.

On 3 December 2018, the European Union supported a Code Week which attracted 2.74 million participants, 43,657 events, and involved 10 per cent of European schools. The goal of Code Week was to expand digital literacy to all member states. The European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society, Mariya Gabriel believes that “only by working with the young generations and giving them enough opportunities to get ready for their future projects, Europe as a whole will succeed in the global digital race.”<sup>839</sup>

On 6 December 2018, five recipients received European Digital Skills Awards at the Imagine Digital Connect Europe Conference in Vienna. The awards recognize initiatives that have bettered the digital skills of Europeans at school, at work, girls and women, and for society in general.<sup>840</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) centered the 6<sup>th</sup> Brussels Seminar on the future of vocational education and training. Discussions and presentations on the future of vocational education and training (VET) centered on the decline of VET and the contrary increase of VET in higher levels of academic education.<sup>841</sup>

On 14 December 2018, Eurofound published a report on working conditions in the European Union, and their relationship between work and life.<sup>842</sup> The report is intended to be used to create an appropriate work-life balance policy for European Union employees.

On 18 December 2018, the European Commission and the Commission of the African Union introduced a European Union - African Union Digital Economy Task Force. The Task Force will

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<sup>838</sup> U.S. Department of Labor Awards Additional Funding to Florida to Continue Disaster Relief Efforts After Hurricane Michael, United States Department of Labor (Washington) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/eta/eta20190416>.

<sup>839</sup> EU Code Week 2018 breaks all-time record, with 2.7 million participants and nearly 44,000 events, European Commission, Digital Single Market (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/eu-code-week-2018-breaks-all-time-record-27-million-participants-and-nearly-44000-events>.

<sup>840</sup> Winners of the European Digital Skills Awards 2018, European Commission, Digital Single Market (Brussels) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/winners-european-digital-skills-awards-2018>.

<sup>841</sup> Cedefop’s future VET scenarios welcomed by policy-makers, CEDEFOP (Brussels) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 6 March 2019. [http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefops-future-vet-scenarios-welcomed-policy-makers?fbclid=IwAR0i6Xz--E\\_XPtngriHrFenuQlwRr3cdNm9Umv9J5wGbQdAG1PBLd81MTk4](http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefops-future-vet-scenarios-welcomed-policy-makers?fbclid=IwAR0i6Xz--E_XPtngriHrFenuQlwRr3cdNm9Umv9J5wGbQdAG1PBLd81MTk4).

<sup>842</sup> Striking a balance: Reconciling work and life in the EU, Eurofound (Brussels) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/report/2018/striking-a-balance-reconciling-work-and-life-in-the-eu>.

ensure a digital link between the African Union and the European Union via cross-border backbone infrastructure.<sup>843</sup>

On 9 January 2019, Cedefop released a database to match individuals' skills to current and anticipated labour market needs. The tool gives European Union policy makers an opportunity to address the changing landscape of vocational education and training and ensure labour needs are met.<sup>844</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Cedefop launched online surveys on skills anticipation and matching systems. To improve the skills governance of European Union member states, Cedefop is gathering the views of those who use the current skills intelligence in their daily lives. More accessible data on the skills and labour market will allow people to make informed career decisions and identify jobs that match their vocational skill aptitude.<sup>845</sup>

On 15 February 2019, an expert working group met in Brussels to discuss Cedefop's second European Skills and Jobs Survey.<sup>846</sup> This survey focuses on the relationship between digitisation and learning, and seeks to determine whether EU workers are adapting their skills to changing technologies and job tasks. The data collected will inform Cedefop's new research area on 'Digitalisation and the future of work.'<sup>847</sup>

On 20 February 2019, Cedefop published new founding regulation outlining the role of the organization. Chair of Cedefop Management Board, Tatjana Babrauskienė, argued that "[the updated founding regulation] confirms the agency's key role at the intersection between education and training and the labour market, and in VET-related research."<sup>848</sup> The reform of the original 1975 regulation highlights the need to work with member states to "analyse and contribute to developments related to the design and award of qualifications...in relation to vocational education and training."<sup>849</sup>

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<sup>843</sup> EUAfrica High Level Forum "Taking Cooperation to the digital age," European Commission, Digital Single Market (Vienna) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/euafrica-high-level-forum-taking-cooperation-digital-age>.

<sup>844</sup> Cedefop launches 'matching skills' online information tool, CEDEFOP (Brussels) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019.

<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefop-launches-matching-skills-online-information-tool?fbclid=IwAR2QIfYqh3LIL2zu8usgBQdtDacHoR0tW0WPgP6cP537250c0mugmm29Cpo>.

<sup>845</sup> Cedefop launches online surveys on skills anticipation and matching systems, CEDEFOP (Brussels) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019.

<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefop-launches-online-surveys-skills-anticipation-and-matching-systems?fbclid=IwAR3HYAyE5hPwz7zc0rlwElidDC2CRVMhL2J0gsf4VREP-KKy8O7N1-SkYw8>.

<sup>846</sup> Cedefop launches 2nd European skills and jobs survey, CEDEFOP (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019.

<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefop-launches-2nd-european-skills-and-jobs-survey?fbclid=IwAR38So19jHvnVvTdp4DGjiofHMfSpmykjlifTpcRBPdiQhKhBQ-97HVzs>.

<sup>847</sup> Digitalisation and the future of work, CEDEFOP (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019.

<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/events-and-projects/projects/digitalisation-and-future-work>.

<sup>848</sup> VET's role in shaping Europe's future discussed at European Parliament/ Cedefop event, CEDEFOP February 28 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019.

<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/hu/news-and-press/news/vets-role-shaping-europes-future-discussed-european-parliamentcedefop-event>.

<sup>849</sup> Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Centre for the Development of Vocational training (CEDEFOP) and repealing Council Regulation, Office Journal of the European Union (Brussels) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019.

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019R0128&from=EN>.

On 27 February 2019, Cedefop presented their research on the future role of vocational education and training in the European Union and introduced new founding regulation.<sup>850</sup> Anne Sander, a Member of European Parliament hosting the event, shared that she is in “favour of moving towards more sharing of good practices at EU level, but also providing more support to Member States willing to develop VET.”<sup>851</sup> The call for evidence-based decisions and increased dialogue was exemplified by the lively debate among the forty attendees.

On 12 March 2019, Cedefop released country reports summarizing the 2018 Cedefop skills forecast.<sup>852</sup> These reports outline future trends in jobs and skills in specific European Union countries.<sup>853</sup> This data will help European Union countries preemptively respond to future changes in the labour market and skill requirements.<sup>854</sup>

On 18 March 2019, the European Commission launched the European Media Literacy Week in Brussels and in European Union Member States.<sup>855</sup> From 18 to 22 March, the European Commission ran events highlighting existing initiatives and featured a main event hosted by the Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society.<sup>856</sup> The goal of the week-long initiative was to emphasize the importance of media literacy in making informed decisions in the digital age and as a necessary prerequisite for modern democracy.<sup>857</sup>

On 4 April 2019, Cedefop presented the findings of their governance skills review in Slovakia.<sup>858</sup> The meeting brought together high-level national stakeholders in a panel discussion identifying policy

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<sup>850</sup> VET’s role in shaping Europe’s future discussed at European Parliament/ Cedefop event, CEDEFOP (Brussels) February 28 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019.  
<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/hu/news-and-press/news/vets-role-shaping-europes-future-discussed-european-parliamentcedefop-event>.

<sup>851</sup> VET’s role in shaping Europe’s future discussed at European Parliament/ Cedefop event, CEDEFOP (Brussels) February 28 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019.  
<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/hu/news-and-press/news/vets-role-shaping-europes-future-discussed-european-parliamentcedefop-event>.

<sup>852</sup> Cedefop skills forecast findings in new country reports, CEDEFOP (Brussels) March 3 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
[http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefop-skills-forecast-findings-new-country-reports?fbclid=IwAR3fcbNWI9NPNnUBeV6s-BOMCF\\_6joUeFkr1tPlfifNg8O9xzsCL3UaRJ2A](http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefop-skills-forecast-findings-new-country-reports?fbclid=IwAR3fcbNWI9NPNnUBeV6s-BOMCF_6joUeFkr1tPlfifNg8O9xzsCL3UaRJ2A).

<sup>853</sup> Cedefop skills forecast findings in new country reports, CEDEFOP (Brussels) March 3 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
[http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefop-skills-forecast-findings-new-country-reports?fbclid=IwAR3fcbNWI9NPNnUBeV6s-BOMCF\\_6joUeFkr1tPlfifNg8O9xzsCL3UaRJ2A](http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefop-skills-forecast-findings-new-country-reports?fbclid=IwAR3fcbNWI9NPNnUBeV6s-BOMCF_6joUeFkr1tPlfifNg8O9xzsCL3UaRJ2A).

<sup>854</sup> Cedefop skills forecast findings in new country reports, CEDEFOP (Brussels) March 3 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
[http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefop-skills-forecast-findings-new-country-reports?fbclid=IwAR3fcbNWI9NPNnUBeV6s-BOMCF\\_6joUeFkr1tPlfifNg8O9xzsCL3UaRJ2A](http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/news/cedefop-skills-forecast-findings-new-country-reports?fbclid=IwAR3fcbNWI9NPNnUBeV6s-BOMCF_6joUeFkr1tPlfifNg8O9xzsCL3UaRJ2A).

<sup>855</sup> European Media Literacy Week, European Commission (Brussels) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/european-media-literacy-week>.

<sup>856</sup> European Media Literacy Week, European Commission (Brussels) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/european-media-literacy-week>.

<sup>857</sup> European Media Literacy Week, European Commission (Brussels) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/european-media-literacy-week>.

<sup>858</sup> Way forward for skills governance in Slovakia, CEDEFOP (Bratislava) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/fi/news-and-press/news/way-forward-skills-governance-slovakia>.

options to increase skills governance.<sup>859</sup> Both the Cedefop governance review and the panel discussion focused on the strong link between education and the needs of the labour market.<sup>860</sup>

On 8 April 2019, the High-Level Group on the Impact of the Digital Transformation on EU Labour Markets issued their final report.<sup>861</sup> The report includes recommendations for the European Union, its member states, and various businesses to ensure a smooth transition to the digital market.<sup>862</sup> This report will guide relevant stakeholders to make their digital markets inclusive and human-centric.<sup>863</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the European Union hosted Digital Day 2019 with a key emphasis on increasing the participation of women in the digital sector.<sup>864</sup> European Commissioner of Digital Economy and Society Gabriel Mariya stressed that “[t]he demand for skilled ICT experts is increasing. Europe needs to take responsibility in [its] hands and involve more women in tech.”<sup>865</sup> The discussions of Digital Day ended in the unveiling of the Women in Digital DD3 Declaration intended to increase access for women in the digital market.<sup>866</sup>

The European Union has fully committed to promoting vocation training and skills development to address all of the three key areas.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Chantal Elias*

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<sup>859</sup> Way forward for skills governance in Slovakia, CEDEFOP (Bratislava) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/fi/news-and-press/news/way-forward-skills-governance-slovakia>.

<sup>860</sup> Way forward for skills governance in Slovakia, CEDEFOP (Bratislava) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/fi/news-and-press/news/way-forward-skills-governance-slovakia>.

<sup>861</sup> Final Report of the High-Level Expert Group on the Impact of the Digital Transformation on EU Labour Markets, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/final-report-high-level-expert-group-impact-digital-transformation-eu-labour-markets>.

<sup>862</sup> Final Report of the High-Level Expert Group on the Impact of the Digital Transformation on EU Labour Markets, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/final-report-high-level-expert-group-impact-digital-transformation-eu-labour-markets>.

<sup>863</sup> Final Report of the High-Level Expert Group on the Impact of the Digital Transformation on EU Labour Markets, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/final-report-high-level-expert-group-impact-digital-transformation-eu-labour-markets>.

<sup>864</sup> 9 April: Digital Day 2019, European Commission (Brussels) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_AGENDA-19-1874\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_AGENDA-19-1874_en.htm).

<sup>865</sup> 9 April: Digital Day 2019, European Commission (Brussels) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_AGENDA-19-1874\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_AGENDA-19-1874_en.htm).

<sup>866</sup> 9 April: Digital Day 2019, European Commission (Brussels) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_AGENDA-19-1874\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_AGENDA-19-1874_en.htm).

## 5. Energy: Cleaner, Flexible and Transparent Systems

“We encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.”

*G20 Buenos Aires Leaders’ Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa			+1
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States	-1		
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75	

### Background

At the Cannes Summit in 2011, the G20 leaders, for the first time, committed to promote sustainable development and green growth as a part of a larger effort to improving the functionality of energy markets.<sup>867</sup> Prior to the Cannes Summit, sustainable energy had not been a strategy of G20 members in working towards strong and sustainable growth.

In Los Cabos, Mexico, at the 2012 Summit, the leaders reaffirmed their commitment from 2011 to promote sustainable energy growth., The Los Cabos Summit contained the first mention of climate change in the leaders’ communiqué. In it, they acknowledged the importance of a future that is focused on issues larger than the immediate economic crises of the time. G20 leaders recognized that green growth and sustainable development is capable of providing long-term prosperity and wellbeing.<sup>868</sup>

In the communiqué released at the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, the G20 leaders collectively praised the progress of international organizations such as the World Bank, Joint Organization Data Initiative, the International Energy Agency and the International Energy Forum and the G20 Energy

<sup>867</sup> G20 Leader’s Communiqué: Cannes Summit, G20 (Cannes) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 5 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html>.

<sup>868</sup> G20 Leader’s Communiqué: Los Cabos Summit, G20 (Los Cabos) 19 June 2012. Access Date: 5 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2012/2012-0619-loscabos.html>.

Sustainability Working Group, among others, towards highlighting ways towards energy transitions and sustainable development and again, separately, recognized the effects that climate change would have on the world economy. Additionally, they committed to supporting the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and their ongoing negotiations.<sup>869</sup>

In Brisbane, Australia, in 2014, a focus on energy was referred to as a “priority” and resilient energy markets as “critical” for economic growth. Collectively, the leaders endorsed the G20 Principles on Energy Collaboration put together by their Energy Ministers.<sup>870</sup> For the first time, the energy ministers called for the G20 members’ support for sustainable growth and development to be consistent with the members’ climate activities. This for the first time linked the climate goals to the goal of energy transitions, even encouraging renewable and clean energy technologies.<sup>871</sup>

At the 2015 Antalya summit in Turkey, the leaders included the energy and climate change in the same section. In the communiqué, they recognized that actions relating to energy would be central in tackling climate change and its effects; all whilst acknowledging that climate change is one of the greatest challenges we will face in our lifetimes.<sup>872</sup>

The follow up to the G20 Principles on Energy Collaboration was named the G20 Energy Access Plan: Voluntary Collaboration on Energy Access, highlighting the division between members on the necessity of taking action towards energy transitions.<sup>873</sup> During the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, G20 members merely reiterated their 2016 belief in the importance of energy collaboration towards a future of cleaner energy.<sup>874</sup> Despite that, 2016 was an important year in that they published the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, highlighting each individual member’s goals towards achieving sustainable development by 2030.<sup>875</sup>

The 2017 Hamburg Summit was a pivotal moment whereby the first subsection of the ‘Improving Livelihood Section’ was named ‘Energy and Climate’, emphasizing their mutual interconnectedness and stating in it that “a strong economy and a health climate are mutually reinforcing.” In Hamburg, the leaders, without the United States, reaffirmed their support for the Paris Climate Agreement and towards achieving a low greenhouse-gas emission energy system, as well as open, flexible and transparent markets for energy.<sup>876</sup> In the ‘Climate and Energy Action Plan for Growth’ that also was published in Hamburg, the leaders agreed to work together to “transform their energy systems into

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<sup>869</sup> G20 Leader’s Communiqué: St. Petersburg Summit, G20 (St. Petersburg) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 5 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html#energy>.

<sup>870</sup> G20 Leader’s Communiqué: Brisbane Summit, G20 (Brisbane) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 5 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communication.html>.

<sup>871</sup> G20 Principles on Energy Collaboration: Brisbane Summit, G20 (Brisbane) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 5 January 2018. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20\\_principles\\_energy\\_collaboration.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20_principles_energy_collaboration.pdf).

<sup>872</sup> G20 Leader’s Communiqué: Antalya Summit, G20 (Antalya) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communication.html>.

<sup>873</sup> G20 Energy Access Plan: Voluntary Collaboration on Energy Access. Antalya Summit, G20 (Antalya) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/G20-Energy-Access-Action-Plan.pdf>.

<sup>874</sup> G20 Leader’s Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 (Hangzhou) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communication.html>.

<sup>875</sup> G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Hangzhou Summit, G20 (Hangzhou) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/g20-action-plan-on-2030-agenda.pdf>.

<sup>876</sup> G20 Leader’s Communiqué: Hamburg Summit, G20 (Hamburg) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

affordable, reliable, sustainable and low greenhouse gas emissions energy systems” that are compatible with the Paris Agreement.<sup>877</sup>

At the 2018 Buenos Aires G20 Summit, while acknowledging that the United States intends to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, the other G20 members also recognized the crucial role of energy in shaping the future of the world. In promoting energy security, sustainability, efficiency, stability, affordability, and resilience, the leaders also acknowledged that there are many forms of energy and technological advances that allow for a low emissions future.<sup>878</sup> The G20 Energy Ministers Communiqué at the Summit stressed that the increasing investments in cleaner technologies, using renewable energy, cooperation in energy efficiency and innovation can all play a part in transforming energy systems, while recognizing that every member has a different possible path towards achieving cleaner energy systems.<sup>879</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The G20 member committed to “encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.”<sup>880</sup> In this commitment there are two targets: 1) decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and 2) cleaner, more flexible and transparent [energy] systems. There isn’t a particular or specific policy instrument towards achieving the above-mentioned target, which makes this commitment easily achievable. As such, the threshold for compliance is very low, compliance may be (artificially) higher than past energy commitments.

To “encourage” is understood to mean that compliance with this commitment requires the public support of old initiatives, continuance of ongoing initiatives, or the promotion of new initiatives and/or policies both domestically and internationally that would assist in transitioning energy systems that allow for continued growth whilst simultaneously decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. Full compliance with this commitment does not require the implementation of new initiatives.

Examples of encouragement include reinforcing, promoting or introducing initiatives and/or policies that create an attractive investment space for renewable energy and clean technology, energy efficiency, energy infrastructure and energy projects, providing assistance to other countries to do the same, or actively supporting international platforms and mechanisms such as the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. Strengthening cooperation amongst G20 members in the innovation sphere in regards to research, development and demonstration, as well as with scientific analysis, policy adjustments and monitoring within the G20, and in partnership with international or national research institutes, and the private sector can also be substantially beneficial towards the energy transition process.<sup>881</sup> Statements reaffirming the support of cleaner energy transitions may also be considered for compliance.

“Decreasing greenhouse gas emissions” is understood as domestic efforts to lower the total amount of greenhouse gas emissions that each respective member emits into the atmosphere. These efforts

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<sup>877</sup> G20 Hamburg Climate and Energy Action Plan for Growth. Hamburg Summit, G20 (Hamburg) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. [http://unepinquiry.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Climate\\_and\\_Energy\\_Action\\_Plan\\_for\\_Growth.pdf](http://unepinquiry.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Climate_and_Energy_Action_Plan_for_Growth.pdf).

<sup>878</sup> G20 Leader’s Communiqué: Buenos Aires Summit, G20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>879</sup> G20 Energy Ministers Communiqué: Buenos Aires Summit, G20 (Bariloche) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 19 January 2019.

<sup>880</sup> G20 Leader’s Communiqué: Buenos Aires Summit, G20 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>881</sup> Energy Transitions Towards Cleaner, More Flexible and Transparent Systems. International Energy Agency, (Paris) June 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2018. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_argentina\\_energy\\_transitions\\_wg\\_energy\\_transitions.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_argentina_energy_transitions_wg_energy_transitions.pdf).

will mainly materialize through the implementation of the Paris Agreement and other related commitments, such as keeping the global average temperature from increasing more than two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, increase the ability to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change and make finance flows more consistent with a pathway that leads towards lower greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.<sup>15</sup>

“Cleaner” energy is understood to be energy that is derived from renewable, zero-emissions source (renewables) or energy that is saved via energy efficiency measures, which manages or restrains energy consumption. This part of the commitment can be achieved by taking steps such as policy progress and investments in research, development and demonstration to ensure that energy efficiency is improved, energy storage is possible nuclear energy use is advanced and Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage technology is further developed.<sup>15</sup>

“More flexible and transparent systems” are understood as being systems that will deliver reliable energy at lower costs through efforts at optimizing and making more widely available the operations of the processes in both the demand and supply side of the energy market. This part of the commitment can be achieved by taking steps such as market reforms, and increased regional coordination to transition from emission-intensive energy sources such as coal and oil towards renewable energy sources and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), improve regional market integration, regional power system security and the digitalization of the energy system.<sup>882</sup>

To achieve full compliance, G20 members must encourage energy transitions that not only combine growth with decreased greenhouse gas emissions, but to also improve the cleanliness and operation of the energy system to ensure it becomes cleaner, more flexible and transparent via a range of different possible mechanisms.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member does NOT encourage energy transitions that decrease greenhouse gas emissions OR move towards a cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy system.
0	Member encourages energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gases OR move towards a cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy system.
+1	Member encourages energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions, AND move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

*Compliance Director: Nasser Haidar  
Lead Analyst: Drishti Thakkar*

### Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and to move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

On 5 December 2018, the Secretary and Minister of Energy Javier Iguacel headed talks for the fourth executive board of Vaca Muerta at the Finance Palace where challenges in the energy sector were discussed. National authorities, sectoral chambers, unions and oil companies discussed increasing in non-conventional production that will maximize exports and minimizes imports on natural gas,

<sup>882</sup> Energy Transitions Towards Cleaner, More Flexible and Transparent Systems. International Energy Agency, (Paris) June 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2018.  
[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_argentina\\_energy\\_transitions\\_wg\\_energy\\_transitions.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_argentina_energy_transitions_wg_energy_transitions.pdf).

promoting the usage of hydrocarbons. The aim of the discussion was to increase energy production while lowering costs.<sup>883</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the Secretary and Minister of Energy Javier Iguacel attended a lunch organized by the Argentine Institute of Petroleum and Gas at the Sheraton Hotel of Buenos Aires for celebration of the day of oil and gas. Iguacel addressed that “renewable energy is cooperative with gas, not competitive,” and highlighted the importance of collaborating with provinces to produce abundant gas at a competitive price, which will allow for more exports. Various governmental and non-governmental organizations attended the lunch.<sup>884</sup>

On 17 December 2018, Argentina and Brazil signed a cooperation agreement pertaining to nuclear energy at Mercosur Chancellors’ Summit in Montevideo, Uruguay. The agreement aims to cooperate to develop technologies that increase production capacity and competitiveness within the sector. Both parties agreed that they will focus on using nuclear power for peaceful purposes.<sup>885</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the Energy Minister of Finance participated at a conference led by the Minister of Production of Labour Dante Sica, focusing on progress in renewable energy after the implementation of RenovAr energy auction program in November 2018. Sica emphasized the potential of growth of the renewable energy industry, including creating jobs. Progress on consolidating a work agenda focused on simplifying procedures and increasing productivity, amongst other issues.<sup>886</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Energy Government Secretariat of the Ministry of Finance will conduct auctions for the purchase of gas by distributors to encourage competitiveness and transparency within the gas industry, encouraging usage.<sup>887</sup> On 14 February 2019, the first electronic auction for the purchase of gas by distributors was held at the field of the Electronic Gas Market.<sup>888</sup>

On 8 February 2019, the government amended decree 44/1991, which regulates hydrocarbon transport, with the aim of boosting competition and investment in the sector. The new framework simplifies processes for investing in infrastructure. These measures are taken under the Vaca Muerta

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<sup>883</sup>The Fourth Executive Board of Vaca Muerta was held, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-la-cuarta-mesa-ejecutiva-de-vaca-muerta>.

<sup>884</sup>The Minister of Energy celebrated the Day of Oil and Gas, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/la-secretaria-de-energia-celebro-el-dia-del-petroleo-y-del-gas>.

<sup>885</sup> Brazil and Argentina sign cooperation agreement on nuclear power, Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (Brasilia) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <http://www.brazil.gov.br/about-brazil/news/2018/12/brazil-and-argentina-sign-cooperation-agreement-on-nuclear-power>.

<sup>886</sup> Renewable energy table convened industry leaders, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/mesa-de-energias-renovables-convoco-referentes-del-sector>.

<sup>887</sup> The government seeks greater competition and transparency in the purchase of gas by distributors, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-busca-mayor-competencia-y-transparencia-en-la-compra-de-gas-por-parte-de-las>.

<sup>888</sup>With a volume of gas offered of more than 50 million m3 daily, closed the first auction for the purchase of gas from distributors, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-busca-mayor-competencia-y-transparencia-en-la-compra-de-gas-por-parte-de-las>.

table, published in the Official Gazette. Secretary of Energy also announced that the government would be sending a call for bids for a trunk pipeline construction in the Neuquén basin.<sup>889</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the Secretary of Energy Gustavo Lopetegui led a sectoral meeting at the Treasury Palace to discuss the current state of oil and gas investment and development and employment within the sector. He reported that USD7.5 billion investments in oil are underway. It was announced that an incentive scheme for winter gas production may be underway.<sup>890</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Argentina and Bolivia signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to deepen energy integration. Bolivia and Argentina also signed an addendum to the current gas supply contract, which will save Argentina USD460 million in two years. The renegotiation allows Argentina to receive lesser gas in months of lower consumption and avoid penalties imposed by the previous government.<sup>891</sup>

On 18 February 2019, Argentina and India signed a MoU in New Delhi to boost cooperation in the sectors of energy between the India's Department of Atomic Energy, and Argentina's National Atomic Energy Commission. Both countries are continuing to engage in talks that will boost cooperation in areas of nuclear power for energy production.<sup>892</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Argentina was accepted to join the International Counsel of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). EITI is a global standard for good governance of gas, mineral and gas resources. Argentina seeks to promote transparency in its oil, gas and mining natural resources. They seek accountability of funds from non-renewable natural resources such as oil, gas and mining for the benefit of citizens and the economy.<sup>893</sup>

On 28 February 2019, La Cumbre II Solar Park became the 30<sup>th</sup> renewable energy project in commercial operation. The 30 projects have a capacity of producing 795MW of energy and are a result of USD1,220 in investments. This solar park is another step towards achieving objectives set by Law 27,191 (National Promotion Regime for the use of Renewable Energy Sources for the Production of Electric Power).<sup>894</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the Energy Government Secretariat announced a platform that allows households to register to generate electricity for self-consumption and distribution. This will prevent losses of

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<sup>889</sup>The government seeks to favour investment in infrastructure for the transport of oil and gas, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-busca-favorecer-la-inversion-en-infraestructura-para-el-transporte-de-o>.

<sup>890</sup>The Vaca Muerta Board brought together the State, employers and workers' representatives, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/la-mesa-de-vaca-muerta-reunio-al-estado-los-empresarios-y-representantes-de-los-0>.

<sup>891</sup>Argentina will save 460 million dollars in two years for the renegotiation of the gas import agreement from Bolivia, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-ahorrara-460-millones-de-dolares-en-dos-anos-por-la-renegociacion-del-acuerdo-de>.

<sup>892</sup>India, Argentina sign MoU for Nuclear energy cooperation, Times of India (New Delhi) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-argentina-sign-mou-for-nuclear-energy-cooperation/articleshow/68056022.cms>.

<sup>893</sup>Argentina was accepted as a member of a global initiative to improve the transparency of extractive industries, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-fue-aceptada-como-miembro-de-iniciativa-mundial-para-mejorar-la-transparencia-de>.

<sup>894</sup>There are already 30 renewable energy projects in commercial operation, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ya-son-30-los-proyectos-de-energias-renovables-en-operacion-comercial>.

electricity in distribution circuits and reduce transportation costs. This creates a system to tackle climate change by reducing Czmissions.<sup>895</sup>

On 8 March 2019, Infrastructure Directorate of the Bank of the Investment and Foreign Trade (BICE) with Ministers of Production, Finance, and Environment coordinated consultations for bidding on the construction of extra high voltage sub transmission lines. This transition will improve integration of renewable energy and consumption.<sup>896</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the first Provincial Index of Renewable Attractiveness (IPAR) was published using 27 variables by the Faculty of Economic Sciences of the UBA in collaboration with the Undersecretariat of Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency of the Ministry of Finance with the purpose to provide information on the degree of development of renewable energy in various provinces. The intent is to identify opportunities and barriers to investing in renewable energy projects.<sup>897</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the Minister of Finance Nicolas Dujovne and the Secretary of Energy Gustavo Lopetegui presented to 120 entrepreneurs at the Argentine Institute of Oil and Gas in Huston, Texas. He highlighted investment opportunities in Argentina's energy sector of USD30 Billion in oil and gas and USD12,000 million in renewable energy of USD12,000. Furthermore, he announced Argentina's intention to start exporting light oil and an increase in gas exports strongly starting 2019.<sup>898</sup>

On 12 March 2019, the Minister of Finance Nicolas Dujovne and the Secretary of Energy, Gustavo Lopetegui met with the Secretary of Energy of the United States of America Rick Perry at the annual conference of energy organized by IHS Markit in Houston, Texas. The Argentine officials discussed details on energy development and American investment plans in Vaca Muetra and renewable energy.<sup>899</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Minister of Finance Nicolás Dujovne and Secretary of Energy Gustavo Lopetegui met with representatives of Chevron, Shell, Total, Cheniere, Wintershall, BP, Petronas and Equinor at Houston, Texas for the CERA week event, a prominent global energy sector event. Lopetegui signed an agreement with the executive director of the International Energy Agency Fatih Birol for a joint work plan for 2019-2020 to strengthen Argentina's energy statistics system.<sup>900</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the Secretary of Energy Gustavo Lopetegui met with the director of Energy of the National Security Council of United States and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation to

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<sup>895</sup> Homes and companies will be able to generate energy and sell it to the network, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/hogares-y-empresas-podran-generar-energia-y-venderla-la-red>.

<sup>896</sup> The Government launched a tender for the expansion of electric transport capacity, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-lanza-licitacion-para-la-ampliacion-de-la-capacidad-de-transporte-electrico>.

<sup>897</sup> The first Provincial Index of Renewable Attractiveness is already published, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ya-esta-publicado-el-primer-indice-provincial-de-atractivo-renovable>.

<sup>898</sup> Dujovne and Lopetegui presented investment opportunities in the energy sector for US \$ 30,000 million for the coming years, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/dujovne-y-lopetegui-presentaron-oportunidades-de-inversion-en-el-sector-energetico-por-us>.

<sup>899</sup> Dujovne and Lopetegui met with the Secretary of Energy of the United States, Rick Perry, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/dujovne-y-lopetegui-se-reunieron-con-el-secretario-de-energia-de-los-estados-unidos-rick>.

<sup>900</sup> Dujovne and Lopetegui met with energy companies in the framework of CERA Week, in Houston, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/dujovne-y-lopetegui-se-reunieron-con-empresas-energeticas-en-el-marco-del-cera-week-en>.

finance energy infrastructure projects including the construction of the Neuquén gas pipeline and the bidding of high voltage electric transmission.<sup>901</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the Secretary of Energy Gustavo Lopetegui attended the Council of the Americas meeting where he spoke about the increase in production and exports of oil and gas in Argentina due to the investment of USD4,000 million and drilling of more than 1,000 wells at Vaca Muerta.<sup>902</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the fifth meeting of Vaca Muerta table was held at the Treasury Palace where Secretary of Energy Gustavo Lopetegui met with businessmen, trade unions and representatives of the national and provincial governments reflecting on meeting production records reaching every month with only 4% of training at the development stage. Furthermore, Lopetegui assured that Argentina will start exportation of light oil by the end of 2019. He stated his plans to meet with president of Chile to find mechanisms that will allow Argentina to increase gas exports during 8 months of lower local demands.<sup>903</sup>

On 28 March 2019, the Energy Government Secretariat representing the national government reported that they will tender construction of Comodoro Oeste Transformation Station along with two high voltage lines during second quarter of 2019 in Province of Chubut. The aim is to ensure security and reliability of energy supply in response to growing demands and improve services linked to development of oil, petrochemical, mining and refrigeration industries.<sup>904</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the Ministry of Energy established an extension in the 30 per cent discount of the gas rate for public good entities at Buenos Aires registered with National Center. Of Community Organizations. There are an estimated 7,000 organizations that requested this benefit, with a potential of 28,000 beneficiaries that may also receive this benefit, according to a survey by the National Center for Community Organizations (CENOC) and the Ministry of Worship.<sup>905</sup>

On 6 April 2019, the La Banerita wind farm started commercial operation as the first wind project in La Pampa; this totals to 35 renewable projects since 2016 that generate electricity for more than 840,000 homes and represent an investment value of USD1,500 million.<sup>906</sup>

On 16 April 2019, the Secretary of Energy opened bidding for exploration of 3 basins of the Argentine continental shelf for oil and gas opened over 13 companies offered USD995 million for 18 areas.<sup>907</sup>

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<sup>901</sup> Lopetegui met with the Director of Energy of the National Security Council of the United States, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/lopetegui-se-reunio-con-el-director-de-energia-del-consejo-de-seguridad-nacional-de-los>.

<sup>902</sup> Lopetegui at the Council of the Americas: "With more than 1,000 wells drilled, Vaca Muerta is a reality on the move", Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/lopetegui-en-el-council-americas-con-mas-de-1000-pozos-perforados-vaca-muerta-es-una>.

<sup>903</sup> Exports, infrastructure and occupational safety, the main axes of the 5th Vaca Muerta table, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/exportaciones-infraestructura-y-seguridad-laboral-los-principales-ejes-de-la-5ta-mesa-de>.

<sup>904</sup> The National Government will tender electricity works for the Province of Chubut, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-nacional-licitara-obras-de-energia-electrica-para-la-provincia-de-chubut>.

<sup>905</sup> The government extends the discount in the gas rate for public good entities, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-amplia-el-descuento-en-la-tarifa-de-gas-para-las-entidades-de-bien-publico>.

<sup>906</sup> There are already more than 1,000 new MW of renewable energy in commercial operation, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ya-hay-mas-de-1000-mw-nuevos-de-energias-renovables-en-operacion-comercial>.

Argentina has partially complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and to move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems. Argentina has encouraged energy transitions by implementing more renewable energy sources but has encouraged significant investments in oil that are not compatible with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Amit Dalaya*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and to move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

On 13 December 2018, the Australian government announced that they intend to establish the Underwriting New Generation Investments Program to reduce wholesale electricity prices by increasing competition and supply. This will also improve the reliability of the firm and firmed capacity in the system. The government called for Registrations of Interest for projects under the program which were due by 23 January 2019. A total of 66 submissions were received.<sup>908</sup>

On 21 December 2018, the Australian Energy Market Commission released an annual report with data on factors driving electricity costs and estimated falling of electricity prices in the next 2 years because of new pipelines of renewable energy.<sup>909</sup>

On 11 January 2019, the Clean Energy Ministerial mobilized leaders to compete for 2019 Energy Management Leadership Awards for energy efficiency. The winners will be honoured on May 2019 in Vancouver, Canada.<sup>910</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the Australian government's new Business Energy Advice Program intends to advise small businesses to "get better energy deals and reduce their energy usage" and develop an app to allow businesses to compare energy use and costs with their peers. They received funding of AUD10 million for 3 years and an energy benchmark tool for AUD1.6 billion.<sup>911</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the Australian government announced an AUD3.5 billion Climate Solutions Package, which doubles investment in Emissions Reduction Fund and indicates measures for improving energy efficiency to continue compliance with Australia's 2030 Paris accord targets. The

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<sup>907</sup> 13 companies offered almost USD 1,000 million to explore the Argentine sea in search of oil and gas, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/13-empresas-ofertaron-casi-usd-1000-millones-para-explorar-el-mar-argentino-en-busca-de>.

<sup>908</sup> Underwriting New Generation Investments program, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/government-priorities/energy-supply/underwriting-new-generation-investments-program>.

<sup>909</sup> Electricity prices falling overall with variation between states and territories, Australian Energy Market Commission (Sydney) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://2018.aemc.gov.au/price-trends/>.

<sup>910</sup> 2019 Energy Management Leadership Awards, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/news-media/news/2019-energy-management-leadership-awards>.

<sup>911</sup> Business Energy Advice Program, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/government-priorities/energy-programs/business-energy-advice-program>.

package also aims to continue reducing greenhouse gas emissions and lowering energy bills for consumers.<sup>912</sup>

On 26 February 2019, consultations for consumer data right, which allows for consumers to share and access data with accredited service providers in the energy market, were opened. This is expected to allow for more tailored and competitive access to services. This is expected to commence in 2020.<sup>913</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the Australian government announced various measures that will assist businesses, communities and households in improving energy efficiency and reducing power costs. This includes AUD50 million funding to assist businesses in managing energy consumption, AUD6.5 million to introduce energy rating labels, which will reduce 15 million tonnes of emission to 2030 and AUD10.5 million to improve energy efficiency in homes and commercial buildings.<sup>914</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the Council of Australian Governments Energy Council established the Hydrogen Working Group to develop a national hydrogen strategy that builds and positions Australia's hydrogen industry as a major global player by 2030, considering the abundance of natural resources in Australia and its proximity to key markets.<sup>915</sup>

On 8 March 2019, construction began on the new waste-to-energy facility in Kwinana with an AUD23 million grant and up to AUD90 million on debt finance from the Morrison Government. The facility will be capable of processing 400,000 tonnes of waste to potentially power up to 50,000 homes. This will reduce land waste and greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>916</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency has provided an additional AUD3.1 million towards Toyota Australia Hydrogen Centre project that intends to convert a decommissioned car-manufacturing site into an integrated hydrogen site, which will be fundamental in producing renewable hydrogen fuel cells.<sup>917</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the first solar power system at an Australian Antarctic Station was switched on, symbolizing an improvement in stability and transition towards reducing emissions. The solar power

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<sup>912</sup> Climate Solutions Package Announced, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/news-media/news/climate-solutions-package-announced>.

<sup>913</sup> Consultations open for the energy consumer data right, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/news-media/news/consultations-open-energy-consumer-data-right>.

<sup>914</sup> New energy measures to assist businesses, communities and householders, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/news-media/news/new-energy-measures-assist-businesses-communities-and-householders>.

<sup>915</sup> COAG Energy Council Hydrogen Working Group, Australian Government Department of Industry, Innovation and Science (Canberra) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/about-us/what-we-do/coag-energy-council-hydrogen-working-group>.

<sup>916</sup> Waste-to-energy project will deliver reliable power and reduce emissions, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Kwinana) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.environment.gov.au/minister/taylor/media-releases/mr20190308.html>.

<sup>917</sup> Morrison Government continues investment in hydrogen technology, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.environment.gov.au/minister/taylor/media-releases/mr20190319.html>.

system can deliver up to 10 per cent of the station's demands over a year, which will reduce cost and diesel fuel usage.<sup>918</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the Australian government proposed the Underwriting New Generation Investments program as recommended by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commissions. The program's objective is to reduce electricity prices and aid in providing affordable energy for commercial and industrial consumers. It also intends to improve the reliability of the electrical systems by increasing the level of firm generation capacity.<sup>919</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the Australian government selected the NSW Business chamber, after a competitive tender process, to implement an AUD10 million Energy Advisory Service that will advise thousands of small businesses on reducing power usage and managing electricity bills.<sup>920</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the Australian government approved a deed for license that allows for Offshore Energy Pty Ltd to explore Commonwealth waters for resource exploration for an offshore wind farm. This exploration, if successful, will allow Australia to be a part of the rapidly growing offshore wind sector in the long term. Offshore wind farms are expected to increase the stability of the electrical grid and lower power prices simultaneously while attracting investments towards cleaner energy systems.<sup>921</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the Federal Energy Minister signed for new regulations under the Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards. The new system utilizes new energy rating labels for air conditioners and display energy consumption figures for 3 climate zones designed to reduce energy bills. This will allow for higher minimum energy performance standards that seek to prevent least efficient appliances from being supplied to Australia, resulting in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and saving electricity.<sup>922</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the Australian Government announced an investment budget of AUD1.88 billion for affordable and reliable power with initiatives for new renewable energy. This is expected to reduce electricity costs for residential and business and increase reliable electricity supply.<sup>923</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Interim report on liquid fuel security was released to public for review and comment. Meanwhile, the government pledged to work with stakeholders to review Liquid Fuel Emergency Act of 1984 to improve effective measures of emergency responding and to improve transparency and oversight of the fuel industry for better supply management. The government is

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<sup>918</sup> Australia leading the way in Antarctic renewable energy, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.environment.gov.au/minister/price/media-releases/mr20190319.html>.

<sup>919</sup> Underwriting New Generation Investments program, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/government-priorities/energy-supply/underwriting-new-generation-investments-program>.

<sup>920</sup> Delivering trusted energy advice to small business, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.environment.gov.au/minister/taylor/media-releases/mr20190329.html>.

<sup>921</sup> Morrison government approves licence to explore possibility of Australia's first offshore wind farm, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.environment.gov.au/minister/taylor/media-releases/mr20190329a.html>.

<sup>922</sup> Households and businesses to benefit from improved energy efficiency of appliances, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/news-media/news/households-and-businesses-benefit-improved-energy-efficiency-appliances>.

<sup>923</sup> \$1.88 billion on action to reduce power bills and keep the lights on, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.environment.gov.au/minister/taylor/media-releases/mr20190402.html>.

also negotiating with International Energy Agency to modernize out-dated rules that disadvantage Australia due to geographic remoteness; changes to policy should reduce stock holding days to 85 days. The government also pledged to maintain the current gas pricing. These changes will ensure reliability of supply at competitive pricing despite any future decisions of the government in investing in fuel stocks.<sup>924</sup>

On 5 April 2019, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency is providing AUD2.46 million towards running integration trials of virtual power plants (VPP) by the Australian Energy Market Operator, which will explore how a network of small-scale solar PV and battery systems feed into the electrical grid. The VPP can save consumers electricity cost and increase reliability and stability of the electrical grid systems.<sup>925</sup>

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that focus efforts to combine growth in energy sectors and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and to move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems. Australia has focused efforts in sustainable development by investing in offshore wind farm exploration, invested in cleaner renewable energy such as solar panels and hydrogen fuel cells and improved transparency in legislative efforts to maintain gas and electricity costs.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Amit Dalaya*

#### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transition through combining growth while decreasing greenhouse gas emissions, and progressing towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

On 3 December 2018, the Brazilian Government released a fact sheet pertaining to their environmental initiatives and progress for the COP24 Conference. The National Biofuel Policy, *RenovaBio*, has committed itself to increase renewables in the biofuel mix from 2019-2028. The policy is aimed at reducing emissions by 425 million to 345 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, in accordance with Brazil's commitment to the Paris Agreement.<sup>926</sup>

On 11 December 2018, President Michel Temer signed Law 13,755/2018 creating the "Route 2030 Programme." The programme offers the auto industry BRL1.5 billion tax credits in exchange for BRL5 billion in research and development to move toward the production of cleaner and renewable energy-powered vehicles.<sup>927</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the National Development Bank (BNDES) committed to provide BRL163 million to projects that aim to reduce emissions, specifically the Climate Fund. The funds will aid in

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<sup>924</sup> Public consultation opens on fuel security, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.environment.gov.au/minister/taylor/media-releases/mr20190404.html>.

<sup>925</sup> AEMO trial integration of virtual power plants, Australian Government Department of Environment and Energy (Canberra) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://www.environment.gov.au/minister/taylor/media-releases/mr20190405.html>.

<sup>926</sup> Fact Sheet: Brazil at Cop 24, Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (Brasilia) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019.

<http://www.brazil.gov.br/documents/brazil-at-cop24-factsheet-dec2018.pdf/view>.

<sup>927</sup> President sanctions auto industry incentive law, Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (Brasilia) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 14 February 2019.

<http://www.brazil.gov.br/about-brazil/news/2018/12/president-sanctions-auto-industry-incentive-law>.

developing machinery and equipment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adjust to climate change and its adverse effects.<sup>928</sup>

On 13 December 2018, BNDES received a credit line of BRL163 million for projects aimed at adapting to climate change and controlling greenhouse gas emissions. The funds will be used for machinery, equipment and technology initiatives that aim at reducing the country's emissions. It will include programmes such native reforestation, renewable energy, efficient machinery and equipment, urban mobility, sustainable cities and climate change, solid waste, charcoal, carbon management and services and innovative projects.<sup>929</sup>

On 14 December 2018, Brazil announced that it reached its CO<sub>2</sub> emission target, set by the agreement signed in 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework of Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC), ahead of schedule. Blairo Maggi –Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply– presented the findings at the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP24) of the UNFCCC. Brazil reduced emissions by 100.21 to 154.38 million milligrams of CO<sub>2</sub> from 2010 to 2018. It is estimated to represent between 68 per cent and 105 per cent of their reduction goal to be achieved by 2020 and was accomplished by “increasing vegetation coverage (in hectares) multiplied by the corresponding emission factor.” The Low-Carbon Agricultural Plan, also known as the ABC Plan, aims to adopt sustainable technologies and is present in 52 per cent of all municipalities nationwide. BRL 17 billion has been invested to assist farmers in implementing these technologies.<sup>930</sup>

On 17 December 2018, Brazil and Argentina signed a cooperation agreement pertaining to nuclear energy at Mercosur Chancellors' Summit in Montevideo, Uruguay. The agreement aims to cooperate to develop technologies that increase production capacity and competitiveness within the sector. Both parties agreed that they will focus on using nuclear power for peaceful purposes.<sup>931</sup>

On 26 December 2018, BNDES approved of BRL7.6 billion for electric energy investment across the country.<sup>932</sup> The investment will be distributed between the states of Pernambuco, Maranhão, Bahia, Pará, São Paulo, Minas Gerais Gerais, Mato Grosso do Sul, Paraná and Rio Grande Do Sul.<sup>933</sup>

On 28 December 2018, former Minister of Mines and Energy Moreira Franco approved the Decennial Energy Expansion Plan 2027. It is expected that this plan will require BRL1.8 trillion in

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<sup>928</sup> BNDES will provide R\$ 163 million for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions BNDES, The Brazilian Development Bank (Brasília) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019.

[https://www.bndes.gov.br/SiteBNDES/bndes/bndes\\_en/Institucional/Press/Noticias/2018/20181212\\_greenhouseGas](https://www.bndes.gov.br/SiteBNDES/bndes/bndes_en/Institucional/Press/Noticias/2018/20181212_greenhouseGas).  
<sup>929</sup> BNDES to have additional R\$ 163 million for GHG control projects, Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (Brasília) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 14 February 2019. <http://www.brazil.gov.br/about-brazil/news/2018/12/bndes-to-have-additional-r-163-million-for-ghg-control-projects>.

<sup>930</sup> Brazil hits CO<sub>2</sub> emission target early, Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (Katowice) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <http://www.brazil.gov.br/about-brazil/news/2018/12/brazil-hits-co2-emission-target-early>.

<sup>931</sup> Brazil and Argentina sign cooperation agreement on nuclear power, Presidency of the Republic of Brazil (Brasília) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <http://www.brazil.gov.br/about-brazil/news/2018/12/brazil-and-argentina-sign-cooperation-agreement-on-nuclear-power>.

<sup>932</sup> BNDES approves of R\$ 7.6 billion for investments in energy in all regions of the country. BNDES, The Brazilian Development Bank (Brasília) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [https://www.bndes.gov.br/SiteBNDES/bndes/bndes\\_en/Institucional/Press/Noticias/2018/20181226\\_bndes\\_energy.html](https://www.bndes.gov.br/SiteBNDES/bndes/bndes_en/Institucional/Press/Noticias/2018/20181226_bndes_energy.html).

<sup>933</sup> Energy: BNDES approves R\$ 7.6 billion for investments in all the regions of the country, BNDES News Agency (Brasília) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [https://agenciadenoticias.bndes.gov.br/detalhe/noticia/Energia-BNDES-aprova-R\\$-76-bi-para-investimentos-em-todas-as-regioes-do-Pais/](https://agenciadenoticias.bndes.gov.br/detalhe/noticia/Energia-BNDES-aprova-R$-76-bi-para-investimentos-em-todas-as-regioes-do-Pais/).

investments, distributed as 21.6 per cent in the electricity sector, 26.1 in the oil and natural gas sector and 2.3 per cent in biofuels.<sup>934</sup>

On 3 January 2019, Minister of Mines and Energy Bento Albuquerque stated that there will be a need to invest BRL1.8 trillion in energy by 2027 for the Decennial Plan for Energy Expansion, and that BRL1.4 trillion should be given towards the oil and gas sector. Albuquerque continued by stating the importance of balancing renewables and fossil fuels by using them intermittently.<sup>935</sup>

On 3 January 2019, BNDES and Logum Logistica signed a financing agreement of BRL1.81 billion, which will go towards developing and maintaining the ethanol drainage system. By adding an additional 128 km of new pipelines, it is estimated that the project will prevent 400,00 truck trips and reduce carbon emissions by 700,000 tons per year.<sup>936</sup>

On 14 January 2019, BNDES signed BRL1.76 billion for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) fired power plant.<sup>937</sup>

On 25 and 26 February 2019, the Ministry of Mines and Energy hosted a workshop regarding “Long-Term Scenarios for the Transition of Clean Energy in Latin America,” as part of the Clean Energy campaign under the International Renewable Energy Agency. The workshop covered long-term energy scenarios for the energy transition and capacity building. Representatives from domestic and international governments as well as other organizations attended the event.<sup>938</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the Green Climate Fund transferred USD96 million to Brazil. The funds will support rural producers, indigenous people and communities by conserving native vegetation. 80 per cent of this fund will go towards the Pilot Program Incentive to Environmental Services for the Conservation and Recovery of Native Vegetation, Floresta+ and the remainder will be used in the implementation of the National REDD + Strategy that works to decarbonize countries.<sup>939</sup>

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<sup>934</sup> Minister Moreira Franco approves Decennial Energy Expansion Plan 2027, Ministry of Mines and Energy (Brasilia). 28 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset\\_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/ministro-moreira-franco-aprova-plano-decenal-de-expansao-de-energia-2027?redirect](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/ministro-moreira-franco-aprova-plano-decenal-de-expansao-de-energia-2027?redirect).

<sup>935</sup> Energy sector to have investment of R\$1.8 trillion by 2027, says minister Bento Albuquerque at Petrobras, Ministry of Mines and Energy (Brasilia) 3 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset\\_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/setor-de-energia-tera-investimento-de-r-1-8-trilhao-ate-2027-diz-ministro-bento-albuquerque-na-petrobras?redirect](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/setor-de-energia-tera-investimento-de-r-1-8-trilhao-ate-2027-diz-ministro-bento-albuquerque-na-petrobras?redirect).

<sup>936</sup> The main drainage system of Brazilian ethanol will receive R\$ 1.81 billion financing from BNDES, The Brazilian Development Bank (Brasilia) 3 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [https://www.bndes.gov.br/SiteBNDES/bndes/bndes\\_en/Institucional/Press/Noticias/2019/20190103\\_bndes\\_ethanol.html](https://www.bndes.gov.br/SiteBNDES/bndes/bndes_en/Institucional/Press/Noticias/2019/20190103_bndes_ethanol.html).

<sup>937</sup> BNDES signs US\$450 million financing for LNG-fired power plant, IPP Journal (Magala) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <http://www.ippjournal.com/news/bndes-signs-us-450-million-financing-for-lng-fired-power-plant>.

<sup>938</sup> IRENA: MME hosts workshop on long-term scenarios, Ministry of Mines and Energy (Brasilia) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias?p\\_p\\_id=101&p\\_p\\_lifecycle=0&p\\_p\\_state=maximized&p\\_p\\_mode=view&\\_101\\_struts\\_action=%2Fasset\\_publisher%2Fview\\_content&\\_101\\_returnToFullPageURL=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mme.gov.br%2Fweb%2Fguest%2Fpagina-inicial%2Foutras-noticias%3Fp\\_auth%3DG6G8Uhf5%26p\\_p\\_id%3D3%26p\\_p\\_lifecycle%3D1%26p\\_p\\_state%3Dnormal%26p\\_p\\_state\\_rcv%3D1&\\_101\\_assetEntryId=126577390&\\_101\\_type=content&\\_101\\_urlTitle=irena-mme-sedia-workshop-sobre-cenarios-de-longo-prazo&redirect=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mme.gov.br%2Fweb%2Fguest%2Fpagina-inicial%2Foutras-noticias%3Fp\\_p\\_id%3D3%26p\\_p\\_lifecycle%3D0%26p\\_p\\_state%3Dmaximized%26p\\_p\\_mode%3Dview%26\\_3\\_entryClassName%3D%26\\_3\\_assetCategoryTitles%3Doutras%2Bnot%25C3%25ADcias%26\\_3\\_modifiedto%3D2019-04-](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias?p_p_id=101&p_p_lifecycle=0&p_p_state=maximized&p_p_mode=view&_101_struts_action=%2Fasset_publisher%2Fview_content&_101_returnToFullPageURL=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mme.gov.br%2Fweb%2Fguest%2Fpagina-inicial%2Foutras-noticias%3Fp_auth%3DG6G8Uhf5%26p_p_id%3D3%26p_p_lifecycle%3D1%26p_p_state%3Dnormal%26p_p_state_rcv%3D1&_101_assetEntryId=126577390&_101_type=content&_101_urlTitle=irena-mme-sedia-workshop-sobre-cenarios-de-longo-prazo&redirect=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mme.gov.br%2Fweb%2Fguest%2Fpagina-inicial%2Foutras-noticias%3Fp_p_id%3D3%26p_p_lifecycle%3D0%26p_p_state%3Dmaximized%26p_p_mode%3Dview%26_3_entryClassName%3D%26_3_assetCategoryTitles%3Doutras%2Bnot%25C3%25ADcias%26_3_modifiedto%3D2019-04-)

<sup>939</sup> Green Fund transfers US \$ 96 million to Brazil, Government of Brazil (Brasilia) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/meio-ambiente/2019/02/Fundo-verde-repassa-us-96-milhoes-ao-brasil>.

On 5 March 2019, The Ministers of Mines and Energy of Brazil and Peru Bento Albuquerque (Brazil) and Francisco Atilio Ismodes (Peru) signed a Declaration of Cooperation in Energy. The agreement reaffirms their cooperation in renewable energy.<sup>940</sup>

On 21 March 2019, BNDES and the Ministry of Environment continued assessing Amazon Fund operations. The assessment aimed to analyze the characteristics and prospects of the fund, as well as increase the effectiveness.<sup>941</sup>

On 23 March 2019, the Government of Brazil released its intentions to expand access to sustainable Amazon products. Brazil's Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food is pairing with the German Cooperation for Sustainable Development to launch the project which will see to create and expand products in a sustainable manner. Products such as nuts, oils and cosmetics. This will aid Brazil's measures to preserve and protect forests and prevent an increase in greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>942</sup>

On 29 March 2019, Brazil and the United States signed a declaration for a fund of USD100 million for economic development in the Amazon. The investment will address environmental challenges including deforestation<sup>943</sup> which in turn would assist in carbon offset maintenance.

On 16 April 2019, the Ministry of Environment published their objectives for their Amazon Sustainable Landscape Project, which is funded and supported by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). The project's objectives include improving the sustainability of protected areas, reducing biodiversity loss, recovering degraded areas, increasing carbon stock and forest management and strengthening conservation policies.<sup>944</sup>

Brazil's extensive investment in renewables demonstrates its progression towards more transparent energy systems. Its achievement of meeting its 2025 greenhouse gas emission goal ahead of schedule demonstrates its commitment to encouraging the decrease of emissions.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Kaylin Dave*

### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transition through combining growth while decreasing greenhouse gas emissions, and progressing towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

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<sup>940</sup> Brazil and Peru sign declaration of cooperation in energy, Government of Brazil (Toronto) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/infraestrutura/2019/03/brasil-e-peru-assinam-declaracao-de-cooperacao-em-energia>.

<sup>941</sup> BNDES and Ministry of Environment continue the assessment of operations of the Amazon Fund, Brazilian Development Bank (Rio de Janeiro) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 18 January 2019. [https://www.bndes.gov.br/SiteBNDES/bndes/bndes\\_en/Institucional/Press/Noticias/2019/20190321\\_bndes\\_ministry.html](https://www.bndes.gov.br/SiteBNDES/bndes/bndes_en/Institucional/Press/Noticias/2019/20190321_bndes_ministry.html).

<sup>942</sup> Project Launched to Expand Access to Sustainable Amazon Products, Government of Brazil (Brasilia) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/meio-ambiente/2019/03/projeto-e-lancado-para-ampliar-acesso-aos-produtos-sustentaveis-da-amazonia>.

<sup>943</sup> Brazil and US articulate fund creation of U \$100 mi for Amazon, Government of Brazil (Brasilia) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/meio-ambiente/2019/04/brasil-e-eua-articulam-criacao-de-fundo-de-u-100-mi-para-amazonia>.

<sup>944</sup> GEF Sustainable Landscapes Project, Ministry of the Environment (Brasilia) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.mma.gov.br/biodiversidade/projetos-sobre-a-biodiveridade/projeto-gef-paisagens-sustent%C3%A1veis.html>.

On 3 December 2018, the Government of Canada released a document in preparation for the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties under United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention in Katowice. Canada aims to play a leadership role to finalize the rule book from the 2015 Paris Agreement which outlines how countries will commit to reducing green-house emissions and their progress.<sup>945</sup>

On 12 December 2018, Canada released a study that showed 9 per cent of the greenhouse gases emitted in 2015 came from electricity usage and governments at all levels agreed to collaborate to produce electricity through more sustainable means. To meet its climate goals and support collaboration of federal, provincial and territorial governments, Canada published two regulations in *Canada Gazette*, Part II. They intend to accelerate the phasing out of coal-fired electricity by 31 December 2019, and the regulations will extend to greenhouse gas regulations for natural-gas fired electricity to cover new natural gas-fired electricity units that were converted from coal-fired units.<sup>946</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the Canadian government published an annual report regarding the status of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change. The project implements carbon pricing, renewables, building federally funded infrastructure, modernizing electricity systems, reducing reliance on diesel, using cleaner fuels and more. The Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change initiative that stretches across the provinces and works alongside Indigenous Peoples, will see pricing carbon pollution, as well as other complementary policies. These policies include creating a CAD2 billion Low Carbon Fund to help Canadians save both money and energy and publishing regulations to cut methane emissions from oil and gas sector by a factor of 40 to 45 per cent by 2025. Canada is also investing more than CAD2.3 billion to support clean technology and investing CAD21.9 billion in a green infrastructure via renewables. Moreover, Canada commits to continue their work towards collective climate financing and fund US100 billion per year by 2020.<sup>947</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the estimated effects of the Federal Carbon Pollution System were assessed. The analysis states that carbon pollution pricing at the federal level will reduce emission pollution by 80 to 90 million tonnes in 2022, simultaneously growing the economy.<sup>948</sup>

On 20 December 2018, Canada released its Clean Canada plan to protect the environment while growing the economy. The plan includes implementing a carbon pricing to reduce emissions, phasing out traditional coal-fired power plants and investing in renewables, finding cleaner alternatives to diesel and investing in Canadian-made technologies for cleaner solutions.<sup>949</sup>

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<sup>945</sup> COP24 Katowice: frequently asked questions on the annual UN conference on climate change, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/canada-international-action/un-climate-change-conference/cop24-katowice/frequently-asked-questions.html>.

<sup>946</sup> Technical backgrounder: Federal regulations for electricity sector, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-pollution/energy-production/technical-backgrounder-regulations-2018.html>.

<sup>947</sup> Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change first annual report: annex I, status of all Pan-Canadian Framework actions, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/pan-canadian-framework-reports/first-annual-report/annex-1.html>.

<sup>948</sup> Estimated impacts of the Federal Carbon Pollution Pricing System, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/climate-action/pricing-carbon-pollution/estimated-impacts-federal-system.html>.

<sup>949</sup> Clean Canada: protecting the environment and growing our economy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/clean-canada.html>.

On 8 January 2019, the Canadian government proposed to modernize the National Energy Board. The new Canadian Energy Regulator (CER) in Calgary will help integrate Canada's energy, economic and climate goals and increase accountability and inclusivity of Indigenous people by overseeing Canada's sustainable energy sector.<sup>950</sup> On 4 February 2019, Canada released the "New Canadian Energy Regulator Handbook" regarding the new CER. The purpose of the CER is to create more transparency, certainty and accountability for a more sustainable energy sector. The Handbook states CER it will strengthen protection of the environment, regain public trust, strengthen the economy and support reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, should it be adopted.<sup>951</sup>

On 9 January 2019, Canada officially joined the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), committing to providing clean, sustainable energy. IRENA, and its 159 other country members, offer a platform for cooperation and coordination on renewable energy policies and technology.<sup>952</sup>

On 18 January 2019, the Government of Canada agreed to invest over CAD734,000 into the region of Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk. The funds will go towards two projects - one aimed at supporting local arts industry and the other aimed at providing clean energy for local businesses.<sup>953</sup>

On 23 January 2019, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, announced a CAD 5 million investment in the electric vehicle industry across Quebec. She stated that Canada recognizes the role vehicles play in pollution and the funding will go towards building 100 electric vehicles fast chargers to reduce pollutions and offer greener alternatives.<sup>954</sup>

On 24 January 2019, Minister of Natural Resources Amarjeet Sohi, announced an investment of CAD4.1 million into modernizing Saint John's electric grid, to support energy efficiency and provide cleaner, renewable energy.<sup>955</sup> He also revealed funding of CAD49 million over three years for a solar project in Alberta. The funding will create a 23 megawatts solar farm, capable of tracking the sun's trajectory and capturing energy from either side of the panels.<sup>956</sup>

On 28 January 2019, the Government of Canada announced an investment for CAD4.2 million for two TUGLIQ Energy Corporation projects in Nunavut and Quebec. The projects focus on reducing

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<sup>950</sup> A new Canadian Energy Regulator, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/conservation/assessments/environmental-reviews/national-energy-board-modernization.html>.

<sup>951</sup> The New Canadian Energy Regulator Handbook, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/conservation/assessments/environmental-reviews/national-energy-board-modernization/cer-handbook.html>.

<sup>952</sup> Canada Joins the International Renewable Energy Agency, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/canada-joins-the-international-renewable-energy-agency.html>.

<sup>953</sup> Clean energy innovation and economic development in Inuvik, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (Inuvik) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/clean-energy-innovation-and-economic-development-in-inuvik-861625006.html>.

<sup>954</sup> Canada Invests in the Country's Largest Public Electric Vehicle Network in Quebec, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2019. Access date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/canada-invests-in-the-countrys-largest-public-electric-vehicle-network-in-quebec.html>.

<sup>955</sup> Canada Invests in New Smart Electricity Grid Technologies in Saint John, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/canada-invests-in-new-smart-electricity-grid-technologies-in-saint-john.html>.

<sup>956</sup> Canada Invests in Advanced Solar Technology in Alberta, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/a.html>.

diesel reliance by promoting the use of renewables, such as wind, and expanding renewable energy production and storage.<sup>957</sup>

On 13 February 2019, India and Germany agreed to aim for closer cooperation in regard to climate policy. Germany will assist India in climate action projects by providing them an additional EUR35 million. The funds will be devoted to sustaining forests, grid expansion, managing marine litter and storage for renewable energy.<sup>958</sup>

On 20 February 2019, Natural Resources Canada and the Canadian Industry Partnership for Energy Conservation invested in energy efficiency projects across numerous cities throughout the country. CAD40,000 was invested in Hamilton;<sup>959</sup> CAD10,000 in Montreal;<sup>960</sup> CAD40,000 in Brockville;<sup>961</sup> and CAD40,000 in Labrador City. Energy efficiency promotes a more sustainable environment by minimizing emissions.<sup>962</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency announced that Government of Canada supports Kivalliq Hydro-Fire Link that would bring clean energy to Nunavut, as opposed to fossil fuels. The funding will consist of over CAD1.6 million.<sup>963</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Minister of Natural Resources, Amarjeet Sohi, announced a CAD1.8 million investment in Energy Efficiency Alberta to support commercial and institutional facilities in Alberta and aim to cut pollution. The investment will be used to deliver strategic energy management training to 14 industrial facilities. Energy management systems will allow companies to track and analyze energy use and identify the most cost-effective ways to reduce energy use.<sup>964</sup>

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<sup>957</sup> Government of Canada Promotes Renewable Energy Innovation in Mining, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-promotes-renewable-energy-innovation-in-mining.html>.

<sup>958</sup> Minister Schulze agrees closer environmental cooperation with India, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin). 13 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-vereinbart-engere-umweltzusammenarbeit-mit-indien/>.

<sup>959</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency Improvements in Hamilton, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-improvements-in-hamilton.html>.

<sup>960</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency Improvements in Montreal, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-improvements-in-montreal.html>.

<sup>961</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency Improvements in Brockville, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-improvements-in-brockville.html>.

<sup>962</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency Improvements in Labrador City, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-improvements-in-labrador-city.html>.

<sup>963</sup> Government of Canada supports Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link feasibility work to bring clean energy to Nunavut, Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency. 25 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-supports-kivalliq-hydro-fibre-link-feasibility-work-to-bring-clean-energy-to-nunavut-833172767.html>.

<sup>964</sup> Canada Invests in Greener Energy Management Systems in Alberta, Natural Resources Canada (Edmonton) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-greener-energy-management-systems-in-alberta.html>.

On 11 March 2019, Canada invested CAD300,000 in Prince Edward Islands' first level 3 electric vehicle fast chargers. This investment is part of the CAD182.5 million that will be used to develop a coast-to-coast fast charging network for electric vehicles.<sup>965</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Member of Parliament, Kim Rudd, announced a CAD164,000 investment in strengthening Ontario's electricity grid and reducing pollution.<sup>966</sup>

On 14 March 2019, Canada invested in energy efficiency retrofits in numerous Canadian municipalities. Member of Parliament Gordie Hogg announced a CAD600,00 for the Pembina Institute for two energy efficiency retrofit projects that will help lower energy costs, decrease pollution and support future energy efficiency retrofits in other towns. Of that, CAD200,000 was invested for a pilot program for energy retrofits in British Columbia's housing stock. The remaining CAD400,000 will be allotted to eight different municipalities that are seeking strategies to retrofit their buildings. These investments are part of the country's Investing in Canada infrastructure plan where the government will be investing more than CAD180 billion in 12 years for green infrastructure, public transport, social infrastructure, trade and transportation routes.<sup>967</sup>

On 14 March 2019, Canada released a report stating Alberta's oil and gas sector will receive over CAD72.3 million from federal investments to support clean technology to reduce pollution and create jobs. Canadian Natural was allotted CAD5 million from the Clean Growth Program to develop an in-pit extraction process that will reduce the number of trucks and power needed. Emissions Reductions Alberta is also investing CAD5.6 million in support of this project. Canadian Natural will also receive CAD22.3 million for a steam turbine generator to help produce power at the Athabasca Oil Sands Project that will reduce emissions. Titanium Corporation will receive CAD45 million for technology to remediate oil sands tailings. An additional CAD10 million has been provided by Emissions Reduction Alberta for this project.<sup>968</sup>

On 1 April 2019, Canada invested in London, Ontario's energy efficiency. On behalf of Minister of Natural Resources, Amarjeet Sohi, Parliamentary Secretary of Science and Sport, and of Public Services and Procurement and Accessibility, Kate Young, announced CAD40,000 Ingredion Canada Corporation for an energy management system.<sup>969</sup>

On 5 April 2019, Canada invested in Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Adaptation. Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, announced CAD392,000 for energy efficiency and climate change projects. The Canadian Electricity Association received CAD206,000 through Natural Resources Canada's Climate Change Adaptation Program to implement adaptation

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<sup>965</sup> Canada Invests in PEI's First Level 3 Electric Vehicle Fast Charges, Natural Resources (Charlottetown) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/03/canada-invests-in-peis-first-level-3-electric-vehicle-fast-chargers.html>.

<sup>966</sup> Canada Invests in Next-Generation Electrical Upgrades in Southern Ontario, Natural Resources Canada (Coburg) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/03/canada-invests-in-next-generation-electrical-upgrades-in-southern-ontario.html>.

<sup>967</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency Retrofits in Canadian Municipalities, Natural Resources Canada (Vancouver) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/03/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-retrofits-in-canadian-municipalities.html>.

<sup>968</sup> Alberta Oil and Gas Sector to Benefit From Over \$72 Million Federal Investment in Clean Technology To Help Reduce Pollution and Create Jobs in Alberta, Natural Resources Canada (Calgary) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/03/alberta-oil-and-gas-sector-to-benefit-from-over-72-million-federal-investment-in-clean-technology-to-help-reduce-pollution-and-create-jobs-in-alberta.html>.

<sup>969</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency Improvements in London, Natural Resources Canada (London) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/04/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-improvements-in-london.html>.

plans for electrical systems nationwide. QUEST was allotted CAD111,000 to assess local climate risks and improve resilience. The Efficiency Valuation Organization received CAD75,000 to address private sector investment in energy efficiency.<sup>970</sup>

On 12 April 2019, Canada invested in Smart Grid Technology to reduce energy costs in Yukon. Honourable Larry Bagnell announced on behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources, that there will be a CAD650,000 in Yukon Energy Corporation to reduce fuel and generate more electricity.<sup>971</sup>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to reduce emissions while promoting cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems. Canada's investments in cleaner energy and phasing out of carbon-intensive diesel across the country, as well as efforts to introduce legislation to encourage energy transitions highlights its compliance.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Kaylin Dave*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.

On 3 December 2018, China attended the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties meeting in Katowice, Poland, the prominent international United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change climate negotiations. China reiterated that it plans to fulfill its commitments to the Climate Change Convention and the Paris Agreement. China was complimented for having addressed climate change as a primary focus, despite being considered a developing country.<sup>972</sup>

On 18 December 2018, China revealed its new Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) will be fully implemented by 2020 and will begin immediately in the energy sector with the aim to hit maximum emissions by 2030, as noted in China's Paris Agreement pledges. This new ground-breaking cap and trade system is expected to cover approximately 15 per cent of all global emissions and gives the Chinese government the ability to more carefully monitor carbon emissions.<sup>973</sup>

On 24 December 2018, China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment issued a statement outlining their decision to have a more targeted crackdown on pollution law violators. They also asked that local environmental bureaus to put forth pollution treatment solution plans and have open lines of communication with companies under environmental inspection.<sup>974</sup>

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<sup>970</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Adaptation, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/04/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-and-climate-change-adaptation.html>.

<sup>971</sup> Canada Invests in Smart Grid Technology to Reduce Energy Costs in Yukon, Government of Canada (Ottawa or Whitehorse?) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/04/canada-invests-in-smart-grid-technology-to-reduce-energy-costs-in-yukon.html>

<sup>972</sup> Can China Be the Saving Grace at COP24, The Diplomat (Tokyo) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://thediplomat.com/2018/12/can-china-be-the-saving-grace-at-cop24/>.

<sup>973</sup> China's 'monumental' new emissions trading scheme, Green Biz (Oakland) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.greenbiz.com/article/chinas-monumental-new-emissions-trading-scheme>.

<sup>974</sup> China plans more nuanced anti-pollution measures in 2019, Reuters (Toronto) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-pollution/china-plans-more-nuanced-anti-pollution-measures-in-2019-ministry-idUSKCN10007Y>.

On 29 December 2018, China added two 500MW solar power plants managed by the National Energy Administration to the grid. The plant in Golmud is able to sell its energy for 0.316 yuan per kWh as opposed to the benchmark coal power price of RMB0.325 per kWh.<sup>975</sup>

On 1 January 2019, Renewable Obligation Policy proposed by National Energy Administration (NEA) of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) became effective. This policy assigned quotas on both hydro and non-hydro energy for the provinces and encouraged buyers to acquire extra renewable energy certificates and renewable energy in general.<sup>976</sup>

On 10 January 2019, China's NEA of the National Development and NDRC released a statement on a "notice of work related to photovoltaic power generation without subsidy and parity online." This report outlined that "all relevant units are required to actively promote the construction of wind power, photovoltaic level price online projects and low-cost Internet projects." China will then re-assess the affordable internet access policy in 2020 depending on the status of wind power and photovoltaic power generation implementation.<sup>977</sup>

On 14 January 2019, President Xi Jinping issued a statement for the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week Conference that "China will work with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and others to build a clean and beautiful world... For today's China, green, low-carbon sustainable development has become an important part of a successful economic transformation."<sup>978</sup>

On 22 February 2019, NEA and Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund (PIF) announced that they had signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU). The MoU pledges China's aid for the PIF to develop renewable energy generation and technologies in Saudi Arabia throughout the next 10 years.<sup>979</sup>

On 26 March 2019, President of French Republic Emanuel Macron and President of People's Republic of China Mr. Xi Jinping agreed to cooperate to implement measures of the Paris Agreement, cooperate to ensure the Green Climate Fund is replenished and governed, to ratify the Kigali amendment to the Montreal Protocol which promotes improvement to energy efficiency standards in the cooling sector and reduces hydrocarbon use and reorienting public and private financial flows to combatting climate change. This agreement was made during China's state visit to France by the invitation of Emanuel Macron.<sup>980</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Li Keqiang, the Chinese Premier of the State Council, delivered the Government Work Report to the Great Hall of the People during the second session of the 13<sup>th</sup> National People's

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<sup>975</sup> New Chinese Solar Plant Undercuts Cost of Coal Power, Forbes (New Jersey) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/johnparnell/2018/12/30/new-chinese-solar-plant-undercuts-cost-of-coal-power/#1a6222601182>.

<sup>976</sup> China is planning provincial quotas for clean energy, China Dialogue (Beijing) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.chinadialogue.net/blog/10574-China-is-planning-provincial-quotas-for-clean-energy/-en>.

<sup>977</sup> Notice of work related to photovoltaic power generation without subsidy and parity online, National Development and Reform Commission (Beijing) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [http://www.nea.gov.cn/2019-01/10/c\\_137731320.htm](http://www.nea.gov.cn/2019-01/10/c_137731320.htm).

<sup>978</sup> Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week begins with message from China's Xi Jinping, The National (Abu Dhabi) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.thenational.ae/uae/environment/abu-dhabi-sustainability-week-begins-with-message-from-china-s-xi-jinping-1.813074>.

<sup>979</sup> Saudi Arabia's PIF signs MoU with China's NAE on renewable energy, Arab News (Riyadh) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1456326/business-economy>.

<sup>980</sup> Joint declaration between France and China, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/declaration-conjointe-entre-france-et-chine>.

Congress. Keqiang stated that China will, “vigorously promote green development,” to balance economic development with protection of the environment.<sup>981</sup>

On 22 March 2019, China Daily announced that the United Kingdom and China have opened a new research center in Yantai, Shandong province. This initiative will help British wind energy companies export to China, adding to the British and Chinese economies while contributing to renewable energy research and development.<sup>982</sup>

On 9 April 2019, China engaged in bilateral talks with the European Union (EU) at the 21<sup>st</sup> EU-China Summit in Brussels. China and the EU both agree to assume leadership positions in pushing the environmental agenda while cooperating in working towards an environmentally stable economy and attempting to fulfil the UN Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>983</sup>

On 16 April 2019, China hosted the World Energy Conference Information Conference for the representatives who will be in attendance at the 24<sup>th</sup> World Energy Congress in Abu Dhabi, between September 9-12. The Executive President of the China Electricity Council (CEC), Yang Kun, stated that the CEC will work with conference organizers in order to forge the best possible conditions for Chinese energy companies to, “provide more efficient, timely and convenient services,” in the future.<sup>984</sup>

China has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with reducing emissions while actively promoting cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems. China is making improvements in transitioning to renewable energy and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions both domestically and internationally, through new political carbon use monitoring systems, technological advancements, domestic and foreign investments in renewable energy and active conversation with other Nations.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ian Hughes*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and to move towards a cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.

On 10 December 2018, Agency of Environment reported that France will save USD44.5 billion if renewable energy sources will replace aging atomic facilities and if France refrains from building 15 new nuclear plants by 2060. This was followed by President Emanuel Macron’s announcement

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<sup>981</sup> The Second Session of the 13th National People’s Congress Opens, Ministry of Ecology and Environment (Beijing) March 5 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019.

[http://english.mee.gov.cn/News\\_service/news\\_release/201903/t20190307\\_694737.shtml](http://english.mee.gov.cn/News_service/news_release/201903/t20190307_694737.shtml).

<sup>982</sup> UK wind energy firms develop China exports. China Daily () 22 March 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019.

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201903/22/WS5c9434e0a3104842260b1ec5.html>.

<sup>983</sup> EU-China Summit Joint statement, European External Action Service (Brussels) 9 April 2019, Access Date: 23 February 2019. [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/china\\_en/60836/Joint%20statement%20of%20the%2021st%20EU-China%20summit](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/china_en/60836/Joint%20statement%20of%20the%2021st%20EU-China%20summit).

<sup>984</sup> The 24th World Energy Congress Information Conference was held in Beijing, National Energy Administration (Beijing) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. [http://www.nea.gov.cn/2019-04/19/c\\_137990544.htm](http://www.nea.gov.cn/2019-04/19/c_137990544.htm).

stating that state-controlled Electricite de France SA will be forced to shut down 14 out of 53 nuclear reactors by 2035 to allow for renewable energy expansion.<sup>985</sup>

On 12 December 2018, Secretary of State to the Minister of Ecological and Solidary Transition of France Brune Poirson, along with leaders from various other EU countries, issued a statement that they believe carbon taxing encourages reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and disincentives investments in carbon-intensive technologies. They also state that they believe the reform of the EU Emission Trading System is a step in the right direction.<sup>986</sup>

On 17 December 2018, Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, François de Rugy, issued a statement that France is adopting the implementation tools discussed in the 2015 Paris Agreement. He also stated that France has achieved mobilization of funding to support climate change action and upward revisions of the ambition level of contributions.<sup>987</sup>

On 3 January 2019, the Indian Department of Atomic Energy stated that India and France have made satisfactory progress on the Industrial Way Forward Agreement, signed in March 2018, to develop six reactors in Maharashtra, India.<sup>988</sup>

On 16 January 2019, France published a draft ten-year energy strategy plan, Programmation pluriannuelle de l'énergie (PPE), in which France demonstrated its plan to double renewable energy capacity with a system of regular tenders.<sup>989</sup> PPE also states that France will tender 17.2 GW of solar up to 2025. However, according to the report, nuclear energy will still remain dominant.<sup>990</sup> On 28 January 2019, Minister for the Ecological and Solidarity Transition and Minister of State François de Rugy, Minister of Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire, and President of the Strategic Committee for the Nuclear Industry Dominique Minière signed the industry's strategic contract. The contract enforces the guidelines set by PPE, which include research and development in the nuclear energy sector. The plan allows France to restrain the rise in electricity prices.<sup>991</sup>

On 22 January 2019, energy regulators from France and Spain rejected an investment request to build the central section of Midi-Catalonia gas pipeline linking both countries due to the project's failure in complying with market needs. Regulators said that the project did not provide "a clear and positive cost-benefit ratio." This decision was in the context of European energy policies focusing on

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<sup>985</sup> France Would Save \$44.5 Billion by Betting on Renewable Energy, Agency Says, Bloomberg (Paris) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-12-10/french-power-costs-will-rise-if-renewables-are-sidestepped>.

<sup>986</sup> Statement to strengthen and extend carbon pricing in Europe, ", République Française (Paris) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/statement-to-strengthen-and-extend-carbon-pricing-in-europe>.

<sup>987</sup> COP 24 agreement: "now, fears of a backward step have been removed", République Française (Katowice) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/cop-24-agreement-now-fears-of-a-backward-step-have-been-removed>.

<sup>988</sup> India-France making 'satisfactory progress' on nuclear power plant pact: Government, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 3 January 2019. Access date: 10 March 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/india-france-making-satisfactory-progress-on-nuclear-power-plant-pact-government/articleshow/67368750.cms>.

<sup>989</sup> France to double renewables capacity under 10-year energy plan, Reuters (Paris) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-energy/france-to-double-renewables-capacity-under-10-year-energy-plan-idUSKCN1PJ1T0>.

<sup>990</sup> France to tender 17.2 GW of solar up to 2025, PV magazine (France) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.pv-magazine.com/2019/01/28/france-to-tender-17-2-gw-of-solar-up-to-2025/>.

<sup>991</sup> Nuclear energy: signature of industry's strategic contact, République Française (Paris) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/nuclear-energy-signature-of-the-industry-s-strategic-contract>.

reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The France Energy Regulatory Commission Investment Programme for 2019 published on 21 January 2019 also did not mention MidiCat pipeline.<sup>992</sup>

On 22 January 2019, the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic signed the Treaty on Franco-German Cooperation and Integration in Aachen. Merkel stated that the agreement's objective is to usher cooperation across many categories including research and education, "as well as sustainable development, climate and environmental protection."<sup>993</sup>

On 23 January 2019, Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition and Minister of State François de Rugy and Secretary of State to Minister of State Emmanuelle Wargon met with Regional Council of Pays de La Loire to discuss their confirmed commitment to stop electricity production via coal-fired power plants by 2022, pursuant to the French President's July 2017 climate plan. The Minister also discussed a study to convert the Cordemais Coal Power Plant within their region to biomass electricity production plant.<sup>994</sup>

On 23 January 2019, Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition and Minister of State François de Rugy issued a request for tenders for the development of 300 megawatt of solar photovoltaic system for the conversion to clean electricity production in the Region of Fessenheim. The call for tenders represents a commitment of EUR250 Million by the French Government over 20 years.<sup>995</sup>

On 23 January 2019, Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition and Minister of State François de Rugy announced the launch of the Boiler Conversion Bonus, as a means for the people of France to afford the conversion of their oil or natural gas fired boilers that use cleaner sources energy in an effort to reduce fossil fuel use and for lower heating bills for consumers. This method of such bonus is to provide all households, regardless of income, with government subsidies as high as 50 per cent of the conversion project cost faced by each household, with a statistical objective to have zero. The initiative also calls on the replacement of coal stoves with high-performance woodstoves. Furthermore, the Government will also implement regulations on businesses in France to eliminate use of oil and low-performance natural gas boilers, forcing such to replace them with clean alternatives.<sup>996</sup>

On 24 January 2019, the results of a meeting held in Metz on 21 January 2019 between the elected officials of the Region of Moselle, the Energy Director of the Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition, officials from energy supply company UNIPER, representatives of the Emile Huchet

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<sup>992</sup> Regulators reject key section of planned France-Spain gas pipeline, Euractiv (Paris) 23 January 2019. Access date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy/news/regulators-kill-key-section-of-planned-france-spain-gas-pipeline/>.

<sup>993</sup> Speech by Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel at the signing of the Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic on Franco-German Cooperation and Integration in Aachen, The Federal Government (Aachen) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-at-the-signing-of-the-treaty-between-the-federal-republic-of-germany-and-the-french-republic-on-franco-german-cooperation-and-integration-in-aachen-on-22-january-2019-1572746>.

<sup>994</sup> Cordemais coal power station: the elected representatives of the territory received at the Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 23 January 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/centrale-charbon-cordemais-elus-du-territoire-recus-au-ministere-transition-ecologique-et-solidaire>.

<sup>995</sup> As part of the conversion of the territory of Fessenheim, François de Rugy and Emmanuelle Wargon launched a tender dedicated to the Haut-Rhin to develop 300 MW of solar photovoltaic, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 23 January 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/dans-cadre-reconversion-du-territoire-fessenheim-francois-rugy-et-emmanuelle-wargon-lancement-appel>.

<sup>996</sup> Press release: François de Rugy and Julien Denormandie announce the progressive launch of the boiler conversion bonus, Ministry of Ecology (Paris) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/communiqu-presse-francois-rugy-et-julien-denormandie-annoncent-lancement-progressif-prime>.

Power Station, and other State Officials was released to the press. Results indicated that the Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition reaffirmed its goals of clean energy transition in France and elimination of coal energy production by 2022, in accordance to the targeted goals of the government. The targeted goals of government are that the phase-out of coal power not be substituted by creation of new fossil fuel power plants (including natural gas), that biomass should be prioritized as the solution to difficult cases, that electricity supply security to the region of Saint-Avold (a high electricity demand region), and that the greater east region of the country must remain a global exporter of electricity while accommodating the closures of the last coal power plant in Saint Avold, as well as the closure of Fessenheim Nuclear Reactor.<sup>997</sup>

On 25 January 2019, the Government of France published the draft version of the Multiannual Energy Program (EPP), which outlined its strategy towards a successful transition to a more efficient and cleaner energy grid that complies with legal requirements [previously enacted by the Government], with an ultimate goal for France to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.<sup>998</sup>

On 28 January 2019, Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition and Minister of State François de Rugy met with Minister of Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire, and, Chairman of the Strategic Committee for the Nuclear Industry Dominique Minière to sign the strategic contract of the nuclear industry. The nuclear industry of France will coordinate towards high-stakes structuring projects that follow four axes, which include employment and training, digital transformation of the nuclear industry, research and development for ecological transformation and global strategic planning. The program intends to achieve half the share of electricity in the mix in 2035, according to François de Rugy.<sup>999</sup>

On 28 January 2019, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition drafted a work program with Electricité de France. This aims towards the development of biomass fuel production by governmental projects in proposed sites of Cordemais and Le Havre that utilize wood waste to produce energy. This model will commit towards a cleaner and sustainable energy transitions using renewable and waste resources.<sup>1000</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the plan for the release of renewable energies by the Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition and the Ministry of the Armed Forces was proposed during a meeting with stakeholders to present the results of the implementation of wind power working groups. This will improve acceptability at a local level and development in the wind energy sector.<sup>1001</sup>

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<sup>997</sup> Saint-Avold Coal Plant (Moselle): The Ministry of Ecological and Solidary Transition implements the commitments of the Climate Plan, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 24 January 2019.

Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/centrale-charbon-saintavold-moselle-ministere-transition-ecologique-et-solidaire-met-en-oeuvre>.

<sup>998</sup> The Government publishes the draft Multiannual Energy Program (EPP) in its entirety, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019.

<https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/gouvernement-publie-projet-programmation-pluriannuelle-lenergie-ppe-dans-integralite>.

<sup>999</sup> Signature of the strategic contract of the nuclear industry, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/signature-du-contrat-strategique-filiere-nucleaire>.

<sup>1000</sup> Future of the Cordemais Coal Plant: The Ministry of the Ecological and Solidarity Transition implements the commitments of the Climate Plan and establishes a work program with EDF, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/avenir-centrale-charbon-cordemais-ministere-transition-ecologique-et-solidaire-met-en-oeuvre>.

<sup>1001</sup> Plan for the release of renewable energies - Assessment of the implementation of the proposals of the "wind energy" working group to accelerate the development of the sector, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 30 February 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/plan-liberation-des-energies-renouvelables-bilan-mise-en-oeuvre-des-propositions-du-groupe-travail>.

On 4 February 2019, the Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition and Minister of State François de Rugy launched the development of a territorial project in Moselle following the closure of Saint-Avold powerplant, as an initiative towards reducing fossil fuel dependency and greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>1002</sup>

On 7 February 2019, France announced support for the European Union energy-rules amendments, which will extend the EU-gas market regulations to offshore pipelines. Such amendments may interfere with the completion of the underwater natural gas pipeline, Nord Stream 2, between Russia and Germany under the Baltic Sea.<sup>1003</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition and Minister of State François de Rugy and the Secretary of State to the Minister of State Emmanuelle Wargon held a preparatory meeting in Marseille with the elected officials of the territory of Gardanne, representatives of employees and the company UNIPER, in efforts towards cessation of coal-dependent electricity production in France. The decision aims to sustain carbon-free energy production and reduce emissions by decommissioning the coal slice of the Gardanne-Meyreuil coal plant.<sup>1004</sup> On 22 February 2019, a follow-up meeting was held to discuss the closure of the coal slice of the Gardanne power station at the region of Bouches-du-Rhône. A steering committee with working groups will study the project to launch the construction of the territorial project to close down the station down in efforts of committing towards a carbon-free sustainable energy production model.<sup>1005</sup>

On 10 March 2019, President Emanuel Macron's office announced that the draft energy and climate law bill due to be presented to the cabinet on 11 March 2019 has been postponed so it can be amended with "more ambitious environmental goals." The draft law will provide a broad framework on climate goals to make more precise commitments, including a focus on how France will cut down reliance on nuclear energy. The bill will also include a detailed outline of France's plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The office mentioned that the bill would still be presented to the lower house of parliament in June, as planned.<sup>1006</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the French government took note of the deliberation of the Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE), which is an independent administrative authority on regulated tariffs for the sale of electricity. While the CRE increased tariffs to cope with increase in wholesale electricity market prices and in price of electricity capacity and the governments are obliged to apply them, the French government will not apply the new increased rates until the winter heating period is

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<sup>1002</sup> Saint-Avold coal-fired power plant (Moselle): The Ministry of the Ecological and Solidarity Transition launches the development of a territorial project with all the stakeholders, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Moselle) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/centrale-charbon-saint-avold-moselle-ministere-transition-ecologique-et-solidaire-lance-lelaboration>.

<sup>1003</sup> France Backs Changes To EU Energy Rules Seen As Threat To Nord Stream 2, RadioFreeEuropeRadioLiberty (Prague) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.rferl.org/a/france-backs-changes-to-eu-energy-rules-seen-as-threat-to-nord-stream-2/29757783.html>.

<sup>1004</sup> Preparatory meeting for the closure of the coal slice of the Gardanne power station, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Marseille) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/reunion-preparatoire-fermeture-tranche-charbon-centrale-gardanne>.

<sup>1005</sup> Launch of the Territorial Project for the Gardanne-Meyreuil Coal Plan, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Marseille) 26 February 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/lancement-du-projet-territoire-centrale-charbon-gardanne-meyreuil>.

<sup>1006</sup> French government working on 'more ambitious' energy and climate bill, Euronews (Paris) 10 March 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.euronews.com/2019/03/10/french-government-working-on-more-ambitious-energy-and-climate-bill>.

over, as per the deadlines in the law, in efforts to maintain the price of electricity for consumers during periods of high consumption.<sup>1007</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the European Union Commission approved French state aid projects by the French Movement and Energy Management Agency for the aid of EUR1.2 billion. This project will consist of four floating wind turbine pilot farms that contribute to the European Union's energy and climate objectives.<sup>1008</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the Secretary of State to the Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition Brune Poirson defended the climate ambition and movement towards carbon neutrality in 2050 by calling for a reorientation of public funding to the European Union budget and an increase in private funding for ecological transitions including energy and economic development.<sup>1009</sup>

On 25 March 2019, the Secretary of State to Minister of State Emmanuelle Wargon assembled a "heat and cold renewable" working group that consists of administrations, local authorities and professional federations. The main focuses of the working group will be to create and develop heating and cooling networks, ensure their competitiveness, strengthen renewable energy within networks and innovate tools for design and pilot.<sup>1010</sup>

On 25 March 2019, the Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition and Minister of State François de Rugy launched a campaign that sends energy checks to low-income households to help them pay energy bills. The benefit will apply to 2.2 million more households this year, totalling to 5.8 million households. Amounts paid increased by EUR50, reaching up to EUR277 per household.<sup>1011</sup>

On 26 March 2019, President of French Republic Emanuel Macron and President of People's Republic of China Mr. Xi Jinping agreed to cooperate to implement measures of the Paris Agreement, cooperate to ensure the Green Climate Fund is replenished and governed, to ratify the Kigali amendment to the Montreal Protocol which promotes improvement to energy efficiency standards in the cooling sector and reduces hydrocarbon use and reorienting public and private financial flows to combatting climate change. This agreement was made during China's state visit to France by the invitation of Emanuel Macron.<sup>1012</sup>

On 3 April 2019, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition placed the European Sustainable Development Week, organized throughout Europe from 30 May to 5 June 2019, as a prerequisite for

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<sup>1007</sup> Regulated tariffs for sale of electricity: The Government takes note of the deliberation of the CRE and confirms that it will not apply these new rates during the winter, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Marseille) 13 February 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/tarifs-reglementes-vente-lelectricite-gouvernement-prend-acte-deliberation-cre-et-confirme-quil>.

<sup>1008</sup> François de Rugy welcomes the agreement given by the European Commission to the support given by the French State to the 4-pilot floating wind turbine projects, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 28 February 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/francois-rugy-salue-laccord-donne-commission-europeenne-au-soutien-apporte-letat-francais-aux-4>.

<sup>1009</sup> France pleads for increased climate ambition and health protection at the Council of Environment Ministers of the European Union, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 6 March 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/france-plaide-ambition-climatique-et-protection-sanitaire-accrues-lors-du-conseil-des-ministres>.

<sup>1010</sup> Emmanuelle Wargon launches a working group "Heat and cold renewable", Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/emmanuelle-wargon-lance-groupe-travail-chaleur-et-froid-renouvelables/>.

<sup>1011</sup> Government launches energy checks campaign for 2019, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/gouvernement-lance-campagne-envoi-des-cheques-energie-2019>.

<sup>1012</sup> Joint declaration between France and China, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/declaration-conjointe-entre-france-et-chine>.

success in ecological transition. Communities, businesses, and citizens are required to complete a form that indicates how their initiatives involve one or more of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, which includes energy, in order to participate.<sup>1013</sup>

On 9 April 2019, Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition François de Rugy and German Minister of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety Svenja Schulze reaffirmed their commitment to implement a to environmental protection and developing an ecological transition. François de Rugy also specifically stated that both countries strongly believe that a measure for reducing emissions is a well-designed measure that implements price for CO<sub>2</sub> pollution. This reaffirmation was made in the context that France continues to hold the presidency of the G7 and Germany of the European Union.<sup>1014</sup>

On 16 April 2019, Minister of State and Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition François de Rugy and President of Environment and Energy Management Agency Arnaud Leroy and Minister of Transport Elisabeth Borne announced nineteen winning communities for the call of low emission zone (ZFE) projects. More than EUR1.3 million will be allocated between these communities to study the feasibility of ZFEs as a mean of reducing emissions and to support their implementation.<sup>1015</sup>

On 23 April 2019, the government launched a Low Carbon Seal, which is the first climate certification framework adopted by France. The label is an inexpensive and rigorous framework that ensures the reality of emission reductions and environmental quality of projects. Local projects that reduce emissions will be offered this certificate as well, in hopes that it attracts new financiers. The labeling will also allow for communities, businesses, and consumers to consciously support climate-positive projects without compromising quality and provide compensation for doing so. This label was built in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and other governmental and non-governmental organizations.<sup>1016</sup>

On 30 April 2019, Minister of Ecological and Solidarity Transition and Minister of State François de Rugy presented the draft law on energy and climate that aims to meet the objective of zero net greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 at the Council of Ministers meeting. More specific goals within the law include ending coal electricity production by 2022, increasing the timeframe of reducing nuclear power to 50 per cent by 2035 instead of 2025, appointing a High Council to evaluate the implementation of these engagements and facilitating the development of renewable energy.<sup>1017</sup>

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<sup>1013</sup> European Sustainable Development Week: opening of the platform to participate!, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/semaine-europeenne-du-developpement-durable-ouverture-plateforme-participer>.

<sup>1014</sup> François de Rugy's visit to Berlin - Joint Statement with the German Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Svenja Schulze, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/deplacement-francois-rugy-berlin-declaration-conjointe-ministre-allemande-lenvironnement-protection>.

<sup>1015</sup> Low Emission Zones: 19 Communities Commit to Clean Air, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/zones-faibles-emissions-19-collectivites-sengagent-qualite-lair>.

<sup>1016</sup> Government launches Low Carbon Seal, a tool to encourage and reward local climate action, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/gouvernement-lance-label-bas-carbone-outil-encourager-et-recompenser-actions-locales-en-faveur-du>.

<sup>1017</sup> Objective zero net emission of CO<sub>2</sub> by 2050: François de Rugy presented the bill on energy and climate in the Council of Ministers, Ministry of Ecological and Solidarity Transition (Paris) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/objectif-zero-emission-nette-co2-dici-2050-francois-rugy-presente-projet-loi-relatif-lenergie-et-au>.

France has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and to move towards a cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.

France has continually demonstrated commitment towards carbon neutrality by 2050, developed initiatives and subsidies for business and consumers to choose climate-positive products, improved transparency without compromising quality with the Low Carbon Seal, and cooperated with global leaders to reduce emissions and transition to cleaner energy sources.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Amit Dalaya*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transition through combining growth while decreasing greenhouse gas emissions, and progressing towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

On 3 December 2018, Chancellor Merkel allocated another EUR500 million for the Cleaner Air Programme at a summit with local representatives in Berlin. Portions of the funds will go towards electrifying urban traffic and retrofitting diesel buses in public transport.<sup>1018</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the Federal Cabinet approved of Act to accelerate the power grid expansion. Federal Minister Altmaier stated that power grids are essential to energy transition.<sup>1019</sup>

On 16 December 2018, Germany attended the COP 24 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Katowice and agreed to take measures to reach the Paris Agreement goals alongside 189 other countries. Germany pledged to provide an additional EUR68 million to the Nationally Determined Contributions to assist developing countries in fighting against climate change. Environmental Minister Svenja Schulze also committed EUR70 million to the Adaptation Fund to support those affected directly by climate change, through innovative projects. Further, the German government promised to double its funding for the Green Climate fund to EUR1.5 billion to mitigate adaptation in emerging economies and implement low-emission systems.<sup>1020</sup>

On 19 December 2018, AIDAnova –a boat built in Germany that runs on liquefied natural gas (LNG)– departed on its first voyage. It was developed with funding from the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy as part of a green shipping campaign known as “Energy in Transport.” Sustainable maritime transport is an important feature to the Federal Government’s Maritime Agenda 2025.<sup>1021</sup>

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<sup>1018</sup> Another 500 million euros for clean air, The Federal Government (Berlin) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/another-500-million-euros-for-clean-air-1557404>.

<sup>1019</sup> Federal Cabinet endorses Act to accelerate the power grid expansion, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmw.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181212-federal-cabinet-endorses-act-to-acce-erate-the-power-grid-expansion.html>.

<sup>1020</sup> Concrete steps agreed, The Federal Government (Katowice) 16 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/concrete-steps-agreed-1563250>.

<sup>1021</sup> Ships ‘made in Germany’: world’s first cruise ship powered by LNG takes maiden voyage, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmw.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181219-ships-made-in-germany.html>.

On 3 January 2019, The Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) laid its funding guidelines for “Clean Air 2017-2020” programme. BMVI is contributing EUR207 million to the program to retrofit the diesel buses to reduce nitrogen oxide pollution.<sup>1022</sup>

On 18 January 2019, Angela Merkel delivered a speech at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin. Merkel commented on the connection and growing research connecting food and agriculture to CO2 emissions, stating that agriculture will need to play a role in decarbonization of the economy by the end of the century. As a solution, Merkel recommends precision agriculture to reduce nitrogen and pesticides utilized in intensive farming.<sup>1023</sup>

On 21 January 2019, the Federal Network Agency finished the “Ultranet” power line, expanding the power grid and allowing for wind power from the North Sea to reach a car plant in Baden-Württemberg, ultimately aiding in the production of electric cars.<sup>1024</sup>

On 22 January 2019, the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic signed the Treaty on Franco-German Cooperation and Integration in Aachen. Merkel stated that the agreement’s objective is to usher cooperation across many categories including research and education, “as well as sustainable development, climate and environmental protection.”<sup>1025</sup>

On 23 January 2019, at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Merkel stated that the way to mitigate climate change is to compromise and work multilaterally. In accordance to Germany’s plan to decrease coal and nuclear energy, gas will play more important of a role, and Germany will subsequently continue importing gas from Russia and possibly the United States of America.<sup>1026</sup>

On 28 January 2019, The Commission on Growth, Structural Change and Employment stated it would phase out coal-fired power stations by 2038 or sooner. A total of EUR40 billion will be provided over the next 20 years to those states affected to assist in ending the use of coal in power generation. Moreover, the Commission also proposes to establish an Fraunhofer institute for energy infrastructure and geothermal power with the purpose of decarbonizing the energy sector.<sup>1027</sup>

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<sup>1022</sup> “Clean air emergency program”: BMVI lays down new funding guidelines, The Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (Berlin) 3 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [https://www.bmvi.de/SiteGlobals/Forms/Suche/DE/Expertensuche\\_Formular.html?resourceId=12880&input\\_=12872&pageLocale=de&templateQueryStringSearch=emissions&cl2Categories\\_Themen=&cl2Categories\\_Themen.GROUP=1&documentType\\_=&documentType\\_.GROUP=1&lastChangeAfter=&lastChangeBefore=&selectSort=commonSortDate\\_dt+desc&selectSort.GROUP=1](https://www.bmvi.de/SiteGlobals/Forms/Suche/DE/Expertensuche_Formular.html?resourceId=12880&input_=12872&pageLocale=de&templateQueryStringSearch=emissions&cl2Categories_Themen=&cl2Categories_Themen.GROUP=1&documentType_=&documentType_.GROUP=1&lastChangeAfter=&lastChangeBefore=&selectSort=commonSortDate_dt+desc&selectSort.GROUP=1).

<sup>1023</sup> Speech by Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin on 18 January 2019, The Federal Government (Berlin) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-at-the-global-forum-for-food-and-agriculture-in-berlin-on-18-january-2019-1572744>.

<sup>1024</sup> Minister Altmaier: “We have taken an important step in grid expansion,” Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190121-altmaier-we-have-taken-an-important-step-in-grid-expansion.html>.

<sup>1025</sup> Speech by Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel at the signing of the Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic on Franco-German Cooperation and Integration in Aachen, The Federal Government (Aachen) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-at-the-signing-of-the-treaty-between-the-federal-republic-of-germany-and-the-french-republic-on-franco-german-cooperation-and-integration-in-aachen-on-22-january-2019-1572746>.

<sup>1026</sup> Compromises are acting responsibly, says Chancellor, The Federal Government (Berlin) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/compromises-are-acting-responsibly-says-chancellor-1573618>.

<sup>1027</sup> The beginning of the end of the age of coal, The Federal Government (Berlin) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/the-beginning-of-the-end-of-the-age-of-coal-1574864>.

On 29 January 2019, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and the Federal Office for Information Security published a “Standardized Strategy for Cross-Sector Digitalisation of the Energy Transition” that will help integration of renewables into the grid. The Strategy includes comprehensive digital communication from the grid operator to the supplier to the consumer.<sup>1028</sup>

On 13 February 2019, Germany and India agreed to aim for closer cooperation in regard to climate policy. Germany will assist India in climate action projects by providing them an additional EUR35 million. The funds will be devoted to sustaining forests, grid expansion, managing marine litter and storage for renewable energy.<sup>1029</sup>

On 16 February 2019, Angela Merkel made a speech at the 55th Munich Security Conference. Merkel discussed the Anthropocene, which includes the traces of nuclear tests, exploitation of materials and climate change in the contexts of global security, highlighting it as an issue. Merkel reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to investing in Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and phasing out nuclear energy, lignite and black coal.<sup>1030</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Germany released its 2019 annual report on research and innovation. Experts recommend higher taxes on carbon emissions to make clean energy forms more attractive, tax incentives to promote research and development in small and medium enterprises, more blockchain technology and start-ups.<sup>1031</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the Federal Environment Ministry stated it will be proving an extra EUR180 million for electric buses in public transportation. They will be specifically targeting transport that exceed the nitrogen dioxide limit. In total, the Ministry is spending approximately EUR300 million on this transition to cleaner public transport.<sup>1032</sup>

On 7 March 2019, the Federal Ministry for the Environment pledged to open a competence centre for climate protection in energy-intensive industries. Its intention is to promote decarbonization by cooperating with research institutions, industry and international institutions. The industries include steel, cement, lime, metallurgy, and other industries where high emissions are common. The centre will open in Cottbus later in 2019.<sup>1033</sup>

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<sup>1028</sup> Roadmap for smart energy grids of the future, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190129-roadmap-for-smart-energy-grids-of-the-future.html>.

<sup>1029</sup> Minister Schulze agrees closer environmental cooperation with India, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-vereinbart-engere-umweltzusammenarbeit-mit-indien/>.

<sup>1030</sup> Speech by Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel on 16 February 2019 at the 55th Munich Security Conference, The Federal Government (Munich) 16 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-on-16-february-2019-at-the-55th-munich-security-conference-1582318>.

<sup>1031</sup> The experts’ recommendations - energy, blockchain and start-ups, The Federal Government (Berlin) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/the-experts-recommendations-energy-blockchain-and-start-ups-1585856>.

<sup>1032</sup> Federal Environment Ministry increases subsidies for electric buses to almost 300 million euros, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bundesumweltministerium-erhoeht-foerderung-von-elektrobussen-auf-fast-300-millionen-euro/>.

<sup>1033</sup> Federal Ministry for the Environment sets up “Competence Center for Climate Protection in Energy-Intensive Industries” in Cottbus, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bundesumweltministerium-richtet-kompetenzzentrum-klimaschutz-in-energieintensiven-industrien-in-co/>.

On 12 March 2019, Germany pledged more money for the energy shift, even after the end of nuclear power in 2022. EUR4.5 billion will be made available for the Energy Climate Fund in 2019. The funds will be used to increase efficiency in trade and industry, renewable energy, building modernization, national and international climate change mitigation, projects and research, electricity, compensation for electricity-intensive business and expanding the National Action Plan on Energy Efficiency.<sup>1034</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Germany attended the Sixth Global Environmental Outlook (GEO-6) at the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in Nairobi, Kenya. State Secretary Jochen Flasbarth stated a need to have an “environmental policy that hold its own... for long-term prosperity,” and that there’s a need to “advance the overdue transformational change to more sustainable consumption and economic practices.” Germany reaffirmed to meet their Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, which would allow for sustainable energy, industry, agriculture and transportation.<sup>1035</sup>

On 25 March 2019, Federal Environmental Ministry expressed their support for projects for decarbonization of industry. The ministry will provide funds for decarbonization in the industrial sector.<sup>1036</sup>

On 26 March 2019, the Federal Environment Ministry called for project ideas on climate action and biodiversity. Funded by the International Climate Initiative, the ministry is seeking ideas on how to decrease emissions and adapt to climate change.<sup>1037</sup>

On 3 April 2019, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) honoured participants in innovation efficiency networks. 33 companies that jointly saved 16,4000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> are pursuing new approaches to energy management and efficiency, which includes diverse energy sources, efficient production, green buildings and low-emission mobility solutions.<sup>1038</sup>

From 3 to 4 April, Germany attended the XV Alpine Conference in Innsbruck, Austria, alongside the ministers of other parties to the Alpine Convention. The Alpine Convention is an agreement to

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<sup>1034</sup> More money for the energy shift, The Federal Government (Berlin) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/more-money-for-the-energy-shift-1589036>.

<sup>1035</sup> UNO report calls for decisive action for more environmentally sound economic practices and more sustainable lifestyles, Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/uno-bericht-fordert-entschlossenes-handeln-fuer-eine-umweltvertraeglichere-gestaltung-der-wirtschaft-u/>.

<sup>1036</sup> Federal Environment Ministry supports projects for the decarbonisation of industry, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bundesumweltministerium-foerdert-projekte-zur-dekarbonisierung-der-industrie/>.

<sup>1037</sup> Federal Environment Ministry launches call for project ideas for global climate actions and biodiversity conservation, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/bundesumweltministerium-startet-ideenwettbewerb-fuer-weltweiten-klima-und-biodiversitaetsschutz/>.

<sup>1038</sup> Energy efficiency as an engine of innovation: Federal Government awards successful energy efficiency networks, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/energieeffizienz-als-innovationsmotor-bundesregierung-zeichnet-erfolgreiche-energieeffizienz-netzwe/>.

increase cooperation on climate action in the Alps, a region especially susceptible to climate change. The Convention aims to make the Alpine region climate neutral by 2050.<sup>1039</sup>

On 8 April 2019, Federal Environment Minister, Svenja Schulze, and French Minister, Francois de Rugy, committed to continue Germany and France's cooperation on climate and species protection, and their path to climate neutrality. Minister de Rugy stated that they believe a well carbon price will help cut emissions.<sup>1040</sup>

On 8 April 2019, Federal Minister of Economics, Peter Altmaier, discussed with ministers from Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Austria, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Poland, the Czech Republic and the EU Commission about coordinating their electricity market as they phase out coal.<sup>1041</sup>

On 9 to 10 April 2019, Berlin hosted a two-day conference that examined the global consequences of energy transition. The Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue 2019 hosted delegates from 50 countries and addressed both opportunities and challenges of transition. Federal Foreign Minister Heiko Maas stated the importance of international cooperation to fight climate change. The task involves ending fossil fuel usage and restructuring the energy sector.<sup>1042</sup>

On 9 April 2019, German Deputy Economy and Energy Minister Thomas Bareiss met with Alparslan Bayraktar and both parties acknowledged strong partnership between both countries to cooperate in renewables, energy storage and efficiency and have set up four working groups to achieve better cooperation.<sup>1043</sup>

On 10 April 2019, Germany adopted its National Reform Programme 2019 to reach its agreed economic financial goals. The programme is designed to address and overcome structural weakness in the European economy, and includes increasing energy efficiency.<sup>1044</sup>

On 11 April 2019, the German Advisory Council on Climate Change (WBGU) released its report "Our Common Digital Future." The WBGU report states the need for digital transformation to support sustainability. The digital transformation will aid in research initiatives, such as the Koperniku projects that are developing "digital, technological and economic solutions for the transformation of the energy system."<sup>1045</sup>

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<sup>1039</sup> Alpine region to be climate neutral by 2050, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Innsbruck) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/alpenregion-soll-bis-2050-klimaneutral-werden/>.

<sup>1040</sup> Schulze and de Rugy reaffirm their close cooperation in protecting the climate and biodiversity, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Energy (Berlin) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/schulze-und-de-rugy-bekraeftigen-enge-zusammenarbeit-beim-schutz-des-klimas-und-der-biologischen-viel/>.

<sup>1041</sup> Altmaier: German decision to cut coal is being closely coordinated with our neighbouring states, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190408-altmaier-deutsche-entscheidung-zum-kohleausstieg-mit-nachbarstaaten-abgestimmt.html>.

<sup>1042</sup> The energy transition is the future, The Federal Government (Berlin) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/the-energy-transition-is-the-future-1599552>.

<sup>1043</sup> Turkey and Germany to boost renewable cooperation, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 18 April 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkey-and-germany-to-boost-renewable-cooperation/1456703>.

<sup>1044</sup> National Reform Programme 2019, The Federal Government (Berlin) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/national-reform-programme-2019-1599820>.

<sup>1045</sup> WBGU report: Digitization as a driver of sustainability, The Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/wbgu-gutachten-digitalisierung-als-motor-fuer-nachhaltigkeit/>.

On 17 April 2019, Germany and Ukraine stated their goal for a German-Ukrainian Energy Partnership. The partnership would aim at the modernization of the Ukrainian energy sector, and the expansion of renewable energy and efficiency.<sup>1046</sup>

On 15 April 2019, Germany voted in the EU Council for stricter fuel consumption and climate limits for cars and commercial vehicles to cut CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The EU regulation was adopted in the Council of Member States and Germany approved the regulation. The regulation also sets that CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of cars must reduce by 37.5 per cent by 2030. Federal Environment Minister Svenja Schulze stated that the automotive industry will have reliable conditions until 2030. Manufacturers will be able to switch production to new drives in reasonable time, which is important for Germany to remain a world-leading automotive location.<sup>1047</sup>

On 16 April 2019, Germany opened the largest Baltic wind farm with the capacity to power 400,000 households. Chancellor Angela Merkel states that renewables are now the focus in energy supply and called for an increase in the building of power transmission lines to promote use of renewables.<sup>1048</sup>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to reduce emissions and encourage energy transitions towards cleaner and more transparent energy systems. Germany adoption of new EU automobile emission regulations, investments in research and development pertaining to alternative energy sources, and international cooperation to reduce emissions and promote energy efficiency highlight its compliance.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Kaylin Dave*

#### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and moving towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

On 17 December 2018, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) and a French state-owned research entity to further collaboration in the development of e-vehicles.<sup>1049</sup> Specifically, the French company intends to help SECI develop a charging station with embedded batteries for e-vehicles powered by solar panels.<sup>1050</sup> This initiative would further

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<sup>1046</sup> German-Ukrainian Energy Partnership, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190417-deutsch-ukrainische-energiepartnerschaft.html>.

<sup>1047</sup> Schulze: New EU limits make new cars more economical and climate-friendly, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/schulze-neue-eu-grenzwerte-machen-neuwagen-sparsamer-und-klimafreundlicher/>.

<sup>1048</sup> Largest Baltic wind farm does online, The Federal Government (Berlin) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/largest-baltic-wind-farm-goes-online-1601694>.

<sup>1049</sup> Press Release: Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding between India and France in the field of new and renewable energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1556311>.

<sup>1050</sup> Press Release: Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding between India and France in the field of new and renewable energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1556311>.

support the Government of India's plan to encourage electrical vehicles and minimizing their impact on electrical grids.<sup>1051</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy announced support for a recently implemented program called "Waste to Energy" which transforms urban, industrial, and agricultural waste to energy in the form of Biogas power.<sup>1052</sup> Under the program, 184 Waste to Energy plants have been set up in the private sector which have an aggregate capacity of 315.24 MWeq.<sup>1053</sup>

On 27 December 2018, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy finalized bids to set up wind power projects with an aggregate capacity of 8389.90 MW.<sup>1054</sup> The Government of India has promoted wind power projects by providing fiscal and financial incentives such as Accelerated Depreciation benefits, custom duty exemptions on the parts of electric wind generator, among other benefits.<sup>1055</sup> Technical support has also been offered for potential wind power sites in Chennai.<sup>1056</sup>

On 3 January 2019, Indian Department of Atomic Energy stated that India and France have made satisfactory progress on the Industrial Way Forward Agreement, signed in March 2018, to develop six reactors in Maharashtra, India.<sup>1057</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy's proposal for implementing the Central Public Sector Undertaking Scheme Phase II. This phase entails setting up 12,000 MW grid-connected Solar Photovoltaic Power Projects for use by Government entities.<sup>1058</sup> The project is planned to be completed in 4 years and will encourage the domestic production of solar cells for its usage.<sup>1059</sup> The project will allow for direct employment of 60,000 people in the pre-commission activity phase and around 18,000 people for 25 years in the operation and maintenance

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<sup>1051</sup> Press Release: Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding between India and France in the field of new and renewable energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1556311>.

<sup>1052</sup> Press Release: Power Generation from Waste, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1556850>.

<sup>1053</sup> Press Release: Power Generation from Waste, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1556850>.

<sup>1054</sup> Press Release: Bids for setting up of Wind Power Projects of over 8000 MW Capacity Finalised, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 27 December 2018. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1557495>.

<sup>1055</sup> Press Release: Bids for setting up of Wind Power Projects of over 8000 MW Capacity Finalised, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 27 December 2018. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1557495>.

<sup>1056</sup> Press Release: Bids for setting up of Wind Power Projects of over 8000 MW Capacity Finalised, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 27 December 2018. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1557495>.

<sup>1057</sup> India-France making 'satisfactory progress' on nuclear power plant pact: Government, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 3 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/india-france-making-satisfactory-progress-on-nuclear-power-plant-pact-government/articleshow/67368750.cms>.

<sup>1058</sup> Press Release: CCEA approves proposal for setting up 12,000 MW grid-connected Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power Projects, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1562963>.

<sup>1059</sup> Press Release: CCEA approves proposal for setting up 12,000 MW grid-connected Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power Projects, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1562963>.

period.<sup>1060</sup> An additional 120,000 employment opportunities will be offered for the local population in setting up the Solar Power Projects and in the domestic manufacturing of solar cells.<sup>1061</sup>

On 7 February 2019, an Expert Committee chaired by Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable energy, has proposed a draft National Energy Storage Mission that encourages innovation and cost reduction in the energy storage sector.<sup>1062</sup> Further technical cooperation on energy storage has been pursued through India's bilateral agreement, specifically under the India-United Kingdom Energy for Growth Partnership.<sup>1063</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the Government of India implemented a number of measures to promote the rooftop solar program, including providing central financial assistance for sectors connected to the program, providing experts for the implementation of the program, creating an online platform to expedite the program's implementation, and looked into the availability of loans from the World Bank and Asian Development Bank to fund the project when appropriate.<sup>1064</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the Government of India announced a plan to promote solar energy usage among farmers. The plan current involves setting up grid-connected renewable power plants in the rural area, installing standalone off-grid solar water plants to fulfill irrigation needs, making pre-existing agriculture pumps solar-power dependent, and helping famers sell surplus power to receive extra income.<sup>1065</sup>

On 13 February 2019, India and Germany agreed to aim for closer cooperation in regard to climate policy. Germany will assist India in climate action projects by providing them an additional EUR35 million. The funds will be devoted to sustaining forests, grid expansion, managing marine litter and storage for renewable energy.<sup>1066</sup>

On 18 February 2019, Argentina and India signed a MoU in New Delhi to boost cooperation in the sectors of energy between the India's Department of Atomic Energy, and Argentina's National

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<sup>1060</sup> Press Release: CCEA approves proposal for setting up 12,000 MW grid-connected Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power Projects, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1562963>.

<sup>1061</sup> Press Release: CCEA approves proposal for setting up 12,000 MW grid-connected Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power Projects, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1562963>.

<sup>1062</sup> Press Release: Government of India has been making concerted efforts for Developing Energy Storage Technologies, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1563308>.

<sup>1063</sup> Press Release: Government of India has been making concerted efforts for Developing Energy Storage Technologies, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1563308>.

<sup>1064</sup> Press Release: A number of measures taken to popularise Roof Top Solar Power System, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2018. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1564038>.

<sup>1065</sup> Press Release: Kusum Scheme to Promote Use of Solar Energy Among Farmers Under Consideration: Shri R. K. Singh, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1564036>.

<sup>1066</sup> Minister Schulze agrees closer environmental cooperation with India, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin). 13 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-vereinbart-engere-umweltzusammenarbeit-mit-indien/>.

Atomic Energy Commission. Both countries are continuing to engage in talks that will boost cooperation in areas of nuclear power for energy production.<sup>1067</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi signed a MoU with Tajikistan to promote renewable energy initiatives.<sup>1068</sup> Institutional cooperation mandated by the MoU will include bilateral technical cooperation in promoting renewable energy infrastructure, the development and deployment of new and renewable energy and storage technologies.<sup>1069</sup> Other cooperative efforts may include exchange and training of scientific and technical personnel and information, organizing workshops, seminars, and working groups to transfer equipment on a non-commercial basis, development of joint research initiatives, and other projects as deemed necessary.<sup>1070</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change amended the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rules to bolster the implementation of environmentally sound hazardous waste policies.<sup>1071</sup> The revision upholds the principles of sustainable development, ensures the principle of sustainable development are upheld, and simplifies procedures under the act.<sup>1072</sup> A notable change includes the prohibition of the importation of solid plastic waste into the country in special economic zones.<sup>1073</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change launched a new program called the “India Cooling Action Plan” (ICAP) which reduces the cooling demand across the country.<sup>1074</sup> Cooling demand refers to the demand for energy to reduce the temperature indoors for comfort.<sup>1075</sup> The Environment Minister says that this new ICAP wants to achieve both environmental and socioeconomic benefits to reduce direct and indirect emissions.<sup>1076</sup> The goal is to

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<sup>1067</sup> India, Argentina sign MoU for Nuclear energy cooperation, Times of India (India) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-argentina-sign-mou-for-nuclear-energy-cooperation/articleshow/68056022.cms>.

<sup>1068</sup> Press Release: Cabinet apprised of MoU between India and Tajikistan on Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1566772>.

<sup>1069</sup> Press Release: Cabinet apprised of MoU between India and Tajikistan on Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1566772>.

<sup>1070</sup> Press Release: Cabinet apprised of MoU between India and Tajikistan on Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1566772>.

<sup>1071</sup> Press Release: Amendment in Hazardous Waste (Management& Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (New Delhi) 06 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1567682>.

<sup>1072</sup> Press Release: Amendment in Hazardous Waste (Management& Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (New Delhi) 06 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1567682>.

<sup>1073</sup> Press Release: Amendment in Hazardous Waste (Management& Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (New Delhi) 06 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1567682>.

<sup>1074</sup> Press Release: India Cooling Action Plan Launched, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (New Delhi) 08 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568328>.

<sup>1075</sup> Press Release: India Cooling Action Plan Launched, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (New Delhi) 08 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568328>.

<sup>1076</sup> Press Release: India Cooling Action Plan Launched, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (New Delhi) 08 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568328>.

promote a decrease in cooling demand across all sectors, reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to cooling, enhance energy efficiency, and promote the innovation of better technology with a 20 year time period.<sup>1077</sup>

On 18 March 2019, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy approved of a program implementing solar pumps and solar plant-powered grids for rural farmers.<sup>1078</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, approved of a Cooperation Agreement between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of India and Ministry for Energy, Utilities, and Climate of the Kingdom of Denmark focused on strategic cooperation in the field of renewable energy, with a focus on offshore wind energy.<sup>1079</sup> Further areas of cooperation would include cultivating technical expertise for management of offshore wind projects, implementing infrastructure to develop and sustain a highly efficient wind industry onshore and offshore, and programs to ensure the high quality of wind turbines, components, and certification requirements.<sup>1080</sup> An accompanying letter of intent also established an Indo-Danish Centre of Excellence for renewable energy in India.<sup>1081</sup> This centre will be tasked to work on renewable energy resource assessments, hybridization of wind, solar, hydro, and storage technologies, testing, research and development, and capacity building.<sup>1082</sup> These programs will collectively aim to strengthen bilateral relations between India and Denmark.<sup>1083</sup>

India has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems. India demonstrated compliance by funding renewable energy initiatives such as wind power and solar power projects, implementing programs to transform industrial waste into biogas energy, providing infrastructure to support e-vehicle usage and cooperating with other nations to boost energy production and diversify the energy sector.

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<sup>1077</sup> Press Release: India Cooling Action Plan Launched, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (New Delhi) 08 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019.  
<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568328>.

<sup>1078</sup> Press Release: Advisory to General Public: Fraudulent websites for registration under Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhayan (KUSUM) Scheme, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1569000>.

<sup>1079</sup> Press Release: Cabinet approves Cooperation Agreement between India and Denmark in the field of Renewable Energy with focus on Offshore Wind Energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1570599>.

<sup>1080</sup> Press Release: Cabinet approves Cooperation Agreement between India and Denmark in the field of Renewable Energy with focus on Offshore Wind Energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1570599>.

<sup>1081</sup> Press Release: Cabinet approves Cooperation Agreement between India and Denmark in the field of Renewable Energy with focus on Offshore Wind Energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1570599>.

<sup>1082</sup> Press Release: Cabinet approves Cooperation Agreement between India and Denmark in the field of Renewable Energy with focus on Offshore Wind Energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1570599>.

<sup>1083</sup> Press Release: Cabinet approves Cooperation Agreement between India and Denmark in the field of Renewable Energy with focus on Offshore Wind Energy, Press Information Bureau Government of India Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (New Delhi) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.  
<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1570599>.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrea Ho*

### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and moving towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

On 10 December 2018, the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources (EDSM) inaugurated the Green Energy Station at the General Petrol Filling Station.<sup>1084</sup> This new station will also provide a General Electric Charging Station for electric cars.<sup>1085</sup> The minister further commented that he hopes that other gas stations will fill its electricity needs from renewable sources and that electric cars and renewable energy should be the focus of future energy policies.<sup>1086</sup>

On 29 January 2019, Japan's Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry, and Indonesia's Ministry of Industry attended the inaugural Japan-Indonesia Automotive Dialogue. This event took place in Jakarta, Indonesia and clarified the importance of electric vehicle development to counteract environmental problems and stem the growth of industries relating to non-renewable energies.<sup>1087</sup>

On 24 February 2019, the Deputy Minister of EDSM inaugurated solar power street lighting in Bukik Gadang Village in Sawahlunto City.<sup>1088</sup> ESDM reports that the solar-powered lamp is an effective solution to add light to streets that do not have access to electricity.<sup>1089</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the President of the Republic of Indonesia Joko Widodo inaugurated a 600 MW Steam Power Plant (PLTU) in Karangandri Village, Cilacamp, Central Java.<sup>1090</sup> This project marks the ongoing project to bring electrical power to remote villages in Indonesia.<sup>1091</sup> Additionally,

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<sup>1084</sup> Minister Jonan Inaugurates SPLU for Electric Cars, 6,500 Pertamina SPBU Asked to Use Renewable Energy, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Public Information Services (Jakarta) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/menteri-jonan-resmikan-splu-untuk-mobil-listrik-6500-spbu-pertamina-diminta-gunakan-energi-terbarukan>.

<sup>1085</sup> Minister Jonan Inaugurates SPLU for Electric Cars, 6,500 Pertamina SPBU Asked to Use Renewable Energy, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Public Information Services (Jakarta) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/menteri-jonan-resmikan-splu-untuk-mobil-listrik-6500-spbu-pertamina-diminta-gunakan-energi-terbarukan>.

<sup>1086</sup> Minister Jonan Inaugurates SPLU for Electric Cars, 6,500 Pertamina SPBU Asked to Use Renewable Energy, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Public Information Services (Jakarta) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/menteri-jonan-resmikan-splu-untuk-mobil-listrik-6500-spbu-pertamina-diminta-gunakan-energi-terbarukan>.

<sup>1087</sup> First Japan-Indonesia Automotive Dialogue Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0212\\_001.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0212_001.html).

<sup>1088</sup> Solar Street Lighting, Able to Save on Sawahlunto City Budget, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Public Information Services (Jakarta) 24 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/penerangan-jalan-tenaga-surya-mampu-menghemat-apbd-kota-sawahlunto>.

<sup>1089</sup> Solar Street Lighting, Able to Save on Sawahlunto City Budget, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Public Information Services (Jakarta) 24 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/penerangan-jalan-tenaga-surya-mampu-menghemat-apbd-kota-sawahlunto>.

<sup>1090</sup> Inaugurates Cilacap PLTU Expansion of 1x 660 MW, President: End of this Year 99.9% of Indonesia is Electrified, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Public Information Services (Jakarta) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/resmikan-pltu-cilacap-ekspansi-1x-660-mw-presiden-akhir-tahun-ini-999-indonesia-terlistriki>.

<sup>1091</sup> Inaugurates Cilacap PLTU Expansion of 1x 660 MW, President: End of this Year 99.9% of Indonesia is Electrified, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Public Information Services (Jakarta) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/resmikan-pltu-cilacap-ekspansi-1x-660-mw-presiden-akhir-tahun-ini-999-indonesia-terlistriki>.

President Widodo reiterated support for renewable energy projects, like the PLTU, which will eventually replace the use of fossil fuels.<sup>1092</sup>

On 25 February 2019, President Joko Widodo implemented a new policy to increase the number of electricity projects with the final goal of providing electricity to all Indonesia communities.<sup>1093</sup> These electricity project will focus on equitable access by distributing Energy-Saving Solar Energy Lights for the 2,519 villages that do not have access to electricity.<sup>1094</sup>

On 12 March 2019, a Japan-Indonesia Energy Forum was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, in order to persuade Indonesia to capitalize on Japan's available knowledge on clean energy and related business. This is meant to both make a positive environmental impact, as well as strengthening bonds between the two countries through co-development of environmental projects.<sup>1095</sup>

On 23 March 2019, the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Ignasius Joan inaugurated several infrastructure developments in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) including public solar street lighting, energy-saving solar power lights, and groundwater drilling wells.<sup>1096</sup> This development is aimed at improving both sustainable development and the welfare of NTT citizens.<sup>1097</sup>

On 27 March 2019, the Government of Indonesia announced it was committed to gradually changing coal fueled energy to renewable energy.<sup>1098</sup> By 2025, Indonesia intends to use 23 per cent of renewable energy sources.<sup>1099</sup> The Deputy Minister of EDSM Arcandra Tahar notes that the transition from coal to renewable energy sources will be carried out in stages after the economy has

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<sup>1092</sup> Inaugurates Cilacap PLTU Expansion of 1x 660 MW, President: End of this Year 99.9% of Indonesia is Electrified, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Public Information Services (Jakarta) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/resmikan-pltu-cilacap-ekspansi-1x-660-mw-presiden-akhir-tahun-ini-999-indonesia-terlistriki>.

<sup>1093</sup> In Four Years of Electricity Growing Fast, President: No More Complaints Byar Pet, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Public Information Services (Jakarta) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/dalam-empat-tahun-listrik-tumbuh-cepat-presiden-tidak-ada-lagi-keluhan-byar-pet>.

<sup>1094</sup> In Four Years of Electricity Growing Fast, President: No More Complaints Byar Pet, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Public Information Services (Jakarta) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/dalam-empat-tahun-listrik-tumbuh-cepat-presiden-tidak-ada-lagi-keluhan-byar-pet>.

<sup>1095</sup> Japan-Indonesia Government-Private Workshop on Clean Energy Technology to be Held, Ministry of Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 23 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0306\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0306_001.html).

<sup>1096</sup> Press Release: Improve Quality of Life in NTT, Lighting and Clean Water Become a Solution, Indonesia Public Information Services Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources (Jakarta) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/en/media-center/arsip-berita/tingkatkan-kualitas-hidup-di-ntt-penerangan-dan-air-bersih-jadi-solusi>.

<sup>1097</sup> Press Release: Improve Quality of Life in NTT, Lighting and Clean Water Become a Solution, Indonesia Public Information Services Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources (Jakarta) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/en/media-center/arsip-berita/tingkatkan-kualitas-hidup-di-ntt-penerangan-dan-air-bersih-jadi-solusi>.

<sup>1098</sup> Press Release: Like other countries, the portion of coal will be replaced by gradual renewable energy, Indonesia Public Information Services Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (Jakarta) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/seperti-negara-lain-porsi-batubara-akan-diganti-energi-terbarukan-bertahap>.

<sup>1099</sup> Press Release: Like other countries, the portion of coal will be replaced by gradual renewable energy, Indonesia Public Information Services Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (Jakarta) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/seperti-negara-lain-porsi-batubara-akan-diganti-energi-terbarukan-bertahap>.

fully developed, modeled after the European and Chinese methods.<sup>1100</sup> His concern of transition too quickly is that Indonesia will be unable to compete with competitive export markets if their source of energy is too expensive.<sup>1101</sup> However, Arcandra Tahar reaffirms the strong efforts to convert to renewable resources.<sup>1102</sup>

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and moving towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems. Indonesia demonstrated compliance by funding renewable energy initiatives such as solar power street lighting projects and steam power plants, connecting rural communities to renewable electrical power grids, and providing charging stations for electric cars.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrea Ho*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and to move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

On 5 December 2018, Italy agreed to offer support to Zambia towards transitioning to renewable energy sources. Italy has previously cooperated with Zambia by assisting to build the two major dams, Kariba and Itezihitezhi, that meet most of the electricity demand in Zambia.<sup>1103</sup>

On 5 December 2018, two government officials announced plans for an amendment to the 2019-2020 budget which will allow the government to offer subsidies up to EUR6,000 to buyers of low emissions vehicles and to increase sub-charge up to EUR3,000 for buyers of traditional petroleum and diesel vehicles based on their emissions. This will apply to cars bought starting March 2019 until 2021.<sup>1104</sup>

On 13 December 2019, Environment Minister Sergio Costa attended the COP24 Summit in Katowice, Poland where he engaged in talk with other environment and education ministers,

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<sup>1100</sup> Press Release: Like other countries, the portion of coal will be replaced by gradual renewable energy, Indonesia Public Information Services Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (Jakarta) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/seperti-negara-lain-porsi-batubara-akan-diganti-energi-terbarukan-bertahap>.

<sup>1101</sup> Press Release: Like other countries, the portion of coal will be replaced by gradual renewable energy, Indonesia Public Information Services Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (Jakarta) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/seperti-negara-lain-porsi-batubara-akan-diganti-energi-terbarukan-bertahap>.

<sup>1102</sup> Press Release: Like other countries, the portion of coal will be replaced by gradual renewable energy, Indonesia Public Information Services Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (Jakarta) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/id/media-center/arsip-berita/seperti-negara-lain-porsi-batubara-akan-diganti-energi-terbarukan-bertahap>.

<sup>1103</sup> Italy is ready to invest in renewable energy in Zambia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy (Lusaka) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 30 April 2019. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2018/12/italia-pronta-ad-investire-in-energia-rinnovabile-in-zambia.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2018/12/italia-pronta-ad-investire-in-energia-rinnovabile-in-zambia.html).

<sup>1104</sup> Italy proposes measures to spur sales of low-emission cars, Reuters (Rome) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-cars-incentives/italy-proposes-measures-to-spur-sales-of-low-emission-cars-idUSKBN1041MU>.

international organizations and NGOs regarding better implementing the measures of the Paris Agreement. He emphasized Italy's plan to fully eliminate coal in the economy by 2025.<sup>1105</sup>

On 5 February 2019, officials from Ministry of Environment presented Italian proposal for an integrated National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) to the EU commission. The proposal aimed for a long-term decarbonization goal by 2050. The proposal aims for gradual elimination of coal in energy production, minimization of environmental impacts of renewable energy transition, and integration of renewable energy sources in energy production.<sup>1106</sup> On 4 April 2019, Environment Minister Sergio Costa announced that the preliminary PNIEC was forwarded to qualified stakeholders. This consultation will be completed in 30 days, after which comments will be forwarded to Ministries of Environment, Economic Development and Infrastructure. These ministries will then draft an "environmental report" which will be subjected to public consultation for 90 days where Italian citizens will be able to view it to propose "evaluations, criticisms and modifications." After public consultation, the report will be finally evaluated and approved by President of Council of Ministers and then transmitted to the European Union. This process of consultation with institutions responsible for all environment matters is aimed to increase awareness and collaboration with all Italian citizens.<sup>1107</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Ministry of Energy Undersecretary Davide Crippa issued a statement which noted that upstream gas and oil activity was "not of strategic importance for the country." Hence, the government is planning to block the issuing of 36 permits, including the 3 already-issued permits, to look for oil and gas in efforts to reduce the country's carbon footprint.<sup>1108</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the proposal to issue a moratorium of 18 months on offshore oil and gas exploration was approved by the parliament. Group of nine oil and gas companies called Per L'Energia Nazionale has strongly appealed the government to change the moratorium.<sup>1109</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the European Union announced that 26 European islands have officially launched their clean energy transition to become more energy self-reliant and prosperous. Among them are the 3 Italian regions of Salina, Favignana, and Pantelleria.<sup>1110</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Environment Minister Sergio Costa spoke about the significance of efforts to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement at the EU Council of Environment Ministers in Brussels. He noted that a "decrease in dependence on hard coal and the drive towards energy

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<sup>1105</sup> COP24, Costa: "We are here to fully implement the Paris agreement, including on environmental education", Ministry of Environment and Protection of the Territory and the Sea (Rome) 13 December 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/cop24-costa-siamo-qui-dare-piena-attuazione-accordo-di-parigi-anche-su-educazione>.

<sup>1106</sup> National Energy and Climate Integrated Plan proposal presented in the EU Commission, Ministry of Environment and Protection of the Territory and the Sea (Rome) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/presentata-commissione-ue-proposta-piano-nazionale-integrato-energia-e-clima>.

<sup>1107</sup> Fundamental popular consultation for shared management of energy planning, Ministry of Environment and Protection of Territory and the Sea (Rome) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/piano-clima-energia-avviata-la-procedura-vas>.

<sup>1108</sup> Italy to block oil and gas exploration permits, Economic Times (Milan) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/italy-to-block-oil-and-gas-exploration-permits/67464982>.

<sup>1109</sup> Italy initiates 18-month moratorium on offshore O&G exploration, KallanishEnergy (Rome) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <http://www.kallanishenergy.com/2019/02/14/italian-parliament-initiates-18-month-moratorium-on-offshore-og-exploration/>.

<sup>1110</sup> 26 European islands launch clean energy transition, European Commission (Brussels) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/26-european-islands-launch-clean-energy-transition-2019-feb-18\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/26-european-islands-launch-clean-energy-transition-2019-feb-18_en).

innovation” is necessary to progress towards a low-carbon economic model. He concluded that it will be crucial to set up regulatory framework, to “create coherence between climate policies and industrial strategies” and to “support and exploit the potential of research and innovation to the maximum.”<sup>1111</sup>

On 12 March 2019, Xebec Adsorption, a provider of renewable gas solutions announced that it has signed a contract with the Italian Government to build a landfill biogas-upgrading plant that will produce approximately 5 million cubic meters of carbon neutral Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) per year, replacing the equivalent of approximately 5 million liters of diesel fuel.<sup>1112</sup>

On 20 March 2019, Environment Minister Sergio Costa and Minister Di Maio announced the start of public consultation of the Energy and Climate Plan of 2030. This plan establishes Italy’s objectives towards achieving measures on energy efficiency and renewable sources to meet the EU Framework targets and other objectives to maintain energy security and energy market competitiveness. Proposals of sustainable mobility are also being discussed.<sup>1113</sup>

On 21 March 2019, Italian state-controlled electricity transmission operator Terna announced that it would invest into improvements to its power grid in preparation for the shift out of fossil fuels to renewable sources of energy.<sup>1114</sup>

On 3 April 2019, GlobalData report on Underground Gas Storage Industry Outlook in Europe to 2023 showed that Italy is expected to add around 249 billion feet<sup>3</sup> of underground gas storage capacity between 2019 and 2023. This expansion is aimed to ensure uninterrupted gas supply during peak winters.<sup>1115</sup>

On 15 April 2019, Environment Minister Sergio Costa announced that he is proud of Italy’s contribution of “putting more ambitious targets on paper” in regard to the new rules of emissions of carbon dioxide from cars and light commercial vehicles. The new rules state that from 2030 new cars and vans will generate lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 37%.<sup>1116</sup>

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and to move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems. Italy is making efforts to advance towards diversification of energy sources, reducing carbon dioxide emissions and transitioning towards a carbon-free economy as seen in legislation and statements at international events.

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<sup>1111</sup> The minister at the EU Environment Council: "Creating coherence between climate policies and industrial strategies", Ministry of Environment and Protection of Territory and the Sea (Rome) 5 March 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/nucleare-costa-sempre-e-convintamente-netto-e-tombale-no>.

<sup>1112</sup> Xebec Receives Another Significant Order in Italy, GlobeNewswire (Montreal) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2019/03/12/1751796/0/en/Xebec-Receives-Another-Significant-Order-in-Italy.html>.

<sup>1113</sup> Climate: The National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan was presented to 2030, Ministry of Environment and Protection of Territory and the Sea (Rome) 20 March 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/clima-presentato-il-piano-nazionale-integrato-energia-e-clima-al-2030>.

<sup>1114</sup> Italy’s Terna to spend record sums on grid for shift to renewables, Reuters (Milan) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-terna-plan/italys-terna-to-spend-record-sums-on-grid-for-shift-to-renewables-idUSKCN1R210L>.

<sup>1115</sup> Italy increasing underground gas storage capacity, Energy Global (London) 3 April 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.energyglobal.com/downstream/tanks-terminals/03042019/italy-increasing-underground-gas-storage-capacity/>.

<sup>1116</sup> Good for EU Emissions Cut, Fundamental Contribution from Italy, Ministry of Environment and Protection of the Territory and the Sea (Rome) 15 April 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/clima-costa-bene-ok-ue-taglio-emissioni-da-italia-contributo-fondamentale>.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Drishti Thakkar*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.

On 3 December 2018, Japan sent 116 delegates to the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP24), part of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to take part in important climate negotiations with the other 14,000 Party delegates.<sup>1117</sup> Japan intends to merge environmental protection and economic growth, creating a model for other countries to follow.<sup>1118</sup>

On 17 December 2018, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) announced plans to implement tracking of non-fossil fuel energy certificates which signify products stemming from renewable energy sources. This will allow companies to specifically purchase renewable energy power as opposed to non-renewable energy power.<sup>1119</sup>

On 25 December 2019, METI announced its backing of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) Study Group's recommendations to increase green finance with increased corporate disclosure. METI aims to encourage companies to disclose their plans and efforts for combating climate change.<sup>1120</sup>

On 14 January 2019, the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hiroshige Seko addressed the International Group of Liquefied Natural Gas Importers, announcing that Japan's liquified natural gas (LNG) policies will expand past primarily importing LNG to Japan and will now "support development of LNG businesses by Japanese companies into rapidly growing third countries, and growth in the LNG market."<sup>1121</sup>

On 25 January 2019, Japan's Ministry of Environment announced that it will host the International Carbon dioxide Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS) Symposium for Low-Carbon Society. The purpose of this conference is to put forth Japan's idea that "not only the extension of conventional efforts but also new innovation are necessary" to combat climate change. This conference will be used to demonstrate projects from the CCUS which could decrease CO2 emissions.<sup>1122</sup>

On 29 January 2019, Japan's METI and Indonesia's Ministry of Industry attended the inaugural Japan-Indonesia Automotive Dialogue. This event took place in Jakarta, Indonesia and clarified the

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<sup>1117</sup> Which countries have sent the most delegates to COP24, Carbon Brief (London) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-countries-sent-most-delegates-cop24>.

<sup>1118</sup> COP24 Japan Pavillion: Lead the World Forward, Ministry of the Environment (Katowice) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <http://copjapan.env.go.jp/cop/cop24/en/>.

<sup>1119</sup> Demonstration Experiment on Sale of Non-fossil fuel energy certificates with Tracking Information, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1217\\_005.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1217_005.html).

<sup>1120</sup> METI Formulates TCFD Guidance and Declares its Support for TCFD, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1225\\_006.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1225_006.html).

<sup>1121</sup> Japan's coming of age in the Asian LNG market, Knect365 (London) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://knect365.com/energy/article/24a50c57-2ab9-4363-90e2-cd368df29762/japans-coming-of-age-in-the-asian-lng-market>.

<sup>1122</sup> International CCUS Symposium for Low-Carbon Society, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2392.html>.

importance of electric vehicle development to counteract environmental problems and stem the growth of industries relating to non-renewable energies.<sup>1123</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the METI launched the “Subcommittee on Electricity Resilience toward Decarbonized Society,” which will study the resilience of Japan’s electricity infrastructures and attempt to incorporate new technologies with the end-goal of a decarbonized future.<sup>1124</sup>

On 11 March 2019, Japan attended the 4<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly on Environment in Nairobi, Kenya. In addition to adopting the Ministerial Declaration and Resolutions, Japan announced a joint-project with Sri Lanka and Norway to combat ocean plastic waste.<sup>1125</sup>

On 12 March 2019, a Japan-Indonesia Energy Forum was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, in order to persuade Indonesia to capitalize on Japan’s available knowledge on clean energy and related business. This is meant to both make a positive environmental impact, as well as strengthening bonds between the two countries through co-development of environmental projects.<sup>1126</sup>

On 26 March 2019, The Ministry of the Environment held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Environmental Technology Demonstration Project Steering Committee in order to encourage the development of environmental technology to aid environmental protection and the industries surrounding it, such as organic wastewater treatment technology.<sup>1127</sup>

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems. Japan demonstrates compliance by implementing technology to incentivize energy transitions, diversifying the energy sector, engaging in meaningful international conversations to work towards a zero-carbon emission future.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ilan Hughes*

### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.

On 3 December 2018, Korea sent 80 delegates to the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP24) to take part in important climate talks with the other 14,000 Party delegates at the prominent international climate negotiations as part of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.<sup>1128</sup> The

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<sup>1123</sup> First Japan-Indonesia Automotive Dialogue Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0212\\_001.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0212_001.html).

<sup>1124</sup> METI to Launch Subcommittee on Electricity Resilience towards a Decarbonized Society, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0214\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0214_002.html).

<sup>1125</sup> On the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration and Resolutions at the United Nations General Assembly on Environment, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 16 March 2019. Access Date: April 23 2019. <https://www.env.go.jp/annai/kaiken/h31/s0316.html>.

<sup>1126</sup> Japan-Indonesia Government-Private Workshop on Clean Energy Technology to be Held, Ministry of Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 23 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0306\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0306_001.html).

<sup>1127</sup> About Holding of the 2019 Environmental Technology Demonstration Project Steering Committee, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. <http://www.env.go.jp/press/106589.html>.

<sup>1128</sup> Which countries have sent the most delegates to COP24, Carbon Brief (London) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-countries-sent-most-delegates-cop24>.

Delegation was led by Korea's Minister of Environment Cho Myung-Rae, and planned to focus on climate finance and their belief that developing countries must start providing greater financial contributions to Green Climate Fund.<sup>1129</sup>

On 23 December 2018, Korea released a parliamentary report assuring that the levelized costs of producing solar energy in Korea will drop below 100 KRW per KWH within 5 years and 84 KRW per KWH by 2030. The levelized cost includes the cost of acquiring and operating the infrastructure.<sup>1130</sup>

On 24 December 2018, Minister of Environment Cho, Myung-Rae, issued the updated Korean Sustainable Development Goals, which include climate change response, specifically to strive, "to preserve a clean environment that can be enjoyed by all generations."<sup>1131</sup>

On 16 January 2019, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Economy and Finance, Hong Nam-Ki, announced the plan to add 80,000 hydrogen-powered vehicles to the roads by 2022. The plan is intended to encompass all aspects of the hydrogen car industry,

On 16 January 2019, the Korea Forest Service and the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) finalized and signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) pertaining to developing projects that revolve around renewable energy and reforestation, specifically in including producers of the fuel and transportation methods, and is a part of a broader strategy to expand hydrogen industries into North Korea.<sup>1132</sup> The GGGI director-general, Frank Rijsberman, stated that this allows Korea to share their values of spreading clean energy and reforestation to the rest of the Korean Peninsula.<sup>1133</sup>

On 21 January 2019, Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Sung Yun-Mo spoke to over 150 energy industry executives at a New Year conference held in Seoul. The Minister stated that Korea would create plans to use the energy transition to boost innovation and create new jobs.<sup>1134</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy released a public notice stating that it supplied 2,989 megawatts (MW) through renewable energy facilities in 2018. The target figure of renewable energy production for 2018 outlined in the Government's "Renewable Energy 3020 Plan" was 72 per cent lower than the actual amount produced.<sup>1135</sup>

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<sup>1129</sup> 24th Session of Conference of Parties (COP24) to UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Concludes, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Seoul) 16 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320292&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=&srchTp=&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320292&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=&srchTp=&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=)

<sup>1130</sup> Cost of solar power generation to drop to below 100 won by 2023, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 23 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181223000112&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181223000112&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>1131</sup> A milestone for the sustainable future, establishing K-SDGs, Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=934470&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>1132</sup> Korea sets FCEV target at 80,000 units by 2022, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190116000695&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190116000695&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>1133</sup> GGGI inks MOU with Korea Forest Service, aims to collaborate on reforestation in NK. The Korea Herald (Seoul) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190116000572&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190116000572&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>1134</sup> Minister Sung delivers speech to energy industry leaders at New Year's meeting, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Seoul) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/energy/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=790&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&currentPage=1&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=3](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/energy/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=790&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&currentPage=1&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=3).

<sup>1135</sup> Chinese Companies Benefit from S. Korea's Push for Renewable Energy, Business Korea (Seoul) 15 February 2019. Accessed 24 February 2019. <http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/news/articleView.html?idxno=29133>.

On 20 February 2019, the United States Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Energy Resources Francis Fannon visited Deputy Minister for Economic Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Yun Kang-Hyeon. They engaged in talks to discuss how Korea and American energy sectors can increase comprehensive cooperation.<sup>1136</sup>

On 7 March 2019, Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Sung Yun-mo asked for more investment and overseas expansion in renewable energy at a meeting with Korean leaders in the renewable energy sectors, such as solar and wind power companies, at the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Seoul.<sup>1137</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted Korea-Asia Energy Cooperation Seminar in Seoul to discuss the power industry, renewable energy industry and infrastructure in Asia, and way for other countries to work with Korea on future projects.<sup>1138</sup>

On 19 April 2019, the Director of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, Park Jae-young, addressed a public hearing in Seoul on Korea's plans to implement safer and cleaner energy, and stated that Korea will significantly increase its use of renewable energy to between 30 per cent and 35 per cent by the year 2040.<sup>1139</sup>

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems. Korea has acted to encourage energy transitions that combine economic growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions both domestically and internationally, invest in renewable energy and clean technology.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1

*Analyst: Ian Hughes*

### **Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combines growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.

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<sup>1136</sup> US Assistant Secretary of State for Energy Resources Fannon Visits ROK, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Seoul) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320403&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=Energy&srchTp=0&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=&page=1&titleNm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320403&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=Energy&srchTp=0&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&page=1&titleNm=)

<sup>1137</sup> Minister Sung presides over meeting with Korean renewable energy leaders, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (Seoul) 9 March 2019. Access Date: 23 April 2019. [http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/energy/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs\\_seq\\_n=823&bbs\\_cd\\_n=1&view\\_type\\_v=TOPIC&currentPage=1&search\\_key\\_n=&search\\_val\\_v=&cate\\_n=3](http://english.motie.go.kr/en/tp/energy/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=823&bbs_cd_n=1&view_type_v=TOPIC&currentPage=1&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=3)

<sup>1138</sup> Korea-Asia Energy Cooperation Seminar to Take Place, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Seoul) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 23 April 2019. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320442&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=Energy&srchTp=0&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=&page=1&titleNm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320442&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=Energy&srchTp=0&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&page=1&titleNm=)

<sup>1139</sup> Korea raises renewable energy target to 30-35 percent by 2040, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 19 April 2019, Access Date: 23 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190419000498&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190419000498&ACE_SEARCH=1)

On 3 December 2018, Rició Nahle, the secretary of energy, confirmed the two-year suspension of the future shale and conventional clean energy contract auctions that were scheduled in the month of February.<sup>1140</sup>

On 9 December 2018, the Government of Mexico announced the Fuel Production Plan, in which six existing refineries of Minatitlán, Salamanca, Tula, Cadereyta, Madero and Salina Cruz will be rehabilitated, which will increase production of gasoline and fuels. A new maintenance plan, especially for the neglected plants, will be implemented. The Mexican government also announced the construction of a new refinery in Dos Bocas.<sup>1141</sup>

On 15 December 2018, President Andrés Manuel Lopez Obrador introduced the National Plan to increase the production of hydrocarbons, which aims to boost oil production to 2 million 400 barrels per day by 2024.<sup>1142</sup>

On 20 December 2018, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador announced that he signed an agreement with Hydro Québec, owned by the Government of Canada, for the modernization of the 60 hydroelectric plants in Mexico. This deal would reduce electricity prices by increasing energy production.<sup>1143</sup>

On 9 January 2019, Secretariat of Energy (SENER) reported that as of 28 November 2018, Mexico issued 522 permits to import gasoline and 550 to import diesel. After 31 December 2018, SENER granted 3705 permits to import gasoline, gas, diesel and turbosine.<sup>1144</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Federal Electricity Commission invested USD700 million to start up its thermoelectric plant in Huexca. This plant is capable of supplying electricity to the entire state of Morelos.<sup>1145</sup>

On 28 February 2019, at the New Energy Policy for the Welfare of Mexico state forum in San Francisco, Campeche, Secretary of Energy Roció Nahle declared that the Government of Mexico would design a national energy plan through three consultative forums which took place in Campeche, Tabasco and Tamaulipas, in accordance with the Mexico constitution. He confirmed that Mexico is working towards transitioning to clean energy as per the law in October 2015 that mandates 35% of electricity be produced from clean energy by 2024. He also emphasized the need to

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<sup>1140</sup>Mexico's energy sector awaits AMLO's next move, Argus (Mexico City) 03 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/1803307-mexicos-energy-sector-awaits-amlos-next-move>.

<sup>1141</sup>The Government of Mexico announces the National Refining Plan that will ensure access to energy and balanced development, Secretary of Energy (Mexico City) 9 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sener/es/articulos/el-gobierno-de-mexico-anuncia-el-plan-de-produccion-de-combustibles-que-asegurara-el-acceso-a-la-energia-y-al-desarrollo-equilibrado?idiom=es>.

<sup>1142</sup>Message from the President Andrés Manuel López Obrador during the presentation of the National Plan for the Production of Hydrocarbons, Secretary of Energy (Mexico City) 15 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sener/es/articulos/mensaje-del-presidente-andres-manuel-lopez-obrador-durante-la-presentacion-del-plan-nacional-para-produccion-de-hidrocarburos?idiom=es>.

<sup>1143</sup>AMLO signs agreement with Canada to invest in hydroelectric power plants, The Mazatlán Post (Mexico City) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://themazatlanpost.com/2018/12/20/amlo-signs-agreement-with-canada-to-invest-in-hydroelectric-power-plants/>.

<sup>1144</sup>Permits granted by SENER for the importation of petroleum products, Secretary of Energy (Mexico City) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sener/es/articulos/permisos-otorgados-por-sener-para-la-importacion-de-petroliiferos?idiom=es>.

<sup>1145</sup>The turmoil behind the thermoelectric plant in Morelos, Justino Miranda (Mexico City) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.eluniversal.com.mx/english/turmoil-behind-thermoelectric-plant-morelos>.

combat hydrocarbon theft and to implement a safe distribution strategy.<sup>1146</sup> On 1 March 2019, at the second consultative energy forum held in Tabasco, the Secretary of Energy affirmed that the Government of Mexico is working towards generating electricity through clean energy sources. He also emphasized the importance of technology in transitioning to clean energy sources and affirmed that Mexico was up to date.<sup>1147</sup>

On 3 March 2019, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador announced the termination of the Los Cardones mine in Baja California Sur.<sup>1148</sup>

On March 11 2019, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador announced that MXN358,596 million will be spent on the production of oil, gas and electricity, in a report of first 100 days in government. He also reports that MXN7.5 billion was allocated in the restoration of the existing six refineries of Minatitlán, Salamanca, Tula, Cadereyta, Madero and Salina Cruz.<sup>1149</sup>

On 21 March 2019, at the Mexico WindPower convention, the Secretary of Energy supported the need for renewable energy to generate zero-polluting and environment-friendly electricity. He further disclosed that the Federal Electricity Commission was reviewing the contracts from the electricity auctions. This delay in the auditing process is to prevent any irresponsible actions that can negatively affect the infrastructure of Mexican markets.<sup>1150</sup>

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combines growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions towards a cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems. The modernization of hydroelectric plants, acknowledgement of Mexico's move towards cleaner energy systems, and transition towards thermoelectric power plants demonstrates Mexico's compliance.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Abhishek Trivedi*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.

On 21 February 2019, the Economy Minister of Russia, Maxim Oreshkin, met with the Economy Minister of Germany, Peter Altmaier, in Berlin to discuss the new regulations enacted by the Parliament of the European Union regarding control and operation rights of the "Nord Stream 2"

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<sup>1146</sup> New Development Plan a new energy policy for the welfare of Mexico, Secretary of Energy (Campeche) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sener/es/articulos/plan-nacional-de-desarrollo-una-nueva-politica-energetica-para-el-bienestar-de-mexico?idiom=es>.

<sup>1147</sup> The Government of Mexico works to generate electricity and walk towards clean energy, Secretary of Energy (Tabasco) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sener/es/articulos/el-gobierno-de-mexico-trabaja-para-generar-electricidad-y-caminar-hacia-las-energias-limpias?idiom=es>.

<sup>1148</sup> Presents the president of Mexico Andrés Manuel López Obrador the report of the first 100 days of government, Secretary of Energy (Mexico City) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sener/es/articulos/presenta-el-presidente-de-mexico-andres-manuel-lopez-obrador-el-informe-de-los-primeros-100-dias-de-gobierno?idiom=es>.

<sup>1149</sup> Presents the president of Mexico Andrés Manuel López Obrador the report of the first 100 days of government, Secretary of Energy (Mexico City) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sener/es/articulos/presenta-el-presidente-de-mexico-andres-manuel-lopez-obrador-el-informe-de-los-primeros-100-dias-de-gobierno?idiom=es>.

<sup>1150</sup> Mexico is a pioneer in clean electricity generation, Secretary of Energy (Mexico City) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sener/es/articulos/mexico-es-pionero-en-la-generacion-electrica-limpia-195841?idiom=es>.

pipeline project linking Germany with Russian Natural Gas, and how these new regulations can be accommodated within the project.<sup>1151</sup>

On 4 March 2019, Russian Prime Minister Dimitry Medvedev and Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borissov held a joint news conference whereby they discussed the results of their discussions, primarily regarding energy.<sup>1152</sup> The results of these talks include renewed cooperation between Russia and Bulgaria for Russian Natural Gas exports to Bulgaria's Balkan Gas Distribution center, to supply Europe with a cleaner source of energy.<sup>1153</sup>

On 08 March 2019, Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs announced that the "Power of Siberia" natural gas pipeline under construction from Russia to China would open this year.<sup>1154</sup> The Russian pipeline will contribute to the reduction of China's former reliance on coal.<sup>1155</sup>

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions by engaging in bilateral talks, agreements, and construction of cleaner energy infrastructure to encourage its commercial partners located all across Europe and Asia. It has made progress towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems by expanding its involvement in the more flexible and cleaner energy forms of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and nuclear energy.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nasser Haidar*

### **Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth decreasing greenhouse gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.

On 17 December 2018, Saudi Arabian diplomats attending the United Nations Climate Summit rejected the language used in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change scientific report that would have accepted the recent important warnings regarding climate change.<sup>1156</sup>

On 9 January 2019, Energy Minister Khalid al-Falih announced that Saudi Aramco, a Saudi Arabian national petroleum and natural gas company, will issue bonds in the second quarter of 2019 and will be listed in 2021.<sup>1157</sup>

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<sup>1151</sup> Russia and Germany in talks on tackling Nord Stream 2 project, Financial Times (Berlin, Moscow) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 17 March 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/7d24961a-35b5-11e9-bb0c-42459962a812>.

<sup>1152</sup> Russia-Bulgaria Talks, The Russian Government (Moscow) 04 March 2019. Access Date: 17 March 2019. <http://government.ru/en/news/35907/>.

<sup>1153</sup> Russia-Bulgaria Talks, The Russian Government (Moscow) 04 March 2019. Access Date: 17 March 2019. <http://government.ru/en/news/35907/>.

<sup>1154</sup> Russia-to-China 'Power of Siberia' Pipeline to Open in 2019, Caixin Global (Beijing) 08 March 2019. Access Date: 17 March 2019. <https://www.caixinglobal.com/2019-03-08/russia-to-china-power-of-siberia-pipeline-to-open-in-2019-101389328.html>.

<sup>1155</sup> Russia-to-China 'Power of Siberia' Pipeline to Open in 2019, Caixin Global (Beijing) 08 March 2019. Access Date: 17 March 2019. <https://www.caixinglobal.com/2019-03-08/russia-to-china-power-of-siberia-pipeline-to-open-in-2019-101389328.html>.

<sup>1156</sup> Diplomats Narrowly Avoid Failure At UN Climate Summit, Forbes Magazine (Katowice) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 19 Feb 2019. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davekeating/2018/12/17/diplomats-narrowly-avoid-failure-at-un-climate-summit/#4ff3161d5c11>.

<sup>1157</sup> Saudi Aramco to Issue Bonds, Reuters (Riyadh) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019.

On 16 January 2019, Minister of Energy announced that at least twelve projects are to be opened for bidding in order to complete the Vision 2030 programme that aims to diversify the energy sector. These projects include those that will shift the kingdom's electricity sector from an oil and gas-based system to one that focuses on gas and renewable energy.<sup>1158</sup>

On 20 February 2019, Energy Minister Khalid al-Falih stated that the country expects to reach an agreement to resume oil output from the Neutral Zone it shares with Kuwait. The Neutral zone is 5,770 square km of land between the two countries that has not been defined upon the establishment of the border by the Uqair Convention of 2 December 1922.<sup>1159</sup>

On 22 February 2019, China's National Energy Administration and Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund (PIF) announced that they had signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU). The MoU pledges China's aid for the PIF to develop renewable energy generation and technologies in Saudi Arabia throughout the next 10 years.<sup>1160</sup>

On 5 March 2019, the Chairman of the Renewable Energy Committee in Riyadh Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Abdulrahman al-Ibrahim, told Asharq Al-Awsat news agency that Saudi Arabia's renewable energy plans aim to boost localization chances and global partnerships with several developed countries, such as Russia, China, the United States, and European countries.<sup>1161</sup>

On 5 March 2019, the Saudi Arabian delegation led by Governor of the General Investment Authority (SAGIA) and the co-chair of the Saudi Arabia-Azerbaijan Intergovernmental Joint Commission Ibrahim bin Abdul Rahman Al-Omar met with the Azerbaijani Energy Minister Parviz Shabbazov to discuss issues related to the development of bilateral relations in economic and energy sectors, aiming to identify new avenues for cooperation and investments. Abdul Rahman Al-Omar affirmed Saudi Arabia's desire to invest in the energy sector of Azerbaijan<sup>1162</sup>.

On 7 March 2019, Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih announced to the Saudi state news agency SPA that large quantities of gas have been discovered in the Red Sea. Aramco is currently studying petrochemical projects in order to develop sustainable options.<sup>1163</sup>

On 10 March 2019, the Ministry of Power presented a concrete plan for the construction of thirty-five fully equipped solar energy sites. The expectation is that this will not only create one hundred thousand job opportunities but also help the country provide oil. This action, while aiding the sustainable resource acquisition still focuses on the production of oil.<sup>1164</sup>

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<https://www.reuters.com/article/saudi-oil-aramco/saudi-aramco-to-issue-bonds-in-q2-2019-list-in-2021-energy-minister-idUSL8N1Z955H>.

<sup>1158</sup>Saudi Energy Ministry Eyes 12 Renewable Energy Projects in 2019, Construction Weekly Online (Abu Dhabi) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.constructionweekonline.com/168727-saudi-energy-ministry-eyes-12-renewable-energy-proects-in-2019>.

<sup>1159</sup> Saudi Minister sees deal with Kuwait to resume oil output from neutral zone, Reuters (New Delhi) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 20 Feb 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/asia-saudi-india-falih/saudi-minister-sees-deal-with-kuwait-to-resume-oil-output-from-neutral-zone-in-2019-idUSI8N1XU029>.

<sup>1160</sup> Saudi Arabia's PIF signs MoU with China's NAE on renewable energy, Arab News (Riyadh) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1456326/business-economy>.

<sup>1161</sup> <https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1619766/saudi-arabia-plans-invest-80-bn-renewable-energy>

<sup>1162</sup> Azerbaijan, Saudi Arabia discuss energy cooperation, Azernews (Baku) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.azernews.az/business/146788.html>

<sup>1163</sup> Saudi Energy Minister: Large quantities of gas discovered in Red Sea, Arab News (Riyadh) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1463196/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>1164</sup> Saudi Arabia to produce over 50% of solar energy globally, Saudi Gazette (Jeddah) 03 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/560864/BUSINESS/Saudi-Arabia-to-produce-over-50-of-solar-energy-globally>.

On 12 March 2019, The Renewable Energy Project Development Office (REPDO) of Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Energy launched its second phase of the renewable energy program with seven solar photovoltaic energy projects that would generate 1.52 gigawatts and direct investments worth \$1.51 billion.<sup>1165</sup> The projects would generate energy that can serve 226,500 households and create more than 4,500 job opportunities during construction, operations and maintenance. The projects include Qurayyat (200 MW), Madinah (50 MW), Rafha (45 MW), Alfaisaliah (600 MW), Rabigh (300 MW), Jeddah (300 MW) and Mahad Duhab (20 MW).<sup>1166</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Ministry of Energy unveiled Phase Two of the National Renewable Energy Program (NREP). The program is based on seven solar photovoltaic (PV) projects being developed which will generate 1.52 GW of energy and gain over USD1.51 billion in investments. NREP's goals include diversifying local energy resources, stimulate economic development and provide further economic stability.<sup>1167</sup>

On 22 March 2019, the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia hosted the fifth annual "Al-Ahsa Investment Forum" as part of the "Sharqiah Season." The forum explored the country's windows for investment by providing information to key stakeholders and investors. Panel sessions and workshops comprised discussions on energy, investment and privatization opportunities, looking into future jobs and assessing vital projects in the Kingdom, next to industrial and agricultural investments on the rise in Saudi Arabia.<sup>1168</sup>

On 25 March 2019, the governor of Mecca Province Khalid Bin Faisal Al Saud and Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih co-signed a memorandum of understanding to construct a solar park in the region of Mecca. The 2.6 GW Faisaliah Solar Power Project will take several stages and will be built in partnership with the Development Authority of Mecca.<sup>1169</sup>

On 4 April 2019, Saudi Arabian sources announced plans to issue a multi-billion-dollar tender in 2020 to construct its first two nuclear power reactors and is discussing the project with U.S. and other potential suppliers.<sup>1170</sup>

On 18 April 2019, the energy watchdog, OilPrice, reported based on data from the Joint Organisations Data Initiative that Saudi Arabia cut down on oil exports in order to balance the market. This initiative was affirmed by the Energy Minister, who stated that his government would cut production close to 9.8 million barrels per day in March.<sup>1171</sup>

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth decreasing greenhouse gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent

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<sup>1165</sup> Saudi Arabia Announces 7 Renewable Energy Projects Worth \$1.5 Bn (Al-Jawf). 12 March 2019. Access Date: June 25 2019. <https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1630351/saudi-arabia-announces-7-renewable-energy-projects-worth-15-bn>.

<sup>1166</sup> Saudi Arabia Announces 7 Renewable Energy Projects Worth \$1.5 Bn (Al-Jawf). 12 March 2019. Access Date: June 25 2019. <https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1630351/saudi-arabia-announces-7-renewable-energy-projects-worth-15-bn>.

<sup>1167</sup> Saudi Arabia reveals details of \$1.5bn solar energy plan, Trade Arabia (Bahrain) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://www.tradearabia.com/news/OGN\\_352154.html](http://www.tradearabia.com/news/OGN_352154.html).

<sup>1168</sup> 2019 is a promising year for Saudi Arabia, Saudi Gazette (Riyadh) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/561852/BUSINESS/2019-is-a-promising-year-for-Saudi-Arabia>.

<sup>1169</sup> Saudi Arabia plans 2.6 GW solar park near Mecca, PV Magazine (Riyadh) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.pv-magazine.com/2019/03/25/saudi-arabia-plans-2-6-gw-solar-park-near-mecca/>.

<sup>1170</sup> Saudi plans to invite bids for nuclear power project in 2020: sources, Reuters (Riyadh) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-nuclear/saudi-plans-to-invite-bids-for-nuclear-power-project-in-2020-sources-idUKKCN1RG1LL>.

<sup>1171</sup> Saudi oil exports fall below 7 million bpd in February, OilPrice (USA) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://oilprice.com/Latest-Energy-News/World-News/Saudi-Oil-Exports-Fall-Below-7-Million-Bpd-In-February.html>.

systems. Saudi Arabia has taken steps to diversify the energy sector to complete Vision 2030. However Saudi Arabia has also agreed to renew oil production from the Neutral zone and issue bonds for a petroleum and natural gas company, potentially increasing its greenhouse gas emissions.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sila Naz Elgin*

### **South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent system.

On 30 November 2018, the Karoshoek Solar One Project began as a part of South African Government's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement programme (REIPPP); this will add 100MW additional power to the grid.<sup>1172</sup> On 24 February 2019, Jeff Radebe confirmed that the REIPPP programme has helped decrease 33.2 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emission and save 39.2 million kiloliters of water by 31 December 2018.<sup>1173</sup>

On 3 December 2018, African Development Bank approved a ZAR3 billion loan to develop the 100MW Redstone solar power project. The solar power plant, located in the province of North Cape, is expected to generate 466 GWh of energy per year, accelerating energy transition and diversifying energy production.<sup>1174</sup>

On January 18 2019, there was a meeting held in Pretoria between Minister of Energy of the Republic of South Africa Jeff Radebe and Minister of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources of the Saudi Arabia, Khalid Al-Falih, which aimed to continue discussing a USD10 billion investment prospect in the South African economy, a significant portion of which will go towards energy. Discussions revolved around a potential crude oil refinery and petrochemical plant in South Africa. The two ministers concluded the meeting by signing a Declaration of Intent to cooperate.<sup>1175</sup>

On 5 February 2019, South African Department of Energy's director General for Clean Energy Mokgadi Modise addressed the South African National Energy Development Institute suggesting that the country needs to adopt and intensify the use of smart grids to improve its environmental health.<sup>1176</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the Minister of Energy delivered in speech in which he outlined South Africa's efforts to enhance links between the energy and mining sector. The South African Mining sector is responsible for more than 38 per cent of industrial energy use, demonstrating a significant reliance on non-renewable energy sources. He noted the need to de-carbonize the economy and highlighted the

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<sup>1172</sup>South Africa: 100MW Karoshoek Solar One project goes live, ESI AFRICA (Cape Town) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.esi-africa.com/s-africa-100mw-karoshoek-solar-one-project-goes-live/>.

<sup>1173</sup> Minister Jeff Radebe: Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement programme, Department of Energy (Cape Town) 24 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/media-statement-minister-energy-jeff-radebe-renewable-energy-independent-power-producer>.

<sup>1174</sup> AfDB injects R3bn in South Africa's solar-based power project, ESI AFRICA (Cape Town) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.esi-africa.com/afdb-injects-r3bn-in-south-africas-solar-based-power-project/>.

<sup>1175</sup> Minister Jeff Radebe on meeting outcomes with Minister Khalid Al Falih of Saudi Arabia, South African Government (Pretoria) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-jeff-radebe-meeting-outcomes-minister-khalid-al-falih-saudi-arabia-18-jan-2019>.

<sup>1176</sup> Smart grids the answer to South Africa's energy crisis – says Dept of Energy, The South African (Cape Town) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.thesouthafrican.com/smart-grids-answer-to-south-africas-energy-crisis-dept-of-energy/>.

decrease in costs of renewable energy. He emphasized that it is crucial for the mining companies to engage in discussions with the energy sector to ensure that profitability is not impacted, however, the focus towards transitioning towards cleaner energy sources is maintained.<sup>1177</sup>

On 24 February 2019, Energy Minister Jeff Radebe announced South Africa's plans to expand use of renewable power and reduce climate change, considering that less than 5 per cent of the total energy produced comes from renewable sources.<sup>1178</sup>

On 25 February 2019, Energy Minister Jeff Radebe announced that Eskom (South Africa's state-owned power utility) has launched a large-scale distribution of battery energy storage systems over the next three years at the South Africa Renewable Energy and Energy Storage Systems Conference. This programme will be carried out by one 440 MWh of energy storage capacity, along with proposals of 200 MW to be released by mid-2019. The battery energy storage systems will assist in the stable implementation of cost-effective renewable energy technologies, and permit the decentralisation, modernisation and digitalisation of electric grids.<sup>1179</sup>

On 16 April 2019, Energy Minister Jeff Radebe announced that the National Development Plan aims to install USD5 million worth of solar water geysers in residential areas, which will potentially create 11 million jobs by 2030 in his speech at the Appreciation ceremony in Port Elizabeth.<sup>1180</sup>

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent system. The implementation of new solar power plants, battery energy storage systems and acknowledgements that South Africa must shift to cleaner energy systems demonstrate South Africa's compliance.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Abhishek Trivedi*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions, and move towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

On 14 December 2018, Turkish Atomic Energy Authority granted a limited works permit to Akkuyu Nuclear to build the second unit of the country's first nuclear power plant. This permit will allow for

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<sup>1177</sup> Minister Jeff Radebe: Links between energy and mining sectors, Department of Energy (Cape Town) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/speech-delivered-minister-energy-jeff-radebe-enhancing-links-between-energy-and-mining>.

<sup>1178</sup> South Africa Committed to More Renewable Power Radebe Says, Bloomberg (Cape Town) 24 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-02-24/south-africa-committed-to-expanding-renewable-power-radebe-says>.

<sup>1179</sup> Minister Jeff Radebe: South Africa Renewable Energy and Energy Storage Systems Conference, Department of Energy (Cape Town) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-jeff-radebe-south-africa-renewable-energy-and-energy-storage-systems-conference-25>.

<sup>1180</sup> Minister Jeff Radebe: Handover of certificates of appreciation and walkout in Walmer, Department of Energy (Port Elizabeth) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/speech-minister-energy-jeff-radebe%2%A0-handover-certificates-appreciation-solar-water-heater>.

the construction and installation works at the unit's facilities. The plant is expected to meet 10 per cent of Turkish energy needs. Russia is a major consortium partner for this plant.<sup>1181</sup>

On 4 January 2019, the Turkish Wind Energy Association head Mustafa Serdar Ataseven announced that Turkey's wind energy capacity is expected to reach 8 gigawatts (GW) with the addition of 600 megawatts (MW) in 2019. Ataseven noted this was due to Renewable Energy Resource Zone Project (YEKA) and that pre-licences for YEKA wind projects will be finalized at the end of 2019 and plants will begin to operate within three years.<sup>1182</sup>

On 22 January 2019, Goldwind completed installing the first 3.4MW wind turbine as part of the AKSU RES wind power project in Kayseri. This project became commercially operable in February 2019. The installment is a part of the National Renewable Action Plan which aims to diversify energy sources.<sup>1183</sup>

On 25 January 2019, Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavunsoglu announced that Turkey would begin drilling for natural resources in Cyprus. Turkey and the Greek Cypriot government have overlapping jurisdiction claims for offshore oil in the oil-rich Eastern Mediterranean region.<sup>1184</sup>

On 2 February 2019, the General Directorate of Energy Affairs website announced plans for a high school level Energy Productivity contest which would be taking applications until 22 February 2019. The contest aims to create awareness on energy issues in Turkey and also teach youth about the needs of the country when it comes to energy.<sup>1185</sup>

On 2 February 2019, the General Directorate of Energy Affairs website announced the list of students who gained distinction in the 2018-2019 picture and story competition that was organized under the purview of the Directorate. The competition aimed to encourage open dialogue on what sustainable energy means and how it will help future generations understand the planet.<sup>1186</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the General Directorate of Energy Affairs website released a document on the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan which reaffirmed Turkey's commitment to developing and providing energy alternatives in line with the slogan "Efficient Energy, Powerful Turkey."<sup>1187</sup> The document outlines plans for new windmill energy plants and awareness campaigns for sustainable energy usage.

On 18 February 2019, Turkey's official gazette announced that Turkey approved a 15.3 per cent annual increase in public expenditure in its energy and mining sectors in 2019, a rise from TRY8.51

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<sup>1181</sup> Turkey's first nuclear plant Akkuyu gets limited permit for unit 2, Daily News (Ankara) 15 December 2018. Access date: 10 March 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkeys-first-nuclear-plant-akkuyu-gets-limited-permit-for-unit-2-139742>.

<sup>1182</sup> Turkey's wind energy capacity to reach 8 GW in 2019, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 4 January 2019. Access date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/energy/2019/01/05/turkeys-wind-energy-capacity-to-reach-8-gw-in-2019>.

<sup>1183</sup> Wind Energy in Turkey: Goldwind wind turbines for a wind farm, Reve (Kayseri) 2 March 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.evwind.es/2019/03/02/wind-energy-in-turkey-goldwind-wind-turbines-for-a-wind-farm/66313>.

<sup>1184</sup> Turkey to begin drilling for resources around Cyprus, Cavunsoglu says, ekthimerini.com (Nicosia) 25 January 2019. Access date: 10 March 2019. <http://www.ekthimerini.com/237035/article/ekthimerini/news/turkey-to-begin-drilling-for-resources-around-cyprus-cavusoglu-says>.

<sup>1185</sup> High School Students Energy Efficiency Competition, YEGM (Ankara) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. [http://www.yegm.gov.tr/document/2019\\_yili\\_proje\\_yarismasi.pdf](http://www.yegm.gov.tr/document/2019_yili_proje_yarismasi.pdf).

<sup>1186</sup> 2018-2019 list of successful students in the picture and story competition, YEGM (Ankara) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. [http://www.yegm.gov.tr/document/2018\\_2019\\_resim\\_ve\\_oyku\\_resim\\_yarismasi\\_v2.pdf](http://www.yegm.gov.tr/document/2018_2019_resim_ve_oyku_resim_yarismasi_v2.pdf).

<sup>1187</sup> National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP), YEGM (Ankara) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. [http://www.yegm.gov.tr/document/20180102M1\\_2018\\_eng.pdf](http://www.yegm.gov.tr/document/20180102M1_2018_eng.pdf).

billion in 2018 to TRY9.81 billion in 2019. Turkish Petroleum Pipeline Corporation will receive TRY3.7 billion for ongoing projects.<sup>1188</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Energy and Natural Resources Minister Faith Dönmez announced that the Trans Anatolian Natural Gas Pipeline (TANAP) would strengthen Turkey's position as a key player in the region's energy sector. Dönmez also announced that this pipeline, which already delivers gas to Turkey, would extend to the Greek border in the coming months. Minister Dönmez also stated that the construction of Trans Adriatic Pipeline, which connects to TANAP at the Turkey İpsala border, would be complete by 2020, with the first gas from this pipeline being delivered to the European markets by mid-2020. These announcements were made at the 5<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the Southern Gas Corridor (SGC).<sup>1189</sup>

On 28 February 2019, Turkish Statistical Institute and Trade Ministry released a report, which showed a 48 per cent increase in Turkey's crude oil imports and a six per cent increase in the total energy import bill in January 2019 compared to January 2018. Crude oil import was 2.18 million tonnes in January 2019, compared to 1.47 million tonnes in January 2018.<sup>1190</sup>

On 11 March 2019, Energy Ministry's annual report stated that Turkey inspected 8,088 mining sites in 2018, a 24 per cent increase from 2017. The most hazardous mining sites were inspected at least 4 times, as per ministry policies. The report also stated that the ministry has been working to hire 180 new inspectors.<sup>1191</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Turkish Geothermal Power Plant Investors Association stated that Turkey aims to increase geothermal power generation capacity to 2,000 MW by 2020. This is in alignment with the Renewable Energy Promotion Mechanism by the Turkish government that allows companies tax benefits and power purchase guarantees until 2020.<sup>1192</sup>

On 20 March 2019, Turkey and Denmark signed an extension of the existing energy cooperation between both nations titled Roadmap for Offshore Wind in Turkey. This means that the Danish Energy Agency will assist Turkey in developing policies, strategies and solution that focus on offshore wind energy based on the Danish experience with offshore wind. Offshore wind turbines can potentially generate 7-10GW.<sup>1193</sup>

On 21 March 2019, Energy and Natural Resources Minister Faith Dönmez announced that Turkey has discovered high-quality oil in Southeastern provinces of Siirt and Diyarbakir due to ongoing oil

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<sup>1188</sup> Turkey's state energy expenditure up by 15.3 pct in 2019, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkeys-state-energy-expenditure-up-153-pct-in-2019/1396335>.

<sup>1189</sup> TANAP to strengthen Turkey's energy position in the region, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/energy/2019/02/21/tanap-to-strengthen-turkeys-energy-position-in-region>.

<sup>1190</sup> Turkey's energy import bill up 6 pct in January 2019, Daily News (Ankara) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkeys-energy-import-bill-up-6-pct-in-january-2019-141541>.

<sup>1191</sup> Over 8,000 Turkish mine sites inspected in 2018, Daily News (Ankara) 11 March 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/over-8-000-turkish-mine-sites-inspected-in-2018-141804>.

<sup>1192</sup> Turkey wants to make better use of geothermal energy potential, Germany Trade & Invest (Izmir) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.gtai.de/GTAI/Navigation/DE/Trade/Maerkte/suche,t=tuerkei-will-geothermisches-energiepotenzial-besser-nutzen,did=2236712.html>.

<sup>1193</sup> Danish experience will help Turkey expand offshore wind, Danish Energy Agency (Copenhagen) 20 March 2019. <https://presse.ens.dk/pressreleases/danske-erfaringer-skal-hjaelpe-tyrkiet-med-udbygning-af-offshore-vind-2849625>.

exploration in those regions. Commercially viable reserve in the field totals up to 2 million barrels in Siirt and 200 barrels per day in Diyarbakir.<sup>1194</sup>

On 23 March 2019, the 8<sup>th</sup> Uludag Economy Summit ended, which hosted 100 speakers and 1,500 business people from Turkey and world-wide. A variety of topics were discussed, including energy. Turkish Agriculture and Forest Minister Bekir Pakdemirli was also in attendance.<sup>1195</sup>

On 28 March 2019, Qatar Financial Center CEO announced that largescale energy projects, including financing oil and gas, petrochemicals and alternative energy, implemented in Turkey will be able to access loans from the USD10 billion capital fund of Qatari Energy Bank, the world's largest Islamic energy-focused lender.<sup>1196</sup>

On 26 March 2019, Turkey's Energy Market Regulatory Authority's data revealed that monthly LNG imports reached a historic high at 2.34 billion cubic metres, however natural gas imports reduced by 6.54 per cent in January 2019.<sup>1197</sup> Data also showed that crude oil imports increased by 48 per cent in January 2019, compared to January 2018.<sup>1198</sup>

On 9 April 2019, Deputy Energy and Natural Resources Minister Alparslan Bayraktar announced at the 5<sup>th</sup> Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue in Germany that Turkey aims to invest USD11 billion in energy efficiency over the next 5 years, which should cut primary energy consumption by 14 per cent and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 66 million tonnes. He emphasized prioritizing infrastructure to make the grid more reliable for transmission and distribution in the gas and power sectors and that they would like to see more "flexible, competitive terms and conditions" on gas contracts as the 4<sup>th</sup> largest gas market in Europe. He also stated that Turkey aims to add 10 GW of solar and 10 GW of wind energy over the next 10 years, as outlined in the Transition 2.0 plan announced in 2017.<sup>1199</sup> Furthermore, German Deputy Economy and Energy Minister Thomas Bareiss met with Alparslan Bayraktar and both parties acknowledged strong partnership between both countries to cooperate in renewables, energy storage and efficiency and have set up four working groups to achieve better cooperation.<sup>1200</sup>

On 10 April 2019, data from Turkey's Energy and Natural Resources Ministry showed that Turkey added 445 megawatts of installed electricity production capacity from 100 per cent domestic and renewable energy sources in the first quarter of 2019. To meet the target of creation of 10MW solar and 10MW wind energy, the government does not plan to permit new power plants from imported resources.<sup>1201</sup>

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<sup>1194</sup> High quality oil discovered in Turkey's Diyarbakir, Siirt provinces, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/energy/2019/03/22/high-quality-oil-discovered-in-turkeys-diyarbakir-siirt-provinces>.

<sup>1195</sup> Uludag Economy summit ends in Turkey's Bursa province, Anadolu Agency (Bursa) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/uludag-economy-summit-ends-in-turkey-s-bursa-province/1426960>.

<sup>1196</sup> World's largest energy leader to include Turkish projects, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/energy/2019/03/28/worlds-largest-islamic-energy-lender-to-include-turkish-projects>.

<sup>1197</sup> Turkey hits historic LNG import record in Jan '19, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkey-hits-historic-lng-import-record-in-jan-19/1433650>.

<sup>1198</sup> Turkey's oil imports up 48.1 percent in January, Daily News (Ankara) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkeys-oil-imports-up-48-1-percent-in-january-142197>.

<sup>1199</sup> Turkey set to invest \$11 billion in energy efficiency, Daily News (Ankara) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-set-to-invest-11-billion-in-energy-efficiency-142556>.

<sup>1200</sup> Turkey and Germany to boost renewable cooperation, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkey-and-germany-to-boost-renewable-cooperation/1456703>.

<sup>1201</sup> Domestic and renewable add 445MW in Turkey in Q1, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 10 April 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/domestic-and-renewables-add-445-mw-in-turkey-in-q1/1447967>.

On 11 April 2019, figures released by Turkish Statistical Institute showed that the 2017 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions totaled to 523.6 million tons and the energy sector accounted for 72.2 per cent of those emissions. This demonstrates a 140.1 per cent increase from 1990.<sup>1202</sup>

On 19 April 2019, Turkey and Romania signed a protocol for the Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO), which aims to improve trade relations between both countries. The JETCO protocol includes energy, amongst many other topics.<sup>1203</sup>

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combines growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems. While Turkey has committed to diversifying the energy sector with investments in renewable energies, it has also continued to invest in energy sources that could increase its greenhouse gas emissions.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Drishti Thakkar*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combines growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent systems.

On 3 December 2018, 52 United Kingdom delegates attended the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties, the most prominent United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change international climate change negotiations.<sup>1204</sup> Discussions were aimed at producing a “rule-book” to further work out details of the 2015 Paris Agreement.

On 6 February 2019, The Department of Business established the Colombian Fund for Non-Conventional Renewable Energies and Efficient Energy Management (FENOGE) with approximately EUR13 million to address the lack of electricity that close to 3 million people in Colombia are experiencing. The aim is to utilize Colombia’s vast natural resources to promote sustainable electricity within the country and the world.<sup>1205</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the government launched a EUR3.5 million initiative aimed at making the nation’s largest cities into “climate hubs,” where research hubs focus on low-carbon technologies, climate mitigation, and adaptation measures, to ensure sustainable energy practices are viable in the current structure of how the cities operate. The goal is to aid the aims of the 2015 Paris Agreement and keep temperatures between the Agreement’s trajectories.<sup>1206</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the Energy and Clean Growth Minister Claire Perry announced that the forthcoming Sector Deal would include “ambitious plans to increase the proportion of women

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<sup>1202</sup> Turkey’s greenhouse gas emissions hit over 526 million tons, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 12 April 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/2019/04/12/turkeys-greenhouse-gas-emissions-hit-over-526-million-tons>.

<sup>1203</sup> Turkey, Romania sign trade protocol, Anadolu Agency (Istanbul) 19 April 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkey-romania-sign-trade-protocol/1457909>.

<sup>1204</sup> Analysis: Which countries have sent the most delegates to COP24? Carbon Brief (Katowice) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-countries-sent-most-delegates-cop24>.

<sup>1205</sup> UK PACT’s First Project in Colombia will improve energy access, Government Website (London) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pacts-first-project-in-colombia-will-improve-energy-access>.

<sup>1206</sup> UK Cities to become climate hubs under new scheme, Edie Net (London) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.edie.net/news/11/UK-cities-to-become-climate-hubs-under-new-3-5m-scheme/>.

working in the offshore wind sector and triple the number of highly skilled jobs. The deal aims to cultivate “partnerships between the government and industry on sector-specific issues can create significant opportunities to boost productivity, employment, innovation, and skills” in support of the country’s Industrial Strategy, which was implemented to reduce costs, increase productivity, decarbonize the economy, and grow a skilled workforce.<sup>1207</sup>

On 7 March 2019, Minister Claire Perry announced the launch of a new joint government-industry Offshore Wind Sector Deal, which is tasked with helping create tens of thousands of highly-skilled employment positions, attract investment, and increase the country’s offshore capacity to at least 30 gigawatts (GW) by 2030.<sup>1208</sup>

On 11 March 2019, The Minister for Africa, Harriett Baldwin has announced new funding to provide access to affordable and clean energy across Africa. The funding will see GBP30 million added to the Transforming Energy Access program, which makes the total UK investment GBP100 million, where it will continue until 2024. The Transforming Energy Access program is stated to be leading development of innovative technologies, business models, partnerships and skills that will accelerate access to affordable, clean energy services for households and enterprises in developing countries.<sup>1209</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office announced that the Department for International Development’s Transforming Energy Access programme is investing KSH220 million in the development of two solar plants in rural Kenya through InfraCo Africa, a Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) company. Minister for Africa, Harriett Baldwin, announced the development of two solar plants in Samburu and Transmara, each at a capacity of 10 MWAC. This will allow more people to have access to affordable and clean energy.<sup>1210</sup>

On 22 March 2019, China Daily announced that the United Kingdom and China have opened a new research center in Yantai, Shandong province. This initiative will help British wind energy companies export to China, adding to the British and Chinese economies while contributing to renewable energy research and development.<sup>1211</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy published its quarterly “Energy Trends” report, which revealed findings from 2018 and 2019. T electricity generation across the UK fell by 1.4 per cent from before. Coal, gas, and nuclear generation all saw declines in 2018 and increases in renewable energy generation — primarily from bioenergy, wind, and solar were recorded.<sup>1212</sup>

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<sup>1207</sup> UK offshore wind to provide a third of the country’s electricity by 2030, Cleantechnia (USA) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://cleantechnica.com/2019/03/07/uk-offshore-wind-to-provide-a-third-of-countrys-electricity-by-2030/>.

<sup>1208</sup> UK offshore wind to provide a third of the country’s electricity by 2030, Cleantechnia (USA) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://cleantechnica.com/2019/03/07/uk-offshore-wind-to-provide-a-third-of-countrys-electricity-by-2030/>.

<sup>1209</sup> Clean Energy: UK increases aid to Africa. The North Africa Post (Rabat). 11 March 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <http://northafricapost.com/28808-clean-energy-uk-increases-aid-to-africa.html>.

<sup>1210</sup> UK aid to give clean energy boost to Kenya. Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/03/15/uk-aid-to-give-clean-energy-boost-to-kenya/>.

<sup>1211</sup> UK wind energy firms develop China exports. China Daily () 22 March 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201903/22/WS5c9434e0a3104842260b1ec5.html>.

<sup>1212</sup> UK Renewables generate record levels of electricity in 2018. Cleantechnia (USA) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://cleantechnica.com/2019/03/29/uk-renewables-generate-record-levels-of-electricity-in-2018/>.

On 17 April 2019, a meeting held between the Minister of Power, Energy and Business Development Ravi Karunanayake and the British High Commissioner to Sri Lanka James Dauris resulted in the implementation of a waste-to-electricity program.<sup>1213</sup>

The United Kingdom has taken steps to encourage energy transitions that decrease greenhouse gas emissions with initiatives that encourage research and development of sustainable energy practices. The establishment of FENOGE demonstrates UK's commitment to develop cleaner, more transparent and flexible energy.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sila Naz Elgin*

### **United States: -1**

The United States has not complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent energy systems.

On 03 March 2019, the President of the United States Donald Trump, announced that [the US government] would expedite approval for proposed Oil pipelines in Texas to gain 30-40 per cent more [of the world's Oil Production], during a speech he made at the 2019 Conservative Political Action Conference.<sup>1214</sup>

On 05 March 2019, the State Energy & Environmental Impact Center analyzed the impact of rolling back six major climate change regulations and released a report stating that recent de-regulation of energy in the United States could boost carbon dioxide emissions by 200 million tons per year.<sup>1215</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the United States Energy department announced USD30 Million for Front-End Engineering Design Studies for Carbon Capture Systems, in an effort to reduce emissions from power plants.<sup>1216</sup>

On 22 March 2019, the United States Energy Department finalized a loan that guarantees worth up to USD3.7 billion to finance the continued construction of the Vogtle Nuclear Power Plant in the state of Georgia.<sup>1217</sup>

The United States of America has not complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine growth with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. The United States, although taking measures to encourage energy transitions, has not taken steps to combine that transition with decreasing greenhouse gas emissions.

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<sup>1213</sup> UK to introduce waste-to-electricity system in Sri Lanka. Adaderana (Colombo) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <http://www.adaderana.lk/news/54433/uk-to-introduce-waste-to-electricity-system-in-sri-lanka>.

<sup>1214</sup> Remarks by President Trump at the 2019 Conservative Political Action Conference, Whitehouse (National Harbor) 02 March 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-2019-conservative-political-action-conference/>.

<sup>1215</sup> Trump climate deregulation could boost CO2 emissions by 200 million tonnes a year: study, Reuters (Washington, D.C.) 05 March 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-climatechange-trump/trump-climate-deregulation-could-boost-co2-emissions-by-200-million-tonnes-a-year-study-idUSKCN1QM2KC>.

<sup>1216</sup> U.S. Department of Energy Announces \$30 Million for Front-End Engineering Design Studies for Carbon Capture Systems, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington, D.C.) 24 March 2019. Access Date: 23 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/us-department-energy-announces-30-million-front-end-engineering-design-studies-carbon>.

<sup>1217</sup> U.S finalizes \$3.7 bln loan for Vogtle nuclear power plant, Reuters (Washington, D.C.) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/usa-nuclearpower-vogtle/u-s-finalizes-3-7-bln-loan-for-vogtle-nuclear-power-plant-idUSL1N219001>.

Thus, the United States of America receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Nasser Haida*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine decreasing green-house gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent system.

On 3 December 2018, 83 European Union delegates attended the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP24), the most prominent United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change international climate change negotiations.<sup>1218</sup> Discussions were aimed at producing a “rule-book” to further work out details of the 2015 Paris Agreement.

On 18 December 2018, the European Commission accepted the political agreement on the conclusion of the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, which combats climate change and fulfills the priorities that are set by the European Commission, under the presidency of Jean-Claude Juncker. The rules outlined would help EU energy markets to “include more renewables, empower customers, and better manage energy flows across EU.” European Commission also addressed that the next steps are for the texts to be prepared in all EU languages whereby submitted to the European Parliament for approval. After approval, the laws will go into effect immediately and will be published in the Official Journal of the Union and be transposed into national laws within 18 months. The commission had previously proposed new rules in order to assist the energy industry in including sustainable alternatives and change their focus to renewable energy sources.<sup>1219</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the European Parliament banned the use of biofuel derived from palm oil in order to combat the negative effects on that come from palm oil acquisition on the environment. It results in excessive deforestation, resulting in more carbon in the air.<sup>1220</sup>

On 4 April 2019, it was announced that access to clean energy in The Gambia is set to be transformed under a new EUR 142 million initiative to harness solar power and supply clean energy across the country, backed by the European Investment Bank, World Bank and European Union.<sup>1221</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the European Commissioner Johannes Hahn criticized Bosnia’s actions and commitment to international treaties and EU rules in light of Bosnian lawmakers approving a guarantee for a MAR1.2 billion loan from state-funded Export-Import Bank of China. He said it raised questions “about the choice of the energy technology as well as about a sound cost-benefit analysis in a responsible and transparent manner.”<sup>1222</sup>

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<sup>1218</sup> Analysis: Which countries have sent the most delegates to COP24? Carbon Brief (Katowice) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-countries-sent-most-delegates-cop24>.

<sup>1219</sup> Commission welcomes political agreement on conclusion of the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6870\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6870_en.htm).

<sup>1220</sup> U Labels Biofuel from Palm Oil As Unsustainable, Bans Subsidies. Forbes (New York) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 Feb 2019. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davekeating/2019/03/14/eu-labels-biofuel-from-palm-oil-as-unsustainable-bans-subsidies/#31142f7c9c9d>.

<sup>1221</sup> European backing for EUR 142 million Gambia renewable energy programme. AfricaNews (Rabat) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 19 Feb 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/03/04/european-backing-for-eur-142-million-gambia-renewable-energy-programme/>.

<sup>1222</sup> EU official criticizes Bosnia's backing of Chinese power loan. Reuters (International) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 Feb 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-bosnia-eu-energy/eu-official-criticizes-bosnias-backing-of-chinese-power-loan-idUSKBN1QU1JD>.

On 20 March 2019, the European Commission announced that it is updating its main funding instrument for nature, biodiversity, climate action and clean energy projects (LIFE). The Commission proposed a total financial envelope of EUR5.45 billion for LIFE for the period 2021-2027. This includes EUR3.5 billion for the area of environment, and EUR1.95 billion for the area of climate action. The final amounts are not yet set.<sup>1223</sup>

On 26 March 2019, the European Commission accepted the market design rules by the European Parliament, which marks the finalization of negotiations on the Clean Energy for All Europeans package. The new rules are designed to empower energy consumers to play an active role in the energy transition and to fully benefit a digitalized and sustainable energy system in which they also enable active participation.<sup>1224</sup>

On 15 April 2019, Commissioner Margrethe Vestager announced the acceptance of scheme that will support combined heat and power installations connected to district heating networks in Poland, costing EUR5 billion. It is designed to lower emissions and ensure sustainable practices in the region.<sup>1225</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the European Commission adopted a EUR4 billion investment package for sustainable energy infrastructures across 10 of its member states. The investment package is made up of Bulgaria, Czechia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal and Romania. The projects cover a wide range of areas, but most notable is the sustainable energy commitment. With national funding, the total investment amounts to EUR8 billion.<sup>1226</sup>

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to encourage energy transitions that combine decreasing green-house gas emissions towards cleaner, more flexible and transparent system. Attendance at COP24 and the European Commission's efforts to set priorities to include more renewable sources in the energy markets demonstrate EU's compliance.

Thus, European Union receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sila Naz Elgin*

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<sup>1223</sup> LIFE programme – Coreper confirms common understanding reached with Parliament. European Commission (Brussels) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/03/20/life-programme-coreper-confirms-common-understanding-reached-with-parliament/>.

<sup>1224</sup> Clean Energy for All Europeans: Commission welcomes European Parliament's adoption of new electricity market design proposals. European Commission (Brussels) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1836\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1836_en.htm).

<sup>1225</sup> State aid: Commission approves €5 billion Polish support for cogenerated electricity and surcharge reductions for large energy consumers; opens in-depth investigation into reductions in capacity mechanism surcharge. European Commission (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-2150\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2150_en.htm).

<sup>1226</sup> Commission adopts €4 billion investment package for infrastructure projects across 10 Member States. European Commission (Brussels) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1872\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1872_en.htm).

## 6. Financial Regulation: Tax Administration

“We continue to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries, including through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.”

*Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

Country	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada		0	
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
Korea		0	
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa			+1
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.50	

### Background

Following the London Summit in April 2009, G20 leaders agreed to take action to strengthen the reformation of regulation in the financial sector.<sup>1227</sup> The G20 Leaders called on all jurisdictions, cooperative and non-cooperative, to adhere to the international standards in the tax, prudential and anti-money laundering areas.<sup>1228</sup> In addition, the leaders urged all countries to adopt the international standard for information exchange previously endorsed by the G20 in 2004, also reflected in the United Nations Model Tax Convention.<sup>1229</sup>

At the Pittsburgh Summit in 2009, the G20 leaders took action at both national and international levels to raise global standards of markets, protectionism and regulatory arbitrage.<sup>1230</sup> In addition, the G20 leaders recognized the necessity of an open exchange of information to securing a successful

<sup>1227</sup> Declaration on Strengthening the Financial System – London Summit, G20 Research Group (Toronto). Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009ifi.pdf>.

<sup>1228</sup> Declaration on Strengthening the Financial System – London Summit, G20 Research Group (Toronto). Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009ifi.pdf>.

<sup>1229</sup> Declaration on Strengthening the Financial System – London Summit, G20 Research Group (Toronto). Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009ifi.pdf>.

<sup>1230</sup> Leader’s Statement The Pittsburgh Summit (Pittsburgh) 24 – 25 September 2009. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [http://www.g20dwg.org/static/2009\\_G20\\_Framework\\_for\\_Strong\\_Sustainable\\_and\\_Balanced\\_Growth.pdf](http://www.g20dwg.org/static/2009_G20_Framework_for_Strong_Sustainable_and_Balanced_Growth.pdf).

global economy.<sup>1231</sup> The focus for the open exchange of information was the improvement of tax transparency and exchange of information to support countries in enforcing tax laws.<sup>1232</sup>

In 2010 at the Toronto Summit, the G20 leaders affirmed their commitment to design and implement a system that would enable the countries to restructure and/or resolve all types of financial institutions in crisis to ensure that the burden does not fall onto the taxpayer.<sup>1233</sup> One of the proposed resolution regimes was effective cooperation and information exchange domestically and among jurisdictions in the event of a failure of a cross-border institution.<sup>1234</sup> At the summit, the G20 established the Development Working Group (DWG), which identified major development challenges facing developing countries.<sup>1235</sup> Among the difficulties, growth with resilience, infrastructure, trade, and private investment and job creation were the major challenges.<sup>1236</sup>

At the 2011 Cannes Summit, the G20 leaders published a report titled “Supporting the Development of More Effective Tax Systems.”<sup>1237</sup> The report included terms of transparency in fairness for the pursuit of a successful tax system design.<sup>1238</sup> The report indicated that investment decisions, both internationally and domestically, were linked to a strong tax system design.<sup>1239</sup> Thus, the report highlighted the need for a strong tax administration for domestic affairs and resource allocation.<sup>1240</sup>

In St. Petersburg, at the 2013 Summit, the G20 leaders cited appropriate tax regimes and other government initiatives as essential to improve the business environment and to stimulate the creation of formal, and more productive jobs through structural reform.<sup>1241</sup> In addition, the G20 leaders committed to tackling Tax Avoidance, Promote Tax Transparency and Automatic Exchange of Information.<sup>1242</sup> Through these commitments, the G20 leaders endorsed the Organization of

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<sup>1231</sup> Leader’s Statement The Pittsburgh Summit (Pittsburgh) 24 — 25 September 2009. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [http://www.g20dwg.org/static/2009\\_G20\\_Framework\\_for\\_Strong\\_Sustainable\\_and\\_Balanced\\_Growth.pdf](http://www.g20dwg.org/static/2009_G20_Framework_for_Strong_Sustainable_and_Balanced_Growth.pdf).

<sup>1232</sup> Leader’s Statement The Pittsburgh Summit (Pittsburgh) 24 — 25 September 2009. Access Date: 11 January 2019. [http://www.g20dwg.org/static/2009\\_G20\\_Framework\\_for\\_Strong\\_Sustainable\\_and\\_Balanced\\_Growth.pdf](http://www.g20dwg.org/static/2009_G20_Framework_for_Strong_Sustainable_and_Balanced_Growth.pdf).

<sup>1233</sup> The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communicue.html>.

<sup>1234</sup> The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communicue.html>.

<sup>1235</sup> The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communicue.html>.

<sup>1236</sup> The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communicue.html>.

<sup>1237</sup> Report by the Platform for Collaboration on Tax to the G20: Enhancing the Effectiveness of External Support in Building Tax Capacity in Developing Countries, OECD (Paris) 25 July 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/enhancing-the-effectiveness-of-external-support-in-building-tax-capacity-in-developingcountries.pdf>.

<sup>1238</sup> Report by the Platform for Collaboration on Tax to the G20: Enhancing the Effectiveness of External Support in Building Tax Capacity in Developing Countries, OECD (Paris) 25 July 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/enhancing-the-effectiveness-of-external-support-in-building-tax-capacity-in-developingcountries.pdf>.

<sup>1239</sup> Report by the Platform for Collaboration on Tax to the G20: Enhancing the Effectiveness of External Support in Building Tax Capacity in Developing Countries, OECD (Paris) 25 July 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/enhancing-the-effectiveness-of-external-support-in-building-tax-capacity-in-developingcountries.pdf>.

<sup>1240</sup> Report by the Platform for Collaboration on Tax to the G20: Enhancing the Effectiveness of External Support in Building Tax Capacity in Developing Countries, OECD (Paris) 25 July 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/enhancing-the-effectiveness-of-external-support-in-building-tax-capacity-in-developingcountries.pdf>.

<sup>1241</sup> The G20 Leaders’ Declaration – St. Petersburg Summit (St. Petersburg) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html#finreg>.

<sup>1242</sup> The G20 Leaders’ Declaration – St. Petersburg Summit (St. Petersburg) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html#finreg>.

Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) proposal for a truly global model for multilateral and bilateral automatic exchange of information.<sup>1243</sup> They also recognized the importance of all countries benefitting from greater tax information exchange, and committed to make automatic exchange of information attainable by all countries, including LICs, and would work collectively to ensure the capacity is built to support them.<sup>1244</sup>

At the Brisbane Summit in 2014, the G20 leaders committed to working with developing countries to build their tax administration capacity.<sup>1245</sup> This commitment built on the 2010 Development Working Group establishment (DWG), and the Multi-Year Action Plan (MYAP) to establish a working commitment to make changes necessary to resolve the most significant challenging developing countries were facing in the development of tax capacity.<sup>1246</sup> One of the pillars from the MYAP was to strengthen “tax regimes and fiscal policies in developing countries to provide a sustainable revenue base for inclusive growth and social equity, as well as to enhance the transparency and accountability of public finances.”<sup>1247</sup> This summit also called on various international organizations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, United Nations and the OECD to support the development of tax systems and tax capacity in the developing countries.<sup>1248</sup>

In 2018, at the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires, the G20 leaders committed to continue to work on a globally fair, sustainable and modern international tax system, and welcome international cooperation to advance pro-growth tax policies.<sup>1249</sup> The G20 leaders also welcomed the start of the automatic exchange of financial account information and acknowledge the strengthened criteria developed by the OECD to identify jurisdictions that have not implemented the tax transparency standards.<sup>1250</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The G20 committed to “support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries, including through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.” There are two components to this commitment: taking action towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries and taking action through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

#### **Part One: Action on Tax Certainty and Tax Capacity**

The first component of this commitment signifies that the G20 member must take action towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries. Tax certainty is a policy and tax regulatory framework that is created and maintained for a stable and regular tax administration.<sup>1251</sup> Tax capacity can be defined to be the maximum tax a nation can contribute to the support of the

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<sup>1243</sup> The G20 Leaders’ Declaration – St. Petersburg Summit (St. Petersburg) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html#finreg>.

<sup>1244</sup> The G20 Leaders’ Declaration – St. Petersburg Summit (St. Petersburg) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html#finreg>.

<sup>1245</sup> The G20 Leaders’ Declaration – Brisbane (Brisbane) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 22 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communiqué.html>.

<sup>1246</sup> The G20 Leaders’ Declaration – Brisbane (Brisbane) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 22 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communiqué.html>.

<sup>1247</sup> The G20 Leaders’ Declaration – Brisbane (Brisbane) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 22 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communiqué.html>.

<sup>1248</sup> The G20 Leaders’ Declaration – Brisbane (Brisbane) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 22 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communiqué.html>.

<sup>1249</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>1250</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>1251</sup> Trade, Investment, Globalization and Tax Cooperation, G20-Insights. 17 May 2017. Access Date: 22 January 2019. [https://www.g20-insights.org/policy\\_briefs/tax-certainty/](https://www.g20-insights.org/policy_briefs/tax-certainty/).

government, and capacity building as a policy or framework aimed at the growth of the capacity in a nation.<sup>1252</sup> A G20 member is able to take action through multiple avenues to achieve compliance.

A G20 member can take steps towards tax certainty and tax capacity by changing domestic policy to allocate channels of operation to create tax certainty, allocate funds for the operation of increased tax certainty, establish engagement programs, and establish a model legislation for implementation in international rules or standards. These actions act as a model for developing countries and decrease the likelihood of adverse spillover effects. Another channel for taking action is to engage in bilateral or multilateral agreements to participate in an international practice of increasing tax certainty in each respective country, or in aiding other countries developing an infrastructure in the increase of tax certainty. These would constitute domestic focused initiatives.

### **Part Two: Action through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax**

The second component is taking action through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax. The Platform is designed to intensify the cooperation between the International Monetary Fund, OECD, United Nations and World Bank on tax issues.<sup>1253</sup> The Platform engages discussions between the four international organizations on implementation of tax matters, including in the creation of international standards.<sup>1254</sup> The development of tax systems has emerged as a key development priority, and address the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>1255</sup> The aim for collaboration among the international organizations is to provide support for governments to address tax challenges they are facing.<sup>1256</sup> The framework for this initiative is to produce concrete outputs in an agreed upon work plan, and to implement the framework collaboratively through a variety of domestic and international tax matters.<sup>1257</sup>

A G20 member can take steps towards compliance by partnering with the Platform on initiatives to build support in developing countries, or by developing finance programs in accordance with initiatives started by the Platform to improve tax certainty and tax capacity on countries.

Full compliance entails a member taking efforts to support tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries through domestic initiatives and as a member of international bodies. Partial compliance entails taking action in one or the other area. Negative compliance constitutes failing to take action in any area.

### **Scoring Guidelines**

-1	Member does not take action towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries through domestic focused initiatives OR as a member of international bodies.
0	Member has taken efforts towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries through domestic focused initiatives OR as a member of international bodies.
+1	Member has taken efforts towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries through domestic focused initiatives AND as a member of international bodies.

<sup>1252</sup> Public Revenue and Taxation, Economics Concepts. Access Date: 22 January 2019.

[http://www.economicsconcepts.com/taxable\\_capacity.htm](http://www.economicsconcepts.com/taxable_capacity.htm).

<sup>1253</sup> Platform for Collaboration on Tax (Washington) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/platform-for-tax-collaboration>.

<sup>1254</sup> Platform for Collaboration on Tax (Washington) 9 October 2018. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/platform-for-tax-collaboration>.

<sup>1255</sup> The Platform for Collaboration on Tax, Concept Note (Paris) 19 April 2016. Access Date: 22 January 2019.

<http://www.oecd.org/ctp/concept-note-platform-for-collaboration-on-tax.pdf>.

<sup>1256</sup> The Platform for Collaboration on Tax, Concept Note (Paris) 19 April 2016. Access Date: 22 January 2019.

<http://www.oecd.org/ctp/concept-note-platform-for-collaboration-on-tax.pdf>.

<sup>1257</sup> The Platform for Collaboration on Tax, Concept Note (Paris) 19 April 2016. Access Date: 22 January 2019.

<http://www.oecd.org/ctp/concept-note-platform-for-collaboration-on-tax.pdf>.

*Compliance Director: Meagan Byrd  
Lead Analyst: Bianca Meta*

### **Argentina: +1**

Argentina has fully complied with its commitments to continue to support enhanced tax-certainty and tax capacity-building.

On 6 December 2018, the Executive Council of Buenos Aires approved Budget Plan 2019, which includes directives 142 and 143 that introduced significant changes to the province's operational gambling framework.<sup>1258</sup> The directives introduced 2 per cent tax charge on player winnings from land-based casino, arcade and bingo operators.<sup>1259</sup>

On 28 December 2018, Tax Reform Law 27,430, enacted by the Argentine government came into power.<sup>1260</sup> The Law introduces the taxation of indirect transfers of assets located in Argentina and establishes anti-avoidance rules for businesses with operations in multiple jurisdictions.<sup>1261</sup>

On 2 January 2019, the Argentine government passed legislation to treat services as if they were exported goods and, thus, be allowed to collect 12 per cent export tax.<sup>1262</sup> The power will remain in effect until 31 December 2020, and the Argentine government expects to collect anywhere from USD700 million to USD1 billion during this time.<sup>1263</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Argentina officially joined Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).<sup>1264</sup> The initiative will strengthen Argentina's tax capacity and help tackle international tax avoidance by creating a framework for dissemination of reliable data regarding the revenues generated by extractive activities.<sup>1265</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Argentina attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration

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<sup>1258</sup> Argentina Pro Secures Buenos Aires Gambling Restructure, SBS News (Surrey), 6 December 2018. Date Accessed: 22 March 2019. <https://www.sbcnews.co.uk/latestnews/2018/12/06/argentina-pro-secures-buenos-aires-gambling-restructure/>.

<sup>1259</sup> Argentina Pro Secures Buenos Aires Gambling Restructure, SBS News (Surrey), 6 December 2018. Date Accessed: 22 March 2019. <https://www.sbcnews.co.uk/latestnews/2018/12/06/argentina-pro-secures-buenos-aires-gambling-restructure/>.

<sup>1260</sup> Argentina Issues Much-Anticipated Regulations on Tax Reform Law 27,430, EY (Buenos Aires/New York), 4 January 2019. Date Accessed: 22 March 2019. <https://taxnews.ey.com/news/2019-0044-argentina-issues-much-anticipated-regulations-on-tax-reform-law-27430>.

<sup>1261</sup> Argentina Issues Much-Anticipated Regulations on Tax Reform Law 27,430, EY (Buenos Aires/New York), 4 January 2019. Date Accessed: 22 March 2019. <https://taxnews.ey.com/news/2019-0044-argentina-issues-much-anticipated-regulations-on-tax-reform-law-27430>.

<sup>1262</sup> Argentina's Language Industry Hit by New Export Tax, Slator (Zurich), 4 February 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. <https://slator.com/industry-news/argentinas-language-industry-hit-by-new-export-tax/>.

<sup>1263</sup> Argentina's Language Industry Hit by New Export Tax, Slator (Zurich), 4 February 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. <https://slator.com/industry-news/argentinas-language-industry-hit-by-new-export-tax/>.

<sup>1264</sup> EITI Board Approves Argentina's Application to Join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, EITI (Oslo), 27 February 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. <https://eiti.org/news/eiti-board-approves-argentinas-application-to-join-extractive-industries-transparency>.

<sup>1265</sup> EITI Board Approves Argentina's Application to Join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, EITI (Oslo), 27 February 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. <https://eiti.org/news/eiti-board-approves-argentinas-application-to-join-extractive-industries-transparency>.

on Tax.<sup>1266</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1267</sup>

Argentina has made some progress towards enhancing its tax-certainty and tax capacity-building. Argentina has adopted some policies domestically and as a member of international bodies.

Thus, Argentina has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Timur Tursunbayev*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied in their commitment to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries, including through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

On 1 January 2019, the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related to Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Sharing entered into force.<sup>1268</sup> The Tax Treaty is designed to address multilateral tax avoidance, and assist in resolving tax disputes.<sup>1269</sup> This initiative was developed in partnership with the OECD Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) project.<sup>1270</sup>

On 1 January 2019, Double Taxation Agreements (DTAs) with countries such as New Zealand, United Kingdom, Japan, and Poland come into force due to Australia's implementation of the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related to Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Sharing in Force.<sup>1271</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the Australian government published the 2019-20 budget which calls for further measures to combat tax avoidance.<sup>1272</sup> These measures included increased funding for the Taxation Avoidance Taskforce in upholding the Multinational Anti-Avoidance Law and the Diverted Profit Tax until June 2023.<sup>1273</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Australia attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration

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<sup>1266</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1267</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1268</sup> Multilateral Instrument, Australian Tax Office (Canberra) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.ato.gov.au/General/International-tax-agreements/In-detail/Multilateral-Instrument/>

<sup>1269</sup> Multilateral Instrument, Australian Tax Office (Canberra) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.ato.gov.au/General/International-tax-agreements/In-detail/Multilateral-Instrument/>.

<sup>1270</sup> Multilateral Instrument, Australian Tax Office (Canberra) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.ato.gov.au/General/International-tax-agreements/In-detail/Multilateral-Instrument/>.

<sup>1271</sup> International Tax Treaties, The Treasury (Canberra). Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://treasury.gov.au/tax-treaties/income-tax-treaties>.

<sup>1272</sup> Lower Taxes: Tax relief to encourage and reward hard-working Australians, Budget 2019-20 (Canberra) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gov.au/2019-20/content/download/taxes.pdf>.

<sup>1273</sup> Lower Taxes: Tax relief to encourage and reward hard-working Australians, Budget 2019-20 (Canberra) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gov.au/2019-20/content/download/taxes.pdf>.

on Tax.<sup>1274</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1275</sup>

Australia has fully complied in their commitment to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries, including through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax. Australia has striven to implement many methods to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing nations through the crackdown on tax avoidance by multinational companies. They have also implemented many of the OECD recommendations in regard to tax policy via the implementation of the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting and hybrid mismatch rules. This has allowed them to be fully compliant to their commitment.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Wayne George*

### **Brazil: 0**

Brazil has partially complied towards continuing to support the enhancement of tax certainty, and tax capacity-building through a domestic initiative.

On 23 January 2019, Brazil's Economy Minister Paulo Guedes has proposed taxing dividends and other shareholder payouts in order to reduce other corporate taxes and boost economic activity.<sup>1276</sup> The proposed plan would cut corporate income tax from 34 per cent to 20 per cent.<sup>1277</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Brazil attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1278</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1279</sup>

Brazil has taken some steps towards tax capacity and tax certainty as a member of an international body but not through domestic initiatives.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

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<sup>1274</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1275</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1276</sup> Brazil considers taxing dividends, shareholder payouts –paper, Reuters (Brasilia), 23 January 2019. Date Accessed: 29 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-economy-tax/brazil-considers-taxing-dividends-shareholder-payouts-paper-idUSL8N1ZN4BO>

<sup>1277</sup> Brazil considers taxing dividends, shareholder payouts –paper, Reuters (Brasilia), 23 January 2019. Date Accessed: 29 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-economy-tax/brazil-considers-taxing-dividends-shareholder-payouts-paper-idUSL8N1ZN4BO>

<sup>1278</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1279</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

*Analysts: Timur Tursunbayev and Meagan Byrd*

**Canada: 0**

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to enhancing the support of tax capacity and tax certainty-building through a domestic initiative.

On 13 April 2019, Canada attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1280</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1281</sup>

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to financial regulation, aimed at the timely implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in line with its commitment on Platform for Collaboration on Tax through a domestic initiative.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Krishanu Ranwan*

**China: +1**

China has fully complied to the commitment of increasing tax certainty and tax capacity-building.

On 5 December 2018, Director of the State Administration of Taxation Wang Jun said in his keynote speech at the OECD Forum on Taxation Administration in Paris that China is planning to launch a new round of tax measures to reduce the burden on enterprises.<sup>1282</sup> The measures plan on including tax exemptions for technological startups, and small-sized companies.<sup>1283</sup> The aim of the measures is to promote economic growth, and fuel economic development.<sup>1284</sup>

On 7 December 2018, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in South China will introduce a tax refund policy on 11 December 2019 for foreigners staying in China within 183 days and people from Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan, with a minimum refund amount of CNY500 (USD73) and a refund rate of 11 per cent.<sup>1285</sup> The money can be refunded in cash or via bank transfer.<sup>1286</sup>

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<sup>1280</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1281</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1282</sup> New round of tax cuts extends helping hand to private sector, China Daily (Beijing) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/05/WS5c0713e9a310eff30328f147.html>.

<sup>1283</sup> New round of tax cuts extends helping hand to private sector, China Daily (Beijing) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/05/WS5c0713e9a310eff30328f147.html>.

<sup>1284</sup> New round of tax cuts extends helping hand to private sector, China Daily (Beijing) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/05/WS5c0713e9a310eff30328f147.html>.

<sup>1285</sup> Guangxi to introduce tax refund policy, China Daily (Beijing) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/07/WS5c0a33fea310eff30328fcc2.html>.

<sup>1286</sup> Guangxi to introduce tax refund policy, China Daily (Beijing) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/07/WS5c0a33fea310eff30328fcc2.html>.

On 22 December 2018, China's annual tone-setting Central Economic Work Conference concluded on Friday, with participants agreeing to step up tax cuts and keep monetary and fiscal policies more accommodating to support growth.<sup>1287</sup>

On 24 December 2018, A draft law to place taxes on the extraction of natural resources was submitted to the National People's Congress Standing Committee for its first review.<sup>1288</sup>

On 23 December 2018, The State Council, China's cabinet, announced special individual income tax deductions on six areas, including children's education, continuing education, health treatment for serious diseases, housing loan interests, rent and elderly care.<sup>1289</sup> The new temporary measures will come into effect along with the amended personal individual income tax law on 1 January 2019.<sup>1290</sup>

On 25 December 2018, a new personal income tax app, developed by the State Administration of Taxation, will be up and running in January 2019 to help taxpayers receive additional deductions.<sup>1291</sup>

On 10 January 2019, Premier Li Keqiang decided in a State Council executive meeting that China will unveil larger-scale tax cuts and tax exemptions for small and micro businesses.<sup>1292</sup> Small and low profit businesses with an annual taxable income of less than CNY1 million (USD 146,500) and between CNY1 million to CNY3 million will be eligible to have their tax calculated based on 25 percent or 50 per cent of their taxable income, which is expected to reduce their tax burden to about 5 to 10 per cent.<sup>1293</sup>

On 11 January 2019, Minister of Industry and Information Technology Miao Wei said that China will continue to lower the rates of value-added tax levied on the manufacturing sector and reduce its costs on production factors such as electricity and water.<sup>1294</sup>

On 15 January 2019, The People's Bank of China (PBOC) conducted CNY80 billion (USD11.84 billion) of seven-day reverse repos at an interest rate of 2.55 per cent and 100 billion yuan of 28-day reverse repos at 2.85 per cent to offset the impact of a tax payment peak this month.<sup>1295</sup>

On 3 February 2019, under a decision jointly announced Saturday by the Ministry of Finance, State Taxation Administration and other governmental departments, people in need who start a business

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<sup>1287</sup> Tax cuts will be stepped up, China Daily (Beijing) 22 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2018-12/22/content\\_37416538.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2018-12/22/content_37416538.htm).

<sup>1288</sup> Draft tax law for natural resources would codify a range of regulations, China Legal Information Center (China) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/m/chinalic/2018-12/24/content\\_37418407.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/m/chinalic/2018-12/24/content_37418407.htm).

<sup>1289</sup> China unveils special individual income tax deductions, China Daily (Beijing) 23 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/22/WS5c1e2dc0a3107d4c3a002446.html>.

<sup>1290</sup> China unveils special individual income tax deductions, China Daily (Beijing) 23 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/22/WS5c1e2dc0a3107d4c3a002446.html>.

<sup>1291</sup> New app to help taxpayers get additional deductions, China Daily (Beijing) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/25/WS5c218235a3107d4c3a0029fc.html>.

<sup>1292</sup> More tax cuts for small firms, China Daily (Beijing) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201901/10/WS5c3685c9a3106c65c34e38f8.html>.

<sup>1293</sup> More tax cuts for small firms, China Daily (Beijing) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201901/10/WS5c3685c9a3106c65c34e38f8.html>.

<sup>1294</sup> China plans deeper tax cuts in manufacturing sector: official, China Daily (Beijing) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201901/11/WS5c3839d1a3106c65c34e3f16.html>.

<sup>1295</sup> China boosts liquidity to offset cash demand for tax payments, China Daily (Beijing) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201901/15/WS5c3d7951a3106c65c34e490f.html>.

can have CNY12 thousand (about USD1,791) deducted from their families' annual share of taxes over three years.<sup>1296</sup>

On 19 February 2019, German Minister of Finance Olaf Scholz advocated on behalf of China at the Paris Club, during the China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue.<sup>1297</sup> As a result, both China and Germany pledged to maintain close cooperation to strengthen communication and cooperation on implementing the OECD/G20 Tax Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Action Plan.<sup>1298</sup> In addition, both China and Germany committed to continue working on the improvement of tax capacity and tax certainty, while working with the OECD to address tax challenges being faced as a result of the digitalization of the economy.<sup>1299</sup>

On 5 March 2019, the government work report was released stating that, starting on 1 April 2019, the Value Added tax rate for the manufacturing sector will be cut by three percentage points to 13 per cent, adding up to a total cut surpasses CNY900 billion.<sup>1300</sup>

On 13 April 2019, China attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1301</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1302</sup>

China has taken actions to increase tax certainty and tax capacity by introducing new app for tax payment, reducing tax for small business and imposing tax on the extraction of natural resources.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sophia Bai*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment take action towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries and to take action through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

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<sup>1296</sup> China grants tax benefit to boost employment of the needy, China Daily (Beijing) 3 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201902/03/WS5c56baefa3106c65c34e8142.html>.

<sup>1297</sup> Monatsbericht des BMF: Analysen und Berichte. Deutsch-Chinesischer Finanzdialog, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Berlin) February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Monatsberichte/2019/02/Inhalte/Kapitel-3-Analysen/3-1-deutsch-chinesischer-finanzdialog.html>.

<sup>1298</sup> Monatsbericht des BMF: Analysen und Berichte. Deutsch-Chinesischer Finanzdialog, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Berlin) February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Monatsberichte/2019/02/Inhalte/Kapitel-3-Analysen/3-1-deutsch-chinesischer-finanzdialog.html>.

<sup>1299</sup> Monatsbericht des BMF: Analysen und Berichte. Deutsch-Chinesischer Finanzdialog, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Berlin) February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Monatsberichte/2019/02/Inhalte/Kapitel-3-Analysen/3-1-deutsch-chinesischer-finanzdialog.html>.

<sup>1300</sup> Total VAT cut expected to be own 900b yuan, China Daily (Beijing) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 23 April 2019. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201903/20/WS5c91b046a3104842260b1952.html>.

<sup>1301</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1302</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

On 5 December 2018, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) announced that its compiled data showed France's tax revenues from the previous year rose to 46.2 percent of gross domestic product, surpassing Denmark as the most taxed country.<sup>1303</sup>

On 17 December 2018, finance minister Bruno Le Maire announced that the plans for a new tax on big technology companies (specifically Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon) would be introduced in 2019 for an amount estimated at EUR500 million.<sup>1304</sup> This has been dubbed the GAFA tax.<sup>1305</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the French National Assembly voted to end tax incentives for adding palm oil to diesel fuel as of 2020.<sup>1306</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the French Finance Act for 2019 was enacted and introduced significant changes to the interest deduction rules and to the favourable tax regime applicable to Industrial Property income.<sup>1307</sup> The Act also made changes to the tax consolidation regime and implemented new anti-abuse rules.<sup>1308</sup>

On 1 January 2019, France implemented the pay-as-you-earn tax system where the state deducts taxes each month directly from salaries or pensions.<sup>1309</sup> This was a shift from the previous system whereby residents file income tax returns based on the previous year's earnings.<sup>1310</sup> The government sent 93 million letters and emails to its citizens to notify and explain the new system.<sup>1311</sup>

On 19 February 2019, OECD representatives, including France, met in Paris to discuss the OECD's Global Relations Programme in taxation (GRP).<sup>1312</sup> The meeting acknowledged the rapidly changing international landscape, new challenges posed by the digitalization of the economy, and the importance of supporting developing countries as they seek to strengthen their capacities in

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<sup>1303</sup> Government tax takes at record high with France in top spot: OECD, Reuters (London), 5 December 2018. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-oecd-tax/government-tax-takes-at-record-high-with-france-in-top-spot-oecd-idUSKBN1O411Y>.

<sup>1304</sup> France pushes forward alone with new tax on big tech companies, The Guardian (London), 17 December 2018. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/dec/17/france-alone-new-tax-big-tech-companies-gafa>.

<sup>1305</sup> France pushes forward alone with new tax on big tech companies, The Guardian (London), 17 December 2018. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/dec/17/france-alone-new-tax-big-tech-companies-gafa>.

<sup>1306</sup> France's National Assembly ends tax incentives for palm oil in diesel fuel, Transport & Environment (Brussels), 19 December 2018. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.transportenvironment.org/press/france%E2%80%99s-national-assembly-ends-tax-incentives-palm-oil-diesel-fuel>.

<sup>1307</sup> French Finance Act for 2019: The most important changes affecting businesses, Lexology (London), 28 December 2018. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=584e9d38-77b8-4693-b19a-2a439b796cb2>.

<sup>1308</sup> French Finance Act for 2019: The most important changes affecting businesses, Lexology (London), 28 December 2018. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=584e9d38-77b8-4693-b19a-2a439b796cb2>.

<sup>1309</sup> French government on tenterhooks as new income tax regime rolls in, The Local (Stockholm), 2 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20190102/french-government-on-tenterhooks-as-new-income-tax-regime-rolls-in>.

<sup>1310</sup> French government on tenterhooks as new income tax regime rolls in, The Local (Stockholm), 2 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20190102/french-government-on-tenterhooks-as-new-income-tax-regime-rolls-in>.

<sup>1311</sup> French government on tenterhooks as new income tax regime rolls in, The Local (Stockholm), 2 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20190102/french-government-on-tenterhooks-as-new-income-tax-regime-rolls-in>.

<sup>1312</sup> Statement of Outcomes: Advisory Group for Co-operation with Partner Economies Annual Meeting (February 2019), OECD (Paris), 19 February 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/tax-global/statement-of-outcomes-advisory-group-for-partner-economies-february-2019.pdf>.

taxation.<sup>1313</sup> The meeting had three key outcomes by recognizing the role of the Knowledge Sharing Platform (KSP) in the delivery of the GRP, launching an e-learning component to the GRP, and identifying three pillars of the GRP.<sup>1314</sup>

On 6 March 2019, French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire set out the bill for France's digital tax proposal, which seeks to levy a 3 per cent digital tax on tech giants.<sup>1315</sup> The GAFA tax would apply to companies with EUR750 million in worldwide digital revenue and EUR25 million in French digital sales.<sup>1316</sup> France will tax online market places, the sale of data for targeted advertising, and the sale of targeted online advertising but will not tax direct e-commerce retailing, messaging or payment apps, and online advertising that doesn't involve user data.<sup>1317</sup>

On 13 April 2019, France attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1318</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1319</sup>

On 16 April 2019, France adopted a financial sector bill that establishes a legal framework for cryptocurrency service providers and initial coin offerings.<sup>1320</sup> This bill includes both optional and mandatory licensing, and also specifies the types of funds that can invest in crypto.<sup>1321</sup>

On 25 April 2019, President Emmanuel Macron pledged to cut income taxes while speaking at the first major press conference of his presidency in Elysee.<sup>1322</sup>

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<sup>1313</sup> Statement of Outcomes: Advisory Group for Co-operation with Partner Economies Annual Meeting (February 2019), OECD (Paris), 19 February 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/tax-global/statement-of-outcomes-advisory-group-for-partner-economies-february-2019.pdf>.

<sup>1314</sup> Statement of Outcomes: Advisory Group for Co-operation with Partner Economies Annual Meeting (February 2019), OECD (Paris) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/tax-global/statement-of-outcomes-advisory-group-for-partner-economies-february-2019.pdf>.

<sup>1315</sup> French digital tax proposal puts tech giants on notice, Bloomberg (New York) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://news.bloombergtax.com/daily-tax-report-international/french-digital-tax-proposal-puts-tech-giants-on-notice>.

<sup>1316</sup> French digital tax proposal puts tech giants on notice, Bloomberg (New York) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://news.bloombergtax.com/daily-tax-report-international/french-digital-tax-proposal-puts-tech-giants-on-notice>.

<sup>1317</sup> French digital tax proposal puts tech giants on notice, Bloomberg (New York) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://news.bloombergtax.com/daily-tax-report-international/french-digital-tax-proposal-puts-tech-giants-on-notice>.

<sup>1318</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1319</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1320</sup> France adopts new crypto regulation, Bitcoin.com (Arlington) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://news.bitcoin.com/france-cryptocurrency-regulation/>.

<sup>1321</sup> France adopts new crypto regulation, Bitcoin.com (Arlington) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://news.bitcoin.com/france-cryptocurrency-regulation/>.

<sup>1322</sup> At marathon news conference, Macron launches fight back with tax cuts, Reuters (London), 25 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-france-protests/frances-macron-offers-tax-cuts-to-quell-yellow-vest-protests-idUKKCN1S1262?il=0>.

France has fully complied with its commitment to improve tax certainty and support capacity building for developing countries through domestic initiatives and as a member of an international body.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jane Huang*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries predominantly through bilateral development initiatives.

On 16 February 2019, German Minister of Finance Olaf Scholz advocated for enhanced debt transparency on behalf of China with a special focus on enhanced data exchange within the Framework of the Paris Club, during the China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue.<sup>1323</sup> Both countries pledged to maintain close cooperation to jointly cope with and combat cross-border tax evasion and to strengthen communication and cooperation on implementing the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Tax Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Action Plan.<sup>1324</sup> Both countries will continue their work to improve tax certainty, and work with the OECD to address the tax challenges raised by the digitalization of the economy.<sup>1325</sup> Both countries also pledged to comply with the G20 commitment on tax transparency and automatic exchange of tax information, as well as on support for tax capacity in developing countries.<sup>1326</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Germany and Burkina Faso agreed to strengthen their cooperation within the “Compact with Africa,” which, among other mechanisms, includes action to create stronger and more reliable sources of government revenue.<sup>1327</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Germany attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration

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<sup>1323</sup> Monatsbericht des BMF: Analysen und Berichte. Deutsch-Chinesischer Finanzdialog, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Berlin) February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Monatsberichte/2019/02/Inhalte/Kapitel-3-Analysen/3-1-deutsch-chinesischer-finanzdialog.html>.

<sup>1324</sup> Joint Statement of the 2nd China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Berlin) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

[https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Internationales\\_Finanzmarkt/Finanzmarktspolitik/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog.html](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Internationales_Finanzmarkt/Finanzmarktspolitik/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog.html).

<sup>1325</sup> Joint Statement of the 2nd China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Berlin) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

[https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Internationales\\_Finanzmarkt/Finanzmarktspolitik/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog.html](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Internationales_Finanzmarkt/Finanzmarktspolitik/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog.html).

<sup>1326</sup> Joint Statement of the 2nd China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Berlin) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

[https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Internationales\\_Finanzmarkt/Finanzmarktspolitik/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog.html](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Internationales_Finanzmarkt/Finanzmarktspolitik/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog.html).

<sup>1327</sup> Gute Partnerschaft weiter ausbauen, Presse- und Informationsamt der Bundesregierung (Berlin) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/pressekonferenz-von-bundeskanzlerin-merkel-und-dem-praesidenten-der-republik-burkina-faso-roch-marc-kabor%C3%A9-1582980>.

on Tax.<sup>1328</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1329</sup>

Germany has taken some action towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries through bilateral development initiatives and as a member of an international body.

Thus, Germany receives a score +1.

*Analyst: Katharina Kuhn*

### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with its commitment to continue promote tax certainty and tax capacity.

On 1 February 2019, The Finance Minister of India Arun Jaitley, announced in the 2019 budget that the legislative focus would work on stabilizing GST for the next financial year in addition to the consideration of future road map to GST slabs of zero, 5 per cent and standard rate.<sup>1330</sup> The change in the 2019 budget is aimed at strengthening the tax capacity of the economy.<sup>1331</sup>

On 13 April 2019, India attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1332</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1333</sup>

India has taken steps towards tax certainty, and tax capacity domestically, and as a member of an international body.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Gayathiri Moorthy*

### **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied in promoting to the tax certainty and tax capacity-building through a domestic initiative.

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<sup>1328</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1329</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1330</sup> Arun Jaitley: India should have GST slabs of zero ,5% and a standard rate, India Today (New Delhi) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.indiatoday.in/business/story/aran-jaitley-blog-gst-standard-rate-1416220-2018-12-24>.

<sup>1331</sup> Arun Jaitley: India should have GST slabs of zero ,5% and a standard rate, India Today (New Delhi) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.indiatoday.in/business/story/aran-jaitley-blog-gst-standard-rate-1416220-2018-12-24>.

<sup>1332</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1333</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

On 26 February 2019, Sri Mulyani Indrawati had mentioned that Indonesia had made tax refund procedures easier which led to reduction in VAT and PPnBM Revenue.<sup>1334</sup> Indonesia has planned to revise its luxury car tax scheme to improve export of greener cars and establish Indonesia as a regional hub.<sup>1335</sup>

India has partially complied to its commitment to promoting tax certainty and capacity building. Domestic reforms under consideration are expected to increase the tax to gross domestic product ratio.

Thus, Indonesia receives the score of 0.

*Analyst: Gayathiri Moorthy*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to take action towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries and through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

On 13 April 2019, Italy attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1336</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1337</sup>

Italy has made little efforts towards complying with its commitment by participating in international bodies with the aim of improving tax certainty and capacity building in developing countries.

Thus, Italy receives the score of 0.

*Analyst: Katharina Kuhn*

### **Japan: 0**

On 13 April 2019, Japan attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration

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<sup>1334</sup> Increased tax refunds causes decline in revenue, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/25/increased-tax-refunds-causes-decline-in-revenue.html>.

<sup>1335</sup> Indonesia plans tax changes to drive output exports of greener cars, Reuters (Jakarta) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-autos-tax/indonesia-plans-tax-changes-to-drive-output-exports-of-greener-cars-idUSKBN1QS11B>,

<sup>1336</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1337</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

on Tax.<sup>1338</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1339</sup>

Japan has not taken any action towards tax certainty, tax capacity through domestic initiatives, but has taken some action as a member for an international body.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.<sup>1340</sup>

*Analyst: Sophia Bai*

### **Korea: 0**

Korea has partially complied to the commitment of increasing tax capacity and tax certainty in developing countries.

On 11 December 2018, The National Assembly approved a bill to impose a 10 percent value-added tax (VAT) on technology companies' digital services ranging from online ads to cloud computing and online to offline services, which would go into effect from 1 July 2019.<sup>1341</sup>

On 14 December 2018, the National Tax Service sent investigators to Google Korea's office in Gangnam, on suspicion of tax evasion by local YouTube content makers sharing ad profits with YouTube, Google's subsidiary.<sup>1342</sup>

On 15 January 2019, the National Tax Service requests foreign workers with earned income in Korea in 2018 must settle year-end taxes by 28 February 2019 regardless of their nationality and length of stay.<sup>1343</sup> Moreover, Employers will have to submit Report on the Status of Withholding and Statement on Wage and Salary Payment to National Tax Service by 11 March 2019.<sup>1344</sup>

On 16 January 2019, in a meeting the liberal ruling party hosted for financial firm representatives, Lawmakers of Korea's ruling party suggests an overhaul of the taxation system for stock trading that currently levies taxes on all transactions regardless of capital gains or losses.<sup>1345</sup>

On 31 January 2019, deputy prime minister and finance minister Hong Nam-ki said the Korean government is positively considering bringing down the country's stock trading tax, aiming to reinvigorate stock activity.<sup>1346</sup>

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<sup>1338</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1339</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1340</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: [www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org), <http://www.eurasiancommission.org/en/act/finpol/dofp/Pages/default.aspx>, <https://www.oecd.org/japan/>, <https://www.mof.go.jp/english/>, and <https://japan.kantei.go.jp/>.

<sup>1341</sup> S. Korea to impose digital VAT on global tech giants starting next July, MaeKyung Media Group (Korea) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2018&no=772866>.

<sup>1342</sup> S. Korea tax authorities conduct tax audit on Google Korea, MaeKyung Media Group (Korea) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2018&no=777424>.

<sup>1343</sup> Foreign workers in Korea should file year-end tax settlement by Feb, MaeKyung Media Group (Korea) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2019&no=30720>.

<sup>1344</sup> Foreign workers in Korea should file year-end tax settlement by Feb, MaeKyung Media Group (Korea) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2019&no=30720>.

<sup>1345</sup> Korean ruling party keen on idea of lifting stock trade tax, MaeKyung Media Group (Korea) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2019&no=32995>.

Korea has taken action on tax certainty and tax capacity by increasing tax on technology companies' digital services and foreign workers' income and by strengthening tax regulation.

Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sophia Bai*

### **Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with its commitments to continue to support enhanced tax-certainty and tax capacity-building.

On 31 December 2018, President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador issued an executive order which granted lower rates for both value-added and income taxes in more than 40 municipalities bordering the United States.<sup>1347</sup> The decree will reduce income taxes from 30 per cent to 20 per cent and cut the value-added tax from 16 per cent to 8 per cent, while also boosting the minimum wage by 100 per cent to MXN 176 (USD 9).<sup>1348</sup> The decree is expected to reduce the government tax income during 2019 by USD6.1 billion.<sup>1349</sup>

On 8 January 2019, Finance Minister Carlos Urzua announced that Mexico will cut the tax rate paid by companies on the proceeds of initial public offerings from 35 per cent to 10 per cent.<sup>1350</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Mexico attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1351</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1352</sup>

Mexico has not complied with its commitments to continue to support enhanced tax-certainty and tax-capacity-building through domestic initiatives. However, Mexico has participated in promoting capacity building as a member of international bodies.

Thus, Mexico has received a score of 0.

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<sup>1346</sup> Korean govt to review lowering stock trading tax: finance minister, MaeKyung Media Group (Korea) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2019&no=65405>.

<sup>1347</sup> Mexican President Decrees Tax Cuts for U.S. Border Region, Reuters (Mexico City) 31 December 2018. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mexico-economy-border/mexican-president-decrees-tax-cuts-for-u-s-border-region-idUSKCN1OU0ZJ>.

<sup>1348</sup> Mexico Creates Special Zone on US Border to Win Investments, Cut Migration, Business Standard (Monterrey) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 27 March 2019. [https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/mexico-creates-special-zone-on-us-border-to-win-investments-cut-migration-118123000065\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/mexico-creates-special-zone-on-us-border-to-win-investments-cut-migration-118123000065_1.html).

<sup>1349</sup> Mexican President Decrees Tax Cuts for U.S. Border Region, Reuters (Mexico City) 31 December 2018. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mexico-economy-border/mexican-president-decrees-tax-cuts-for-u-s-border-region-idUSKCN1OU0ZJ>.

<sup>1350</sup> Mexico Plans to Cut Tax for Companies Holding IPOs to 10%, Bloomberg (New York), 8 January 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-01-08/mexico-will-look-to-cut-tax-to-10-for-companies-holding-ipos>.

<sup>1351</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1352</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

*Analysts: Timur Tursunbayev and Meagan Byrd*

### **Russia +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries since the Buenos Aires Summit neither through bilateral initiatives nor through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

On 4 April 2019, representatives of the tax administrations of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Azerbaijan discussed issues of digitization of the fiscal sphere at a meeting of the working group in Baku. Delegations also discussed ways to improve the quality of digital tax administration, transfer pricing and audit work.<sup>1353</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Russia attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1354</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1355</sup>

Russia fully complied with its commitments to continue to support enhanced tax-certainty and tax-capacity-building through domestic initiatives. However, Russia has participated in promoting capacity building as a member of international bodies.

Thus, Russia receives the score +1.<sup>1356</sup>

*Analyst: Katharina Kuhn*

### **Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries, including through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

On 2 December 2018, Saudi Arabia and Mauritania signed an income tax treaty.<sup>1357</sup> This treaty seeks to avoid double taxing and improve tax administration in both countries.<sup>1358</sup>

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<sup>1353</sup> Issues of digitalization of the fiscal sphere discussed in Baku, Russian Federal Tax Service 4 April 2019. Access date: 22 May 2019. [https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/news/international\\_activities/8630332/](https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/news/international_activities/8630332/).

<sup>1354</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1355</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1356</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <http://www.gov.ru>, <http://president.kremlin.ru/>, <http://www.duma.ru/>, <http://www.cbr.ru/eng/>, [http://www.mid.ru/mid/eng/BOD\\_1.HTM](http://www.mid.ru/mid/eng/BOD_1.HTM), <http://economy.gov.ru/en/home>, <http://rs.gov.ru/en>, <https://www.nalog.ru/rn77/>, <http://www.eurasiancommission.org/en/act/finpol/dofp/Pages/default.aspx>, [www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org), <http://www.russiatoday.com>, and <https://www.rferl.org/Russia>.

<sup>1357</sup> Saudi Crown Prince signs three MoUs during visit to Mauritania, Al Arabiya Network (Dubai) 2 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/north-africa/2018/12/02/Saudi-crown-prince-holds-bilateral-meeting-signs-MoUs-in-Mauritania.html>.

<sup>1358</sup> Saudi Crown Prince signs three MoUs during visit to Mauritania, Al Arabiya Network (Dubai) 2 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/north-africa/2018/12/02/Saudi-crown-prince-holds-bilateral-meeting-signs-MoUs-in-Mauritania.html>.

On 10 December 2018, Saudi Arabia's General Authority of Zakat and Tax (GAZT) published draft transfer pricing bylaws for public consultation.<sup>1359</sup> The new transfer pricing bylaws follow international standards that include the arm's-length principle and documentation standards set by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Transfer Pricing Guideline.<sup>1360</sup> Furthermore, the bylaws introduce country-by-country reporting in line with OECD minimum standards and represents an important milestone in Saudi Arabia's efforts to enhance tax certainty and tax capacity.<sup>1361</sup>

On 3 January 2019, Saudi Arabia and Cyprus signed a double tax treaty that will enter into force in March 2019.<sup>1362</sup> The treaty includes provisions regarding payments of income from debt-claims, payments of dividends, and royalty payments.<sup>1363</sup> This treaty standardizes the tax policies between the Saudi Arabia and Cyprus and empowers their respective tax authorities.<sup>1364</sup>

On 6 February 2019, Saudi Arabia and Albania signed a tax agreement to avoid dual taxation and prevent tax evasion from taxes on income and capital.<sup>1365</sup> The treaty would enhance Saudi Arabia's network of tax treaties to bolster its tax authorities.<sup>1366</sup>

On 15 February 2019, Saudi Arabia's General Authority of Zakat & Tax passed a resolution approving the Transfer Pricing Bylaws.<sup>1367</sup> The bylaws aim to target certain tax behaviors and minimize tax liabilities based on OECD standards.<sup>1368</sup> The bylaws will enhance businesses

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<sup>1359</sup> Saudi Arabia's tax authority releases draft transfer pricing bylaws, EY (Riyadh) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--saudi-arabias-tax-authority-releases-draft-transfer-pricing-bylaws>.

<sup>1360</sup> Saudi Arabia's tax authority releases draft transfer pricing bylaws, EY (Riyadh) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--saudi-arabias-tax-authority-releases-draft-transfer-pricing-bylaws>.

<sup>1361</sup> Saudi Arabia's tax authority releases draft transfer pricing bylaws, EY (Riyadh) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--saudi-arabias-tax-authority-releases-draft-transfer-pricing-bylaws>.

<sup>1362</sup> Cyprus – Saudi Arabia double tax treaty enters into force, PwC Central (Nicosia) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.pwc.com.cy/en/publications/assets/direct-tax-update-n-3-2019.pdf>.

<sup>1363</sup> Cyprus – Saudi Arabia double tax treaty enters into force, PwC Central (Nicosia) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.pwc.com.cy/en/publications/assets/direct-tax-update-n-3-2019.pdf>.

<sup>1364</sup> Cyprus – Saudi Arabia double tax treaty enters into force, PwC Central (Nicosia) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.pwc.com.cy/en/publications/assets/direct-tax-update-n-3-2019.pdf>.

<sup>1365</sup> King Salman, Albanian PM oversee signing of 2 agreements, MoU, Saudi Gazette (Riyadh) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/558675/SAUDI-ARABIA/King-Salman-Albanian-PM-oversee-signing-of-2-agreements-MoU>.

<sup>1366</sup> King Salman, Albanian PM oversee signing of 2 agreements, MoU, Saudi Gazette (Riyadh) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/558675/SAUDI-ARABIA/King-Salman-Albanian-PM-oversee-signing-of-2-agreements-MoU>.

<sup>1367</sup> The General Authority of Zakat & Tax Approve the Transfer Pricing Bylaws, General Authority of Zakat and Tax (Riyadh) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.gazt.gov.sa/en/media-center/news/the-general-authority-of-zakat-tax-approve-the-transfer-pricing-bylaws>.

<sup>1368</sup> The General Authority of Zakat & Tax Approve the Transfer Pricing Bylaws, General Authority of Zakat and Tax (Riyadh) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.gazt.gov.sa/en/media-center/news/the-general-authority-of-zakat-tax-approve-the-transfer-pricing-bylaws>.

compliance and affect all multinational corporations in the country.<sup>1369</sup> This is a major tax development for Saudi Arabia and the wider region.<sup>1370</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Saudi Arabia published its income and capital tax treaty with the United Arab Emirates which has entered into force as of 1 April 2019.<sup>1371</sup> This treaty includes provisions regarding permanent establishment, sets withholding tax rates, and applies the credit method to prevent double taxation to enhance tax capacity and tax certainty.<sup>1372</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the General Authority of Zakat and Tax announced the “Zakat collection regulations, the Zakat calculation rules for financing activities, the government’s assumption of responsibility of the Zakat and the Income Tax on Investment in Government Bonds and Sukuk.”<sup>1373</sup> These programs seek to increase transparency between the Authority and the taxpayers by improving Zakat collection procedures.<sup>1374</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Saudi Arabia attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1375</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF’s continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1376</sup>

Saudi Arabia has partially complied to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries through domestic focused initiatives and bilateral treaties but has not engaged as a member of international bodies including the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Collin Xia*

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<sup>1369</sup> The General Authority of Zakat & Tax Approve the Transfer Pricing Bylaws, General Authority of Zakat and Tax (Riyadh) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.gazt.gov.sa/en/media-center/news/the-general-authority-of-zakat-tax-approve-the-transfer-pricing-bylaws>.

<sup>1370</sup> The General Authority of Zakat & Tax Approve the Transfer Pricing Bylaws, General Authority of Zakat and Tax (Riyadh) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.gazt.gov.sa/en/media-center/news/the-general-authority-of-zakat-tax-approve-the-transfer-pricing-bylaws>.

<sup>1371</sup> Saudi Arabia publishes United Arab Emirates tax treaty, EY(Dubai) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/Saudi\\_Arabia\\_publishes\\_United\\_Arab\\_Emirates\\_tax\\_treaty/\\$FILE/2019G\\_000755-19Gbl\\_Saudi%20Arabia%20publishes%20UAE%20tax%20treaty.pdf](https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/Saudi_Arabia_publishes_United_Arab_Emirates_tax_treaty/$FILE/2019G_000755-19Gbl_Saudi%20Arabia%20publishes%20UAE%20tax%20treaty.pdf).

<sup>1372</sup> Saudi Arabia publishes United Arab Emirates tax treaty, EY(Dubai) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/Saudi\\_Arabia\\_publishes\\_United\\_Arab\\_Emirates\\_tax\\_treaty/\\$FILE/2019G\\_000755-19Gbl\\_Saudi%20Arabia%20publishes%20UAE%20tax%20treaty.pdf](https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/Saudi_Arabia_publishes_United_Arab_Emirates_tax_treaty/$FILE/2019G_000755-19Gbl_Saudi%20Arabia%20publishes%20UAE%20tax%20treaty.pdf).

<sup>1373</sup> "Zakat and Tax" announces the issuance of the Implementing Regulations for the collection of Zakat, General Authority of Zakat and Tax (Riyadh) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gazt.gov.sa/en/media-center/news/zakat-and-tax-announces-the-issuance-of-the-implementing-regulations-for-the>.

<sup>1374</sup> "Zakat and Tax" announces the issuance of the Implementing Regulations for the collection of Zakat, General Authority of Zakat and Tax (Riyadh) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gazt.gov.sa/en/media-center/news/zakat-and-tax-announces-the-issuance-of-the-implementing-regulations-for-the>.

<sup>1375</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1376</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

### South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries, including through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

On 11 January 2019, the South African Revenue Service, National Treasury of South Africa and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation to collaborate in tax policy.<sup>1377</sup> The memorandum is in place until 2023 and signifies stronger relations and cooperation between South Africa and the OECD.<sup>1378</sup>

On 19 January 2019, South Africa enacted the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill and the Tax Administration Laws Amendment Bill.<sup>1379</sup> These bills aim to address tax avoidance through the use of “collateral arrangements,” anomalies in medical tax credits, and exploitation of foreign trusts to avoid tax through controlled foreign companies.<sup>1380</sup>

On 19 February 2019, South Africa’s National Assembly adopted the Customs and Excise Amendment Bill.<sup>1381</sup> The bill amends the Customs and Excise Act No 91 of 1964 by empowering the South African Revenue Service to collect a carbon tax and issue regulative measures to increase tax capacity.<sup>1382</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the South African government released the 2019 Budget Review which proposed to adopt the OECD’s common reporting standard (CRS).<sup>1383</sup> The government seeks to adopt the OECD’s model mandatory disclosure rules to address offshore arrangements intended to evade financial account reporting under the CRS regime and increase tax certainty.<sup>1384</sup>

On 21 February 2019, South Africa’s Finance Minister Tito Mboweni delivered his 2019/2020 Budget Review.<sup>1385</sup> One of the budget review’s key proposals include a carbon tax of approximately

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<sup>1377</sup> OECD, SARS And National Treasury Continue Partnership to Strengthen Tax Co-Operation, South African Revenue Service (Pretoria) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019.

<http://www.sars.gov.za/Media/MediaReleases/Pages/11-January-2019---OECD-SARS-National-Treasury-continue-partnership-to-strengthen-tax-co-operation.aspx>.

<sup>1378</sup> OECD, SARS And National Treasury Continue Partnership to Strengthen Tax Co-Operation, South African Revenue Service (Pretoria) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019.

<http://www.sars.gov.za/Media/MediaReleases/Pages/11-January-2019---OECD-SARS-National-Treasury-continue-partnership-to-strengthen-tax-co-operation.aspx>.

<sup>1379</sup> South Africa enacts tax amendment bills, EY (Johannesburg) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019.

<https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--south-africa-enacts-tax-amendment-bills>.

<sup>1380</sup> South Africa enacts tax amendment bills, EY (Johannesburg) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019.

<https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--south-africa-enacts-tax-amendment-bills>.

<sup>1381</sup> Customs and Excise Amendment Bill presented to National Assembly, Deloitte (Johannesburg) 20 February 2019.

Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.taxathand.com/article/11130/South-Africa/2019/Customs-and-Excise-Amendment-Bill-presented-to-National-Assembly>.

<sup>1382</sup> Customs and Excise Amendment Bill presented to National Assembly, Deloitte (Johannesburg) 20 February 2019.

Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.taxathand.com/article/11130/South-Africa/2019/Customs-and-Excise-Amendment-Bill-presented-to-National-Assembly>.

<sup>1383</sup> South Africa: CRS proposals included in budget, KPMG (Pretoria) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2019/03/tnf-south-africa-crs-proposals-included-in-budget.html>.

<sup>1384</sup> South Africa: CRS proposals included in budget, KPMG (Pretoria) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2019/03/tnf-south-africa-crs-proposals-included-in-budget.html>.

<sup>1385</sup> South Africa’s Finance Minister delivers 2019 Budget Review, EY (Johannesburg) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--south-africas-finance-minister-delivers-2019-budget-review>.

USD10 per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent starting from 1 June 2019.<sup>1386</sup> In addition, there are numerous proposals ranging from a review of anti-avoidance measures pertaining to transactions between a company and its connected actors under the Special Economic Zone tax regime, investigating a tax on “single-use” plastics, and a new tax on electronic cigarettes and tobacco heating products.<sup>1387</sup> These proposals seek to enhance the government’s tax capacity and presents models for the region to adopt.<sup>1388</sup>

On 1 April 2019, South Africa began requiring non-resident suppliers of electronic services to register for value added tax (VAT) purposes.<sup>1389</sup> South Africa expanded definition of electronic services and began to treat foreign and domestic suppliers similarly for VAT purposes.<sup>1390</sup>

On 13 April 2019, South Africa chaired the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1391</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF’s continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1392</sup>

South Africa has partially complied to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries through domestic focused initiatives and has engaged as a member of international bodies.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Collin Xia*

## **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied to its commitment regarding the supporting of enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries, including through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax. They have implemented some measures to support their commitment to the Platform for Collaboration on Tax such as agreeing to the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Sharing. They have worked with other

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<sup>1386</sup> South Africa’s Finance Minister delivers 2019 Budget Review, EY (Johannesburg) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--south-africas-finance-minister-delivers-2019-budget-review>.

<sup>1387</sup> South Africa’s Finance Minister delivers 2019 Budget Review, EY (Johannesburg) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--south-africas-finance-minister-delivers-2019-budget-review>.

<sup>1388</sup> South Africa’s Finance Minister delivers 2019 Budget Review, EY (Johannesburg) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--south-africas-finance-minister-delivers-2019-budget-review>.

<sup>1389</sup> South Africa: New VAT registration requirements, non-resident suppliers of e-services, KPMG (Pretoria) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2019/03/tnf-south-africa-new-vat-registration-requirements-non-resident-suppliers-e-services.html>.

<sup>1390</sup> South Africa: New VAT registration requirements, non-resident suppliers of e-services, KPMG (Pretoria) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2019/03/tnf-south-africa-new-vat-registration-requirements-non-resident-suppliers-e-services.html>.

<sup>1391</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1392</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

countries in regard to Double Tax Treaties dealing with issues such as income taxes. On the issue of tax certainty and capacity they have taken very limited action.

On 19 December 2018, Presidential Decree No. 476 states that payments made for advertising services provided through the Internet to advertising service providers and also intermediaries for advertising service will fall under the Withholding Tax liability.<sup>1393</sup> This placed a 15 per cent withholding tax on payments made to services provided by a nonresident entity or individual.<sup>1394</sup> There would be no tax placed on the payments made for services provided by a Turkish entity.<sup>1395</sup> This would affect payments made as of 1 January 2019.<sup>1396</sup>

On 15 February 2019, the Turkish Ministry of the Treasury and Finance publishes communique No.17.<sup>1397</sup> This clarifies the Presidential Decree No. 476 which came into force on 1 January 2019 for payments regarding advertising services provided via the Internet.<sup>1398</sup> It says that the withholding tax would apply to payments made on or after 1 January 2019 regardless of the fact that the service was provided before that date.<sup>1399</sup>

On 27 February 2019, the Turkish Finance and Treasury minister Berat Albayrak promised reforms to the tax system to widen it as well as to create a more effective tax system.<sup>1400</sup> These reforms would better allow the Turkish economy to better compete on the world stage.<sup>1401</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Turkey attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration

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<sup>1393</sup> New Withholding Tax Liability on Advertising Services Provided Online, Baker and Mackenzie (Istanbul) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/publications/2018/12/new-withholding-tax-liability>

<sup>1394</sup> New Withholding Tax Liability on Advertising Services Provided Online, Baker and Mackenzie (Istanbul) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/publications/2018/12/new-withholding-tax-liability>

<sup>1395</sup> New Withholding Tax Liability on Advertising Services Provided Online, Baker and Mackenzie (Istanbul) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/publications/2018/12/new-withholding-tax-liability>

<sup>1396</sup> New Withholding Tax Liability on Advertising Services Provided Online, Baker and Mackenzie (Istanbul) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/publications/2018/12/new-withholding-tax-liability>

<sup>1397</sup> Turkey Finalizes Guidance on Withholding Tax On Payments Relating to Online Advertising Services, Thomson Reuters (Eagan) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/turkey-finalizes-guidance-on-new-withholding-tax-on-payments-relating-to-online-advertising-services/>

<sup>1398</sup> Turkey Finalizes Guidance on Withholding Tax On Payments Relating to Online Advertising Services, Thomson Reuters (Eagan) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/turkey-finalizes-guidance-on-new-withholding-tax-on-payments-relating-to-online-advertising-services/>

<sup>1399</sup> Turkey Finalizes Guidance on Withholding Tax On Payments Relating to Online Advertising Services, Thomson Reuters (Eagan) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/turkey-finalizes-guidance-on-new-withholding-tax-on-payments-relating-to-online-advertising-services/>

<sup>1400</sup> Turkish Finance Minister Vows Tax Reforms, Hurriyet Daily News (Istanbul) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-finance-minister-vows-tax-reforms-141533>

<sup>1401</sup> Turkish Finance Minister Vows Tax Reforms, Hurriyet Daily News (Istanbul) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-finance-minister-vows-tax-reforms-141533>

on Tax.<sup>1402</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1403</sup>

Turkey has partially complied with their commitment to the supporting of enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries, including through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax. They have agreed to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Sharing and has worked on Double Tax Treaties with other countries. The implementation of the new withholding tax on online advertising services though raises issues on their commitment to tax certainty and tax capacity due to the nature of the tax being placed can lead to issues in regard to the Double Tax Treaties that they have in force already.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Wayne George*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries, including through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

On 19 December 2018, the United Kingdom and Jersey's Double Taxation Agreement and Protocol treaty came into effect.<sup>1404</sup> The treaty addresses taxes on various types of investments including on dividends and profits from "immovable property."<sup>1405</sup> This treaty updates British tax administration with contemporary provisions and enhances tax certainty.<sup>1406</sup>

On 19 December 2019, the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man's double taxation agreement came into force.<sup>1407</sup> This treaty replaces the 1955 tax arrangement between the Isle of Man and the UK by adjusting provisions on income tax, corporate tax, capital gains tax.<sup>1408</sup>

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<sup>1402</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1403</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1404</sup> UK – Jersey Double Taxation Agreement and Protocol, Given Effect by An Exchange of Letters Signed in London on 2 July 2018, GOV.UK (London) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/767849/2018\\_\\_Jersey-UK\\_Double\\_Taxation\\_Agreement\\_\\_in\\_force.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/767849/2018__Jersey-UK_Double_Taxation_Agreement__in_force.pdf).

<sup>1405</sup> UK – Jersey Double Taxation Agreement and Protocol, Given Effect by An Exchange of Letters Signed in London on 2 July 2018, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/767849/2018\\_\\_Jersey-UK\\_Double\\_Taxation\\_Agreement\\_\\_in\\_force.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/767849/2018__Jersey-UK_Double_Taxation_Agreement__in_force.pdf).

<sup>1406</sup> UK – Jersey Double Taxation Agreement and Protocol, Given Effect by An Exchange of Letters Signed in London on 2 July 2018, GOV.UK (London) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/767849/2018\\_\\_Jersey-UK\\_Double\\_Taxation\\_Agreement\\_\\_in\\_force.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/767849/2018__Jersey-UK_Double_Taxation_Agreement__in_force.pdf).

<sup>1407</sup> UK – Isle of Man Double Taxation Agreement and Protocol, Given Effect by an Exchange of Letters Signed in London on 2 July 2018, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/isle-of-man-tax-treaties>.

<sup>1408</sup> UK – Isle of Man Double Taxation Agreement and Protocol, Given Effect by an Exchange of Letters Signed in London on 2 July 2018, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/isle-of-man-tax-treaties>.

On 1 January 2019, the United Kingdom released the synthesized text of the 1990 Slovak Republic-UK Double Tax Convention, displaying the modifications made to the treaty in accordance to the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty.<sup>1409</sup> The changes will impact taxes withheld at source in both countries, “all other taxes levied by the Slovak Republic,” corporate tax in the UK, and taxes on income and capital gains in the UK.<sup>1410</sup>

On 1 January 2019, the United Kingdom and Cyprus replaced a previous treaty signed in 1974 with a new double tax treaty.<sup>1411</sup> The treaty addresses taxes on various investments including on dividends and profits from “immovable property.”<sup>1412</sup> This treaty replaces the previous treaty with contemporary provisions and enhances tax certainty.<sup>1413</sup>

On 3 January 2019, the United Kingdom released the synthesized text of the 2001 Lithuania-UK Double Tax Convention.<sup>1414</sup> The revised document displayed changes made to the treaty in accordance to the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty.<sup>1415</sup> The changes will impact taxes withheld at source in both countries, “all other taxes levied by Lithuania,” corporate tax in the UK, and tax on income and capital gains in the UK.<sup>1416</sup>

On 6 January 2019, the United Kingdom published the synthesized text of the 2006 UK-Poland Double Taxation Convention.<sup>1417</sup> The text shows the changes made to the treaty in accordance to the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty.<sup>1418</sup> The changes will impact taxes withheld at source in both countries, “all other taxes levied by Poland,” corporate tax in the UK, and taxes on income and capital gains in the UK.<sup>1419</sup>

On 7 January 2019, the United Kingdom and Guernsey’s new double tax treaty came into force.<sup>1420</sup> This treaty replaces the 1955 tax arrangement between Guernsey and the UK by adjusting taxes on capital gains, royalties, dividends, and interest.<sup>1421</sup>

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<sup>1409</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 14 January 2019, EY (Washington D.C.) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---14-january-2019>.

<sup>1410</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 14 January 2019, EY (Washington D.C.) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---14-january-2019>.

<sup>1411</sup> Cyprus expands treaty network as of 1 January 2019, EY (Nicosia) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--cyprus-expands-treaty-network-as-of-1-january-2019>.

<sup>1412</sup> Cyprus expands treaty network as of 1 January 2019, EY (Nicosia) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--cyprus-expands-treaty-network-as-of-1-january-2019>.

<sup>1413</sup> Cyprus expands treaty network as of 1 January 2019, EY (Nicosia) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--cyprus-expands-treaty-network-as-of-1-january-2019>.

<sup>1414</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 14 January 2019, EY (Washington D.C.) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---14-january-2019>.

<sup>1415</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 14 January 2019, EY (Washington D.C.) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---14-january-2019>.

<sup>1416</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 14 January 2019, EY (Washington D.C.) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---14-january-2019>.

<sup>1417</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 17 December 2018, EY (Washington D.C.) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---17-december-2018>.

<sup>1418</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 17 December 2018, EY (Washington D.C.) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---17-december-2018>.

<sup>1419</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 17 December 2018, EY (Washington D.C.) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---17-december-2018>.

<sup>1420</sup> UK: Double Tax Agreement with Guernsey in force, RegFollower (Guernsey) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://regfollower.com/2019/01/23/uk-double-tax-agreement-with-guernsey-in-force/>.

<sup>1421</sup> UK: Double Tax Agreement with Guernsey in force, RegFollower (Guernsey) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://regfollower.com/2019/01/23/uk-double-tax-agreement-with-guernsey-in-force/>.

On 10 January 2019, the United Kingdom launched a new disclosure facility called the Profit Diversion Compliance Facility.<sup>1422</sup> This facility aims to investigate multinational enterprises that have used cross-border arrangements that have resulted in artificial reduction in UK profits.<sup>1423</sup> This initiative attempts to increase the country's tax certainty and capacity while presenting a new tax extraction model for other countries.<sup>1424</sup>

On 11 January 2019, the United Kingdom's HM Treasury signed a tax treaty protocol with Israel.<sup>1425</sup> The new protocol updates their 1962 tax treaty and includes modern rules to protect against tax avoidance.<sup>1426</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the United Kingdom and Israel signed an protocol to the 1962 income tax treaty between the two countries.<sup>1427</sup> The protocol updates the preamble and provisions on permanent establishments based on Base erosion and profit shifting recommendations.<sup>1428</sup> It also adjusts various definitions and provisions from the previous treaty to enhance tax certainty and capacity in both countries.<sup>1429</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the United Kingdom's HM Revenue & Customs began issuing letters to businesses that may have a liability to diverted profits tax.<sup>1430</sup> The initiative attempts to settle possible liabilities with lower penalties without an official enquiry and ensure that businesses are reporting the appropriate amount of British profits.<sup>1431</sup>

On 7 February 2019, members of the British Treasury Department met with KPMG tax practitioners in Silicon Valley to discuss the proposed digital services tax.<sup>1432</sup> The proposal seeks to levy a tax on social media providers, search engines, and online marketplaces that derive income from British user participation to increase tax capacity.<sup>1433</sup>

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<sup>1422</sup> UK Tax Authority launches Profit Diversion Compliance Facility, EY (London) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--uk-tax-authority-launches-profit-diversion-compliance-facility>.

<sup>1423</sup> UK Tax Authority launches Profit Diversion Compliance Facility, EY (London) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--uk-tax-authority-launches-profit-diversion-compliance-facility>.

<sup>1424</sup> UK Tax Authority launches Profit Diversion Compliance Facility, EY (London) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--uk-tax-authority-launches-profit-diversion-compliance-facility>.

<sup>1425</sup> UK, Israel sign new tax treaty protocol, MNE Tax (Hillsdale) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://mnetax.com/uk-isreal-sign-new-tax-treaty-protocol-32018>.

<sup>1426</sup> UK, Israel sign new tax treaty protocol, MNE Tax (Hillsdale) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://mnetax.com/uk-isreal-sign-new-tax-treaty-protocol-32018>.

<sup>1427</sup> Protocol to Tax Treaty between Israel and the UK Signed, Orbitax (San Francisco) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.orbitax.com/news/archive.php/Protocol-to-Tax-Treaty-between-35928>.

<sup>1428</sup> Protocol to Tax Treaty between Israel and the UK Signed, Orbitax (San Francisco) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.orbitax.com/news/archive.php/Protocol-to-Tax-Treaty-between-35928>.

<sup>1429</sup> Protocol to Tax Treaty between Israel and the UK Signed, Orbitax (San Francisco) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.orbitax.com/news/archive.php/Protocol-to-Tax-Treaty-between-35928>.

<sup>1430</sup> HMRC issuing letters to businesses that may be diverting profits, Out-Law (London) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.out-law.com/en/articles/2019/february/hmrc-letters-to-businesses-diverting-profits/>.

<sup>1431</sup> HMRC issuing letters to businesses that may be diverting profits, Out-Law (London) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.out-law.com/en/articles/2019/february/hmrc-letters-to-businesses-diverting-profits/>.

<sup>1432</sup> Her Majesty's Treasury Department Discusses the UK's Proposed Digital Services Tax, KPMG (Santa Clara) 11 March 2019. Access date: 19 April 2019. <https://home.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/us/pdf/2019/03/tnf-wnit-uk-mar11-2019.pdf>.

<sup>1433</sup> Her Majesty's Treasury Department Discusses the UK's Proposed Digital Services Tax, KPMG (Santa Clara) 11 March 2019. Access date: 19 April 2019. <https://home.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/us/pdf/2019/03/tnf-wnit-uk-mar11-2019.pdf>.

On 12 February 2019, the United Kingdom enacted the UK Finance Act 2019.<sup>1434</sup> The act includes provisions that regulate non-resident companies' corporate tax on gains from the disposal of all forms of British land, an anti-profit-fragmentation rule that prevents British businesses from avoiding British tax by arranging their taxable business profits to entities in territories with significantly lower taxes than in the UK, and measures that ensure non-British resident companies that operate property business or have other British property income will be charged to corporate tax, rather than being charged to income tax.<sup>1435</sup> This act will improve tax certainty and tax capacity by targeting taxable business profits in the country.<sup>1436</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the United Kingdom ratified the "Double Taxation Relief and International Tax Enforcement (Austria) Order 2019."<sup>1437</sup> This treaty with Austria will replace the 1969 tax treaty and update provisions on income and capital tax between the two countries.<sup>1438</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the British Department for International Development committed GBP47 million to improve tax systems in developing countries.<sup>1439</sup> GBP10.3 million will go to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which operates the Tax Inspectors Without Borders Initiative (TIWB).<sup>1440</sup> TIWB is an OECD and United Nations Development Programme initiative that supports developing countries in implementing international tax standards by sending British experts overseas.<sup>1441</sup> The British government's support aims to help countries enhance tax certainty and capacity and leave them less reliant on aid by creating the appropriate environment for foreign investment and increasing investor confidence in investing in developing countries.<sup>1442</sup> In addition, the World Bank's global tax programme will receive GBP7.4 million to aid developing countries to build effective tax systems.<sup>1443</sup> The African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF) is being given GBP4.2 million, and the UK will provide two tax experts for four

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<sup>1434</sup> UK Finance Act 2019 Receives Royal Assent, Orbitax (San Francisco) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.orbitax.com/news/archive.php/UK-Finance-Act-2019-Receives-R-36327>.

<sup>1435</sup> UK Finance Act 2019 Receives Royal Assent, Orbitax (San Francisco) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.orbitax.com/news/archive.php/UK-Finance-Act-2019-Receives-R-36327>.

<sup>1436</sup> UK Finance Act 2019 Receives Royal Assent, Orbitax (San Francisco) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://www.orbitax.com/news/archive.php/UK-Finance-Act-2019-Receives-R-36327>.

<sup>1437</sup> The Double Taxation Relief and International Tax Enforcement (Austria) Order 2019, The National Archives (London) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2019/255/introduction/made>.

<sup>1438</sup> The Double Taxation Relief and International Tax Enforcement (Austria) Order 2019, The National Archives (London) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2019/255/introduction/made>.

<sup>1439</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1440</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1441</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1442</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1443</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

years to help ATAF's member states build an effective organisation.<sup>1444</sup> GBP 2.25 million will go to the "intergovernmental forum for mining, minerals, metals and sustainable development to tackle tax avoidance in the mining sector."<sup>1445</sup> GBP1 million will go to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) tax administration diagnostic assessment tool, designed to offer objective assessment of the health of key sectors of a country's tax administration system.<sup>1446</sup> Moreover, GBP13 million will go to IMF's Africa regional technical assistance centres which support African countries to build capacity in tax administration, and public financial management.<sup>1447</sup> GBP2.6 million of the funding will support boosting tax revenue.<sup>1448</sup> The Institute for Fiscal Studies will receive around GBP5 million to develop tax policy analysis in four developing countries and a research fund to increase knowledge of tax administration in developing countries.<sup>1449</sup> Finally, GBP3.7 million will go to support the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1450</sup> UK extensive efforts will support developing countries with the knowledge and money needed to bolster the international tax regime.<sup>1451</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the United Kingdom signed a fiscal treaty with Spain.<sup>1452</sup> The treaty aims to combat tax fraud and money laundering through the British overseas territory of Gibraltar.<sup>1453</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Chancellor Philip Hammond delivered the annual Spring Statement.<sup>1454</sup> The Chancellor announced efforts to explore value-added tax (VAT) reform projects that aim to simplify and improve the VAT tax system.<sup>1455</sup> Furthermore, the UK reiterated its support for helping developing countries by investing GBP18.25 million of Overseas Development Funding over the

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<sup>1444</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1445</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1446</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1447</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1448</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1449</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1450</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1451</sup> £47m support for developing countries to improve tax systems, Accountancy Daily (London) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.accountancydaily.co/ps47m-support-developing-countries-improve-tax-systems>.

<sup>1452</sup> Spain signs Gibraltar tax deal with Britain, AAJ News (Karachi) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.aaj.tv/2019/03/spain-signs-gibraltar-tax-deal-with-britain/>.

<sup>1453</sup> Spain signs Gibraltar tax deal with Britain, AAJ News (Karachi) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.aaj.tv/2019/03/spain-signs-gibraltar-tax-deal-with-britain/>.

<sup>1454</sup> UK Sets Out Upcoming VAT Reform Initiatives, Wolters Kluwer (Surrey) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [https://www.tax-news.com/news/UK\\_Sets\\_Out\\_Upcoming\\_VAT\\_Reform\\_Initiatives\\_\\_\\_97057.html](https://www.tax-news.com/news/UK_Sets_Out_Upcoming_VAT_Reform_Initiatives___97057.html).

<sup>1455</sup> UK Sets Out Upcoming VAT Reform Initiatives, Wolters Kluwer (Surrey) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [https://www.tax-news.com/news/UK\\_Sets\\_Out\\_Upcoming\\_VAT\\_Reform\\_Initiatives\\_\\_\\_97057.html](https://www.tax-news.com/news/UK_Sets_Out_Upcoming_VAT_Reform_Initiatives___97057.html).

next six years. This funding will be used to improve the efficacy of tax administration systems to maximize revenue through knowledge sharing and support.<sup>1456</sup>

On 28 March 2019, the United Kingdom launched a consultation on draft measures to prevent abuse of Research and Development (R&D) tax relief for small or medium-sized enterprises (SME).<sup>1457</sup> The draft proposes a limit on the payable tax credit that can be claimed by a company to reduce abuse of tax relief programs and increase tax certainty.<sup>1458</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the United Kingdom's double tax treaty with Lesotho came into effect.<sup>1459</sup> The treaty contains definitions of permanent establishment, regulations on withholding tax, and provisions on the exchange of information and mutual assistance in collecting taxes.<sup>1460</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the United Kingdom made the Making Tax Digital program (MTD) into law.<sup>1461</sup> The program ensures that value-added tax (VAT) registered businesses earning more than GBP85,000 will keep their records electronically and submit their VAT returns using MTD-compatible software.<sup>1462</sup> The program seeks to help businesses pay taxes more effectively and increase tax capacity and tax certainty.<sup>1463</sup>

On 13 April 2019, the UK attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the IMF to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1464</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1465</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the United Kingdom launched a consultation on the Transposition of the Fifth Money Laundering Directive.<sup>1466</sup> The consultation invites views on the government's efforts to

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<sup>1456</sup> No Safe Havens 2019: leading internationally (London) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 25 June 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-safe-havens-2019/no-safe-havens-2019-leading-internationally#building-tax-capacity-in-developing-countries>.

<sup>1457</sup> Preventing abuse of the R&D tax relief for SMEs, GOV.UK (London) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/preventing-abuse-of-the-rd-tax-relief-for-smes>.

<sup>1458</sup> Preventing abuse of the R&D tax relief for SMEs, GOV.UK (London) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/preventing-abuse-of-the-rd-tax-relief-for-smes>.

<sup>1459</sup> UK: Double tax treaty with Lesotho takes effect, RegFollower (Dhaka) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://regfollower.com/2019/03/08/uk-double-tax-treaty-with-lesotho-takes-effect/>.

<sup>1460</sup> UK: Double tax treaty with Lesotho takes effect, RegFollower (Dhaka) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://regfollower.com/2019/03/08/uk-double-tax-treaty-with-lesotho-takes-effect/>.

<sup>1461</sup> Making Tax Digital becomes law, GOV.UK (London) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/making-tax-digital-becomes-law>.

<sup>1462</sup> Making Tax Digital becomes law, GOV.UK (London) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/making-tax-digital-becomes-law>.

<sup>1463</sup> Making Tax Digital becomes law, GOV.UK (London) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/making-tax-digital-becomes-law>.

<sup>1464</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1465</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1466</sup> Transposition of the Fifth Money Laundering Directive, GOV.UK (London) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/transposition-of-the-fifth-money-laundering-directive>.

adhere to international standards set by the Financial Action Task Force.<sup>1467</sup> The program aims to prevent exploitation of the financial system for money laundering and terrorist financing activity.<sup>1468</sup>

The United Kingdom has fully complied to support enhanced tax certainty and tax capacity building in developing countries through domestic focused initiatives and has engaged as an active member of international bodies including the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Collin Xia*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment on enhancing tax capacity and tax certainty-building.

On 13 April 2019, the Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee chaired by Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1469</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks. The US is a member of the countries that have been called upon.<sup>1470</sup>

The US has taken actions aimed at the timely implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in line with its commitment on Platform for Collaboration on Tax as an international actor.

Thus, US receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Krishanu Ranwan*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has complied with its commitment take action towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries and take action through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

On 19 December 2018, the European Commission issued a final decision on the Gibraltar tax system after analyzing 165 tax rulings.<sup>1471</sup> The Commission concluded that on tax authorities have only

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<sup>1467</sup> Transposition of the Fifth Money Laundering Directive, GOV.UK (London) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/transposition-of-the-fifth-money-laundering-directive>.

<sup>1468</sup> Transposition of the Fifth Money Laundering Directive, GOV.UK (London) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/transposition-of-the-fifth-money-laundering-directive>.

<sup>1469</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1470</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1471</sup> Gibraltar and the battle against the European Commission for their tax ruling practice, Tax Justice Network (London) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.taxjustice.net/2019/01/04/gibraltar-and-the-battle-against-the-european-commission-for-their-tax-ruling-practice/>

granted five illegal tax rulings and that Gibraltar's tax ruling practice was not in breach of EU state aid rules.<sup>1472</sup>

On 15 January 2019, the European Commission presented a proposal to gradually adjust the voting procedure for EU tax law adoptions from unanimity voting to qualified majority voting.<sup>1473</sup> In qualified majority voting, a qualified majority is reached if 55 per cent of Member States vote in favour and the proposal is supported by Member States representing at least 65 per cent of the EU population.<sup>1474</sup> The EU stated the reason for the proposed change is that the need for unanimous agreement makes progress difficult and limits the potential of EU taxation policy to support a well-functioning EU internal market.<sup>1475</sup> Taxation is one of the few EU policy areas that requires agreement by all 28 national governments before being approved, meaning that any tax proposal by the Commission can be blocked if one country disagrees.<sup>1476</sup> A change to qualified majority voting will likely bring faster tax changes, including those on big tech companies.<sup>1477</sup>

On 15 January 2019, the European Commission pushed back plans to end individual member states' veto power on the introduction of a proposed tax on digital revenues by five years to 2025.<sup>1478</sup> The digital tax was proposed in March 2018 by the EU's executive arm, and aimed to impose a 3 percent tax on online revenues of big digital companies.<sup>1479</sup> The progress on digital tax is blocked by some EU states, thus pushing back the 2020 deadline from the initial draft proposal.<sup>1480</sup>

On 11 April 2019, Spanish European Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete said that environmental tax matters across the EU should be decided by a majority vote.<sup>1481</sup> This follows the publication of the latest report by the European Commission on the state of the energy union, which monitors progress

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<sup>1472</sup> Gibraltar and the battle against the European Commission for their tax ruling practice, Tax Justice Network (London) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.taxjustice.net/2019/01/04/gibraltar-and-the-battle-against-the-european-commission-for-their-tax-ruling-practice/>.

<sup>1473</sup> Decision making on EU Tax Policy, European Commission (Brussels), 15 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/taxation/decision-making-eu-tax-policy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/taxation/decision-making-eu-tax-policy_en).

<sup>1474</sup> Decision making on EU Tax Policy, European Commission (Brussels), 15 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/taxation/decision-making-eu-tax-policy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/taxation/decision-making-eu-tax-policy_en).

<sup>1475</sup> Decision making on EU Tax Policy, European Commission (Brussels), 15 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/taxation/decision-making-eu-tax-policy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/taxation/decision-making-eu-tax-policy_en).

<sup>1476</sup> European Commission moves to makes it easier to tax polluters, European Environmental Bureau (Brussels), 11 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://meta.eeb.org/2019/04/11/european-commission-moves-to-make-it-easier-to-tax-polluters/>.

<sup>1477</sup> A new fight over tax is starting to boil over in the EU: Here's what you need to know, CNBC (New Jersey), 5 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/04/05/a-new-fight-over-tax-is-starting-to-boil-over-in-the-eu.html>.

<sup>1478</sup> EU Commission pushes back plan to end veto on digital tax to 2025, Reuters (London), 15 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-tax/eu-commission-pushes-back-plan-to-end-veto-on-digital-tax-to-2025-idUSKCN1P91Q1>.

<sup>1479</sup> EU Commission pushes back plan to end veto on digital tax to 2025, Reuters (London), 15 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-tax/eu-commission-pushes-back-plan-to-end-veto-on-digital-tax-to-2025-idUSKCN1P91Q1>.

<sup>1480</sup> EU Commission pushes back plan to end veto on digital tax to 2025, Reuters (London), 15 January 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-tax/eu-commission-pushes-back-plan-to-end-veto-on-digital-tax-to-2025-idUSKCN1P91Q1>.

<sup>1481</sup> European Commission moves to makes it easier to tax polluters, European Environmental Bureau (Brussels), 11 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://meta.eeb.org/2019/04/11/european-commission-moves-to-make-it-easier-to-tax-polluters/>.

made on the transition towards clean energy.<sup>1482</sup> This also follows the Commission's proposal to shift from unanimity to qualified majority voting.<sup>1483</sup>

On 13 April 2019, the EU observed the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee, where Chair Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Governor of the South African Reserve Bank called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to help members improve domestic resource mobilization, including through collaboration with other partners of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.<sup>1484</sup> This was in conjunction with welcoming the IMF's continued support for the G20 Compact with Africa initiative to improve investment frameworks.<sup>1485</sup>

On 24 April 2019, the European Commission announced it aims to eliminate taxes on a broad range of activities linked to the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).<sup>1486</sup> CSDP ranges from multinational exercises to capability projects flowing from the union's two-year-old Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) framework.<sup>1487</sup>

The EU has complied with its commitment take action towards supporting tax certainty and tax capacity in developing countries and take action through the Platform for Collaboration on Tax.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jane Huang*

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<sup>1482</sup> European Commission moves to makes it easier to tax polluters, European Environmental Bureau (Brussels), 11 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://meta.eeb.org/2019/04/11/european-commission-moves-to-make-it-easier-to-tax-polluters/>.

<sup>1483</sup> European Commission moves to makes it easier to tax polluters, European Environmental Bureau (Brussels), 11 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://meta.eeb.org/2019/04/11/european-commission-moves-to-make-it-easier-to-tax-polluters/>.

<sup>1484</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1485</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>1486</sup> European Commission proposes tax exemption measures to facilitate common defence efforts, Jane's 360 (Brussels), 24 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.janes.com/article/88061/european-commission-proposes-tax-exemption-measures-to-facilitate-common-defence-efforts>

<sup>1487</sup> European Commission proposes tax exemption measures to facilitate common defence efforts, Jane's 360 (Brussels) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://www.janes.com/article/88061/european-commission-proposes-tax-exemption-measures-to-facilitate-common-defence-efforts>.

## 7. Food Security: Malnutrition

“Building on the G20 Food Security and Nutrition Framework, we reaffirm our commitment to tackling the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.”

*Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.80	

### Background

The G20 first discussed food security at the 2009 G20 Summit in Pittsburgh. There, G20 leaders called on the World Bank to support the Food Security Initiative, an initiative started by the G8 at the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, to increase access to food, fuel and finance.<sup>1488</sup> To fulfil the G20 Pittsburgh commitment to food security, the G20 leaders at the 2010 Toronto summit launched the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program. The leaders committed to “exploring innovative, results-based mechanisms to harness the private sector for agricultural innovation.”<sup>1489</sup>

The G20 introduced the Multi-Year Action Plan on Development, which had an entire section dedicated to food security, at the 2010 Seoul Summit. The plan outlined ways to increase investment and financial support for agricultural development and to enhance access to food, nutrition and crisis prevention. The two-part action plan on food security included enhancing “policy coherence and

<sup>1488</sup> G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 24-25 September 2009. Access Date: 2 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0925.html>.

<sup>1489</sup> The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 27 June 2010. Access Date: 2 January 2019.

coordination,” “mitigating risk in price volatility” and enhancing “protection for the most vulnerable.”<sup>1490</sup>

In 2011 at the Cannes Summit, G20 leaders welcomed the Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture presented by the Agriculture Ministers in Paris on 22-23 June 2011.<sup>1491</sup> The objectives of the Action Plan included: “(i) improving agricultural production and productivity, (ii) increasing market information and transparency, (iii) reducing the effects of price volatility for the most vulnerable, (iv) strengthening international policy coordination and (v) improving the functioning of agricultural commodity derivatives’ markets.”<sup>1492</sup> This was done in an effort to promote food security and encourage sustainable economic growth through the increase of agricultural production.<sup>1493</sup>

G20 leaders continued to emphasize their prioritization of food security and nutrition at the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, reaffirming their commitment to the 2011 Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture. The leaders also partook in a seminar on “Food Security through Social Safety Nets and Risk Management” where they exchanged ideas on the best practices to follow, while the G20 Agricultural Chief Scientists held their second meeting.<sup>1494</sup>

At the 2014 Brisbane Summit in Australia, G20 leaders announced their commitment to the G20 Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Framework. This framework supported their commitment to poverty eradication and development, economic growth, increasing productivity, incomes and quality jobs and job creation through investment in food systems. Four underlying themes of the commitment are: nutrition, smallholder and family farmers, women and youth.<sup>1495</sup>

At the 2015 Antalya Summit, G20 leaders adopted the G20 Action Plan on Food Security and Sustainable Food Systems. This action plan summarized the views and recommendations of the Agriculture Ministers on how to best implement the objectives of the G20 FSN Framework. These actions included promoting responsible investment in agriculture and food systems, improving market transparency for food security, supporting, fostering sustainable productivity growth, and reducing food loss and waste. Furthermore, the G20 leaders repeated their pledge to implement the 2011 Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture.<sup>1496</sup>

In 2016, at the Hangzhou Summit, G20 leaders reiterated their commitment to food security, nutrition, sustainable agricultural growth and rural development through the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The leaders also announced the first G20 Agricultural

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<sup>1490</sup> Seoul Summit Annex II: Multi-Year Action Plan on Development, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 12 November 2010. Access Date: 2 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/g20seoul-development.html#food>.

<sup>1491</sup> Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 3 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html>.

<sup>1492</sup> Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 3 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html>.

<sup>1493</sup> Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 3 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html>.

<sup>1494</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration St Petersburg, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 6 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>.

<sup>1495</sup> G20 Development Working Group Food Security and Nutrition: Implementation Plan of the G20 Food Security Nutrition Framework, G20 Development Working Group (Antalya) 2015. Access Date: 1 January 2019.

<sup>1496</sup> G20 Action Plan on Food Security and Sustainable Food Systems, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto). Access Date: 1 January 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000111212.pdf>.

Entrepreneurs Forum, the Good Practices on Family Farming and Smallholder Agriculture, and the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program.<sup>1497</sup>

At the 2017 G20 Summit in Hamburg, G20 leaders pledged to “increase agricultural productivity and resilience in a sustainable manner, while aiming to protect, manage and use efficiently water and water-related ecosystems” in order to achieve food security. Furthermore, they produced the G20 Initiative for Rural Youth Employment and put emphasis on strengthening cooperation on information and communication technology (ICT) in agriculture and supporting the Agricultural Market Information System. These initiatives were meant to help markets function better to reduce “food price volatility and enhance food security.”<sup>1498</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

Building on the G20 Food Security and Nutrition Framework adopted in 2014, the G20 reaffirmed their commitment “to tackling the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.”

This commitment requires G20 members to comply with three components that were outlined in the 2014 FSN Framework, on which they must continue to: 1) increase responsible investment in food systems, 2) increase incomes and quality employment in food systems and, 3) increase productivity sustainably to expand the food supply.<sup>1499</sup>

### **Part One**

The first part of the commitment, increasing responsible investment, refers to investment from the private sector which is supported by public investment, to grow agri-food enterprises. This growth requires investment in research, innovation, infrastructure and human capacity to strengthen food system value chains. Access to financial services and land for women, youth and smallholder farmers is also an important part of this component due to the impact such members can have on food system opportunities. By mobilizing investment, food value chains can be developed, and employment opportunities increased. As well, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems are significant principles for G20 members to follow and promote. Possible actions that can contribute to full compliance include: promoting infrastructure investment by public-private partnerships for food value chains, increasing development finance and overcoming agricultural market failure in developing countries, supporting G20 initiatives such as the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program, implementing the CFS Principles or increasing the value and decreasing the cost of remittances reaching rural areas.<sup>1500</sup>

### **Part Two**

The second part of the commitment, increasing incomes and quality employment in food systems, refers to investing in labour market policies to allow smaller stakeholders, such as, youth, women and smallholder farmers, to develop the necessary skills to continue in food systems and earn a proper income. Investing in the labour market can be modernization through technical advice, increased market access, building infrastructure or vocational training programs. These improvements can also

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<sup>1497</sup> G20 Leaders' Communique: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html>.

<sup>1498</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>1499</sup> G20 Food Security and Nutrition Framework, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 1 January 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20\\_food\\_security\\_nutrition\\_framework.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20_food_security_nutrition_framework.pdf).

<sup>1500</sup> G20 Food Security and Nutrition Framework, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 1 January 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20\\_food\\_security\\_nutrition\\_framework.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20_food_security_nutrition_framework.pdf).

facilitate the transition from the informal to the formal economy, which will contribute to earning higher incomes. G20 members can fulfill this component through sharing experiences on modernization in rural and agriculture sectors through labour market planning and programs, supporting human resource development programs to promote participation of smaller stakeholders or ensuring access to risk management services for those who are more vulnerable to food insecurity.<sup>1501</sup>

**Part Three**

The third part of the commitment, increasing productivity sustainably to expand the food supply, refers to substantial investment in research, development, innovation and technology. Especially, this investment needs to fully engage smallholder farmers and ensure market access and productivity for this group. As well as investment, focus on the conservation of biodiversity is vital for the quick development of global food systems, through nutrition policy initiatives, among other innovations. G20 members can fulfill this component through working together on research, development and innovation, conserving and sustainably using biodiversity to better crops and foods or continuing to implement and adapt the G20 FSN Framework.<sup>1502</sup>

To achieve full compliance, G20 members must meet the requirements which fall under all three components of the 2014 FSN Framework to: 1) increase responsible investment in food systems, 2) increase incomes and quality employment in food systems and, 3) increase productivity sustainably to expand the food supply.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G20 member does not increase responsible investment in any of the three key areas: to increase responsible investment in food systems, to increase incomes and quality employment in food systems and to increase productivity sustainably to expand the food supply.
0	The G20 member has obtained partial compliance by taking action in at least one of the key areas: to increase responsible investment in food systems, to increase incomes and quality employment in food systems and to increase productivity sustainably to expand the food supply.
+1	The G20 member has achieved full compliance by taking action in all three key areas: to increase responsible investment in food systems, to increase incomes and quality employment in food systems and to increase productivity sustainably to expand the food supply.

*Compliance Director: Sonja Dobson  
Lead Analyst: Ivana Yuen*

**Argentina: +1**

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

<sup>1501</sup> G20 Food Security and Nutrition Framework, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 1 January 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20\\_food\\_security\\_nutrition\\_framework.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20_food_security_nutrition_framework.pdf).

<sup>1502</sup> G20 Food Security and Nutrition Framework, G20 Information Center University of Toronto (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 1 January 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20\\_food\\_security\\_nutrition\\_framework.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20_food_security_nutrition_framework.pdf).

On 3 December 2018, Minister of Agriculture Luis Miguel Etchevehere and Russian Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Ilya Shestakov, signed an agreement on Fishers and Aquaculture to develop mechanisms that foster aquaculture sustainability and conservation, and counter illegal fishing.<sup>1503</sup>

On 3 December 2018, Minister Etchevehere and president of Sinograin, a Chinese state company, Deng Yiwu signed an agreement to promote Chinese-Argentinian oilseed trade and improve soybean quality.<sup>1504</sup>

On 10 December 2018, the Ministry of Agriculture announced an agreement with the Maize and Sorghum Association of Argentina to develop highly productive maize in Misiones and Corrientes, Argentina. This collaboration aims to supply South Brazil and support self-sufficiency amongst rural farmers by increasing crop production.<sup>1505</sup>

On 13 December 2018, Minister Etchevehere and general manager of EDUCAR, the State Society of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology, Liliana Casaleggio, agreed to develop and implement new technologies for phytosanitary and agricultural machinery training. This collaboration aims to improve productivity by enhancing the good agricultural practice training experience of farmers.<sup>1506</sup>

On 14 December 2018, President Mauricio Macri announced the National Plan for Equality of Opportunities and Rights, which aims to promote gender equality. This program involves women in distributing the National Agricultural and Livestock Census and creates a rural women's working group to analyze the gender equality policies that target them.<sup>1507</sup>

On 15 January 2019, the Government of Argentina announced it will spend ARS500 million to purchase and renew domestically produced fishing boats to improve productivity and strengthen the fishing value chain.<sup>1508</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, the secretary of the Government of Agribusiness, Luis Miguel Etchevehere, attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin.<sup>1509</sup>

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<sup>1503</sup> Argentina y Rusia firman un convenio de cooperación de pesca, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-rusia-firman-un-convenio-de-cooperacion-de-pesca>.

<sup>1504</sup> Etchevehere firmó un convenio con la empresa estatal china Sinograin, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/etchevehere-firmo-un-convenio-con-la-empresa-estatal-china-sinograin>.

<sup>1505</sup> Agroindustria y MAIZAR acordaron desarrollar maíz de alta productividad en Misiones y Corrientes, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-y-maizar-acordaron-desarrollar-maiz-de-alta-productividad-en-misiones-y>.

<sup>1506</sup> Firman convenio de desarrollo de TICs para capacitar en buenas prácticas en el uso de fitosanitarios, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/firman-convenio-de-desarrollo-de-tics-para-capacitar-en-buenas-practicas-en-el-uso-de>.

<sup>1507</sup> Agroindustria participa del Plan de Igualdad de Oportunidades y Derechos, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-participa-del-plan-de-igualdad-de-oportunidades-y-derechos>.

<sup>1508</sup> El Gobierno anunció financiamiento por \$500 millones para la compra de buques pesqueros nacionales, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-anuncio-financiamiento-por-500-millones-para-la-compra-de-buques-pesqueros>.

On 30 January 2019, the Ministry of Production and Work passed a resolution to include private road repair associations, in regions affected by natural agricultural disasters, as indirect beneficiaries of the National Fund for the Mitigation of Agricultural Emergencies and Disasters. The Ministry recognized the importance of maintaining rural roads to prevent waterlogged fields, crop destruction, and reduced agricultural productivity.<sup>1510</sup>

On 7 February 2019, Minister Etchevehere and Minister of Environment and Public Space Eduardo Macchiavelli signed an agreement to support rural farmers by including and promoting their products in the markets of Buenos Aires. This initiative aims to increase farmer profits by 15 per cent while decreasing consumer costs by 30 per cent.<sup>1511</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the Government of Argentina contributed ARS885,500 to construct greenhouses and irrigation infrastructure. This aims to improve the productivity and income of small horticulturalists and fruit farmers in the Argentinian Traslasierra Valley.<sup>1512</sup>

On 15 February 2019, Minister Etchevehere and the Inter-American Development Bank launched a contest for innovative solutions to food loss within agri-food value chains.<sup>1513</sup> This aims to improve farmers' market access and agricultural efficiency.<sup>1514</sup>

On 18 February 2019, Minister Etchevehere and India's Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Parshottam Rupala agreed to share knowledge and technology to further agricultural productivity and innovation, while countering the effects of climate change.<sup>1515</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Minister Etchevehere announced a resolution allowing the use of a new soybean strain jointly developed by Chinese company, Dabeinong Biotechnology, and Argentinian company, INDEAR. This strain is herbicide, drought, and pest resistant.<sup>1516</sup>

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<sup>1509</sup> Etchevehere participa del Foro Global para la Alimentación y la Agricultura, en Berlín, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 5 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/etchevehere-participa-del-foro-global-para-la-alimentacion-y-la-agricultura-en-berlin>

<sup>1510</sup> Ministerio de producción y trabajo secretaría de gobierno de agroindustria Resolución 32/2019, Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina (Buenos Aires) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/#!DetalleNormaBusquedaRapida/201062/20190201/sistema%20nacional%20para%20la%20prevencion%20y%20mitigaci%C3%B3n%20emergencias>.

<sup>1511</sup> Agricultores familiares comercializarán sus productos en las ferias y mercados de CABA, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agricultores-familiares-comercializaran-sus-productos-en-las-ferias-y-mercados-de-caba>.

<sup>1512</sup> Fondos para producción hortícola y viverismo en Traslasierra, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/fondos-para-produccion-horticola-y-viverismo-en-traslasierra>.

<sup>1513</sup> Concurso de soluciones dirigidas a reducir pérdidas y desperdicios en la cadena hortícola argentina, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/concurso-de-soluciones-dirigidas-reducir-perdidas-y-desperdicios-en-la-cadena-horticola>.

<sup>1514</sup> Los Bancos de Alimentos se suman al Concurso #SinDesperdicioHortícola, Bancos De Alimentos Argentina (Buenos Aires) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.redbda.org.ar/single-post/2019/02/13/Los-Bancos-de-Alimentos-se-suman-al-Concurso-SinDesperdicioHort%C3%ADcola>.

<sup>1515</sup> Argentina logra la apertura de importantes mercados a la India, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-logra-la-apertura-de-importantes-mercados-la-india>.

<sup>1516</sup> Argentina aprueba un nuevo evento biotecnológico para soja, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-aprueba-un-nuevo-evento-biotecnologico-para-soja>.

On 1 March 2019, Minister of Science, Technology, and Productive Innovation Lino Barañao and the director general of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, Manuel Otero, signed a letter of intent to develop the South American bioeconomy. They agreed to share knowledge in this sector, and develop workshops, research programs, and an online platform.<sup>1517</sup>

On 6 March 2019, Minister Etchevehere declared a state of emergency for the provinces of Mendoza, Santa Fe, Tucumán and Santiago del Estero. This enabled Argentina's Emergency Law mechanisms to minimize the effect of the damage caused by extreme weather to producers.<sup>1518</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Secretariats of Agribusiness and Environment and Sustainable Development issued Joint Resolution 1/2018.<sup>1519</sup> The resolution defined principles and recommendations to improve safety controls for phytosanitary products, which are used to prevent and control diseases or pests. The aim of this resolution is to improve regulations for safe and quality crops in Argentina and ensure sustainable production of food.<sup>1520</sup>

On 12 March 2019, Minister Etchevehere signed a declaration of commitment to provide young agricultural school students with access to the latest technological innovations, through training and professional practices. This initiative aims to promote innovations and new practices in the agro-industrial world.<sup>1521</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Secretary of Family Farming, Coordination and Territorial Development Santiago Hardie met with his Brazilian counterpart Fernando Schwanke to discuss the agenda for the next meeting of the Mercosur Family Agriculture Specialized Meeting and agricultural policy management for Family Farming.<sup>1522</sup> Secretary Hardie and Secretary Schwanke agreed to “continue working to achieve conditions that facilitate joint public policies to promote technical cooperation, innovation, access to markets and trade between both countries,” by focusing on addressing the challenges of climate change for small farmers and increasing cooperation.<sup>1523</sup>

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<sup>1517</sup> Se firmó una carta de intención para el avance de la Bioeconomía, Ministerio de Educación, Cultura, Ciencia y Tecnología (Buenos Aires) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-firmo-una-carta-de-intencion-para-el-avance-de-la-bioeconomia>.

<sup>1518</sup> Agroindustria declaró la emergencia agropecuaria para Mendoza, Santa Fe, Tucumán y Santiago del Estero, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-declaro-la-emergencia-agropecuaria-para-mendoza-santa-fe-tucuman-y-santiago>.

<sup>1519</sup> Producción sostenible, un compromiso de todos, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/produccion-sostenible-un-compromiso-de-todos>.

<sup>1520</sup> Producción sostenible, un compromiso de todos, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/produccion-sostenible-un-compromiso-de-todos>.

<sup>1521</sup> Agroindustria fortalece el vínculo de las escuelas rurales con las tecnologías de innovación agropecuarias, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-fortalece-el-vinculo-de-las-escuelas-rurales-con-las-tecnologias-de>.

<sup>1522</sup> Argentina y Brasil analizan acciones para fortalecer la Agricultura Familiar, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-brasil-analizan-acciones-para-fortalecer-la-agricultura-familiar>.

<sup>1523</sup> Argentina y Brasil analizan acciones para fortalecer la Agricultura Familiar, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-brasil-analizan-acciones-para-fortalecer-la-agricultura-familiar>.

On 15 March 2019, Minister Etchevere announced funding of ARS4,843,503 for 15 productive projects serving small and medium dairy and citrus producers in the province of Entre Ríos, to reduce technological gaps.<sup>1524</sup>

On 19 March 2019, Ministry Etchevehere met with the Minister of Environment and Agriculture of Denmark Jakob Ellemann-Jensen to discuss cooperation on sustainable agro-industrial production.<sup>1525</sup>

From 18-21 March 2019, Argentine Agribusiness Government Secretariat technicians Roberto Barcia and Florencia Berruezo led a workshop on Regulation in Africultural Biotechnology in Cuba, under the Argentine Fund for South-South and Triangular Cooperation.<sup>1526</sup> Topics discussed were confined release and biosafety of genetically modified plant organizations, monitoring trials in confined fields, risk assessments, global adoption of biotechnological crops to strengthen Cuba's agrobiotechnology regulatory system.<sup>1527</sup>

On 4 April 2019, Vice President of the World Meteorological Organization Celeste Saulo and National Institute of Agricultural Technology President Juan Balbín signed a technical cooperation agreement that pledged to strengthen a network of radars which will improve climate and meteorological observation. The agreement aims to ensure the delivery of agroclimatic information, which is vital for efficient decision-making among producers.<sup>1528</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the Secretary of Government of Agribusiness announced an investment of ARS4,235,888 for three projects that boost the value chains of quinoa, camelids and Andean crops. These projects aim to benefit 98 rural families of Rinconada, Cochinoca, and Yavi, through strategies for competitive yields while improving the living, marketing and production conditions of the agricultural sector.<sup>1529</sup>

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<sup>1524</sup> Etchevehere entregó fondos para agricultores familiares en Entre Ríos, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Entre Ríos) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/etchevehere-entrego-fondos-para-agricultores-familiares-en-entre-rios>.

<sup>1525</sup> Argentina estrecha lazos con Dinamarca para una producción de alimentos sostenible, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-estrecha-lazos-con-dinamarca-para-una-produccion-de-alimentos-sostenible>.

<sup>1526</sup> Argentina lidera una capacitación en Cuba sobre regulación en biotecnología agropecuaria, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-lidera-una-capacitacion-en-cuba-sobre-regulacion-en-biotecnologia-agropecuaria>.

<sup>1527</sup> Argentina lidera una capacitación en Cuba sobre regulación en biotecnología agropecuaria, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-lidera-una-capacitacion-en-cuba-sobre-regulacion-en-biotecnologia-agropecuaria>.

<sup>1528</sup> INTA y SMN: asociados para potenciar la climatología agrícola, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/inta-y-smn-asociados-para-potenciar-la-climatologia-agricola>.

<sup>1529</sup> Invertirán más de 4 millones de pesos en las cadenas de valor de la quinoa, camélidos y cultivos andinos de Jujuy, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/invertiran-mas-de-4-millones-de-pesos-en-las-cadenas-de-valor-de-la-quinoa-camelidos-y>.

On 10 April 2019, Argentine Ambassador Daniel Chuburu proposed a workshop/seminar to demonstrate Argentine skills and expertise in agriculture and agro-business in Dhaka. This initiative aims to build a bilateral relationship between Bangladesh and Argentina to ensure food security.<sup>1530</sup>

On 16 April 2019, Secretary Hardie led the Specialized Meeting on Family Farming to discuss improving sustainable development for family farmers, small producers, organizations and rural institutions in Argentina.<sup>1531</sup>

Argentina increased responsible investment in food systems through its collaborations with private companies, such as EDUCAR. Argentina increased incomes and quality employment by promoting the products of rural farmers in Buenos Aires and improving agricultural training programs. Argentina increased productivity sustainably to expand the food supply through its cooperation with Russia for sustainable aquaculture.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Ivana Yuen and Cheryl Cheung*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 5 December 2018, the University of Sydney launched the Soil Tech Project in collaboration with Andrea Koch Agtech, AGRIVision Consultants, and FarmLab. Funding for this project was provided by the Australia government through their Smart Farming Partnership. This project will develop “improved soil sampling techniques, better visualization of available soil data, a farm-level weather forecasting application, and better soil management strategies.”<sup>1532</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, Australia attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin.<sup>1533</sup>

On 18 January 2019, National Science Agency Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and Digital Agricultural Services launched the Rural Intelligence Platform, which uses satellite and other information sources to present the risks associated with rural lands in Australia. This aims to help potential agricultural investors calculate risk and make decisions.<sup>1534</sup>

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<sup>1530</sup> Bangladesh keen to sign FTA with South American trade bloc to promote export, Dhaka Tribune (Dhaka) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2019/04/12/bangladesh-keen-to-sign-fta-with-south-american-trade-bloc-to-promote-export>.

<sup>1531</sup> Agroindustria desarrolló el encuentro nacional de la Reunión Especializada de Agricultura Familiar (REAF), , Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-desarrollo-el-encuentro-nacional-de-la-reunion-especializada-de-agricultura>.

<sup>1532</sup> Soil Tech Project will put Australian science into farmers’ hands, The University of Sydney (Sydney) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://sydney.edu.au/news-opinion/news/2018/12/05/soil-tech-project-will-put-australian-science-into-farmers--hand.html>.

<sup>1533</sup> Etchevehere participa del Foro Global para la Alimentación y la Agricultura, en Berlín, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 5 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/etchevehere-participa-del-foro-global-para-la-alimentacion-y-la-agricultura-en-berlin>.

<sup>1534</sup> New analytics platform to help future-proof farms, CSIRO (Canberra) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://www.csiro.au/en/News/News-releases/2019/analytics-platform-to-help-future-proof-farms>.

Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources David Littleproud stated this will “give farmers access to cutting edge technology and the latest data so they can be more sustainable and productive.”<sup>1535</sup>

On 31 January 2019, Minister for Resources and Northern Australia Matt Canavan announced a AUD420,000 grant to James Cook University, to grow the aquaculture sector of Northern Australia.<sup>1536</sup> The university will collaborate with CSIRO, Blueshift Consulting, the Australian Barramundi Farmers Association, Australian Prawn Farmers Association, and the Indigenous Land Corporation to study and plan a program of action. Minister Canavan stated the team will consider issues such as “investment opportunities... and environmental considerations.”<sup>1537</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) announced its two-year project with the Canadian International Development Research Centre to collaborate with Kenyan and Ugandan farmers to increase precooked bean production. The project will also “leverage public-private partnerships in the distribution of precooked bean products.”<sup>1538</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the South Australian state government granted up to AUD400,000 to the Apple and Pear Growers Association of South Australia. Funding for this project comes from the Australian State Government’s Regional Growth Fund. The project will implement solar panels and improve irrigation systems for apple, pear, and cherry farmers.<sup>1539</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the Grains Research and Development Corporation and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development announced a research collaboration worth AUD48 million for the Western Australia grain sector. This program will study soil re-engineering, profitability in sodium-affected soils, improving farmer profitability, crop diversity, high value pulses, and early sowing opportunities for canola and lupins.<sup>1540</sup>

On 27 February 2019, the Government of Australia bestowed AUD330,000 worth of grants through its Science and Innovation Awards for Young People in Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry on 14 emerging agricultural researchers. In order to recognize the researchers’ contributions in making farm businesses more efficient and provide greater protection against biosecurity threats, each recipient

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<sup>1535</sup> Minister welcomes next step to future-proof farming, Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources (Canberra) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/Minister-welcomes-next-step-to-future-proof-farming.aspx>.

<sup>1536</sup> Funding announced for Northern Australia aquaculture plan, Minister for Resources and Northern Australia (Canberra) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://www.minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/canavan/media-releases/funding-announced-northern-australia-aquaculture-plan>.

<sup>1537</sup> Funding announced for Northern Australia aquaculture plan, Minister for Resources and Northern Australia (Canberra) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://www.minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/canavan/media-releases/funding-announced-northern-australia-aquaculture-plan>.

<sup>1538</sup> Australia and Canada inject funds to improve nutrition and food security in Kenya and Uganda, ACIAR (Bruce) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://www.aciar.gov.au/publications-and-resources/news/Australia-and-Canada-inject-funds-improve-nutrition-and-food>.

<sup>1539</sup> \$400,000 to support apple, pear and cherry growers zap energy costs, Premier of South Australia (Adelaide) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://premier.sa.gov.au/news/400000-to-support-apple-pear-and-cherry-growers-zap-energy-costs>.

<sup>1540</sup> Grains R&D project partnership, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (South Perth) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/GrainsR%26Dprojectspartnership>.

will receive up to AUD22,000 to help them further develop their ideas and “keep Australian agriculture at the cutting edge.”<sup>1541</sup>

On 1 March 2019, Prime Minister Scott Morrison committed to recovering flood affected farmers by creating the North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency that will work with representatives of the regional cattle sector. The Australian government also created low-interest loans worth AUD2 billion to allocate to eligible farmers, special recovery grants for small businesses worth AUD50,000, and grants for farmers worth AUD75,000.<sup>1542</sup>

On 1 March 2019, ACIAR granted AUD250,000 to the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center. This will fund the research project “building provincial capacity for sustainable agricultural mechanisation in Nepal.”<sup>1543</sup>

On 4 March 2019, ACIAR made a four-year agreement, valuing AUD2.1 million, with the Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI).<sup>1544</sup> This will fund “Australia’s membership of CABI, the CABI Development Fund, and CABI’s Plantwise programme.” The Development Fund finances agricultural innovations, and Plantwise protects farmers against disease and pests.<sup>1545</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Minister of Agriculture David Littleproud released a report outlining future steps to improve Australia’s rural agriculture innovation systems and convert the country’s research and development output into tools and technology that will boost farm production. In consulting over 550 domestic and international stakeholders, the report sets goals to promote sustainability, better agricultural infrastructure, and more global investment.<sup>1546</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Government of Australia announced an investment of AUD5 million for the On-Farm Emergency Farm Infrastructure Rebate Scheme to support Victorian livestock farmers affected by the recent drought, providing compensation for up to a quarter of the cost in installing more efficient water infrastructure. The initiative aims to better prepare farms in the state to withstand the next drought, increase productivity, and promote the growth of regional jobs that collaborate with local businesses.<sup>1547</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Government of Australia, through its Business Research and Innovation Initiative, made grants totalling AUD1 billion available to businesses that propose solutions to enhance the prevention, detection, and management of hitchhiking pests in shipping containers. To

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<sup>1541</sup> Press Release: Celebrating young agricultural innovators, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. <http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/celebrating-young-ag-innovators.aspx>.

<sup>1542</sup> Rebuilding North Queensland’s Livestock Industry, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/rebuilding-north-queenslands-livestock-industry>.

<sup>1543</sup> Contract Notice View – CN3574655, AusTender (Canberra) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.tenders.gov.au/?event=public.cn.view&CNUUID=2141BA89-99DE-D557-2388C69EC0B8D3E7>.

<sup>1544</sup> CABI and ACIAR sign AUD \$2.1 million four-year agreement to steer future collaboration, CABI (Wallingford) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.cabi.org/news-and-media/2019/cabi-and-aci-ar-sign-aud-21-million-four-year-agreement-to-steer-future-collaboration/>.

<sup>1545</sup> CABI and ACIAR sign AUD \$2.1 million four-year agreement to steer future collaboration, CABI (Wallingford) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.cabi.org/news-and-media/2019/cabi-and-aci-ar-sign-aud-21-million-four-year-agreement-to-steer-future-collaboration/>.

<sup>1546</sup> Press Release: Looking forward: Driving innovation in agriculture, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. <http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/looking-forward-driving-innovation.aspx>.

<sup>1547</sup> Press Release: Now open: Water rebate for Victorian farmers, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. <http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/vic-water-rebate-open.aspx>.

further promote the containment of Australia's biosecurity risks through innovative solutions, the most successful ideas will further receive up to AUD1 million in grants.<sup>1548</sup>

On 22 March 2019, the Government of Australia set up an AUD30.3 million fund, to be distributed over four years, to help fight pests and weeds by delivering "training and materials to farmers on the ground." The initiative aims to provide biological controls, map pests, and train farmers in order to reduce the AUD5.6 billion cost of weeds and pests each year.<sup>1549</sup>

On 23 March 2019, the Australian government announced a grant of AUD300 million for flood-affected Northern Queensland farmers to assist them with "restocking, replanting, and on-farm infrastructure." Building on the AUD200 million already distributed in early 2019, this new grant will give individual locally-operated and family-owned farms up to AUD400,000 to start rebuilding their farm businesses immediately.<sup>1550</sup>

On 28 March 2019, the Government of Australia awarded a AUD3.8 million grant to the Mulloon Institute to continue and improve the Mulloon Community Landscape Rehydration Project, a project that looks into how "[l]andscape repair and rehydration through the slowing of water can help boost crops and build drought resilience in the future."<sup>1551</sup> In addition, the program aims to provide practical workshops and training for farmers on how to safeguard food security and biodiversity against changes in climate and weather.<sup>1552</sup>

On 30 March 2019, the Government of Australia made AUD490,000 available to the Australian Garden Council for a four-year program that promotes horticulture to secondary school leavers. The project is designed to support young Australians and raise greater awareness about horticulture, promising to deliver more apprenticeships and train aspiring horticulturalists in practical skills that they can bring back to their local communities.<sup>1553</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the Government of Australia announced their intention to expand the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund and set up a new AUD5 billion Future Drought Fund which will be used to support drought resilience projects.

On 5 April 2019, the Australian government pledged more than AUD9.2 million for 110 projects that will assist farms in developing more resilient, productive and sustainable land management practices. The investment will be put towards technological mechanisms which will support the

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<sup>1548</sup> Press Release: Collaboration and innovation to strengthen biosecurity, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia (Canberra) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 16 March 2019. <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/about/media-centre/media-releases/collaboration-innovation-strengthen-biosecurity>.

<sup>1549</sup> Press Release: More funding to fight pests and weeds, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/More-funding-to-fight-pests-and-weeds.aspx>.

<sup>1550</sup> Press Release: \$300 million to help Northern Queensland farmers get back to business faster, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. [http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/\\$300m-northern-qld-farmers.aspx](http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/$300m-northern-qld-farmers.aspx).

<sup>1551</sup> Press Release: Mulloon Institute receives \$3.8 million to continue research, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. [http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/mulloon-institute-\\$3-8m.aspx](http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/mulloon-institute-$3-8m.aspx).

<sup>1552</sup> Press Release: Mulloon Institute receives \$3.8 million to continue research, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. [http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/mulloon-institute-\\$3-8m.aspx](http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/mulloon-institute-$3-8m.aspx).

<sup>1553</sup> Press Release: \$490,000 to support future of Aussie horticulture, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 30 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. [http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/\\$490,000-to-support-future-of-Aussie-horticulture.aspx](http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/$490,000-to-support-future-of-Aussie-horticulture.aspx).

projects, such as drones for mapping weeds and spraying them, new detection and management mechanisms for tracking soil acidity, among others.<sup>1554</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the Australian government announced an AUD5.93 million investment as part of its Building Landcare Community Capacity Program for research programs that will seek to improve dam management and shelterbelts.<sup>1555</sup> The project will investigate how farm dam improvements and boosts in biodiversity can increase Australia's farm output. The project also plans to organize field days and workshops for local Australian farmers to improve education on drought resilience and biodiversity.<sup>1556</sup>

Australia increased responsible investment in food systems through initiatives such as the Rural Intelligence Platform. Australia increased incomes and quality employment by creating the North Queensland Livestock Industry Recovery Agency and supporting drought-affected farmers. Australia also increased productivity sustainably to expand the food supply through its grants to CABI.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ivana Yuen and Brian Wu*

### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

From 2-6 December 2018, Brazil attended the 77<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Cotton Advisory Committee in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.<sup>1557</sup> The topic of the meeting was sustainable cotton production.<sup>1558</sup>

On 1 January 2019, Brazilian Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, Tereza Cristina, met with Mexico's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development Víctor Villalobos Arámbula to discuss strengthening cooperation in forestry, agricultural and livestock research. Víctor Villalobos Arámbula expressed interest in restarting the Brazilian experience in increasing family farming and encouraging the sharing of experiences between the National Institute of Forestry, Agriculture and Livestock Research of Mexico and the Brazilian Agricultural Research Company.<sup>1559</sup>

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<sup>1554</sup> Media Release: 9.2 million reasons to farm smart, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/smart-farms-small-grants-rd2-recipients.aspx>.

<sup>1555</sup> Press Release: A dam good investment in farmers, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/dam-good-investment-in-farmers.aspx>.

<sup>1556</sup> Press Release: A dam good investment in farmers, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Commonwealth of Australia, The Hon. David Littleproud (Canberra) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Media-Releases/dam-good-investment-in-farmers.aspx>.

<sup>1557</sup> Attendees, ICAC 77<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting (Abidjan) 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/icac.org/797675/>.

<sup>1558</sup> Produção sustentável de algodão é discutida na Costa do Marfim, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/producao-sustentavel-de-algodao-e-discutida-na-costa-do-marfim>.

<sup>1559</sup> Sostiene titular de la SADER reunión de trabajo con Ministra de Agricultura, Ganadería y Abastecimiento de Brasil, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 1 January 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/sostiene-titular-de-la-sader-reunion-de-trabajo-con-ministra-de-agricultura-ganaderia-y-abastecimiento-de-brasil?idiom=es>.

On 17 January 2019, Brazil and Nigeria launched The Green Imperative.<sup>1560</sup> Brazil loaned USD1.1 billion to the joint initiative to boost Nigerian agriculture production and create 5 million jobs. The project will fund 10,000 Nigerian assembled tractors, and 707 farmer training centres.<sup>1561</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted an expert panel on “How can digital agriculture foster resource-efficient and environmentally-friendly food production?” with the Brazilian Trade and Investment Promotion Agency, Brazilian Agriculture Research Cooperation and National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1562</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, Brazil attended the GFFA 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1563</sup>

From 14-17 February 2019, Minister Cristina travelled through Northeast Brazil to gather information on how to generate employment and income in the area.<sup>1564</sup> Minister Cristina pledged to return “within three months with concrete actions to generate employment and income, especially for the small producer.”<sup>1565</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Minister Cristina met with the Brazilian Development Bank president Joaquim Levy to talk about new lines of credit for investments in agribusiness. They agreed on the bank accelerating the implementation of the Rural Environment Registry which will make it easier for producer to obtain credit.<sup>1566</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Secretary of Family Agriculture and Cooperativism of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply Fernano Schwanke met with Argentine Secretary of Family Farming, Coordination and Territorial Development Santiago Hardie to discuss the agenda for the next meeting of the Mercosur Family Agriculture Specialized Meeting and agricultural policy management for Family Farming.<sup>1567</sup> Secretary Hardie and Secretary Schwanke agreed to “continue working to achieve conditions that facilitate joint public policies to promote technical cooperation,

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<sup>1560</sup> Nigeria and Brazil to launch Green Imperative, Voice of Nigeria (Abuja) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.von.gov.ng/nigeria-and-brazil-to-launch-green-imperative/>.

<sup>1561</sup> Nigeria is taking a \$1.1 billion loan from Brazil to boost agriculture, Pulse Nigeria (Lekki) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.pulse.ng/bi/politics/nigeria-is-taking-a-dollar11-billion-loan-from-brazil-to-boost-agriculture/vyh6dys>.

<sup>1562</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

<sup>1563</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

<sup>1564</sup> Tereza Cristina viaja ao NE por quatro dias para se reunir com produtores e acelerar projetos, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/tereza-cristina-faz-viagem-de-quatro-dias-ao-nordeste-para-reunir-com-produtores-rurais-e-acelerar-projetos>.

<sup>1565</sup> No Nordeste, ministra diz que voltará com medidas para geração de renda e emprego, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/tereza-cristina-diz-no-ne-que-voltara-em-tres-meses-com-medidas-para-geracao-de-renda-e-emprego>.

<sup>1566</sup> Ministra discute com presidente do BNDES novas linhas de crédito para o agronegócio, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/ministra-discute-com-presidente-do-bndes-novas-linhas-de-credito-para-o-agronegocio>.

<sup>1567</sup> Argentina y Brasil analizan acciones para fortalecer la Agricultura Familiar, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-brasil-analizan-acciones-para-fortalecer-la-agricultura-familiar>.

innovation, access to markets and trade between both countries,” by focusing on addressing the challenges of climate change for small farmers and increasing cooperation.<sup>1568</sup>

On 27 March 2019, Secretary Schwanke attended the opening of the 19<sup>th</sup> Expoagro Afubra where he spoke about Minister Cristina’s focus on improving Brazilian agriculture and supporting small and medium-sized farms.<sup>1569</sup>

On 28 March 2019, Rio Rural, a Secretariat of Agriculture program in partnership with the World Bank, announced their support to help over 45,000 smallholder farmers increase their sustainability and efficiency.<sup>1570</sup>

On 28 March 2019, the Secretariat of Innovation, Rural Development and Irrigation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply announced the focus on connecting small and medium farms to the internet and with technology and innovations. Connectivity can contribute to precision farming and improvement in the agricultural sector.<sup>1571</sup>

On 3 April 2019, the Rural Landscapes Project was launched in Brasília, hosted by the Agriculture and Livestock Confederation. The project aims to help four thousand rural producers boost environmental conservation, recovery techniques, and “restoration and promotion of low-carbon farming practices.”<sup>1572</sup>

On 11 April 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture announced their plan to build technological poles in Londrina. The poles will advance technological innovation by allowing “companies, start-ups and universities to interact and provide faster and more accurate results for agriculture.”<sup>1573</sup>

On 12 April 2019, Minister Cristina launched the Commission for Sustainable Development of Agribusiness. The purpose of the commission is to promote sustainable development in the agricultural sector and publish a strategic agenda of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply for Sustainability.<sup>1574</sup>

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<sup>1568</sup> Argentina y Brasil analizan acciones para fortalecer la Agricultura Familiar, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-brasil-analizan-acciones-para-fortalecer-la-agricultura-familiar>.

<sup>1569</sup> Secretário de Agricultura Familiar reafirma apoio às cadeias produtivas na abertura da Expoagro Afubra, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019.

<http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/secretario-de-agricultura-familiar-reafirma-apoio-as-cadeias-produtivas-na-abertura-da-expoagro-afubra>.

<sup>1570</sup> Rio Rural Provides Assistance for Sustainable Farming Methods, The Rio Times (Rio de Janeiro) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://riotimesonline.com/brazil-news/rio-business/rio-rural-provides-assistance-for-sustainable-farming-methods/>.

<sup>1571</sup> Acesso à internet é desafio para ampliar a agricultura de precisão, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/acesso-a-internet-e-desafio-para-ampliar-a-agricultura-de-precisao>.

<sup>1572</sup> 'Paisagens Rurais' visa fortalecer práticas agrícolas no Cerrado, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/projeto-fortalece-praticas-agricolas-no-cerrado>.

<sup>1573</sup> Ministério vai criar polos tecnológicos de inovação agropecuária, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/ministerio-vai-criar-polos-tecnologicos-de-inovacao-agropecuaria>.

<sup>1574</sup> Ministra instala comissão que vai estruturar agenda da produção sustentável, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/tereza-cristina-instala-comissao-que-vai-estruturar-agenda-da-producao-sustentavel>.

On 15 April 2019, Minister Cristina met with farmers from Petrolina, Pernambuco. At the meeting, she pledged to expand their fruit exports by opening new markets and partnering with the Israeli government to help farmers access their drip irrigation technology.<sup>1575</sup>

On 15 April 2019, Secretary of Innovation, Rural Development and Map Irrigation Fernando Camargo announced the intention of the Brazilian government to invest in soil and water recovery in degraded areas for the purpose of increasing agricultural productivity.<sup>1576</sup>

On 16 April 2019, at the launch of the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Regional Campaign for Rural Women, Women with Rights, a partnership between the Food and Agriculture Organization and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Farming, Secretary Schwanke discussed the importance of empowering women in rural areas.<sup>1577</sup> Furthermore, he emphasized that “there is a great entrepreneurial force for women that needs to be valued, supported and worked,” which will be achieved through improving short productive chains, developing technical assistance and guidance for challenges women face, and actions that value rural workers.<sup>1578</sup>

Brazil is providing training programs that help individuals continue in food systems and earn a proper income through the launch of The Green Imperative. In addition, through the Rio Rural program, Brazil is supporting smallholder farmers financially. Brazil is also creating technological poles to enhance innovation. All these actions help Brazil work towards increasing responsible investment, quality employment and productivity sustainably to expand the food supply. Therefore, Brazil has fulfilled all three areas of the commitment.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Areej Malik*

#### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 7 December 2018, Canada’s Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Lawrence MacAuley, announced a federal investment of CAD3.7 million to the Eastern Canada Oilseeds Development Alliance. The investment will be used to obtain the latest varieties in oilseeds that are best suited to

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<sup>1575</sup> Em Petrolina, Tereza Cristina diz a produtores que abrirá novos mercados para exportação de frutas, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/em-petrolina-ministra-diz-a-produtores-que-abrira-novos-mercados-para-exportacao-de-frutas>.

<sup>1576</sup> Evento no RJ celebra o Dia Nacional da Conservação do Solo, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/evento-no-rj-celebra-o-dia-nacional-da-conservacao-do-solo>.

<sup>1577</sup> Campanha de Mulheres Rurais da América Latina visa erradicar fome, pobreza e desigualdade de gênero, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/campanha-de-mulheres-rurais-da-america-latina-visa-erradicar-fome-pobreza-e-desigualdade-de-genero>.

<sup>1578</sup> Campanha de Mulheres Rurais da América Latina visa erradicar fome, pobreza e desigualdade de gênero, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/campanha-de-mulheres-rurais-da-america-latina-visa-erradicar-fome-pobreza-e-desigualdade-de-genero>.

grow in Atlantic Canadian soils, while meeting the demands of consumers in international markets.<sup>1579</sup>

On 15 January 2019, Minister MacAuley announced a CAD39.3 million investment towards four science clusters: barley, wheat, diverse field crops, and soybean.<sup>1580</sup> The barley cluster investment aims to improve barley crop productivity and disease resistance. The wheat cluster investment intends to deliver higher-yielding wheat varieties. The diverse field crops investment focuses on variety development, crop protection, production agronomy, and value-added practices to support diverse crop growth. The soybean cluster investment aims to improve resiliency and productivity, expand geographic range, and benefit the environment. This investment will support agricultural innovation and research.<sup>1581</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, Canada attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1582</sup>

On 24 January 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture and Agri-Food announced an investment up to CAD279,223 for the Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council (CAHRC) to lead the International Phase of the Quality Agri-Workforce Management Program. The purpose of this project is to illuminate best practices for employing and retaining international workers through training guides for employers.<sup>1583</sup>

On 25 January 2019, Minister MacAulay, under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, announced an investment of over CAD4 million to the Atlantic Grains Council. The investment will be used for research on improving producer productivity and competitiveness, the preservation and protection of soil and water resources, and supporting gain and oilseed cropping systems' long-term sustainability in Atlantic Canada.<sup>1584</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the Canadian International Development Research Centre, in partnership with the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, announced its two-year project to collaborate with Kenyan and Ugandan farmers to increase precooked bean production. The project will also “leverage public-private partnerships in the distribution of precooked bean products.”<sup>1585</sup>

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<sup>1579</sup> The Government of Canada invests in innovation to support oilseed development in Eastern Canada, Cision (Belle River) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/the-government-of-canada-invests-in-innovation-to-support-oilseed-development-in-eastern-canada-802344015.html>.

<sup>1580</sup> Minister MacAulay announces investment to keep Canada's crop sector on cutting edge, Cision (Saskatoon) 15 January 2018. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/minister-macaulay-announces-investment-to-keep-canada-s-crop-sector-on-cutting-edge-802862452.html>.

<sup>1581</sup> Minister MacAulay announces investment to keep Canada's crop sector on cutting edge, Cision (Saskatoon) 15 January 2018. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/minister-macaulay-announces-investment-to-keep-canada-s-crop-sector-on-cutting-edge-802862452.html>.

<sup>1582</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

<sup>1583</sup> Government of Canada supports new tools to manage Canada's agricultural workforce, Cision (Abbotsford) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-supports-new-tools-to-manage-canada-s-agricultural-workforce-840162638.html>.

<sup>1584</sup> Supporting research to advance Atlantic grains and oilseeds, Cision (Charlottetown) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/supporting-research-to-advance-atlantic-grains-and-oilseeds-870300619.html>.

<sup>1585</sup> Australia and Canada inject funds to improve nutrition and food security in Kenya and Uganda, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (Bruce) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://www.aciar.gov.au/publications-and-resources/news/Australia-and-Canada-inject-funds-improve-nutrition-and-food>.

On 12 February 2019, Minister MacAulay revealed the Canadian Agricultural Strategic Priorities Program (CASPP). This includes an investment of CAD50.3 million, spanning five years. This funding has four priority areas: adopting new technology, addressing emerging issues, environmental sustainability, and strategic development and capacity building in the agriculture sector.<sup>1586</sup>

On 22 February 2019, Minister MacAulay participated in the US Department of Agriculture's 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Agricultural Outlook Forum. Minister MacAulay discussed the importance of supporting farm income and rural communities, the strong trade relationship between Canada, the US and Mexico, and how women can further opportunities in the agricultural and trade sectors.<sup>1587</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Minister MacAulay announced a new starter loan from Farm Credit Canada for young borrowers in the agricultural sector to access financial means and information on establishing their business.<sup>1588</sup>

On 1 March 2019, through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, Canada and the Manitoban government announced an investment of CAD950,000 over five years to the Field to Fork initiative. Their support aims to strengthen the local food chain as well as fund "research focused on horticulture crop development and product extension."<sup>1589</sup>

On 6 March 2019, Minister MacAulay revealed that under that Canadian Agricultural Partnership, Canada will provide the Horticulture Cluster with CAD11.5 million. The Canadian Horticultural Council will also donate CAD6.5 million, resulting in a total investment of CAD18 million. This investment "will support cutting-edge research to develop new technologies and practices ... to keep growers profitable and competitive."<sup>1590</sup>

On 11 March 2019, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Marie-Claude Bibeau and British Columbia's Minister of Agriculture Lana Popham revealed the implementation of AgriStability's late participation mechanism. The purpose of this feature is to support farmers dealing with income loss due to a decline in the agriculture sector and ensure farmers are able to manage the risks to their capabilities.<sup>1591</sup>

On 11 March 2019, Minister Bibeau and Member of Parliament for Kelowna-Lake Country Stephen Fuhr publicised an investment of up to CAD4.2 million under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

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<sup>1586</sup> Government of Canada invests over \$50 million to help the agricultural sector address emerging challenges and opportunities, Cision (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-invests-over-50-million-to-help-the-agricultural-sector-address-emerging-challenges-and-opportunities-866255397.html>.

<sup>1587</sup> Minister MacAulay concludes successful agricultural visit to the United States, Government of Canada (Washington D.C.) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/02/minister-macaulay-concludes-successful-agricultural-visit-to-the-united-states.html>.

<sup>1588</sup> Minister MacAulay Addresses Farm and Agriculture Industry Leaders at the Canadian Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/02/minister-macaulay-addresses-farm-and-agriculture-industry-leaders-at-the-canadian-federation-of-agriculture-annual-meeting.html>.

<sup>1589</sup> Governments of Canada and Manitoba invest in Assiniboine Community College's Field to Fork program, Government of Canada (Brandon) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/03/governments-of-canada-and-manitoba-invest-in-assiniboine-community-colleges-field-to-fork-program.html>.

<sup>1590</sup> The Government of Canada invests to advance Canadian horticulture, Government of Canada (Halifax) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/03/the-government-of-canada-invests-to-advance-canadian-horticulture.html>.

<sup>1591</sup> Governments Support British Columbia Farmers Dealing with Farm Income Challenges, Government of Canada (Vernon) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/03/governments-support-bc-farmers-dealing-with-farm-income-challenges.html>.

The funding will be put towards supporting the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association innovations to develop Canadian-bred apple and sweet cherry cultivars which will increase tree fruit profitability.<sup>1592</sup>

On 12 March 2019, Minister Bibeau revealed the Farm Credit Canada's Women Entrepreneur Program and emphasized Canada's commitment to support women in agriculture. The goal of the program is to ensure female entrepreneurs in agriculture have enough opportunities for skill development and enough capital to grow their business.<sup>1593</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Minister Bibeau presented an investment of up to CAD6.2 million to the Canadian International Grains Institute. This funding will "expand the market for Canadian wheat through technical support, market research, employee exchanges and customized training for customers and commercial partners in over 50 countries."<sup>1594</sup>

On 3 April 2019, under the Dairy Processing Investment, Minister Bibeau announced an investment of CAD376,668 to the Cheese Expertise Centre. This investment is for two projects focusing on cheese innovation, which contribute to cheese processors competitiveness.<sup>1595</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture invited British Columbian farmers and food processors to engage in events which support knowledge and technical transfers as part of the Knowledge Transfer Events Program.<sup>1596</sup>

Canada meets the first dimension of the commitment through their multiple investments in research, innovation, and human capacity. In addition, by investing in the Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council, Canada is working towards increasing quality employment in food systems. Through the investment into the Atlantic Grains Council to support research to improve producer productivity, Canada fulfills the third part of the commitment. Therefore, Canada has fulfilled all three areas of the commitment.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Areej Malik*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 3 December 2018, Chinese Vice Minister Qu Dongyu met with the Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Tran Thanh Nam, in Beijing. They agreed to strengthen their

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<sup>1592</sup> Government of Canada announces funding to support the fruit industry, Government of Canada (Kelowna) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-support-the-fruit-industry.html>.

<sup>1593</sup> Minister Bibeau highlights Government support for women in agriculture, Government of Canada (Calgary) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/03/minister-bibeau-highlights-government-support-for-women-in-agriculture.html>.

<sup>1594</sup> Government of Canada helps the wheat sector increase export market share, Government of Canada (Winnipeg) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-helps-the-wheat-sector-increase-export-market-share.html>.

<sup>1595</sup> Government of Canada announces funding to a Quebec dairy processing expertise centre, Government of Canada (Saint-Hyacinthe) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-a-quebec-dairy-processing-expertise-centre.html>.

<sup>1596</sup> Funding supports professional development for British Columbia farmers, Government of Canada (Victoria) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/04/funding-supports-professional-development-for-british-columbiafarmers.html>.

relationship through high-level exchanges and dialogues, the China-Vietnam Joint Committee on Agricultural Cooperation, exchange knowledge on agricultural science and technology, create cooperation platforms, and expand agricultural trade.<sup>1597</sup>

On 7 December 2018, Chinese Vice Premier Hu Chunhua co-chaired the sixth High Level Economic and Financial Dialogue with the French Economy and Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire in Paris. China and France both agreed to improve the Sino-French Agriculture and Agricultural Food Committee Mechanism and hold regular meetings of the Committee. They pledged to deepen their cooperation and exchange knowledge in agriculture, agricultural vocational education and training, policies, shared experiences, practices in management, technology, and agro-product quality, among other variables.<sup>1598</sup>

On 10 December 2018, China hosted the Final Conference of EU-China Programme on Capacity Building for Young Farmers and Agricultural Professionals. Vice Minister Qu Dongyu spoke about deepening ties between China and the EU on educating more professionals for sustainable agricultural development for both sides.<sup>1599</sup>

On 13 December 2018, Vice Minister Han Jun met with Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Holmes Trujillo in Beijing. They agreed to further develop their cooperation on science and technology of tropical agriculture and implement the Memorandum of Understanding of the Cooperation on Science and Technology for Tropical Agricultural between China and Colombia. Vice Minister Han Jun also encouraged China's companies to invest in Colombia's agriculture.<sup>1600</sup>

On 17 December 2018, China and the EU created the young farmers programme, enabling young farmers to exchange ideas for agricultural innovation. This was made to address the challenges of building a sustainable agricultural sector, by enabling Chinese and European farmers to discover new techniques and form a broader understanding of tackling common problems. Four groups of young farmers, two from the EU and two from China, will travel to each other's country.<sup>1601</sup>

On 18 December 2018, Guangfa Securities Co (GFS) and China Agricultural Science and Education Foundation (CASEF) signed a Memorandum of Understanding witnessed by the Director General of Planning and Finance Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Tao Huaiying. GFS will donate USD1 million to CASEF to support the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' (FAO) agriculture development programme and country programming framework in China. This partnership with the FAO has the goal of improving the livelihood of people in remote countries through innovative projects, as part of the Chinese government's ambitions. These

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<sup>1597</sup> Vice Minister Qu Dongyu Meets Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201812/t20181213\\_296104.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201812/t20181213_296104.htm).

<sup>1598</sup> China-France Joint Fact Sheet on the 6<sup>th</sup> High Level Economic and Financial Dialogue, Ministère De L'Économie et des Finances (Paris) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/111\\_china-france\\_joint\\_fact\\_sheet\\_on\\_the\\_6th\\_high\\_level\\_economic\\_and\\_financial\\_dialogue.pdf](https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/111_china-france_joint_fact_sheet_on_the_6th_high_level_economic_and_financial_dialogue.pdf).

<sup>1599</sup> Qu Dongyu Attends Final Conference of EU-China Programme on Capacity Building for Young Farmers and Agricultural Professionals, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201812/t20181219\\_296105.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201812/t20181219_296105.htm).

<sup>1600</sup> Vice Minister Han Jun Meets Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Holmes Trujillo, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201812/t20181220\\_296106.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201812/t20181220_296106.htm).

<sup>1601</sup> EU-China young farmers exchange ideas for agricultural innovation, European Commission (Brussels) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-china-young-farmers-exchange-ideas-agricultural-innovation-2018-dec-17\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-china-young-farmers-exchange-ideas-agricultural-innovation-2018-dec-17_en).

projects include training local experts and new professional farmers, with a focus on youth, women, and other vulnerable communities.<sup>1602</sup>

On 26 December 2018, Vice Minister Qu Dongyu met with the African Union Representative to China, Rahamtalla Mohamed Osman Elnor in Beijing to discuss improving China-AU agricultural cooperation. They agreed to work together to implement the agricultural measures of the 2018 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. Furthermore, they discussed signing a memorandum on cooperation, establishing a cooperation plan for China-Africa agricultural development, and sharing knowledge on agricultural science and technology.<sup>1603</sup>

On 8 January 2019, Vice Minister Qu Dongyu met with Finnish Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Jaana Husu-Kallio. They pledged to create “the future-oriented new-type of cooperative partnership which will create broad prospects for China-Finland agricultural cooperation.” Furthermore, they discussed development of the China-Finland cooperation platform for agricultural development and innovation through technical support of scientific research institutes and active engagement with enterprises from both countries.<sup>1604</sup>

On 9 January 2019, the Government of China released tax-reduction policies for small and micro-sized enterprises and individual businesses, including farmers. This expands eligibility for preferential corporate tax benefits to small and low-profit businesses and reduces the percentage of income that is taxed.<sup>1605</sup>

On 17 January 2019, Vice Minister Qu Dongyu hosted the Promotional Campaign for Chinese Digital Agriculture at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin, emphasizing the need for informatization in agriculture.<sup>1606</sup>

On 17 January 2019, Vice Minister Qu Dongyu hosted a panel discussion at the Agriculture Goes Digital – Smart Solutions for Future Farming seminar at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) 2019.<sup>1607</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, China attended the GFFA 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1608</sup>

On 22 January 2019, Vice Minister Zhang Taolin met with the Italian Minister of Agriculture, Food, Forestry Policies and Tourism Gian Marco Centinaio. Vice Minister Zhang Taolin expressed China’s willingness to implement the agreement on agricultural cooperation with Italy to improve

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<sup>1602</sup> FAO joins hands with multiple partners to create innovative agricultural model on poverty reduction, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Beijing) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://www.fao.org/china/news/detail-events/en/c/1175787/>.

<sup>1603</sup> Vice Minister Qu Dongyu Meets First AU Representative to China Rahamtalla, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201812/t20181228\\_296192.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201812/t20181228_296192.htm).

<sup>1604</sup> Vice Minister Qu Dongyu Meets Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201901/t20190114\\_296195.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201901/t20190114_296195.htm).

<sup>1605</sup> Larger-scale tax cuts to be introduced for small, micro businesses, Government of China (Beijing) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [http://english.gov.cn/premier/news/2019/01/09/content\\_281476471707954.htm](http://english.gov.cn/premier/news/2019/01/09/content_281476471707954.htm).

<sup>1606</sup> Vice Minister Qu Dongyu Visits Germany and the Netherlands, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201901/t20190128\\_296201.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201901/t20190128_296201.htm).

<sup>1607</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

<sup>1608</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.gffa-berlin.de/en/programmheft-gffa-2019/>.

engagement on agricultural science and technology, investment, trade and creating a platform for cooperation and communication between bilateral enterprises, especially small and medium enterprises.<sup>1609</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the Government of China released a plan to improve agriculture logistics in poor areas, support direct purchase of farm products from poor regions, and encourage stable and long-term cooperation between impoverished villages, supermarkets, and wholesalers.<sup>1610</sup> This was a response to a State Council opinion promoting the consumption of agricultural goods and services produced by farmers in poor Chinese regions.<sup>1611</sup>

On 13 February 2019, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Han Changu announced China will improve its agricultural plantation structure to increase the supply of farm products such as corn, rice, soybeans and oil plants.<sup>1612</sup>

On 26 February 2019, Vice Minister Qu Dongyu co-chaired the first China-Malaysia Agricultural Cooperation Joint Working Group with the Malaysian Secretary-General of the Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Industry Mohd Sallehuddin Hassan. China and Malaysia agreed on an agricultural cooperation framework, including methods to promote agricultural investment, agricultural trade cooperation, and agricultural science and technology knowledge sharing. They also pledged to create four technical working groups on planting, animal husbandry, science and technology, and fisheries.<sup>1613</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the Deputy Director-General of the Department of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Areas in China Wei Zhenglun met with the Representative of the FAO in China Dr. Vincent Martin. At this meeting they discussed strengthening their commitment to sustainable food and agriculture development.<sup>1614</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the Government of China co-hosted the eighth Annual Consultation Meeting of the FAO-China South-South Cooperation Programme with the FAO in Rome.<sup>1615</sup> At the meeting, the Government of China and the FAO strengthened their commitment to working together to align

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<sup>1609</sup> Vice Minister Zhang Taolin Meets Italian Minister of Agricultural, Food, Forestry Policies and Tourism Centinaio, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201901/t20190128\\_296200.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201901/t20190128_296200.htm).

<sup>1610</sup> China to expand marketing channels of farm produce from poor areas, Government of China (Beijing) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 14 February 2019. [http://english.gov.cn/state\\_council/ministries/2019/01/29/content\\_281476499733684.htm](http://english.gov.cn/state_council/ministries/2019/01/29/content_281476499733684.htm).

<sup>1611</sup> China to promote poverty alleviation through consumption, Government of China (Beijing) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest\\_releases/2019/01/14/content\\_281476479024726.htm](http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2019/01/14/content_281476479024726.htm).

<sup>1612</sup> China plans further crop structure improvement, Government of China (Beijing) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 14 February 2019. [http://english.gov.cn/state\\_council/ministries/2019/02/14/content\\_281476521371068.htm](http://english.gov.cn/state_council/ministries/2019/02/14/content_281476521371068.htm).

<sup>1613</sup> First Meeting of the China-Malaysia Agricultural Cooperation Joint Working Group Held in Beijing, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201902/t20190226\\_296212.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201902/t20190226_296212.htm).

<sup>1614</sup> FAO China Representative and Deputy Director General of MARA committed to great achievements in sustainable food and agriculture development, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Beijing) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.fao.org/china/news/detail-events/en/c/1184779/>.

<sup>1615</sup> FAO and China enhancing strategic partnerships through FAO-China South-South Cooperation Programme, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.fao.org/partnerships/south-south-cooperation/news/news-article/en/c/1185957/>.

China's Belt and Road Initiative and the FAO's Strategic Objectives. These efforts aim to achieve the goals of the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>1616</sup>

On 18 April 2019, the China Green Food Development Centre and the Jilin Agriculture and Rural Affairs Office launched "Spring Breeze and Green Food," a month-long green food awareness event.<sup>1617</sup> It promotes green food in supermarkets. It focuses on promoting Jilin green food products and enterprises by presenting the achievements of green food products to citizens and allowing the citizens to experience and understand the concept of green food.<sup>1618</sup>

On 19 April 2019, the National Modern Agricultural Industrial Park conference was held in Jiangmen, Guangdong.<sup>1619</sup> The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Han Changbin attended the meeting and made a speech to emphasize the role of establishing the National Modern Agricultural Industrial Park. He suggested that the Modern Agricultural Industrial Park could promote rural revitalization.<sup>1620</sup>

China has achieved full compliance by working with many countries to increase cooperation on research, development and innovation and increasing responsible investment in food systems. China has also increased incomes and quality employment in food systems and invested in increasing sustainable food supply production.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Elysia Davis and Yilin Liu*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with the commitment to tackle challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 7 December 2018, French Economy and Finance Minister Bruno Le Marie co-chaired the sixth High Level Economic and Financial Dialogue with Chinese Vice Premier Hu Chunhua in Paris. France and China both agreed to improve the Sino-French Agriculture and Agricultural Food Committee Mechanism and hold regular meetings of the Committee. They pledged to deepen their cooperation and exchange knowledge in agriculture, agricultural vocational education and training,

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<sup>1616</sup> FAO and China enhancing strategic partnerships through FAO-China South-South Cooperation Programme, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.fao.org/partnerships/south-south-cooperation/news/news-article/en/c/1185957/>.

<sup>1617</sup> "Spring Breeze, Green Food Has You" Jilin Province Green Food Promotion Month Launched in Changchun City, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://www.moa.gov.cn/xw/qg/201904/t20190419\\_6205594.htm](http://www.moa.gov.cn/xw/qg/201904/t20190419_6205594.htm).

<sup>1618</sup> "Spring Breeze, Green Food Has You" Jilin Province Green Food Promotion Month Launched in Changchun City, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://www.moa.gov.cn/xw/qg/201904/t20190419\\_6205594.htm](http://www.moa.gov.cn/xw/qg/201904/t20190419_6205594.htm).

<sup>1619</sup> The National Modern Agricultural Industrial Park Work Promotion Conference emphasizes insisting on the surname agricultural farmer for the purpose of agricultural development, promoting the construction of modern agricultural industrial park, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://www.moa.gov.cn/xw/zwdt/201904/t20190419\\_6212068.htm](http://www.moa.gov.cn/xw/zwdt/201904/t20190419_6212068.htm).

<sup>1620</sup> The National Modern Agricultural Industrial Park Work Promotion Conference emphasizes insisting on the surname agricultural farmer for the purpose of agricultural development, promoting the construction of modern agricultural industrial park, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://www.moa.gov.cn/xw/zwdt/201904/t20190419\\_6212068.htm](http://www.moa.gov.cn/xw/zwdt/201904/t20190419_6212068.htm).

policies, shared experiences, practices in management, technology, and agro-product quality, among other variables.<sup>1621</sup>

On 11 and 12 December 2018, the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food hosted agroecology events in partnership with New Zealand, at the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Katowice, Poland. French Minister of Agriculture and Food, Didier Guillaume, sent a video message proclaiming the importance of sustainable production models and utilizing agriculture to combat climate change. The message of the events was that the most promising way to change to more resilient and sustainable agricultural systems is through agroecology. Agroecology is meant to address both ecosystem preservation and socio-economic benefits.<sup>1622</sup>

On 14 December 2018, Minister Guillaume and Secretary of State to the Minister of the Economy and Finance Agnès Pannier-Runacher met with representatives of processors and distributors to discuss the implementation of measures obtained from the Estates General for Food (EGalim).<sup>1623</sup> The EGalim is the commitment of the French President, Emmanuel Macron, to tackle challenges farmers face in France.<sup>1624</sup> The measures discussed were on the raising of the threshold of resale at a loss of 10 per cent, framing promotions for foodstuffs and food products, monitoring and controlling trade negotiations, and ensuring farmers are better paid in order to live well.<sup>1625</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, France attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1626</sup>

On 20 January 2019, Minister Guillaume participated in the annual meeting of German rural youth during Green Week. Guillaume emphasized the importance of the Common Agricultural Policy as a means to achieve Europe's food sovereignty, support farmers and meet consumers expectations. Guillaume and the German Minister for Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Julia Klöckner reiterated their commitment to support the European rural youth and young farmers.<sup>1627</sup>

On 21 January 2019, the Head of Overseas Office Alain Joly discussed the goals for the Ministry of Agriculture and Food for overseas. Joly outlines four ambitions; development through food and food

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<sup>1621</sup> China-France Joint Fact Sheet on the 6<sup>th</sup> High Level Economic and Financial Dialogue, Ministère De L'Économie et des Finances (Paris) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019.

[https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/111\\_china-france\\_joint\\_fact\\_sheet\\_on\\_the\\_6th\\_high\\_level\\_economic\\_and\\_financial\\_dialogue.pdf](https://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2018/12/111_china-france_joint_fact_sheet_on_the_6th_high_level_economic_and_financial_dialogue.pdf).

<sup>1622</sup> COP24 : la place de l'agriculture dans la lutte contre les changements climatiques mise en avant à Katowice, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

<https://agriculture.gouv.fr/cop24-la-place-de-lagriculture-dans-la-lutte-contre-les-changements-climatiques-mise-en-avant>.

<sup>1623</sup> Réunion de suivi de l'application des mesures issues des États généraux de l'alimentation, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

<https://agriculture.gouv.fr/reunion-de-suivi-de-lapplication-des-mesures-issues-des-etats-generaux-de-lalimentation>.

<sup>1624</sup> #EGalim : tout savoir sur la loi Agriculture et Alimentation, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris). Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/egalim-tout-savoir-sur-la-loi-agriculture-et-alimentation>.

<sup>1625</sup> Réunion de suivi de l'application des mesures issues des États généraux de l'alimentation, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/reunion-de-suivi-de-lapplication-des-mesures-issues-des-etats-generaux-de-lalimentation>.

<sup>1626</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

<sup>1627</sup> Semaine verte à Berlin : Didier Guillaume et son homologue allemande, Julia Klöckner, marquent leur engagement en faveur de l'Europe et de l'amitié franco-allemande devant les jeunes agriculteurs allemands, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

<https://agriculture.gouv.fr/semaine-verte-berlin-didier-guillaume-et-julia-klockner-marquent-leur-engagement-en-faveur-de>.

autonomy, improve the sustainability and resilience of companies and industries, integration of bio economy in the value-added chain, and to foster innovation.<sup>1628</sup>

On 22 February 2019, Minister Guillaume met with 40 delegations from around the world to discuss prospects for youth in rural areas. Delegates offered concrete example of measures and policies which highlight the appeal of agricultural and the agri-food business to young people. Other topics of conversation were the need for policies and development which enable young farmers to earn sufficient incomes, access land and investment, and transition to sustainable farming; focus was on training and advice as methods to support such changes.<sup>1629</sup>

On 22 February 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture launched their Agricultural Education campaign through social media in order to reach the intended audience of 12- to 25-year olds. The purpose of this campaign is to raise awareness of the variety of jobs and job opportunities in the agriculture sector.<sup>1630</sup>

From 24-28 February 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food were present at the International Agricultural Machinery Show at the Parc des Expositions in Villepinte. The Ministry was there to raise awareness on innovation and the uses of digital technology in agriculture.<sup>1631</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture announced an innovation contest to support small and medium sized enterprises on projects related to food and agricultural innovation.<sup>1632</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Government of France, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the Food and Agriculture Organization held an international symposium called “Taste in the interests of consumer health and sustainable local development.” The conference promoted a sustainable approach to food.<sup>1633</sup>

On 28 March 2019, Minister Guillaume called for the creation of a third white zone in order to continue the depopulation of wild boars in France. This initiative aims to keep France free from African swine fever, a threat to French agri-food chains.<sup>1634</sup>

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<sup>1628</sup> Les experts alim'agri : quelles ambitions pour les Outre-mer ? Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/les-experts-alimagri-queelles-ambitions-pour-les-outre-mer>.

<sup>1629</sup> Séminaire ministériel sur les perspectives pour la jeunesse dans les territoires ruraux : Didier Guillaume réunit 40 délégations du monde entier, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/perspectives-pour-la-jeunesse-dans-les-territoires-ruraux-didier-guillaume-reunit-40-delegations-du>.

<sup>1630</sup> Lancement de la campagne Enseignement agricole : le ministère s'adresse aux jeunes sur Snapchat, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/lancement-de-la-campagne-enseignement-agricole-le-ministere-sadresse-aux-jeunes-sur-snapchat>.

<sup>1631</sup> Le ministère de l'Agriculture et l'Alimentation au Salon International du Machinisme Agricole (SIMA) du 24 au 28 février 2019, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/le-ministere-de-lagriculture-et-lalimentation-au-sima-du-24-au-28-fevrier-2019>.

<sup>1632</sup> GPI : soutenir l'innovation et la structuration des filières, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/gpi-soutenir-linnovation-et-la-structuration-des-filieres>.

<sup>1633</sup> Paris Food Forum 2020, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/paris-food-forum-2020-un-rendez-vous-mondial-sur-lavenir-de-la-gastronomie>.

<sup>1634</sup> Peste porcine africaine : Didier Guillaume demande la création d'une 3e zone blanche en Meurthe-et-Moselle en préventif, Site du Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation (Paris) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/ppa-didier-guillaume-demande-la-creation-dune-3e-zone-blanche-en-meurthe-et-moselle-en-preventif>.

From 1-2 April 2019, Minister Guillaume visited the Republic of Angola as part of a bilateral partnership regarding the agricultural sector. Minister Guillaume and the Angolan Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Marcos Nhunga signed a joint declaration to coordinate and use French agricultural knowledge for a Franco-Angolan partnership.<sup>1635</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Bpifrance launched the Agrifood Accelerator, a 24-month program aimed to help small and medium sized French agri-food companies grow.<sup>1636</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the Government of France formed a committee to create a plan to reduce pesticide use. The government aims to reduce the use of pesticides in half by 2025, and the use of glyphosate by the end of 2020. Additionally, the French government announced a EUR30 million fund towards a research program to identify alternative ways to use pesticides. A call for projects will be announced in June 2019.<sup>1637</sup>

France has fully complied with this commitment based on their actions in increasing incomes and quality employment in food systems, increasing productivity sustainably to expand the food supply, and increasing responsible investment in food systems.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Sonja Dobson and Vannie Kopalakeshnan*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 11 December 2018, Federal Minister of Environment Svenja Schulze announced Germany will donate EUR70 million to the Adaptation Fund. The Fund supports “early warning systems for floods and heavy rainfall, and measures for securing water supply and switching to drought-resistant farming methods in agriculture.”<sup>1638</sup>

On 17 December 2018, the KfW Development Bank committed EUR20 million to the Rural Resilience Initiative. This program supports Ethiopian agriculture in areas vulnerable to severe

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<sup>1635</sup> Didier Guillaume, ministre de l’Agriculture et de l’Alimentation, s’est rendu en République d’Angola, Site du Ministère de l’Agriculture et de l’Alimentation (Paris) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/didier-guillaume-sest-rendu-en-republique-dangola>.

<sup>1636</sup> Le ministère de l’Agriculture et de l’Alimentation et Bpifrance lancent l’Accélérateur agroalimentaire : 19 PME accompagnées pour accélérer leur croissance et les accompagner face aux défis qui les attendent, Site du Ministère de l’Agriculture et de l’Alimentation (Paris) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/le-ministere-de-lagriculture-et-de-lalimentation-et-bpifrance-lancent-laccelerateur-agroalimentaire>.

<sup>1637</sup> Le Gouvernement confirme son ambition de réduire les produits phytosanitaires de moitié d’ici 2025 et sortir du glyphosate pour une majorité d’usages d’ici fin 2020, Site du Ministère de l’Agriculture et de l’Alimentation (Paris) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/le-gouvernement-confirme-son-ambition-de-reduire-les-produits-phytosanitaires-de-moitie-dici-2025>.

<sup>1638</sup> Germany boosts international fund for adaptation to climate change with 70 million euros, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-staerkt-internationalen-fonds-zur-anpassung-an-den-klimawandel-mit-70-millionen-euro/>.

climate disturbances by providing drought insurance; agricultural water conservation measures; training programs; and farmer microloans. It is associated with the G7 InsuResilience initiative.<sup>1639</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, Germany hosted the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin.<sup>1640</sup>

On 19 January 2019, Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture Julia Klöckner announced an agreement among ministers attending the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture to create a framework to digitalize agriculture. The final communiqué of the Forum states the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) should create an International Digital Council; weigh the costs and benefits of digitalization in rural areas; and establish a measurement system to assess country digitalization levels.<sup>1641</sup>

On 20 January 2019, Minister Klöckner hosted the French Minister of Agriculture and Food Didier Guillaume at the annual meeting of German rural youth during Green Week. Minister Klöckner and Minister Guillaume reiterated their commitment to support the European rural youth and young farmer.<sup>1642</sup>

On 22 January 2019, the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development and AGCO, an American agricultural company, signed a letter of intent to collaborate and improve agricultural efficiency and develop farming skills in rural Africa through farm mechanization. This agreement aims to help fulfill the Sustainable Development Goals against poverty and hunger by combining private sector knowledge and public policy.<sup>1643</sup>

On 23 January 2019, Minister Klöckner and Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Gerd Müller unveiled the “10 Points Plan for a sustainable cocoa sector.”<sup>1644</sup> This plan includes creating a standard for sustainable cocoa production; supporting initiatives to increase farmer income; supporting production without deforestation; and increasing women’s involvement in the sector.<sup>1645</sup>

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<sup>1639</sup> Preparing for extreme weather: KfW bolsters Ethiopian agricultural sector with protective measures against climate risks, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_500864.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_500864.html).

<sup>1640</sup> Etchevehere participa del Foro Global para la Alimentación y la Agricultura, en Berlín, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 5 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/etchevehere-participa-del-foro-global-para-la-alimentacion-y-la-agricultura-en-berlin>

<sup>1641</sup> Klöckner: “The decision to establish an international Digital Council is a breakthrough,” Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/EN/2019/abschluss-gffa-2019.html>.

<sup>1642</sup> Semaine verte à Berlin : Didier Guillaume et son homologue allemande, Julia Klöckner, marquent leur engagement en faveur de l’Europe et de l’amitié franco-allemande devant les jeunes agriculteurs allemands, Site du Ministère de l’Agriculture et de l’Alimentation (Paris) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/semaine-verte-berlin-didier-guillaume-et-julia-klockner-marquent-leur-engagement-en-faveur-de>.

<sup>1643</sup> AGCO, Germany to Support Farm Mechanization in Sub-Saharan Africa, Daily Observer (Monrovia) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.liberianobserver.com/news/agco-germany-to-support-farm-mechanization-in-sub-saharan-africa/>.

<sup>1644</sup> Germany Presents 10 Points Plan on a Sustainable Cocoa Sector, Forum Nachhaltiger Kakao (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.kakaoforum.de/en/news-service/news/news-detail/germany-presents-10-points-action-plan-on-a-sustainable-cocoa-sector-301/>.

<sup>1645</sup> 10-Point Plan of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development on Cocoa, German Initiative on Sustainable Cacao (Berlin) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [https://www.kakaoforum.de/fileadmin/Redaktion/Aktuelles/10\\_Punkte\\_Plan\\_ENG\\_.pdf](https://www.kakaoforum.de/fileadmin/Redaktion/Aktuelles/10_Punkte_Plan_ENG_.pdf).

On 5 February 2019, the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) announced that members of the Joint Programming Initiative, including itself, will start a Knowledge Hub to “study the impact of climate change on food quality and food consumption, understand the implications for human nutrition and health, and develop strategies and measures to ensure global / European food security.”<sup>1646</sup> BMEL called for applications to participate from research institutions, offering a maximum grant amount of EUR10,000 for each institution.<sup>1647</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the federal government announced that the Cabinet has adopted the National Strategy to Reduce Food Waste, aiming to reduce food loss in the production chain and consumer waste. The private sector will work with the German government to develop particular measures for each stage of the supply chain.<sup>1648</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the Government of Germany granted over USD2 million to two projects addressing forestry education under the FAO. One project aims to improve forest literacy and teach the importance of managing forest sustainability among children in Tanzania and the Philippines. Forests in these two countries are vital for rural populations’ food security.<sup>1649</sup>

On 28 March 2019, BMEL launched a national project to monitor biodiversity. This project aims to develop a species database to create tools to improve biodiversity on agricultural land.<sup>1650</sup>

On 12 April 2019, Germany’s Ambassador to Zambia Achim Burkart assured that the Government of Germany will continue to deliver professional and technical support to Zambia’s agriculture sector.<sup>1651</sup>

On 18 April 2019, Chancellor Angela Merkel and Kyrgyzstan President Sooronbay Jeenbekov signed a set of bilateral documents aimed at strengthening Kyrgyz-German relations. The documents also promised cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and Germany in regard to agriculture.<sup>1652</sup>

Germany has increased responsible investment in food systems by promoting collaborations with the private sector to reduce food loss in the supply chain. Through its contribution to the Rural Resilience Initiative, Germany increased incomes and quality employment. Germany has also taken action to increase productivity sustainably to expand the food supply.

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<sup>1646</sup> Notice No 03/19/31 on the opportunity to participate in a knowledge hub on food and nutrition security under the ERA-NET ERA-HDL, German Federal Gazette (Bonn) 5 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [https://www.bundesanzeiger.de/ebanzwww/wexsservlet?session.sessionid=748e50f50044bfc7d189ed5689063858&p age.navid=detailsearchlisttodetailsearchdetail&fts\\_search\\_list.selected=e4ebdfa013687117&fts\\_search\\_list.destHistoryd=16410](https://www.bundesanzeiger.de/ebanzwww/wexsservlet?session.sessionid=748e50f50044bfc7d189ed5689063858&p age.navid=detailsearchlisttodetailsearchdetail&fts_search_list.selected=e4ebdfa013687117&fts_search_list.destHistoryd=16410).

<sup>1647</sup> Notice No 03/19/31 on the opportunity to participate in a knowledge hub on food and nutrition security under the ERA-NET ERA-HDL, German Federal Gazette (Bonn) 5 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [https://www.bundesanzeiger.de/ebanzwww/wexsservlet?session.sessionid=748e50f50044bfc7d189ed5689063858&p age.navid=detailsearchlisttodetailsearchdetail&fts\\_search\\_list.selected=e4ebdfa013687117&fts\\_search\\_list.destHistoryd=16410](https://www.bundesanzeiger.de/ebanzwww/wexsservlet?session.sessionid=748e50f50044bfc7d189ed5689063858&p age.navid=detailsearchlisttodetailsearchdetail&fts_search_list.selected=e4ebdfa013687117&fts_search_list.destHistoryd=16410).

<sup>1648</sup> Halving Food Waste, The German Federal Government (Berlin) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/halving-food-waste-1582700>.

<sup>1649</sup> On International Day of Forests, FAO announces new forestry education initiatives, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1185781/icode/>.

<sup>1650</sup> BMEL startet nationales Monitoring der biologischen Vielfalt, topagrar ONLINE (Münster) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.topagrar.com/acker/news/bmel-startet-nationales-monitoring-der-biologischen-vielfalt-11506313.html>.

<sup>1651</sup> Germany to Support Zambian Agriculture, Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (Lusaka) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://www.znbc.co.zm/germany-to-support-zambian-agriculture/>.

<sup>1652</sup> Kyrgyz President meets German Chancellor, AzerNews (Baku) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://www.azernews.az/region/149112.html>.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Ivana Yuen and Vannie Kopalakis*

### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 24 January 2019, India's Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Parshottam Rupala, and South Africa's Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Senseni Zokwana met to discuss further agreements to be made on mutual food and security initiatives directed towards poverty and hunger. They agreed to share knowledge on drought resistant and bio-fortified crops, and agricultural extension.<sup>1653</sup>

On 6 February 2019, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh announced the Government of India's commitment to raising farmer incomes by improving access to rural milk producers and strengthening dairy infrastructure.<sup>1654</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy created the 'Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan' (KUSUM) scheme. The scheme proposed: installing grid connected solar power plants in rural areas; installing off-grid water pumps for farmers not connected to the grid; and solarizing existing agriculture pumps. Farmers will be enabled to sell the surplus of solar power and earn extra income.<sup>1655</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the Union Cabinet approved a proposal to lease out 1.61 acres of land to the Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium to set up KisanMandi, which will enable farmers to sell directly to buyers.<sup>1656</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, India attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1657</sup>

On 18 February 2019, Minister Rupala and Argentina's Minister of Agriculture Luis Miguel Etchevehere agreed to share knowledge and technology to further agricultural productivity and innovation, while countering the effects of climate change.<sup>1658</sup>

On 23 February 2019, the Government of India launched Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi. This provides a direct income of INR6,000 per year to small farmer families to meet their needs

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<sup>1653</sup> Agriculture on strengthening cooperation on agriculture, forestry and fisheries with India, South African Government (Cape Town) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/agriculture-strengthening-cooperation-agriculture-forestry-and-fisheries-india-28-jan-2019>.

<sup>1654</sup> Government is committed to providing greater access to rural milk producers by strengthening dairy infrastructure, Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (New Delhi) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=188097>.

<sup>1655</sup> KUSUM Scheme, Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (New Delhi) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=188499>.

<sup>1656</sup> Cabinet approves Proposal for leasing out of 1.61 acres of land at Alipur, Delhi, owned by Delhi Milk Scheme to Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium for setting up of Kisan Mandi, Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (New Delhi) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=188594>.

<sup>1657</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. [file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\\_GFFA\\_Programmheft\\_en\\_1001\\_WEB%20\(3\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL_GFFA_Programmheft_en_1001_WEB%20(3).pdf).

<sup>1658</sup> Argentina logra la apertura de importantes mercados a la India, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-logra-la-apertura-de-importantes-mercados-la-india>.

before the harvest season. Families who own land of up to two hectares are eligible for the benefit if they comprise of a husband, wife, and child under 18.<sup>1659</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Union Minister Shri Radha Mohan Singh announced that the National Cooperative Development Corporation has been successful in its goal of promoting cooperative development, youth in cooperatives, and innovative solutions through financial programs that benefit farmers.<sup>1660</sup>

On 28 February 2019, Union Minister Shri Radha Mohan Singh announced the progress of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in achieving the Prime Minister's vision of "doubling farmers' income by 2022."<sup>1661</sup> Developing new and advanced varieties for cultivation, promoting organic farming, accrediting agricultural universities, and providing outreach programs to give farmers access to scientific and agriculture knowledge has contributed to that vision.<sup>1662</sup>

On 28 February 2019, India's Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, approved Relaxation in Aadhaar related Conditions for the second financial support payment under the PM-Kisan scheme. The Scheme supports small and marginal landholder farmers.<sup>1663</sup>

On 7 March 2019, India's Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh discussed the focus on women in agriculture to guarantee their participation through women farmer empowerment projects. More than 30 per cent of funds have been assigned to these projects, as well there has been an emphasize on including women in the planning process of such projects.<sup>1664</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the Indian Ministry of External Affairs signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Consultancy Service to establish the India-Africa Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development (IAIARD) in Malawi. IAIARD will have programs in areas such as micro-financing and agro-financing.<sup>1665</sup>

India has increased investments in food system infrastructure, provided support and welfare to farmers, improved accessibility to food and made agreements on initiatives towards food security.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

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<sup>1659</sup> Government committed to Farmers welfare, Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (New Delhi) 23 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=188894>.

<sup>1660</sup> National Cooperative Development Corporation (NDCD) new scheme 'Yuva Sahakar', launched in November 2018 is giving wings to young entrepreneurs in cooperatives: - Radha Mohan Singh, Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (New Delhi) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=188984>.

<sup>1661</sup> The efforts ICAR in agriculture technology development have helped in enhancing the country's agricultural production and productivity: - Radha Mohan Singh, Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (New Delhi) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=189018>.

<sup>1662</sup> The efforts ICAR in agriculture technology development have helped in enhancing the country's agricultural production and productivity: - Radha Mohan Singh, Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (New Delhi) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=189018>.

<sup>1663</sup> Cabinet approves Relaxation in Aadhaar related Conditions for Second Instalment under PM - KISAN scheme, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (New Delhi) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=189104>.

<sup>1664</sup> Special emphasis has been given on the role & contribution of women in doubling the income of farmers by 2022, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (New Delhi) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=189312>.

<sup>1665</sup> India-Africa Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2019. [https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/31205/IndiaAfrica\\_Institute\\_of\\_Agriculture\\_and\\_Rural\\_Development](https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/31205/IndiaAfrica_Institute_of_Agriculture_and_Rural_Development).

*Analyst: Fatima Choban*

## **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

From 17-19 January 2019, Indonesia attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1666</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Indonesia's Ministry of Agriculture announced their partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization on a program to support farmers in West Kalimantan. The purpose of the program is to encourage farmers to adopt organic methods for rice production, as part of the Indonesian government's plan to establish 1000 organic villages. The goal of these organic villages is economic independence, increased incomes and sustainable agricultural production.<sup>1667</sup>

On 23 February 2019, the Indonesia Deputy Director for African Affairs Raul Yanvierino announced the economic cooperation between The Gambia and Indonesia. In particular, Indonesia will strengthen cooperation with The Gambia in agriculture and women's empowerment.<sup>1668</sup>

On 25 February 2019, 30 Indonesian farmers and workers returned to Karawang with Taiwanese specialists to train others in improved farming methods as part of the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture's program in cooperation with the Taiwanese government. The purpose is to improve irrigation, rice cultivation, horticulture, duck farming and the organization of farmers' associations.<sup>1669</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the Director General of Plantations at the Ministry of Agriculture Kasdi Subagyo urged palm oil companies to comply with the Indonesia Sustainable Palm Oil (ISPO) policy. ISPO is meant to help farmers produce palm oil sustainably.<sup>1670</sup>

On 20 March 2019, President Joko Widodo recommended palm oil tree growers to grow durian trees instead, as he believes the lack of environmental issues for durian trees allows it to have better prospects in the international market.<sup>1671</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs A.M. Fachir announced Indonesia's commitment to increasing the nation's food security and guaranteeing the welfare of farmers at the

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<sup>1666</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

<sup>1667</sup> FAO supports Indonesia in organic rice production, Vietnam Plus (Jakarta) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/fao-supports-indonesia-in-organic-rice-production/146969.vnp>.

<sup>1668</sup> Gambia Set to Forge Concrete Economic Cooperation with Indonesia, The Voice Newspaper (Serekunda) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.voicegambia.com/2019/02/27/gambia-set-to-forge-concrete-economic-cooperation-with-indonesia/>.

<sup>1669</sup> Going South to do Agricultural Training, Taiwan Business TOPICS (Taipei) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://topics.amcham.com.tw/2019/02/going-south-to-do-agricultural-training/>.

<sup>1670</sup> Plantations Director General Urges Palm Oil Companies to Prioritize ISPO Standards, Jakarta Globe (Jakarta) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://jakartaglobe.id/context/plantations-director-general-urges-palm-oil-companies-to-prioritize-ispo-standards>.

<sup>1671</sup> Jokowi tells palm tree growers to turn to durian, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/03/20/jokowi-tells-oil-palm-tree-growers-to-turn-to-durian.html>.

opening session of the Regional Conference on Strengthening Southeast Asia Food Security, Nutrition, and Farmer Welfare through the United Nations Decade of Family Farming.<sup>1672</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Government of Indonesia hosted a meeting for representatives from countries of Southeast Asia to discuss supporting smallholder farmers. The talks focused on how to reach the Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Hunger before 2030 by improving food security and livelihoods of smallholder farmers.<sup>1673</sup>

On 5 April 2019, the Director General of Husbandry and Animal Health at Indonesia's Ministry of Agriculture spoke at the Farmer2Farmer event. He said the ministry will continue to support Indonesia in becoming self-reliant in animal protein production.<sup>1674</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the Indonesian government created three new marine protected areas within the Coral Triangle that are expected to improve the local fisheries and support national food security. The establishment of these new areas was supported by the United States Agency for International Development.<sup>1675</sup>

Indonesia has obtained partial compliance by increasing responsible investment in foods systems and sustainable production. However, Indonesia has not taken actions to increase incomes and quality employment in food systems or increase productivity sustainably to expand the food supply

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Sonja Dobson and Farida Abdelmeguid*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 3 December 2018, the Minister for Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies Gian Marco Centinaio met with the European Commissioner for Agriculture Phil Hogan. The discussion focused on establishing concrete actions that will contribute to protecting smallholder farmers.<sup>1676</sup>

On 10 December 2018, Minister Centinaio signed a decree allocating EUR13,005,560 to agricultural companies affected by natural disasters. The funds will support damages to non-insurance company structures and restore agricultural related infrastructure.<sup>1677</sup>

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<sup>1672</sup> Indonesia committed to enhancing food security, farmers' welfare, Antara News (Jakarta) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/123093/indonesia-committed-to-enhancing-food-security-farmers-welfare>.

<sup>1673</sup> Empowering family farmers is key to achieving Zero Hunger in Southeast Asia, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Jakarta) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.fao.org/indonesia/news/detail-events/en/c/1189648/>.

<sup>1674</sup> Agriculture Ministry pushes self-reliance in animal protein production, Antara News (Jakarta) 6 April 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/123134/agriculture-ministry-pushes-self-reliance-in-animal-protein-production>.

<sup>1675</sup> Indonesia creates three marine protected areas within Coral Triangle, Mongabay (Daruba) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://news.mongabay.com/2019/04/indonesia-creates-three-marine-protected-areas-within-coral-triangle/>.

<sup>1676</sup> Incontro Centinaio-Hogan. "Collaborazione per garantire risorse economiche adeguate agli agricoltori italiani," Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13338>.

<sup>1677</sup> Centinaio: firmato decreto per fondi a aziende danneggiate da maltempo, Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13401>.

On 13 December 2018, the Ministry of Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Google for the purpose of enhancing the visibility of Italian farms on the internet.<sup>1678</sup>

On 17 December 2018, the Ministry of Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies sponsored promotion and communication campaigns carried out by Italian fruit and vegetable organizations to support orange consumption. This is carried out in major distribution chain sale outlets, with the participation of major wholesale agri-food markets.<sup>1679</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the Ministry of Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies and several pasta chain agricultural organizations agreed upon strategic actions to improve the sector. The Ministry announced aid worth EUR10 million to farmers of the National Cereal Fund and aid worth EUR20 million to renew supply chain contracts, improve price transparency, and promote pasta exports.<sup>1680</sup>

On 27 December 2018, the Ministry of Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies completed its search for innovative projects aimed at using food surplus and limiting food waste. The ministry announced 130 projects were submitted by public bodies, universities, charitable organizations, sole proprietorships, and business networks. The projects aimed to extend expiry dates by developing new packaging and redistribute food surplus to indigent people by creating digital platforms.<sup>1681</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, Italy attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1682</sup>

On 22 January 2019, Minister Centinaio met with the Chinese Vice Minister Zhang Taolin. Vice Minister Zhang Taolin expressed China's willingness to implement the agreement on agricultural cooperation with Italy to improve engagement on agricultural science and technology, investment, trade and creating a platform for cooperation and communication between bilateral enterprises, especially small and medium enterprises.<sup>1683</sup>

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<sup>1678</sup> Siglato protocollo d'intesa tra Ministero e Google per promuovere oltre 20mila agriturismi italiani Centinaio: digitale chiave per aprire e le porte del mondo, Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 8 March 2019.

<https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13411>.

<sup>1679</sup> Agroalimentare: al via campagna Ortofrutta Italia e Mipaaf, Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

<https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13436>.

<sup>1680</sup> Riunito Tavolo della Filiera Grano Pasta. Centinaio: "20 milioni di euro per contratti filiera e lavoro coordinato con tutti gli attori del settore", Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

<https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13459>.

<sup>1681</sup> Finanziati progetti innovativi per la gestione delle eccedenze e contro lo spreco alimentare. Centinaio: "Semplificare e coinvolgere tutta la filiera per aiutare chi è in difficoltà", Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019.

<https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13475>.

<sup>1682</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

<sup>1683</sup> Vice Minister Zhang Taolin Meets Italian Minister of Agricultural, Food, Forestry Policies and Tourism Centinaio, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201901/t20190128\\_296200.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201901/t20190128_296200.htm).

On 28 January 2019, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Italy launched the Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development in Rome to support sustainable development in African countries regarding food security, among other things.<sup>1684</sup>

On 4 February 2019, Italy attended the first Meeting of Agriculture Advisors of Embassies which was attended by representatives from 34 countries and the European Union, hosted by Mexico. Italy proposed strengthening an agenda-directory to provide producers with technical assistance and training.<sup>1685</sup>

On 4 February 2019, the Foundation of the Italian agro-food (FICO) and the FAO signed a three-year agreement to raise public awareness on a sustainable agriculture. Both parties are targeting young people to educate them on healthy nutritional practices and minimizing food waste.<sup>1686</sup>

On 5 February 2019, the Government of Italy donated USD240,000 to the World Food Programme to help 6,500 displaced people in Marawi regain their livelihood and access nutritious foods, following conflict in the region. This will support families for over three months, providing them with cash assistance in exchange for their participation in projects focused on fishing and farming.<sup>1687</sup>

On 7 February 2019, the FAO and Italy's Unitelma University signed an agreement to create academic programs for international cooperation and sustainable development. The joint program will be included in the university's master's program, which aims to be a hub for sustainable innovation.<sup>1688</sup>

On 11 February 2019, the Under-Secretary for Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies Franco Manzato attended the Vento-Italy-Europe Food Chain Conference. He presented Italy's strategy to enhance the supply chain through "five fundamental pillars: financial instruments, research, sector organization, internal market and international market."<sup>1689</sup>

On 21 February 2019, the Ministry of Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies and the Ministry of Economy and Finance approved the draft decree to launch the national citrus fruit fund. This will provide grants, totalling EUR8 million, for citrus producers affected by the sadza virus and

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<sup>1684</sup> Italy Prime Minister Conte Opens Africa Centre for Climate and Sustainable Development in Rome, United Nations Development Programme (New York City) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2018/Italy-PM-Conte-Opens-Africa-Centre-for-Climate-Sustainable-Development.html>.

<sup>1685</sup> La cooperación global en ciencia y tecnología, indispensable en el desarrollo de las agriculturas y de los productores: Víctor Villalobos, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/la-cooperacion-global-en-ciencia-y-tecnologia-indispensable-en-el-desarrollo-de-las-agriculturas-y-de-los-productores-victor-villalobos?idiom=es>.

<sup>1686</sup> FAO and Italy's FICO Foundation step up efforts to tackle malnutrition and food waste, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1179077/icode/>.

<sup>1687</sup> Italian contribution to support families affected by conflict in Marawi, World Food Programme (Manila) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www1.wfp.org/news/italian-contribution-support-families-affected-conflict-marawi>.

<sup>1688</sup> FAO and Italy's Unitelma University join forces to promote innovation, international cooperation and capacity development, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1179467/icode/>.

<sup>1689</sup> Agroalimentare, Manzato: obiettivo è elevare filiera attraverso sistema di qualità, Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13632>.

drought. It will also provide EUR1.5 million to finance campaigns promoting domestic citrus, and EUR500,000 to protect and develop Italian citrus products.<sup>1690</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte announced the “Proteggi Italia” plan to combat hydrogeological instability between 2019 to 2021.<sup>1691</sup> He confirmed EUR2.3 billion will fund agricultural infrastructure, as a form of defense against bankruptcy due to land devastation caused by landslides.<sup>1692</sup>

On 7 March 2019, the Government of Italy invested EUR10 million towards organic cafeterias in all Italian municipalities. The government aims to reduce costs for consumers, and to finance promotional campaigns at schools.<sup>1693</sup>

On 7 March 2019, the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea and the FAO signed an agreement to support Sudan’s agriculture sector and rural livelihoods, and to help the agricultural sector adapt to harsh climate change through projects worth EUR1.6 million.<sup>1694</sup>

On 12 March 2019, the Minister of Agricultural, Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies declared a new set of rules to protect farmers from unfair trading practices from larger retailers. The text will be published by the EU and enforced for all member states.<sup>1695</sup>

On 18 March 2019, Minister Centinaio announced that EUR500 million will be invested into Italian agriculture and supply chains. This aims to bolster the Made in Italy Movement, and to modernize Italian agriculture.<sup>1696</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the Italian government activated an emergency agricultural decree to support agricultural and food industries in a state of crisis. The government intends to reinvigorate the olive-oil and citrus sector, and the dairy sector (sheep milk) by investing EUR10 million for the year 2019 to increase the quality and competitiveness of the sheep milk sector.<sup>1697</sup>

On 2 April 2019, Diplomatic Advisor at the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Forestry Policies and Tourism Giovanni Umberto De Vito met with the Armenian Ambassador to Italy Victoria

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<sup>1690</sup> Approvato Decreto Fondo Nazionale Agrumicolo Sottosegretario Pesce: “Passi concreti per dare riposte”, Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13685>.

<sup>1691</sup> Dissesto idrogeologico, il govvrno vara il piano Proteggi Italia. Conte: <<11 miliardi in campo>>, Il Messaggero (Rome) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. [https://www.ilmessaggero.it/politica/dissesto\\_idrogeologico\\_piano\\_governo\\_proteggi\\_italia\\_conte-4328638.html](https://www.ilmessaggero.it/politica/dissesto_idrogeologico_piano_governo_proteggi_italia_conte-4328638.html).

<sup>1692</sup> Dissesto idrogeologico, il govvrno vara il piano Proteggi Italia. Conte: <<11 miliardi in campo>>, Il Messaggero (Rome) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 3 March 2019. [https://www.ilmessaggero.it/politica/dissesto\\_idrogeologico\\_piano\\_governo\\_proteggi\\_italia\\_conte-4328638.html](https://www.ilmessaggero.it/politica/dissesto_idrogeologico_piano_governo_proteggi_italia_conte-4328638.html).

<sup>1693</sup> Biologico nelle mense scolastiche, Manzato: "Nei piatti delle nuove generazioni prodotti genuini e sani," Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13744>.

<sup>1694</sup> Seeds Taking Roots: FAO, Italy and Sudan Substantiate their Partnership, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <http://www.fao.org/partnerships/resource-partners/news/news-article/en/c/1184446/>.

<sup>1695</sup> Pratiche sleali, Centinaio: "Una nuova pagina di regole che servono a tutelare il settore agroalimentare," Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13758>.

<sup>1696</sup> 500 milioni di euro per le filiere Made in Italy, Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13772>.

<sup>1697</sup> Question Time 21 marzo 2019 - Risposta del Ministro Centinaio sulle misure a sostegno del settore lattiero caseario, Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2019. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13782>.

Baghdasaryan to discuss strengthening their cooperation in the agriculture sector. Ambassador Baghdasaryan emphasized the importance of learning from Italy's valuable experience because of their status as one of the leading countries in the agricultural sector.<sup>1698</sup>

On 11 April 2019, Italian President Sergio Mattarella met with Prime Minister Omar Razzaz of Jordan to discuss increasing cooperation between the two countries in the agricultural sector, among others, including how to utilize the private sector to support such initiatives.<sup>1699</sup>

Italy has successfully complied with its commitment to increase responsible investment in food systems, increase incomes and quality employment in food systems, and increase productivity sustainably to expand the food supply. It did so by investing domestically in its farmers, providing national food aid, protecting consumer rights, and promoting healthy and quality foods.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Arnaud Nsamirizi*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 15 January 2019, the Government of Japan granted FJD370,000 to the Naduruloulou Research Station in Fiji through their Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Project. This will contribute towards expanding Tilapia seed production and developing fresh fish aquaculture in Fiji. This project aims to provide an alternative to ocean fishing and improve Fijian food security.<sup>1700</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, Japan attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1701</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the Ambassador of Japan to Italy and permanent representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Kelichi Katakami, signed a funding agreement of over USD8 million to help the FAO improve food and nutrition security for Yemeni households. This initiative involves distributing cereal and legume seeds, restocking livestock, and rehabilitating irrigation systems and other agricultural facilities.<sup>1702</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the Government of Japan, the Government of Lesotho, and the World Food Programme (WFP) signed an Exchange of Notes, donating wheat flour to Lesotho. The Government of Japan, through the WFP, also contributed approximately LSL19 million for 200 tons of tinned fish to distribute to Lesotho schools.<sup>1703</sup>

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<sup>1698</sup> Armenian Ambassador meets with Italian agriculture ministry official, Armenpress (Yerevan) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://armenpress.am/eng/news/969906/>.

<sup>1699</sup> Prime minister holds talks with Italian president, Ammon News (Amman) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://en.ammonnews.net/article.aspx?articulo=40565#.XMtOz-hKhEY>.

<sup>1700</sup> Fiji and Japan Seal Fisheries Deal, Fiji TV (Suva) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.fijione.tv/news-posts/fiji-and-japan-seal-fisheries-deal/>.

<sup>1701</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. [file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\\_GFFA\\_Programmheft\\_en\\_1001\\_WEB%20\(3\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL_GFFA_Programmheft_en_1001_WEB%20(3).pdf).

<sup>1702</sup> FAO receives \$8 million from Japan to boost food security and nutrition in conflict-ridden Yemen, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 31 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/fao-in-action/stories/stories-detail/en/c/1178909/>.

<sup>1703</sup> Government, Japan and WFP Sign Agreement, Government of Lesotho (Maseru) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.gov.ls/government-japan-and-wfp-sign-agreement/>.

On 21 January 2019, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia in La Paz signed a Record of Discussions for a technical cooperation project aimed at raising the competitiveness of Santa Cruz agricultural products in domestic and international markets. The Project for Promotion of Inclusive Food Value Chain in Santa Cruz aimed to promote “inclusive” food value chains that involve producers who are less able to reap profits than other food value chain participants and consumers who do not have ready access to information.<sup>1704</sup>

On 21 February 2019, the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, JICA and Myanmar’s Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation agreed to establish an Agri-Business and Value Chain Development project. This project is meant to develop agri-business, produce higher quality products, and contribute to poverty alleviation and rural development.<sup>1705</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the Government of Japan and the FAO signed an Exchange of Notes which pledges regional funding, USD4.636 million from Japan, for a project on increasing livelihoods, revenues and food security. This three-year project will achieve its goal through nearshore fish aggregating device fisheries in the Pacific.<sup>1706</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Government of Japan announced they are working with the FAO on a project worth USD1.76 million to support vocational skills training for farmers and fishermen in Mindanao, Philippines.<sup>1707</sup>

On 26 March 2019, the Government of Japan donated USD2 million to the WFP that will support people and communities in northeastern Nigeria. The funding will be used to help more than 48,000 people rebuild their livelihoods growing crops, raising livestock and rehabilitating assets.<sup>1708</sup>

On 4 April 2019, JICA and the South African Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries announced their partnership to launch pilot projects with over 743 smallholder producers in South Africa. The projects encourage smallholder producers to increase their income by improving production.<sup>1709</sup>

On 17 April 2019, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Senior Political Adviser Hiroki Sekikawa attended the Aussie Beef Sustainability Forum hosted by Meat & Livestock Australia Japan. Major Japanese stakeholders shared experiences and insights on improving the sustainability of the imported beef industry. Mr. Sekikawa reiterated the Japanese government agencies and ministries

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<sup>1704</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Bolivia: Support for the promotion of food value chains for agricultural products, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190128\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190128_01.html).

<sup>1705</sup> Myanmar, Japan to cooperate in Business and Value Chain Development project, Eleven Myanmar (Yangon) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/myanmar-japan-to-cooperate-in-business-and-value-chain-development-project>.

<sup>1706</sup> Japan and the FAO partner to support Pacific coastal fisheries, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Apia) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <http://www.fao.org/asiapacific/news/detail-events/en/c/1181704/>.

<sup>1707</sup> 日本・FAOがミンダナオ支援 農民と漁民に職業・技能訓練, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Manila) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.fao.org/japan/news/detail/jp/c/1190890/>.

<sup>1708</sup> Japan partners with WFP to build resilience of conflict-affected Nigerians, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Abuja) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www1.wfp.org/news/japan-partners-wfp-build-resilience-conflict-affected-nigerians>.

<sup>1709</sup> Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion Approach, South Africa Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Cape Town) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2019. <https://www.daff.gov.za/docs/media/MEDIA%20STATEMENTSMALLHOLDER%20HORTICULTURE.pdf>.

commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through making farmers more visible in the retail industry and implementing Good Agricultural Practices.<sup>1710</sup>

Japan has increased responsible investment in food systems and increased incomes and quality employment in food systems through many international partnerships and has increased productivity sustainably to expand the food supply.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Elysia Davis and Yilin Liu*

### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

From 17-19 January 2019, Korea attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1711</sup>

On 8 February 2019, Minister of Economy and Finance Hong Nam-ki met with the president of the African Development Bank Akinwumi Adesina to discuss growing Korea's sharing of knowledge on technology in agriculture, energy and drones with Africa.<sup>1712</sup>

On 13 February 2019, Minister Hong Nam-ki signed a "nine bridges" action plan on increasing bilateral cooperation with Russian Deputy Prime Minister Yuri Trutnev. The nine bridges are the key areas under which Korea and Russia will strengthen cooperation, including agriculture.<sup>1713</sup>

On 20 February 2019, Minister of Oceans and Fisheries Kim Young-Choon announced that the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries will expand fishing grounds by 245 square kilometers in an effort to help fishermen in the region increase their haul by more than 10 per cent.<sup>1714</sup>

On 3 March 2019, the Korea International Cooperation Agency donated two food-related facilities to establish a sustainable development system run by farmers on Panay Island, Philippines as part of the USD6.3 million Panay Island Sustainable Rural Development Project. A food terminal will function as a local consolidation centre and improve the quality and safety of agricultural products, while a local food centre will train Filipino farmers in marketing and consumer-relations skills.<sup>1715</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries announced that Busan-based BNK Financial group and tuna farm operator Nampyeong Bluefin Tuna Farming Association Corporation will jointly setup a USD4.43 million investment fund to improve tuna farming operations in South Gyeongsang. The investment fund, part of the reform plans announced by the Ministry in February

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<sup>1710</sup> Aussie Beef Showcases its sustainability credentials in Japan, Meat & Livestock Australia (North Sydney) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.mla.com.au/news-and-events/industry-news/aussie-beef-showcases-its-sustainability-credentials-in-japan/#>.

<sup>1711</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

<sup>1712</sup> Africa Development Bank calls for cooperation with S. Korea in tech, agriculture, energy, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190208000663>.

<sup>1713</sup> Korea, Russia sign action plan to bolster bilateral cooperation, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190213000817&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190213000817&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>1714</sup> Expansion of Yellow Sea fishing are to promote 'peace economy,' KOREA.net (Seoul) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://www.korea.net/NewsFocus/policies/view?articleId=168189>.

<sup>1715</sup> KOICA donates food terminal to upland Filipino farmers, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190304000614&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190304000614&ACE_SEARCH=1).

2019, will receive a further USD3.5 million from BNK Financial Group and USD880,000 from Nampyeong over the next three years.<sup>1716</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs revealed plans to promote the quality and safety of locally produced kimchi by providing firms with subsidies of up to USD44,380. The measure aims to help companies cut costs through group-purchasing ingredients and improve the efficiency of production processes. In addition, the Ministry announced it intends to research ways to extend the expiration date of kimchi from 30 to 60 days and carry out stricter surveillance on kimchi sent to market to ensure greater food safety.<sup>1717</sup>

On 15 March 2019, President Moon Jae-in met with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen to discuss strengthening their cooperation in the agriculture sector, among others.<sup>1718</sup>

On 17 March 2019, the Government of Korea signed an agreement with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to open an office in the country in May. Alongside the World Bank and the UN Industrial Development Organization, the FAO through its new office in East Asia will focus on tackling issues related to poverty and food security and collaborating with the Government of Korea on improving aid initiatives to developing countries.<sup>1719</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs announced a new veterinary practitioner training program that will help improve livestock pest control and quarantining of livestock-related diseases. The project is part of a wider government initiative to push for better food health and reduce the vulnerability of food chains to livestock-related epidemics.<sup>1720</sup>

On 8 April 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs renewed its Culinary Startups Incubator Project for a third year. The project promotes cooperation between local farms and businesses by providing financial support, education and jobs to aspiring young entrepreneurs.<sup>1721</sup>

Korea has invested in food system value chains and expanded employment opportunities through the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries initiative to shift the fisheries industry from production to resource management. Korea has increased incomes and quality employment in food systems through the outreach project in the Philippines undertaken by the Korea International Cooperation Agency. Korea has increased productivity sustainably to expand the food supply by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs' efforts to improve the efficiency and security of kimchi production processes.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

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<sup>1716</sup> 5 billion tuna fund hoping for plenty more fish, Korea JoongAng Daily (Seoul) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. <http://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/news/article/article.aspx?aid=3060249>.

<sup>1717</sup> Gov.t announces measures to foster kimchi industry, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190306000308&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190306000308&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>1718</sup> Leaders of S. Korea, Cambodia vow efforts to improve economic ties, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190315000435&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190315000435&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>1719</sup> Agriculture ministry, FAO agree to open S. Korean office, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 17 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190317001700320>.

<sup>1720</sup> Livestock protection, Choi Sun-sun's field! We keep it., Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs of the Republic of Korea (Seoul) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <http://www.mafra.go.kr/mafra/293/subview.do?enc=Zm5jdDF8QEB8JTJGYmJzJTJGbwWFmcmElMky2OCUyRjMyMDIxNyYURmFydGNsVmllldy5kbyUzRmJic0NsU2VxJTNEJT12aXNWaWV3TWluZSUzRGZhbHNIJT12cmdzRW5kZGVtdHlMOQIMjZwYUdlJTNEiUyNmJic09wZW5XcmRTZXEIM0QIMjZyZ3NCZ25kZVN0ciUzRCUyNnNyY2hXcmQIM0QIMjZwYXNzd29yZCUzRCUyNnNyY2hDb2x1bW4IM0QIMjZyb3cIM0QxMCUyNg%3D%3D>.

<sup>1721</sup> Agriculture ministry nurtures food startups, The Korea Times (Seoul) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. [http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2019/04/129\\_266827.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2019/04/129_266827.html).

*Analysts: Elysia Davis and Brian Wu*

## **Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 15 December 2018, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER) met with the Plan Movimiento de Ayala Siglo XXI,<sup>1722</sup> a group of farmers, indigenous and Afro-Mexican leaders.<sup>1723</sup> Both parties agreed to implement policies which support the rural poor and small producers through technological development and innovation.<sup>1724</sup>

On 17 December 2018, the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development Víctor Villalobos Arámbula met with the US Department of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue at their first bilateral meeting. Secretary Villalobos presented the priorities of the Government of Mexico, which included: supporting small-scale agriculture, efficiently expanding agriculture, national system of agriculture research and education, among others. The secretaries agreed to increase “the exchange for the formation of youth leadership in the sector and rural extension...to maintain permanent and continuous efforts to promote an open, respectful and science-based bilateral relationship, so that the benefits of trade in food and agricultural products reach small and medium producers.”<sup>1725</sup>

On 21 December 2018, at the fourth Governing Board of the National Institute of Fisheries and Aquaculture (INAPESCA) Secretary Villalobos announced an increased exchange of inter-institutional, technical and scientific information to benefit small-scale fisheries producers and promote sustainable fishing. The National Commission of Aquaculture and Fisheries and INAPESCA will work together to achieve this goal.<sup>1726</sup>

On 26 December 2018, SADER held the first extraordinary session of the Board of Directors of the National Commission of the Arid Zones. Secretary Villalobos pledged that the Government of Mexico will encourage investments, production and value added for producers in arid and semi-desert areas of Mexico through opportunities for development, sustainable growth and income insurance.<sup>1727</sup>

On 1 January 2019, Secretary Villalobos met with Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply Tereza Cristina to discuss strengthening cooperation in forestry, agricultural and livestock

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<sup>1722</sup> Apuestan por desarrollo tecnológico e innovación para transformar el campo, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 15 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/apuestan-por-desarrollo-tecnologico-e-innovacion-para-transformar-el-campo?idiom=es>.

<sup>1723</sup> Presentará MCPASXXI al Senado Iniciativa de ley Agraria, Movimiento Campesino Plan de Ayala Siglo XXI (Mexico City) 6 November 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <http://www.movimientocampesinoplanedayalasigloxxi.org.mx/>.

<sup>1724</sup> Apuestan por desarrollo tecnológico e innovación para transformar el campo, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 15 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/apuestan-por-desarrollo-tecnologico-e-innovacion-para-transformar-el-campo?idiom=es>.

<sup>1725</sup> Secretarios de Agricultura de México y Estados Unidos celebran primera reunión bilateral, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/secretarios-de-agricultura-de-mexico-y-estados-unidos-celebran-primera-reunion-bilateral?idiom=es>.

<sup>1726</sup> Habrá mayor intercambio de información técnica y científica en materia Pesquera, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/habra-mayor-intercambio-de-informacion-tecnica-y-cientifica-en-materia-pesquera?idiom=es>.

<sup>1727</sup> Activará el Gobierno de México la producción y el valor agregado en las zonas áridas y semidesérticas del país, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/activara-el-gobierno-de-mexico-la-produccion-y-el-valor-agregado-en-las-zonas-aridas-y-semideserticas-del-pais?idiom=es>.

research. Víctor Villalobos Arámbula expressed interest in restarting the Brazilian experience in increasing family farming and encouraging the sharing of experiences between the National Institute of Forestry, Agriculture and Livestock Research (INIFAP) and the Brazilian Agricultural Research Company.<sup>1728</sup>

On 4 January 2019, Secretary Villalobos presented strategic programs for achieving food self-sufficiency, promoting growth and development in small and medium producers and increasing sustainable production.<sup>1729</sup>

On 13 January 2019, INIFAP revealed their plans to enhance the development of technology for the purpose of recovery, conservation and sustainability of agricultural and livestock areas. This will be achieved through soil recovery and conservation processes of using plant coverage material to protect the soil for better production and higher yields.<sup>1730</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, Mexico attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1731</sup>

On 27 January 2019, SADER and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources announced their intention to launch a comprehensive program of assistance for sustainable fishing practices in the Upper Gulf.<sup>1732</sup>

On 30 January 2019, Secretary Villalobos met with members of the National Chamber of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Industry. They pledged to develop a work plan to acknowledge issues and programs which can contribute to enhancing food security, productivity, profits, and sustainability in fishing and aquaculture.<sup>1733</sup>

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<sup>1728</sup> Sostiene titular de la SADER reunión de trabajo con Ministra de Agricultura, Ganadería y Abastecimiento de Brasil, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 1 January 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/sostiene-titular-de-la-sader-reunion-de-trabajo-con-ministra-de-agricultura-ganaderia-y-abastecimiento-de-brasil?idiom=es>.

<sup>1729</sup> Presenta la SADER nuevos programas; con ejercicio presupuestal eficiente y honesto impulsará un sector productivo e incluyente, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/presenta-la-sader-nuevos-programas-con-ejercicio-presupuestal-eficiente-y-honesto-impulsara-un-sector-productivo-e-incluyente?idiom=es>.

<sup>1730</sup> Impulsará SADER-INIFAP desarrollo de tecnologías para la recuperación y protección de suelo agrícola, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 13 January 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/impulsara-sader-inifap-desarrollo-de-tecnologias-para-la-recuperacion-y-proteccion-de-suelo-agricola?idiom=es>.

<sup>1731</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. [file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\\_GFFA\\_Programmheft\\_en\\_1001\\_WEB%20\(3\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL_GFFA_Programmheft_en_1001_WEB%20(3).pdf).

<sup>1732</sup> El Gobierno, a través de SEMARNAT y SADER, pondrá en marcha Programa para la Sustentabilidad Pesquera en el Alto Golfo de California, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 27 January 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/el-gobierno-de-mexico-a-traves-de-semarnat-y-sader-pondra-en-marcha-programa-integral-para-la-sustentabilidad-pesquera-en-el-alto-golfo-de-california-189026?idiom=es>.

<sup>1733</sup> Se reúnen SADER y CANAINPESCA para trabajar unidos por un sector más productivo y sustentable, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/se-reunen-sader-y-canainpesca-para-trabajar-unidos-por-un-sector-mas-productivo-y-sustentable?idiom=es>.

On 31 January 2019, Secretary Villalobos met with the Governor of Colima José Ignacio Peralta Sánchez to discuss working together to strengthen the value-added chains through scientific innovation and technology.<sup>1734</sup>

On 1 February 2019, Secretary Villalobos hosted the first ordinary session of the Mexican Council of Sustainable Rural Development. The Council is a legal entity for the purpose of implementing joint actions in the agricultural sector. The focus is on transitioning to a more productive, sustainable and inclusive agricultural and fishing sector, as well as diminishing the poverty gap in rural areas.<sup>1735</sup>

On 4 February 2019, Mexico hosted the first Meeting of Agriculture Advisors of Embassies which was attended by representatives from 34 countries and the European Union. The Government of Mexico presented their new policies on productive, inclusive and sustainable developing with a strong focus on reducing poverty in rural populations.<sup>1736</sup>

On 5 February 2019, SADER announced the development of a new commercial variety of thin serrano pepper by INIFAP. This new variety has a higher tolerance to diseases and will produce more yields. Furthermore, due to their resiliency, less agrochemicals will be required; therefore, the crop is more sustainable and cheaper.<sup>1737</sup>

On 7 February 2019, undersecretary of Agriculture of SADER Miguel García Winder and the president of the National Chamber of the Transformation Industry Enrique Guillén Mondragón met to discuss integrating small and medium scale agriculture and fishing producers into value added, productive chains and marketing schemes through innovations, technology and training. The purpose is “sustainable food value chains and their relationship with food security.”<sup>1738</sup>

On 10 February 2019, Secretary Villalobos met with the Ambassador of Qatar in Mexico to establish ways in which they could strengthen their cooperation in the agricultural sector.<sup>1739</sup> They agreed to begin administrative, technical and logistical processes to create an air bridge between the two countries for the purpose of transporting agri-food products. Furthermore, they established a

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<sup>1734</sup> Evalúan SADER y Gobierno de Colima fortalecer cadenas de valor agregado en sector agroalimentario, , Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/evaluan-sader-y-gobierno-de-colima-fortalecer-cadenas-de-valor-agregado-en-sector-agroalimentario?idiom=es>.

<sup>1735</sup> Encabeza el secretario Víctor Villalobos primera sesión del Consejo Mexicano para el Desarrollo Rural Sustentable, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/encabeza-el-secretario-victor-villalobos-primera-sesion-del-consejo-mexicano-para-el-desarrollo-rural-sustentable?idiom=es>.

<sup>1736</sup> La cooperación global en ciencia y tecnología, indispensable en el desarrollo de las agriculturas y de los productores: Víctor Villalobos, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/la-cooperacion-global-en-ciencia-y-tecnologia-indispensable-en-el-desarrollo-de-las-agriculturas-y-de-los-productores-victor-villalobos?idiom=es>.

<sup>1737</sup> Desarrolla INIFAP chile serrano con mayor rentabilidad y resistencia a enfermedades, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/desarrolla-inifap-chile-serrano-con-mayor-rentabilidad-y-resistencia-a-enfermedades?idiom=es>.

<sup>1738</sup> Buscarán vincular SADER y CANACINTRA a pequeños productores en cadenas productivas y de valor agregado, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/buscaran-vincular-sader-y-canacindra-a-pequenos-productores-en-cadenas-productivas-y-de-valor-agregado?idiom=es>.

<sup>1739</sup> Se proponen México y Qatar dinamizar comercio agroalimentario, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 10 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/se-proponen-mexico-y-qatar-dinamizar-comercio-agroalimentario?idiom=es>.

working table to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of agriculture and food security including a focus on sharing information and technical expertise.<sup>1740</sup>

On 13 February 2019, SADER announced a comprehensive policy which will enhance production chains to provide more support for small and medium producers and rural communities. While meeting with members of the corn and barely systems, Secretary Villalobos pledged to improve productive infrastructure, value-added chains and sustainability programs.<sup>1741</sup>

On 19 February 2019, Secretary Villalobos hosted a meeting with the Belgium Deputy Prime Minister Kris Peeters, the Economy Minister Pierre-Yves Jeholet, and a delegation of European businessmen. The purpose of this meeting was to establish closer technological and commercial cooperation in agri-food.<sup>1742</sup>

On 25 February 2019, SADER presented a new type of pinto beans, “Salinas,” which will last longer, are disease resistance, and produce better yields developed by INIFAP.<sup>1743</sup>

On 2 March 2019, SADER and INIFAP announced a national project of improved rice seeds which are more adaptable and will produce larger yields. The rice seeds are being tested in the state of Michoacán.<sup>1744</sup>

On 8 March 2019, The National Commissions of Aquaculture and Fisheries and the State Commission for the Protection against Sanitary Risks in Sinaloa agreed to establish clear policies to guarantee profitability to producers of bivalve molluscs, which include clams and mussels.<sup>1745</sup>

On 10 March 2019, SADER and the Ministry of Commerce and Export Promotion of New Zealand signed a Memorandum of Understanding which aim to strengthen cooperation and exchange of agri-food products. New Zealand and Mexico will exchange experiences for productive indigenous community development; genetically improving bovine and ovine cattle; and employing young people in agriculture.<sup>1746</sup>

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<sup>1740</sup> Se proponen México y Qatar dinamizar comercio agroalimentario, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 10 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/se-proponen-mexico-y-qatar-dinamizar-comercio-agroalimentario?idiom=es>.

<sup>1741</sup> Impulsará SADER con productores de maíz y cebada más infraestructura y cadenas de valor, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/impulsara-sader-con-productores-de-maiz-y-cebada-mas-infraestructura-y-cadenas-de-valor?idiom=es>.

<sup>1742</sup> Se reúne titular de la SADER con ministros y empresarios de Bélgica, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/se-reune-titular-de-la-sader-con-ministros-y-empresarios-de-belgica?idiom=es>.

<sup>1743</sup> Desarrolla INIFAP nueva variedad de frijol resistente a enfermedades, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/desarrolla-inifap-nueva-variedad-de-frijol-resistente-a-enfermedades?idiom=es>.

<sup>1744</sup> Impulsa SADER líneas de investigación para el desarrollo de semillas mejoradas de arroz, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 2 March 2019. Access Date: 7 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/impulsa-sader-lineas-de-investigacion-para-el-desarrollo-de-semillas-mejoradas-de-arroz?idiom=es>.

<sup>1745</sup> Impulsa Conapesca mejoras en producción de moluscos bivalvos, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mazatlan) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/impulsa-conapesca-mejoras-en-produccion-de-moluscos-bivalvos?idiom=es>.

<sup>1746</sup> Fortalecen México y Nueva Zelanda cooperación en desarrollo agropecuario, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 10 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/fortalecen-mexico-y-nueva-zelandia-cooperacion-en-desarrollo-agropecuario?idiom=es>.

On 12 March 2019, SADER and the Government of Veracruz announced an investment of MXN15 million to regulate orchard waste to avoid the spread of pests and diseases. The funding will treat citrus diseases across 95,000 hectares.<sup>1747</sup>

On 12 March 2019, Director in Chief of the Agricultural Marketing and Market Development Services of SADER Arturo Puente González announced the implementation of a project in partnership with the World Bank. The project will improve small and medium agricultural producers' access to grain storage and information that will ensure more adequate storage capacity for the next yield. Furthermore, the information will be useful in future crop predictions and early warning mechanisms.<sup>1748</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Committee implemented a temporary ban on all shrimp species fishing. This suspension aims to protect periods of shrimp reproduction and growth, promoting sustainable use of the species and eventually allowing for greater commercial value production.<sup>1749</sup>

On 14 March 2019, SADER published an agreement indicating an annual catch volume of 2,800 tonnes of bluefin tuna 2019 and 2020 in federal waters in the Pacific Ocean and the regulation water area of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. This measure aims to improve the state of the tuna populations and strengthen the bluefin tuna industry sustainability.<sup>1750</sup>

On 22 March 2019, SADER created the Social and Sustainable Agri-Market Program, with a budget of MXN7 million. The program aims to assist small and medium sized producers in commercialized, to increase their incomes, through quality certification, marketing training and technical assistance, infrastructure and policies which improve competitiveness and environmental responsibility.<sup>1751</sup>

On 23 March 2019, SADER and the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources established the Initiative for Sustainability in the Northern Gulf of California. This initiative aims to minimize poaching and illegal trafficking of totoaba through improving the rule of law.<sup>1752</sup>

On 31 March 2019, Secretary Villalobos held a work meeting with producers of the country to discuss increasing the production of oilseeds. SADER and the National Committee of the Oilseed

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<sup>1747</sup> Destinan Sader y Gobierno de Veracruz 15 millones de pesos en beneficio de pequeños productores de cítricos, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/destinan-sader-y-gobierno-de-veracruz-15-millones-de-pesos-en-beneficio-de-pequenos-productores-de-citricos?idiom=es>.

<sup>1748</sup> México fortalece capacidades para evitar impactos del clima en la agricultura, Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura (Mexico City) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://www.fao.org/mexico/noticias/detail-events/es/c/1185039/>.

<sup>1749</sup> Inicia este viernes la veda temporal para la pesca de todas las especies de camarón en el Océano Pacífico, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/inicia-este-viernes-la-veda-temporal-para-la-pesca-de-todas-las-especies-de-camaron-en-el-oceano-pacifico?idiom=es>.

<sup>1750</sup> Publica Sader volumen de captura de atún aleta azul para el Pacífico, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/publica-sader-volumen-de-captura-de-atun-aleta-azul-para-el-pacifico?idiom=es>.

<sup>1751</sup> Publican lineamientos del Programa Agromercados Sociales y Sustentables (AMSYS), Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/publican-lineamientos-del-programa-agromercados-sociales-y-sustentables-amsys?idiom=es>.

<sup>1752</sup> El Gobierno de México lanza la Iniciativa para la sustentabilidad en el norte del Golfo de California, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/el-gobierno-de-mexico-lanza-la-iniciativa-para-la-sustentabilidad-en-el-norte-del-golfo-de-california-195006?idiom=es>.

Product System will establish a work plan to genetically improve oilseeds, and develop technology and infrastructure for their productivity, sustainability and competitiveness.<sup>1753</sup>

On 11 April 2019, Secretary Villalobos met with sugarcane production chain industrialists and producers. The discussion focused on a work plan which will improve sustainability and productive planning in sugarcane cultivation.<sup>1754</sup>

On 17 April 2019, the Government of Mexico endorsed a sustainable production system in Nayarit for tilapia hatchlings. This system will yield 30 million tilapia hatchlings to support local aqua culturists and competitive value chains at the local and regional levels.<sup>1755</sup>

Mexico has increased responsible investment in food systems and increased incomes and quality employment in food systems through policies which target small and medium producers and rural communities. Those policies focus on using technology and innovations to increase the food supply and also become more sustainable. Furthermore, Mexico has invested in research and development to produce better crops.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Sonja Dobson and Cheryl Cheung*

### **Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 3 December 2018, Russia's Deputy Minister of Agriculture Ilya Shestakov and Argentina's Minister of Agriculture Luis Miguel Etchevehere signed an agreement to develop mechanisms that foster aquaculture sustainability and conservation, and counter illegal fishing.<sup>1756</sup>

On 24 December 2019, the Government of Russia approved the Subprogram "Promotion of Selection and Seedage of sugar beet in the Russian Federation." The Subprogram promotes selective breeding programs, development of new generations of pesticides among others to increase the stable growth of sugar beet.<sup>1757</sup>

On 26 December 2018, Russia approved a project assigning RUB406.8 billion to support agricultural exports by 2024. This includes building agricultural infrastructure, promoting Russian agricultural

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<sup>1753</sup> Impulsarán Sader y cadena de las oleaginosas investigación en mejoramiento de variedades para aumentar productividad, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 31 March 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/impulsaran-sader-y-cadena-de-las-oleaginosas-investigacion-en-mejoramiento-de-variedades-para-aumentar-productividad?idiom=es>.

<sup>1754</sup> Analizan acciones Sader y cadena productiva de la caña de azúcar enfocadas a planificar producción y diversificación comercial, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/analizan-acciones-sader-y-cadena-productiva-de-la-cana-de-azucar-enfocadas-a-planificar-produccion-y-diversificacion-comercial?idiom=es>.

<sup>1755</sup> Apoyará Inapesca a productores de tilapia con cría intensiva y sustentable, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/apoyara-inapesca-a-productores-de-tilapia-con-cria-intensiva-y-sustentable?idiom=es>.

<sup>1756</sup> Argentina y Rusia firman un convenio de cooperación de pesca, Ministry of Production and Labour (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-rusia-firman-un-convenio-de-cooperacion-de-pesca>.

<sup>1757</sup> Government of Russia to Approve Subprogram "Promotion of Selection and Seedage of Sugarbeet in the Russian Federation," Ministry of Agriculture (Moscow) 25 December 2018 Access Date: 15 May 2019. <http://mcx.ru/press-service/news/pravitelstvom-rf-utverzhdna-podprogramma-razvitie-selektcii-i-semenovodstva-sakharnoy-svyekly-v-ros/>.

products abroad, removing tariff restrictions in foreign markets, and increasing the volume of agricultural production.<sup>1758</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, Russia attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin.<sup>1759</sup>

On 13 February 2019, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Yuri Trutnev signed a “nine bridges” action plan on increasing bilateral cooperation with Korean Minister of Economy and Finance Hong Nam-k. The nine bridges are the key areas under which Korea and Russia will strengthen cooperation, including in agriculture.<sup>1760</sup>

On 18 February 2019, Russia’s Deputy Minister of Agriculture Sergey Levin spoke at the Russia-UAE-Africa Food Security Forum 2019. Deputy Minister Levin spoke of increasing exports to regions in North Africa and the Middle East to address the demand for food. He emphasized increasing the production and exportation of halal products.<sup>1761</sup>

On 22 March 2019, Moroccan Ambassador to Russia Abdelkader Lecheheb announced the creation of a joint Moroccan-Russian project across seven different sectors, including in agriculture.<sup>1762</sup>

On 12 April 2019, Dmitry Patrushev, the Minister of Agriculture of the Russian Federation, officially opened the biggest animal genome laboratory in Russia located in Domodedovo, Moscow region. The lab is capable of conducting more than 800,000 studies per year with modern equipment to predict the breeding value at an early age.<sup>1763</sup>

From 1-5 April 2019, Russia held meetings with Venezuela on agricultural development. The Russia-Venezuela 14<sup>th</sup> High Level Intergovernmental Commission negotiated six cooperation agreements that will help Venezuelan agriculture food dependence. The agreements included an increase in trade between the countries, investments in agro-industrial processing, and technological supports to improve agriculture production.<sup>1764</sup>

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<sup>1758</sup> Russia to allocate over 406 billion rubles by 2024 to support agricultural exports, Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [http://mcx.ru/en/news/Russia\\_allocate\\_over\\_406\\_billion\\_rubles/](http://mcx.ru/en/news/Russia_allocate_over_406_billion_rubles/).

<sup>1759</sup> Etchevehere participa del Foro Global para la Alimentación y la Agricultura, en Berlín, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 5 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/etchevehere-participa-del-foro-global-para-la-alimentacion-y-la-agricultura-en-berlin>

<sup>1760</sup> Korea, Russia sign action plan to bolster bilateral cooperation, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190213000817&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190213000817&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>1761</sup> International partnerships, technology key to ending world hunger, Khaleej Times (Dubai) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.khaleejtimes.com/international-partnerships-technology-key-to-ending-world-hunger>.

<sup>1762</sup> Russia, Morocco form cooperation projects in aviation and other key industries, says envoy, TASS Russian News Agency (Moscow) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2019. <http://tass.com/economy/1050090>.

<sup>1763</sup> Dmitry Patrushev to Open the Biggest Livestock Genome Laboratory, Government of Russia (Moscow) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 15 May 2019. <http://mcx.ru/press-service/news/dmitriy-patrushev-otkryl-krupneyshuyu-laboratoriyu-geneticheskikh-issledovaniy-zhivotnykh/>.

<sup>1764</sup> Venezuela signs six agreements for agricultural development with Russia, Ministerio del Poder Popular para Relaciones Exteriores (Caracas) 7 April 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <http://mppre.gob.ve/en/2019/04/07/venezuela-agricultural-development-russia/>.

On 15 April 2019, Russia's Minister of Agriculture Dmitry Patrushev agreed to hold a joint meeting with Belarus's Agriculture and Food Minister. Both parties will explore ways to improve Russian-Belarusian cooperation in agriculture.<sup>1765</sup>

On 26 April 2019, the Government of the Russian Federation approved the budget transfer program for 2019-2021 for finance programs promoting rural cooperation and farming in Russia's regions. The total sum of transfer from the federal budget is approximately 14 trillion roubles.<sup>1766</sup>

Russia has taken actions in all two of the spheres to tackle the challenge of food security.

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Fatima Chohan*

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 26 December 2018, Saudi Arabia sponsored King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSrelief) visited fields in Al-Hawija, Syria to provide farmers with agricultural pesticide training sessions. This is part of KSrelief's project to support Syrian farmers by improving agricultural practices, crop production, and livestock farming.<sup>1767</sup>

On 10 January 2019, King Salman bin Abdulaziz announced the launch of the Sustainable Agriculture Rural Development Program from 2018-2025. This program supports the Kingdom's food security initiative, targets eight sectors and also maximises the use of both natural and human resources. The program also ensures that there is sustained access to healthy food and increases women's participation in the labor market as outlined in Vision 2030.<sup>1768</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, Saudi Arabia attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1769</sup>

On 29 January 2019, Saudi Arabia's Minister of Environment, Water, and Agriculture, Eng. Abdulrahman bin Abdulmohsen Al-Fadley, announced a SAR1.3 billion investment towards five domestic aquaculture initiatives. The "Marketing Campaign" initiative will endorse domestically sourced fish to increase consumption. The "Investor Attraction Campaign" aims to attract new private and public investors in the aquaculture sector. The "Development of Marine Clusters" initiative will integrate logistic services and implement boat maintenance workshops. The "Building Infrastructure to Support Aquaculture sector" initiative will launch new hatcheries, feed mills and processing plants. The "Research and Development Support" initiative collaborates with research institutions to introduce new, profitable marine species to Saudi Arabia. The Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture signed agreements with the National Fisheries Development

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<sup>1765</sup> Belarus, Russia to hold joint meeting on agriculture in Q2, Belarus News (Moscow) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. <https://eng.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-russia-to-hold-joint-meeting-on-agriculture-in-q2-120308-2019/>.

<sup>1766</sup> Executive Order N 835-p 26 April 2019 (Moscow). Access Date: 15 May 2019. <http://static.government.ru/media/files/AiVCc4TyrmjEUAdrE7soxQRiVaUJJVpF.pdf>.

<sup>1767</sup> KSrelief Team Tours Farmers' Fields in Hama Syria, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1857301>.

<sup>1768</sup> King Salman Unveils Major Sustainable Agricultural Rural Development Program, Center for International Communication (Riyadh) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <https://cic.org.sa/2019/01/king-salman-unveils-major-sustainable-agricultural-rural-development-program/>.

<sup>1769</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

Program, the Saudi Aquaculture Society, and the Saudi Industrial Development Fund to support these initiatives.<sup>1770</sup>

On 1 February 2019, KSrelief held a training course on fish finding techniques and Global Positioning System technology for Yemeni fishermen. This is part of KSrelief's "improving livelihoods" initiative in Yemen.<sup>1771</sup> This initiative provides industry-specific training workshops, with a goal of expanding family income sources in small communities.<sup>1772</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the Ministry of Environment, Water, and Agriculture announced a domestic ruminants vaccination campaign against food-and-mouth disease. This initiative aims to prevent declining livestock productivity and farmer income losses.<sup>1773</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN renewed their cooperation to support the Sustainable Rural Agricultural Development Programme. Saudi Arabia agreed to contribute USD93 million to support the production, processing, and promotion of domestic coffee, honey, aromatic plants, fruits, fish, livestock, and rain fed crops. This initiative aims to improve small farmer income and productivity, create new jobs, increase agricultural investments, and optimize Saudi Arabian resources.<sup>1774</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) introduced new practices to help farmers improve productivity and generate more income. SABIC focuses on researching, developing, and sharing new technologies that improve agricultural yields.<sup>1775</sup>

On 15 February 2019, Minister Al-Fadley and the president of the UN International Fund for Agricultural Development, Gilbert F. Houngbo signed a draft agreement to open an office for Gulf Cooperation Council member states. This agreement will improve technical collaboration and knowledge exchange and help implement regional food security initiatives.<sup>1776</sup>

On 18 February 2019, Saudi Arabia's Agricultural Development Fund (ADF) agreed to use Finastra's Fusion Essence platform to power their farmer loan services. This collaboration will allow for faster

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<sup>1770</sup> Al-Fadley: SAR1.3 Billion Initiatives Launched on Development of Aquaculture in Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Ministry of Environment Water & Agriculture (Riyadh) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://mewa.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-29-1-2019-2.aspx>.

<sup>1771</sup> KSrelief Holds 4<sup>th</sup> Session of GPS Devices Using Skills for Yemeni Fisherman, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1880940>.

<sup>1772</sup> KSrelief Holds its Fourth GPS Training Course for Yemeni Fisherman, King Salman Humanitarian Aid & Relief Centre (Aden) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=2768>.

<sup>1773</sup> MEWA Launches Vaccination Campaign Against FMD in All Regions of the Kingdom, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Ministry of Environment Water & Agriculture (Riyadh) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.mewa.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-13-2-2019-2.aspx>.

<sup>1774</sup> FAO and Saudi Arabia renew fruitful cooperation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (Rome) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 27 February 2019. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1180506/icode/>.

<sup>1775</sup> SABIC Introduces 'Smart' Techniques to Increase Farmer Productivity, Asharq Al-Awsat (Riyadh) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1592711/sabic-introduces-%E2%80%99smart%E2%80%99-techniques-increase-farmer-productivity>.

<sup>1776</sup> HE Al-Fadley Signs Draft Agreement with IFAD to Promote Cooperation with GCC Member States, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Ministry of Environment, Water & Agriculture (Riyadh) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.mewa.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/HE-Al-Fadley-Signs-Draft-Agreement-with-IFAD-to-Promote-Cooperation-with-GCC-Member-States.aspx>.

loan approvals. The ADF grants farmers with loans for equipment and other agricultural resources.<sup>1777</sup>

On 20 February 2019, KSrelief held a training course for 50 Yemeni farmers on methods of controlling crop pests.<sup>1778</sup>

On 25 February 2019, Saudi Arabia's Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture Abdulrahman Bin Abdulmohsen Al-Fadley met with South African Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Senzeni Zokwana to discuss the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on technological cooperation in agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and recognizing future investments. They agreed to sign the memorandum once legal protocols are settled.<sup>1779</sup>

On 26 February 2019, Saudi Arabia announced it will donate USD500 million to fund the UN 2019 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan.<sup>1780</sup> This plan partly targets food security, as it allocates livelihood support, food, and farming kits to food insecure regions. It also involves distributing ruminants and supporting food processing and micro businesses.<sup>1781</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Minister Al-Fadley announced Saudi Arabia's intention to promote sustainable agricultural development through partnerships with Arab regional organizations and international groups. Modern technology will be utilized to find new food resources.<sup>1782</sup>

On 20 March 2019, the Ministry of Environment, Water, and Agriculture issued ten new regulations to control livestock importation in order to reduce the need for depleting fodder.<sup>1783</sup>

On 26 March 2019, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates investigated options for investment in the Philippines' agriculture and food sectors.<sup>1784</sup>

On 4 April 2019, Saudi Arabia attended the first joint meeting of the Land and Water Days regional conference with the Arab Ministers of Agriculture and Water. The members of the meeting discussed the need for a permanent high-level joint committee, coupled with regional institutional coordination between agriculture and water sectors in Arab countries.<sup>1785</sup>

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<sup>1777</sup> Finastra strikes deal with Saudi's Agricultural Development Fund, Finextra (London) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.finextra.com/pressarticle/77308/finastra-strikes-deal-with-saudis-agricultural-development-fund>.

<sup>1778</sup> KSrelief Holds Pest Control Training Course in Tarim, King Salman Humanitarian Aid & Relief Centre (Hadramawt) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=2848>.

<sup>1779</sup> South Africa-Saudi Arabia's Agriculture MoU, African Daily Voice (Johannesburg) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://africandailyvoice.com/en/2019/02/25/south-africa-saudi-arabias-agriculture-mou/>.

<sup>1780</sup> Saudi Arabia Donates an Additional USD \$500 million to Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan, Cision (Geneva) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.prnewswire.com/ae/news-releases/saudi-arabia-donates-an-additional-usd-500-million-to-yemen-humanitarian-response-plan-300802260.html>.

<sup>1781</sup> 2019 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (Geneva) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. [https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/2019\\_Yemen\\_HRP\\_V21.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/2019_Yemen_HRP_V21.pdf).

<sup>1782</sup> Saudi Arabia's high-tech plan to guard food security, Arab News (Riyadh) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1459186/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>1783</sup> Environment authorities issue new regulations to control importing of livestock, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1901698>.

<sup>1784</sup> Saudi Arabia, UAE sow seeds for agri-trade deals with Philippines, Arab News (Manila) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1473011/world>.

<sup>1785</sup> Arab Agriculture and Water Ministers Call for Activating Regional Coordination between Agriculture, Water Sectors, Saudi Press Agency (Cairo) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1908241>.

On 9 April 2019, the Ministry of Environment, Water, and Agriculture announced that in the past eight months, it has allocated SR11,617,831 to 165 farmers in its effort to support organic production. This is part of a 12-month contract to support small farmers in their transition to organic farming that produces safe high-quality food, preserves the environment and natural resources, and streamlines consumption of irrigation water.<sup>1786</sup>

On 14 April 2019, Minister Al-Fadley launched the first phase of the Agricultural Terraces Rehabilitation and Rainwater Harvesting Techniques Implementation Initiative in southwest Saudi Arabia. This includes instituting and renovating concrete rainwater reservoirs, facilitating irrigation systems, and giving farmers native plants.<sup>1787</sup>

On 17 April 2019, Chief Executive Officer of the Saudi Food and Drug Authority met with the United Arab Emirates Minister of State for Food Security Mariam Al-Mheiri to discuss how to strengthen their strategic partnership. They also discussed the importance of creating the Gulf Food Safety Center and to increase food safety and security.<sup>1788</sup>

On 17 April 2019, Minister Al-Fadley met with Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation of the Arab Republic of Egypt Dr. Ezzedine Abustit to discuss issues of common interest in the agricultural field.<sup>1789</sup>

On 19 April 2019, Minister Al-Fadley met with Iraqi Minister of Agriculture Dr. Saleh Hussein Al-Hassani to discuss agricultural issues of common interest.<sup>1790</sup>

On 19 April 2019, Saudi Arabia reiterated its support for the United Nations Addis Ababa Action Agenda for sustainable development at the United Nations Economic and Social Council's Forum on Financing for Development in New York and discussed its role as an international development donor in several sectors including agriculture.<sup>1791</sup>

Saudi Arabia has achieved full compliance by increasing responsible investment in food systems and increasing productivity sustainability to the food supply and to increase incomes and quality employment in food systems.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a compliance score of +1.

*Analysts: Ivana Yuen and Farida Abdelmeguid*

## **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

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<sup>1786</sup> SR1.6 million allocated for Saudi farmers to go organic, Arab News (Riyadh) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1479761/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>1787</sup> Eng. AlFadhley launches first phase of Agricultural Terraces rehabilitation Initiative in Jazan, Saudi Press Agency (Jazan) 14 April 2019. Access Date: April 17 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1912617>.

<sup>1788</sup> Emirati Minister of State for Food Security Visits SFDA, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 14 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1913974>.

<sup>1789</sup> Minister of Environment Receives Egyptian Agriculture Minister, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1914239>.

<sup>1790</sup> Minister of Environment receives Iraqi Minister of Agriculture, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1914498>.

<sup>1791</sup> Saudi Arabia reaffirms sustainable development commitment, Arab News (New York) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1484166/saudi-arabia>.

From 17-19 January 2019, South Africa attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1792</sup>

On 24 January 2019, South Africa's Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Senszemi Zokwana signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Namibia's Minister of Fisheries Bernard Essau to collaborate within the fisheries space the countries share at their border. They agreed to establish a joint working group to research their shared marine resources and develop conservation measures. They also agreed to a joint training program on aquaculture monitoring platforms that targets youth and women especially.<sup>1793</sup>

On 24 January 2019, Minister Zokwana and India's Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Parshottam Rupala met to discuss further agreements to be made on mutual food and security initiatives directed towards poverty and hunger. They agreed to share knowledge on drought resistant and bio-fortified crops, and agricultural extension.<sup>1794</sup>

On 25 February 2019, Minister Zokwana met with Saudi Arabia's Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture Abdulrahman Bin Abdulmohsen Al-Fadley to discuss the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on technological cooperation in agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and recognizing future investments. They agreed to sign the memorandum once legal protocols are settled.<sup>1795</sup>

On 19 March 2019, Minister Zokwana launched a small-scale fisheries sector in KwaZulu-Natal. This is part of a national rollout of small-scale fisheries in coastal provinces in South Africa. The ministry has been working with coastal communities to provide them with training in fishing and cooperative management.<sup>1796</sup>

On 27 March 2019, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries hosted its first Aquaculture Finance and Investment Seminar. The seminar was attended by several stakeholders such as fish farmers, investment agencies, Development Funding Institutions, and private investors and aimed to encourage investment in the aquaculture sector.<sup>1797</sup>

From 4-5 April 2019, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries hosted a national stakeholder workshop to discuss the National policy on Comprehensive Producer Development

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<sup>1792</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

<sup>1793</sup> SA Government Signs an MoU with Namibia on Fisheries, Republic of South Africa Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Cape Town) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://www.daff.gov.za/docs/media/South%20African%20government%20signs%20MoU%20with%20Namibia%20on%20Fisheries.pdf>.

<sup>1794</sup> Agriculture on strengthening cooperation on agriculture, forestry and fisheries with India, Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/agriculture-strengthening-cooperation-agriculture-forestry-and-fisheries-india-28-jan-2019>.

<sup>1795</sup> South Africa-Saudi Arabia's Agriculture MoU, African Daily Voice (Johannesburg) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://africandailyvoice.com/en/2019/02/25/south-africa-saudi-arabias-agriculture-mou/>.

<sup>1796</sup> Minister Zokwana to launch Small-Scale Fisheries Sector in Kwazulu-Natal, Republic of South Africa Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Cape Town) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. <https://www.daff.gov.za/docs/media/190315%20Minister%20Zokwana%20to%20Launch%20Small%20Scale%20Fisheries%20Programme%20in%20Kwa....pdf>.

<sup>1797</sup> Daff to host its first Aquaculture and Investment Seminar, South Africa Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Cape Town) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. [https://www.daff.gov.za/docs/media/190325%20Draft%20Media%20Release\\_%20DAFF%20host%201st%20Aquaculture%20Finance%20and%20Investment%20Seminar.pdf](https://www.daff.gov.za/docs/media/190325%20Draft%20Media%20Release_%20DAFF%20host%201st%20Aquaculture%20Finance%20and%20Investment%20Seminar.pdf).

Support draft. The policy will regulate support services for producers in the agriculture, forestry and fishery sectors.<sup>1798</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries announced their efforts to launch its own Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion (SHEP) Approach.<sup>1799</sup> The projects encourage smallholder producers to increase their income by improving production. Pilot projects have been launched in cooperation with the Japan International Cooperation Agency with over 743 smallholder producers. South Africa will be implementing SHEP to all provinces to reach over 5000 smallholder producers.<sup>1800</sup>

South Africa has made steps towards combatting food security through agreements with other countries. They have not made investments toward areas of the food system.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Fatima Chohan*

### **Turkey: +1**

Turkey has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 4 December 2018, Turkey hosted a job fair organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). There, 250 Syrian refugees and host community members received their commemorative certificates from the Ambassador of Japan, Akio Miyajima. The Government of Japan has funded these resilience building projects for Syrian refugees that are hosted by Turkey. The purpose of these projects is to create job opportunities in the agriculture sector for Syrian refugees in Turkey.<sup>1801</sup>

On 10 December 2018, Turkey's Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Bekir Pakdemirli attended the Agricultural Technologies and Green Energy Forum in Baku, Azerbaijan. In his speech, Minister Pakdemirli emphasized the importance of using technology to increase efficiency in and the self-sufficiency of the agriculture sector.<sup>1802</sup>

On 20 December 2018, Turkey entered into a partnership with the FAO to restore 5000 hectares of degraded land in Eritrea, Mauritania and the Sudan. Turkey has contributed USD3 million of the USD3.6 million budget to this three-year project, Boosting Restoration, Income, Development,

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<sup>1798</sup> Daff to Host a National Stakeholder Workshop on the Draft National Policy on Comprehensive Producer Development Support, South Africa Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Cape Town) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2019. [https://www.daff.gov.za/docs/media/MEDIA%20INVITE%20DAFF%20TO%20HOST%20WORKSHOP%20ON%20THE%20DRAFT%20NATIONAL%20POL...\\_.pdf](https://www.daff.gov.za/docs/media/MEDIA%20INVITE%20DAFF%20TO%20HOST%20WORKSHOP%20ON%20THE%20DRAFT%20NATIONAL%20POL..._.pdf).

<sup>1799</sup> Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion Approach, South Africa Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Cape Town) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2019. <https://www.daff.gov.za/docs/media/MEDIA%20STATEMENTSMALLHOLDER%20HORTICULTURE.pdf>.

<sup>1800</sup> Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion Approach, South Africa Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Cape Town) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2019. <https://www.daff.gov.za/docs/media/MEDIA%20STATEMENTSMALLHOLDER%20HORTICULTURE.pdf>.

<sup>1801</sup> Partnering with Japan to create job opportunities in Turkey for Syrian refugees, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/fao-in-action/stories/stories-detail/en/c/1174822/>.

<sup>1802</sup> Minister Pakdemirli: We Should Use Every Means of Technology in Agriculture Sector, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/1678/Minister-Pakdemirli-We-Should-Use-Every-Means-Of-Technology-In-Agriculture-Sector>.

Generating Ecosystem Services (BRIDGES). BRIDGES will contribute to the pan-African Great Green Wall initiative which tackles the impact of desertification and land degradation.<sup>1803</sup>

On 31 December 2018, Minister Pakdemirli's message for the new year was on working harder to reach the agriculture targets of 2023 through increasing Turkey's economy, employment rate and foreign policy.<sup>1804</sup>

On 4 January 2019, Minister Pakdemirli met with the Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan in Ankara. They discussed further cooperation on agricultural sectors, agricultural trade, technological support, irrigation, and increasing agricultural yields.<sup>1805</sup>

On 10 January 2019, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Mustafa Aksu attended the meeting of National Rural Network Information of Turkey. He spoke on the all stakeholders of rural development policies partaking in the national rural network and the 2014-2020 National Rural Development Strategy Document.<sup>1806</sup> The objective of the National Rural Development Strategy Document is to diversify rural economics, social services, infrastructure, and statistics. It focuses on the non-farm rural economy and provides rural grant supports.<sup>1807</sup>

On 11 January 2019, Minister Pakdemirli attended the meeting of the 173<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of Agricultural Education at Ege University in Bornova. His speech was on transitioning to utilizing high-tech in agriculture and animal husbandry. Furthermore, Minister Pakdemirli announced the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry has implemented sensitive agricultural practices which were created with the guidance of farmers.<sup>1808</sup>

On 14 January 2019, Minister Pakdemirli attended the opening meeting of the Institutional Infrastructure Workshop for Land Banking and Bringing Idle Lands into the Agriculture. He spoke on the possibility of increasing annual income by TRY13 billion through integrating idle agricultural land into the agricultural sector of Turkey. He also said, "Today sustainable land management is very important in terms of ensuring food security in both developed and developing countries."<sup>1809</sup>

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<sup>1803</sup> Turkey contributes USD 3 million to expand Africa's Great Green Wall, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Ankara) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <http://www.fao.org/europe/news/detail-news/en/c/1175476/>.

<sup>1804</sup> We Will Make More Effort to Achieve 2023 Goals of Our Country, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 31 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/1705/We-Will-Make-More-Effort-To-Achieve-2023-Goals-Of-Our-Country>.

<sup>1805</sup> Pakdemirli, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and Imran Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan Meets in Ankara, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/1704/Pakdemirli-Minister-Of-Agriculture-And-Forestry-And-Imran-Khan-Prime-Minister-Of-Pakistan-Meets-In-Ankara>.

<sup>1806</sup> We Know the Development of the Rural Development Will Be Sustained with Cooperation and Mutual Trust, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/1703/We-Know-The-Development-Of-The-Rural-Development-Will-Be-Sustained-With-Cooperation-And-Mutual-Trust>.

<sup>1807</sup> Turkey, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (Paris) 2016. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/cfe/regional-policy/regional-outlook-2016-turkey.pdf>.

<sup>1808</sup> Test Studies for the Electronic Identification Earrings Prepared by Local Technology Will Be Started, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/1718/Test-Studies-For-The-Electronic-Identification-Earrings-Prepared-By-Local-Technology-Will-Be-Started>.

<sup>1809</sup> 13 Billion Turkish Liras Increase of Income is Aimed Through Bringing The Idle Lands in the Agriculture Sector, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/1715/13-Billion-Turkish-Liras-Increase-Of-Income-Is-Aimed-Through-Bringing-The-Idle-Lands-In-The-Agriculture-Sector>.

On 16 January 2019, Minister Pakdemirli and the President of The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges Rifat Hisarcıklođlu signed a protocol on the instrument for pre-accession assistance of rural development (IPARD) Project Cooperation and Education. Its purpose is to efficiently distribute grants from the Agriculture and Rural Development Support Agency and allow investors to prepare their projects free of charge. Furthermore, under IPARD, women and youth are allocated greater access to grants and support in Turkey.<sup>1810</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, Minister Pakdemirli participated in the 11<sup>th</sup> Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference at the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture. There, Minister Pakdemirli chaired the session on "Structural Changes in Agriculture and Rural Areas" and held bilateral meetings with agricultural ministers of other countries. At this conference, Minister Pakdemirli and the Federal Republic of Germany Ministry of Food and Agriculture signed a Memorandum of Understanding in the Field of Agriculture.<sup>1811</sup> The purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding is to create a working group between Turkey and Germany to remove technical obstacles against the agricultural business, build technical cooperation and exchange information on agricultural technology and cooperative systems.<sup>1812</sup>

On 19 January 2019, Minister Pakdemirli met with the Romanian Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Petre Daea, at the 11<sup>th</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin. They discussed bilateral relations and agriculture and forestry issues.<sup>1813</sup> Minister Pakdemirli also met with the European Union Agriculture and Rural Development Commissioner, Phil Hogan, to discuss issues of rural development funds, the process of harmonization with the EU, and areas of cooperation within geographical indications and increasing trade.<sup>1814</sup>

From 7-10 February 2019, Turkey hosted the Agroexpo 14<sup>th</sup> International Agriculture and Livestock Fair. The purpose of the fair is to discover new opportunities in agriculture and areas of potential cooperation. For the first time, a summit for agriculture ministers was held.<sup>1815</sup> Minister Pakdemirli announced the intention to protect smallholder family businesses through "industrialization and

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<sup>1810</sup> "Rural Development Protocol Between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges Turkey (TOBB)," Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/1714/Rural-Development-Protocol-Between-The-Ministry-Of-Agriculture-And-Forestry-And-The-Union-Of-Chambers-And-Commodity-Exchanges-Turkey-\\_tobb\\_](https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/1714/Rural-Development-Protocol-Between-The-Ministry-Of-Agriculture-And-Forestry-And-The-Union-Of-Chambers-And-Commodity-Exchanges-Turkey-_tobb_).

<sup>1811</sup> Minister Pakdemirli Will Chair the Breakout Session in the 11<sup>th</sup> Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/1716/Minister-Pakdemirli-Will-Chair-The-Breakout-Session-In-11th-Berlin-Agriculture-Ministers%C2%B4-Conference>.

<sup>1812</sup> Working Group to be Established Between Turkey and Germany on Agriculture, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/2076/Working-Group-To-Be-Established-Between-Turkey-And-Germany-On-Agriculture>.

<sup>1813</sup> Minister Pakdemirli Had a Talk with His Romanian Counterpart, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3637/Minister-Pakdemirli-Had-A-Talk-With-His-Romanian-Counterpart>.

<sup>1814</sup> H. E. Bekir Pakdemirli, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Met With H. E. Phil Hogan, EU Agriculture and Rural Development Commissioner, in Berlin, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3629/H-E-Bekir-Pakdemirli-The-Minister-Of-Agriculture-And-Forestry-Met-With-H-E-Phil-Hogan-Eu-Agriculture-And-Rural-Development-Commissioner-In-Berlin>.

<sup>1815</sup> Turkey to Host the International Agriculture and Livestock Fair, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3651/Turkey-To-Host-The-International-Agriculture-And-Livestock-Fair>.

mechanization ... Industry 4.0 ... agricultural 4.0 applications Robot systems, artificial intelligence, wireless communications systems.”<sup>1816</sup>

On 3 March 2019, Minister Pakdemirli announced a new rural development project worth EUR98 million. The Development Project in the Rural Disadvantaged Areas will have two phases, reaching 30,000 households in 2162 villages in the first phase. The purpose of the project is to “enable small producers, farmers’ organizations, small and medium-sized enterprises to be developed.”<sup>1817</sup>

On 4 March 2019, Minister Pakdemirli announced that due to the native seed study done by the Potato Research Institute in Nigde, Turkey’s native potato varieties are completely free from disease. This innovation in potato is intended to increase the total productive capacity of Turkey.<sup>1818</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry announced that sugar factories will have to make production contracts with sugar beet farmers. This will guarantee the rights and responsibilities of both parties, and these contracts will focus on the wellbeing of farmers and the sustainability of beet farming.<sup>1819</sup>

On 14 March 2019, Minister Pakdemirli said that the government will be investing USD10 million for a feed factory in Tire.<sup>1820</sup>

On 17 March 2019, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan announced Turkey’s plan to build a software and science technology valley for food and agricultural technologies in Izmir.<sup>1821</sup>

On 23 March 2019, Minister Pakdemirli spoke at the Uludağ Economy Summit in Bursa, where he announced that Turkey will soon be unveiling its 30-year agriculture plan. This plan will seek to resolve structural problems in the agriculture sector and increase Turkey’s agricultural production fourfold.<sup>1822</sup>

On 3 April 2019, Minister Pakdemirli spoke at an event at the Ankara Chamber of Commerce. He encouraged rural investors to apply for grants under the European Union Rural Development-II (IPARD-II) program.<sup>1823</sup> IPARD-II offers TRY1 billion for livestock investments. New enterprise-

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<sup>1816</sup> “We Will Protect Family Business to Prevent Rural-Urban Migration,” Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3667/We-Will-Protect-Family-Businesses-To-Prevent-Rural-Urban-Migration>.

<sup>1817</sup> A New Support Project at 98 Million Euros in Rural Area, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 3 March 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3722/A-New-Support-Project-At-98-Million-Euros-In-Rural-Area>.

<sup>1818</sup> “Fan Potatoes Will be Marketed at The Near Time,” Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 5 March 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3724/Fan-Potatoes-Will-Be-Marketed-At-The-Near-Time>.

<sup>1819</sup> Signature Time for Sugar Beet, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3723/Signature-Time-For-Sugar-Beet>.

<sup>1820</sup> An investment of 10 million dollars for Tire, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3748/An-Investment-Of-10-Million-Dollars-For-Tire>.

<sup>1821</sup> “A valley of food and agricultural technologies will be established in Izmir,” Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 17 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3749/A-Valley-Of-Food-And-Agricultural-Technologies-Will-Be-Established-In-Izmir>.

<sup>1822</sup> Turkey making agriculture roadmap for next 30 years: Minister, Hurriyet Daily News (Bursa) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-making-agriculture-roadmap-for-next-30-years-minister-142128>.

<sup>1823</sup> “Do Not Hesitate, Do Not Wait, Come and Invest in the Rural Areas,” Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3769/Do-Not-Hesitate-Do-Not-Wait-Come-And-Invest-In-The-Rural-Areas>.

setups can receive grants up to 40 per cent of their total costs, and those aiming to modernize existing enterprises can attain a grant of 50 per cent.<sup>1824</sup>

Turkey has achieved full compliance by acting in all three key areas: to increase responsible investment in food systems, to increase incomes and quality employment in food systems and to increase productivity sustainably to expand the food supply.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Sonja Dobson and Farida Abdelmeguid*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 5 December 2018, the UK government announced a new agreement with India to export British sheep meat. This allows British farmers and food producers to open their markets to India for the first time, expecting to add GBP6 million to meat export revenue.<sup>1825</sup>

On 10 December 2018, the UK government announced a new amendment for the fisheries sector to ensure fairer fishing opportunities among UK fishers. The new amendment legally requires the Secretary of State to pursue equal fishing opportunities when negotiating fisheries agreements with the EU.<sup>1826</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the Institute of Financial Accountants (IFA) announced it will contribute to a five-year project, worth EUR7 million, to boost farm advisory digital innovation. The IFA will be among 22 international partners to engage, enable, and empower the independent advisory community, through the sharing of tools, expertise and experiences.<sup>1827</sup>

On 17 December 2018, Global Food Security announced it will fund GBP1.8 million towards research that may increase the UK's food system resiliency, in the final phase of the "Resilience of the UK Food System in a Global Context" programme. This research program will address a range of challenges such as livestock and dairy production, the role of phosphorus, water risks to the UK's fresh fruit and vegetable supply, and consumer behavior understanding.<sup>1828</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the UK government secured a deal that supports its fishing industry and the long-term health of fish stocks. The UK negotiation team, at this year's European Union quota

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<sup>1824</sup> "Do Not Hesitate, Do Not Wait, Come and Invest in the Rural Areas," Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ankara) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/News/3769/Do-Not-Hesitate-Do-Not-Wait-Come-And-Invest-In-The-Rural-Areas>.

<sup>1825</sup> Export boost for UK industry as India opens market to British sheep meat, GOV.UK (London) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/export-boost-for-uk-industry-as-india-opens-market-to-british-sheep-meat>.

<sup>1826</sup> Bolstered Fisheries Bill and £37m boost for UK fishing industry, GOV.UK (London) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 10 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bolstered-fisheries-bill-and-37m-boost-for-uk-fishing-industry>.

<sup>1827</sup> IFA is part of a 7-million-euro project to boost farm advisory digital innovation, Innovation for Agriculture (Stoneleigh) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.innovationforagriculture.org.uk/ifa-is-part-of-a-7-million-euros-project-to-boost-farm-advisory-digital-innovation/>.

<sup>1828</sup> £1.8 million to help bolster resilience of UK food system, Global Food Security (Swindon) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.foodsecurity.ac.uk/news/181217-pr-1-8million-to-help-bolster-resilience-of-uk-food-system/>.

negotiations, agreed to increase quotas in certain high-value stocks for fishermen, while ensuring stocks remain sustainably fished.<sup>1829</sup>

On 14 January 2019, the Government of the UK announced new clean air strategies to help farmers reduce air pollution. The government will support farmers with investments in infrastructure and equipment to encourage low emission and holistic farming techniques.<sup>1830</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, the UK attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1831</sup>

On 21 January 2019, the government announced 17 conservation projects in the UK Overseas Territories as part of the 25-year Darwin Plus initiative. The projects are worth over GBP3.5 million and will help the agriculture, forestry, fisheries and tourism industry become more sustainable.<sup>1832</sup>

On 22 January 2019, UK Research and Innovation announced a GBP79 million investment in projects where British researchers and innovators collaborate with their international counterparts. These projects involve researching sustainable and environmental-friendly technologies, such as advanced crop breeding that increases productivity, improves food security, and minimizes negative environmental impacts.<sup>1833</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the UK government donated GBP7.5 million to the World Food Programme to support malnourished and food insecure people in Mozambique. The UK's contribution will benefit 120,000 people in drought affected districts by providing vouchers and introducing mobile transfers. This involves and supports local retailers and promotes their outreach to more distant communities.<sup>1834</sup>

On 29 March 2019, UK Research and Innovation funded a research project to develop drone technology to try and protect coffee crops from contracting fungal disease.<sup>1835</sup>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to improve food security on a domestic and global scale, by increasing responsible investment in food systems, increasing incomes and quality employment in food systems, and increasing productivity sustainably to expand the food supply.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

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<sup>1829</sup> December deal delivers for UK fleet and fish stocks, GOV.UK (London) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/december-deal-delivers-for-uk-fleet-and-fish-stocks>.

<sup>1830</sup> Government to help farmers tackle air pollution in new clean air strategy, GOV.UK (London) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-help-farmers-tackle-air-pollution-in-new-clean-air-strategy>.

<sup>1831</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\_GFFA\_Programmheft\_en\_1001\_WEB%20(3).pdf.

<sup>1832</sup> Darwin Plus: 'Bird-borne' radar for albatrosses among 17 new projects to be funded, GOV.UK (London) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/darwin-plus-bird-borne-radar-for-albatrosses-among-17-new-projects-to-be-funded>.

<sup>1833</sup> UK at forefront of global R&D collaboration with £79 million investment, Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (Swindon) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. <https://bbsrc.ukri.org/news/food-security/2019/190122-pr-uk-at-forefront-of-global-r-d-collaboration-with-79m-investment/>.

<sup>1834</sup> United Kingdom Funds Nutrition and Resilience-building in Mozambique, ReliefWeb (Maputo) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 2 March 2019. [https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Joint%20Release\\_UK%20Aid%20WFP%20-%20United%20Kingdom%20Funds%20Nutrition%20and%20Resilience%20Building%20in%20Mozambique.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Joint%20Release_UK%20Aid%20WFP%20-%20United%20Kingdom%20Funds%20Nutrition%20and%20Resilience%20Building%20in%20Mozambique.pdf).

<sup>1835</sup> Using drones to save coffee plants from disease, UK Research and Innovation (Swindon) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2019. <https://www.ukri.org/news/using-drones-to-save-coffee-plants-from-disease/>.

*Analyst: Arnaud Nsamirizi*

## **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 4 December 2018, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) pledged USD3.7 million to the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Assistance Program, set to begin on 2 January 2019. It will assist fruit and vegetable growers in 16 different states by improving market access.<sup>1836</sup>

On 17 December 2018, US Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue met with Mexico's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development Víctor Villalobos Arámbula at their first bilateral meeting. The secretaries agreed to increase "the exchange for the formation of youth leadership in the sector and rural extension...to maintain permanent and continuous efforts to promote an open, respectful and science-based bilateral relationship, so that the benefits of trade in food and agricultural products reach small and medium producers."<sup>1837</sup>

On 20 December 2018, President Donald Trump signed the Farm Bill.<sup>1838</sup> This bill allocates USD867 billion worth of subsidies to American farmers and ranchers.<sup>1839</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, the US attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019 in Berlin.<sup>1840</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the US Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue released a statement on the efforts to expand reliable broadband infrastructure to rural America in order to improve the quality of lives of Americans living in rural areas, including farmers and ranchers.<sup>1841</sup>

On 12 April 2019, Secretary Perdue announced the implementation status of the Farm Bill signed in December 2018. There have been 53 programs established, as far, under the Farm Bill aim to support farmers, ranchers and producers.

On 15 April 2019, Secretary Perdue instructed the Department of Agriculture to support residents, farmers, and ranchers affected by recent flooding. The USDA offers a variety of support programs

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<sup>1836</sup> USDA Announces \$3.7 Million in Financial Assistance to Fruit and Vegetable Growers in 16 States, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 13 February 2019.

<https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2018/12/04/usda-announces-37-million-financial-assistance-fruit-and-vegetable>.

<sup>1837</sup> Secretarios de Agricultura de México y Estados Unidos celebran primera reunión bilateral, Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural (Mexico City) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2019.

<https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/secretarios-de-agricultura-de-mexico-y-estados-unidos-celebran-primera-reunion-bilateral?idiom=es>.

<sup>1838</sup> President Trump signs \$867 billion farm bill into law, The Washington Post (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 13 February 2019. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2018/12/20/president-trump-signs-billion-farm-bill-into-law/?utm\\_term=.560ab3562a1f](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2018/12/20/president-trump-signs-billion-farm-bill-into-law/?utm_term=.560ab3562a1f).

<sup>1839</sup> Congress just passed an \$867 billion farm bill. Here's what's in it, The Washington Post (Washington D.C.) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 13 February 2019. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2018/12/11/congresss-billion-farm-bill-is-out-heres-whats-it/?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.25b775b7e3df](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2018/12/11/congresss-billion-farm-bill-is-out-heres-whats-it/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.25b775b7e3df).

<sup>1840</sup> Global Forum for Food and Agriculture 2019, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 3 May 2019. [file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL\\_GFFA\\_Programmheft\\_en\\_1001\\_WEB%20\(3\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/satdo/Downloads/BMEL_GFFA_Programmheft_en_1001_WEB%20(3).pdf).

<sup>1841</sup> Secretary Perdue Statement on the American Broadband Initiative Milestones Report, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2019/02/13/secretary-perdue-statement-american-broadband-initiative-milestones>.

for farmers, including an “emergency loan program that provides eligible farmers low-interest loans to help them recover from production and physical losses.”<sup>1842</sup>

The United States has increased responsible investment into food systems by investing in the GAP program and passing the Farm Bill, as well as attempting to better technological access for rural areas. However, the US has not acted in increasing sustainable production of foodstuffs or incomes and quality employment in food systems.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Areej Malik*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

On 3 December 2018, the European Commissioner for Agriculture Phil Hogan met with Minister for Agricultural Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies Gian March Centinaio. The discussion focused on establishing concrete actions that will contribute to protecting smallholder farmers.<sup>1843</sup>

On 5 December 2018, the European Commission their common agricultural policy with a focus on the sustainability of soil. This will be achieved through investments in direct payments and rural development programmes which will make it easier for farmers to make soil more resilient, protect biodiversity and encourage sustainable soil usage.<sup>1844</sup>

On 10 December 2018, China hosted the Final Conference of EU-China Programme on Capacity Building for Young Farmers and Agricultural Professionals.<sup>1845</sup>

On 17 December 2018, the EU and China created the young farmers programme, enabling young farmers to exchange ideas for agricultural innovation. This was made to address the challenges of building a sustainable agricultural sector, by enabling Chinese and European farmers to discover new techniques and form a broader understanding of tackling common problems. Four groups of young farmers, two from the EU and two from China, will travel to each other’s country.<sup>1846</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the EU’s Task Force Rural Africa presented concepts for sustainable development and job creation at the 2018 High-Level Forum Africa-Europe. The task force proposed ways to improve the access of small and medium sized agricultural and food businesses to

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<sup>1842</sup> USDA Assists Iowa Farmers, Ranchers, Communities Affected by Flooding, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2019/04/15/usda-assists-iowa-farmers-ranchers-communities-affected-flooding>.

<sup>1843</sup> Incontro Centinaio-Hogan. "Collaborazione per garantire risorse economiche adeguate agli agricoltori italiani", Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari, forestali e del turismo (Rome) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPagina/13338>.

<sup>1844</sup> Preserving our soil to protect our food, European Commission (Brussels) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 8 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/preserving-our-soil-protect-our-food-2018-dec-05\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/preserving-our-soil-protect-our-food-2018-dec-05_en).

<sup>1845</sup> Qu Dongyu Attends Final Conference of EU-China Programme on Capacity Building for Young Farmers and Agricultural Professionals, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2019. [http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201812/t20181219\\_296105.htm](http://english.agri.gov.cn/news/dqnf/201812/t20181219_296105.htm).

<sup>1846</sup> EU-China young farmers exchange ideas for agricultural innovation, European Commission (Brussels) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-china-young-farmers-exchange-ideas-agricultural-innovation-2018-dec-17\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-china-young-farmers-exchange-ideas-agricultural-innovation-2018-dec-17_en).

private finance, make environmental sustainability mainstream, and promote climate change action.<sup>1847</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the European Parliament, the European Council, and the European Commission passed a law to protect all EU farmers, and a majority of agri-food companies, against practices contrary to good faith and fair dealing. This law bans up to 16 unfair trading practices imposed unilaterally by one trading partner on another.<sup>1848</sup>

On 15 January 2019, the European Commission has asked for programme proposals that promote European agricultural products. The EU will allocate EUR191.6 million to promotion programmes in 2019, ranging from general campaigns on healthy eating, to specific market sector campaigns.<sup>1849</sup>

From 17-19 January 2019, the European Union attended the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture in Berlin.<sup>1850</sup>

On 24 January 2019, the EU reported to have sold 99 per cent of skimmed milk public stocks after they bought 380,000 tonnes of skimmed milk powder during the 2015-2016 market crash to stabilize it and to support farmer incomes.<sup>1851</sup>

On 15 February, the EU's Task Force experts held a conference to generate more jobs in African agriculture, and to discuss the inefficiencies of their previous External Investment Plan initiative.<sup>1852</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the European Commission announced three of the nine objectives of the future common agricultural policy (CAP) which will contribute to sustainable agriculture. These objective will focus on “promoting employment, growth, social inclusion and local development in rural areas, including bio-economy and sustainable forestry, attracting young farmers and facilitating business development in rural areas, improving the response of EU agriculture to societal demands on food and health, including safe, nutritious and sustainable food.” CAP will also increase the financial support for member states, enhance risk management services, and develop innovations and technology.<sup>1853</sup>

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<sup>1847</sup> Promoting climate action and improving access to private finance, among recommendations for rural Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/promoting-climate-action-and-improving-access-private-finance-among-recommendations-rural-africa-2018-dec-14\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/promoting-climate-action-and-improving-access-private-finance-among-recommendations-rural-africa-2018-dec-14_en).

<sup>1848</sup> Agreement on unfair trading practices in the food supply chain will protect all EU farmers, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6790\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6790_en.htm).

<sup>1849</sup> Promotion of EU agri-food products at home and abroad: Commission increases funding to €191.6 million, European Commission (Brussels) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/promotion-eu-agri-food-products-home-and-abroad\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/promotion-eu-agri-food-products-home-and-abroad_en).

<sup>1850</sup> Etchevehere participa del Foro Global para la Alimentación y la Agricultura, en Berlín, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 5 April 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/etchevehere-participa-del-foro-global-para-la-alimentacion-y-la-agricultura-en-berlin>

<sup>1851</sup> Dairy market: 99% of skimmed milk powder public stocks now sold, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-623\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-623_en.htm).

<sup>1852</sup> Agriculture task force takes aim at EU investment plan for Africa, Devex (Brussels) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. <https://www.devex.com/news/agriculture-task-force-takes-aim-at-eu-investment-plan-for-africa-94214>.

<sup>1853</sup> The future is rural: the social objectives of the next CAP, European Commission (Brussels) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/future-rural-social-objectives-next-cap-2019-feb-15\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/future-rural-social-objectives-next-cap-2019-feb-15_en).

On 19 February 2019, the EU announced the Farm Sustainability Tool for Nutrients (FaST) to help producers manage the use of nutrients on their farms. This will be free for EU farmers, providing a digital farming management tool accessible via smart phones, tablets, and PCs.<sup>1854</sup>

On 22 February 2019, the European Commission announced the maximum national support for farmers will rise to EUR25,000. This will allow for greater flexibility and efficiency, notably during crises and situations demanding quick public authority responses.<sup>1855</sup>

On 25 February, the EU published a new study suggesting new opportunities for the European plant protein market. This study concluded that increased consumer demand for organic and genetically unmodified foods, combined with a rise in meat-less diets, will expand markets for pulses and processed plant proteins. Given these conditions, this study made several suggestions on potential policy initiatives to encourage the sector's growth.<sup>1856</sup>

On 25 February, the EU announced an investment of EUR39 million for agricultural development in Montenegro as part of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance for Rural Development program. The EU's support aims to develop rural areas, bolster agricultural production, and implement higher standards of sustainability, food safety, and accessibility to European markets.<sup>1857</sup>

On 3 March 2019, the European Commission's Task Force announced it will strengthen ties with African food and farming industries. It aims to develop partnerships programs and initiate multi-stakeholder dialogue between people, businesses, and governments.<sup>1858</sup>

On 12 March 2019, the EU voted on a new set of laws to ensure the protection of all European Farmers, and small-to-midrange suppliers against unfair trading practices in the food supply chain.<sup>1859</sup>

On 29 March 2019, The EU agreed on three initiatives for the African Union Continental Strategy for Geographical Indications (GI) in Africa 2018-2023. These strategies include training programs to develop African GIs, the creation of an African GI website, and the creation of new GI products in various African countries in order to develop rural areas, preserve heritage, and help farmers add value to their products.<sup>1860</sup>

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<sup>1854</sup> A new tool to increase the sustainable use of nutrients across the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-tool-increase-sustainable-use-nutrients-across-eu-2019-feb-19\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-tool-increase-sustainable-use-nutrients-across-eu-2019-feb-19_en).

<sup>1855</sup> New state aid rules: Commission increases national support to farmers up to €25,000, European Commission (Brussels) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1332\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1332_en.htm).

<sup>1856</sup> New opportunities for the EU plant protein market, European Commission (Brussels) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-opportunities-eu-plant-protein-market-2019-feb-25\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-opportunities-eu-plant-protein-market-2019-feb-25_en).

<sup>1857</sup> The IPARD programme: The European Union will invest €39 million in agricultural development, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/montenegro/58659/ipard-programme-european-union-will-invest-%E2%82%AC39-million-agricultural-development\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/montenegro/58659/ipard-programme-european-union-will-invest-%E2%82%AC39-million-agricultural-development_en).

<sup>1858</sup> Africa-Europe Alliance: European Commission committed to a sustainable African agri-food sector, European Commission (Brussels) 3 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/59209/africa-europe-alliance-european-cohttps://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-approves-protected-geographical-indication-mexico-2019-mar-20\\_enmission-committed-sustainable-african-agri-food-sector\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/59209/africa-europe-alliance-european-cohttps://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-approves-protected-geographical-indication-mexico-2019-mar-20_enmission-committed-sustainable-african-agri-food-sector_en).

<sup>1859</sup> Fairness in the food supply chain: Commission welcomes Parliament's support to ban unfair trading practices, European Commission (Brussels) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1651\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1651_en.htm).

<sup>1860</sup> A step closer to the establishment of African Geographical Indications, European Commission (Brussels) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/step-closer-establishment-african-geographical-indications-2019-apr-03\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/step-closer-establishment-african-geographical-indications-2019-apr-03_en).

On 1 April 2019, the EU launched a new public data base named eAmbrosia that will provide easier access to information about geographical indications and increase transparency for producers and national authorities. The database will include geographical indication statuses, product specifications, and links to their legal contract.<sup>1861</sup>

The European Union was an active participant in increasing responsible investment in food systems, increasing incomes and quality employment in food systems, and increasing productivity sustainably to expand the food supply. It did so by conducting research to improve sustainability, altering and creating new policies to protect consumers and producers, and investing to improve food systems across Europe.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Arnaud Nsamirizi*

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<sup>1861</sup> New database for EU geographical indications aims to increase transparency and simplify search, European Commission (Brussels) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-database-eu-geographical-indications-aims-increase-transparency-and-simplify-search-2019-apr-01\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-database-eu-geographical-indications-aims-increase-transparency-and-simplify-search-2019-apr-01_en).

## 8. Gender: Economic Empowerment

“We commit to promoting women’s economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.”

*Buenos Aires Summit Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

Country	No Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.65	

### Background

Promoting women’s economic empowerment is critical for reducing poverty and achieving gender equality. Although women make significant contributions to economic growth and development outcomes, they continue to be disproportionately affected by large gender gaps, which limit their ability to “participate in, contribute to, and benefit from” economic opportunities.<sup>1862</sup> According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), in 2018, women earned approximately 20 per cent less than men for doing the same work,<sup>1863</sup> and the global gender gap in labour force participation was 26 per cent.<sup>1864</sup> Some contributing factors that account for this discrepancy include the fact that women are more likely than men to engage in informal, vulnerable, and/or low-paid employment, devote themselves to unpaid care work, experience segregation in the work force and experience low quality

<sup>1862</sup> Economic Empowerment of Women, UN Women (New York) Access Date: 8 January 2019. [http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2013/12/un\\_women\\_ee-thematic-brief\\_us-web.pdf?la=en](http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2013/12/un_women_ee-thematic-brief_us-web.pdf?la=en).

<sup>1863</sup> Global Wage Report 2018/2019, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms\\_650553.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_650553.pdf).

<sup>1864</sup> World Employment Social Outlook, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms\\_615672.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_615672.pdf).

labour conditions.<sup>1865</sup> The ILO estimates that if G20 members increase women's participation rate by 25 per cent by 2025 as outlined during the 2014 Brisbane Summit and reinforced during the 2015 Antalya Summit, USD5.8 trillion would be added to the global economy.<sup>1866</sup>

The G20 recognizes the importance of promoting women's economic empowerment and has emphasized the need to close the gender gap by working with the private sector. Promoting women's economic empowerment can positively impact the private sector. For example, it is estimated that companies with three or more women in senior leadership positions tend to score higher in organizational effectiveness.<sup>1867</sup> A report produced by Fortune 500 companies stated that companies with the greatest female representation in executive positions have 34 per cent greater returns to shareholders in contrast to companies with the lowest representation.<sup>1868</sup>

The G20 first declared a commitment to promoting gender equality at the 2009 London Summit, where the members agreed to promote a "fair and family-friendly labour market for both women and men."<sup>1869</sup> This was the first time G20 members highlighted women in G20 summit documentation.<sup>1870</sup>

Similarly, at the 2012 Los Cabos Summit, G20 members committed to taking "concrete actions to overcome the barriers hindering women's full economic and social participation."<sup>1871</sup> The Los Cabos Summit marked the first time G20 members created a separate commitment targeted specifically towards promoting women's employment and removing social and economic barriers to full participation in the labour market.<sup>1872</sup>

During the 2014 Brisbane Summit, G20 members agreed to reduce "the gap in labour force participation rates between men and women ... by 25 per cent by 2025" with a goal of bringing "more than 100 million women into the labour force."<sup>1873</sup> This marked the first time G20 members agreed to a timeline to promote a more inclusive and equal workforce and developed country-specific employment plans to increase gender labour participation.<sup>1874</sup>

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<sup>1865</sup> World Employment Social Outlook, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms\\_615672.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_615672.pdf).

<sup>1866</sup> Reducing gender gaps would significantly benefit women, society and the economy, International Labour Organization (Geneva) 14 June 2017. Access Date: 1 November 2017. [http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS\\_557266/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_557266/lang--en/index.htm).

<sup>1867</sup> Facts and Figures: Economic Empowerment, UN Women (New York) July 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/economic-empowerment/facts-and-figures-notes>.

<sup>1868</sup> Economic Empowerment of Women, UN Women (New York) Access Date: 8 January 2019. [http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2013/12/un%20women\\_ee-thematic-brief\\_us-web%20pdf.pdf?la=en](http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2013/12/un%20women_ee-thematic-brief_us-web%20pdf.pdf?la=en).

<sup>1869</sup> G20 London Commitments Compliance Report 2009, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 18 September 2009. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/hse/2009-london-compliance.pdf>.

<sup>1870</sup> G20 London Commitments Compliance Report 2009, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 18 September 2009. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/hse/2009-london-compliance.pdf>.

<sup>1871</sup> 2012 Los Cabos G20 Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 4 September 2012. Access Date: 9 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2012loscabos-final/12-2012-g20-compliance-final.pdf>.

<sup>1872</sup> 2012 Los Cabos G20 Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 4 September 2012. Access Date: 9 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2012loscabos-final/12-2012-g20-compliance-final.pdf>.

<sup>1873</sup> 2014 Brisbane G20 Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 1 October 2015. Access Date: 9 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2014brisbane-final/12-2014-g20-compliance-final-gender.pdf>.

<sup>1874</sup> 2014 Brisbane G20 Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 1 October 2015. Access Date: 9 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2014brisbane-final/12-2014-g20-compliance-final-gender.pdf>.

At the 2015 Antalya Summit, G20 members committed to “monitoring the implementation of [their] Employment Plans as well as [their] goals to reduce gender participation gap.<sup>1875</sup> G20 members also published reports detailing the status of implementation of their country-specific strategies.<sup>1876</sup>

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, G20 members committed to “further develop the G20 employment plans in 2017 to address these commitments and monitor progress in a systemic and transparent manner in achieving the G20 goals especially on youth employment and female labor participation.”<sup>1877</sup> In other words, G20 members acknowledged that labour participation was critical for sustainable development, job creation and gender equality.<sup>1878</sup> Furthermore, G20 members endorsed the Sustainable Wage Policy Principles in order to promote sustainable wage growth, address labour inequalities and encourage greater development in labour force opportunities for women.<sup>1879</sup>

At the 2017 Hamburg Summit, G20 members committed to improving “women’s access to labour markets through the provision of quality education and training, supporting infrastructure, public services and social protection policies and legal reforms, where appropriate.”<sup>1880</sup> The focus of the summit was on furthering women’s economic and financial inclusion by prioritizing equal access to financial services, labour markets and quality employment opportunities.<sup>1881</sup> At the summit, G20 members established the Business Women Leaders’ Taskforce to work with the W20 and Business 20 (B20) to promote women’s economic empowerment by bringing together stakeholders from multiple sectors to create a strategy to increase women’s labour force participation and make recommendations to promote women’s economic empowerment at the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit.<sup>1882</sup> G20 members launched the Women Entrepreneurs Financing Initiative (We-Fi), which is hosted by the World Bank Group, to increase women’s access to finance, markets, capital and networks to start and grow a business.<sup>1883</sup> This initiative intends to bring together the public and private sectors to cooperate on creating entrepreneurial opportunities for women.<sup>1884</sup> G20 members also developed the #eSkills4Girls initiative, which aims to tackle the digital divide between men and

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<sup>1875</sup> 2015 G20 Antalya Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 3 September 2016. Access Date: 9 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2015antalya-final/10-2015-g20-final-compliance-gender.pdf>.

<sup>1876</sup> 2015 G20 Antalya Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 3 September 2016. Access Date: 9 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2015antalya-final/10-2015-g20-final-compliance-gender.pdf>.

<sup>1877</sup> 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 6 July 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2016hangzhou-final/2016-g20-final-compliance.pdf>.

<sup>1878</sup> 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 6 July 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2016hangzhou-final/2016-g20-final-compliance.pdf>.

<sup>1879</sup> 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 6 July 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2016hangzhou-final/2016-g20-final-compliance.pdf>.

<sup>1880</sup> 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2017hamburg-final/04-2017-g20-compliance-final-gender.pdf>.

<sup>1881</sup> 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2017hamburg-final/04-2017-g20-compliance-final-gender.pdf>.

<sup>1882</sup> 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2017hamburg-final/04-2017-g20-compliance-final-gender.pdf>.

<sup>1883</sup> 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Germany 2017 (Hamburg) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2017hamburg-final/04-2017-g20-compliance-final-gender.pdf>.

<sup>1884</sup> 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Germany 2017 (Hamburg) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2017hamburg-final/04-2017-g20-compliance-final-gender.pdf>.

women by increasing women's access to the digital world through educational and employment opportunities.<sup>1885</sup>

At the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit, G20 members recognized the importance of cooperation between the public sphere and the private sector in promoting women's economic empowerment.<sup>1886</sup> This is the first time G20 members explicitly indicated the importance of the two sectors working together to achieve sustainable and equitable economic empowerment for women.<sup>1887</sup> G20 members also noted the importance of working towards reducing the gender gap in the labour force rate by 25 per cent by 2025 as outlined during the 2014 Brisbane Summit.<sup>1888</sup> Additionally, G20 members agreed to promote women's access to leadership positions, especially in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), and to continue efforts to implement the Women Entrepreneurs Financing Initiatives (We-Fi), which was launched during the 2017 Hamburg Summit.<sup>1889</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The G20 commitment is to 1) promote women's economic empowerment including by 2) working with the private sector. The goal is to improve labour conditions for all, and the G20 can do so by improving access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave and by reducing the gender pay gap.

The first aspect of this commitment is to "promote women's economic empowerment." "Economic empowerment" refers to the capacity to "participate in, contribute to and benefit from the distribution" of economic growth.<sup>1890</sup> Similarly, "women" includes female persons aged 15 and older who are either employed, unemployed or not in the labour force.<sup>1891</sup> "Promote" entails supporting or renewing old efforts or creating new efforts in the area of women's economic development. In this case, the efforts do not have to be brand new initiatives. In the context of this commitment, "promoting women's economic empowerment" implies tangible efforts by a G20 member to increase women's labour market participation and employment opportunities, improve labour conditions and reduce the gender pay gap. Examples of women's economic empowerment include, but are not limited to, creating employment opportunities, encouraging skills development, encouraging property ownership, and increasing access to economic and educational resources and financial services.

The second aspect of the commitment is "working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental

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<sup>1885</sup> 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance Report, G20 Germany 2017 (Hamburg) 30 October 2018. Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2017hamburg-final/04-2017-g20-compliance-final-gender.pdf>.

<sup>1886</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Buenos Aires 2018 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 22 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>1887</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Buenos Aires 2018 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 22 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>1888</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Buenos Aires 2018 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 22 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>1889</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Buenos Aires 2018 (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 22 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>1890</sup> Women's Economic Empowerment, OECD (Paris) Access Date: 8 January 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/womenseconomicempowerment.htm>.

<sup>1891</sup> Labour Force Participation Rate, International Labour Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 27 January 2019. [https://www.ilo.org/ilostat-files/Documents/description\\_LFPR\\_EN.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/ilostat-files/Documents/description_LFPR_EN.pdf).

leave and reducing the gender pay gap.” The “private sector” is defined as for-profit actors that are not operated by a government. Examples of for-profit actors include, but are not limited to, financial institutions, sole proprietors, partnerships, enterprises, small and medium-sized businesses and international corporations.<sup>1892</sup> “Improve” refers to taking tangible actions to improve and update an old initiative, but it should not be interpreted to mean introducing a brand-new initiative. “Labour conditions” is defined as the conditions in which a person works, which include remuneration and the physical and mental demands that exist in the workplace. In the context of this commitment, it is integral that G20 members establish a public-private partnership with for-profit actor(s) in order to improve labour conditions.

However, the respective governments must take action in the public sphere in order to truly promote women’s economic empowerment. “Public sphere” can be understood as the central government sector, including national public corporations.<sup>1893</sup> Therefore, actions taken by the federal government count towards compliance with the commitment; however, actions initiated by regional and/or municipal governments do not count. Examples of possible initiatives taken by the public sphere include but are not limited to: introduction of policy and legal changes/reform of existing legislation, cooperation with other countries or international organizations and initiating actions with regional and/or municipal governments to promote women’s economic empowerment.<sup>1894</sup> More specifically, changes or reform of legislation may include but is not limited to: increasing security of employment, labour rights and economic/legal protection, reducing the gender pay gap, improving labour conditions (fair wages and work hours, safe working conditions) and educational and training opportunities and creating formal and quality labour opportunities, family leave and maternity protection.<sup>1895</sup>

Instruments for measuring labour conditions include but are not limited to increasing “access to quality and affordable care infrastructure,” “parental leave,” reduction of occupational segregation and the creation of a more equitable, healthy, safe and inclusive workplace. It is important that such efforts are of “quality” and are “affordable” to ensure that they sufficiently meet the needs of women and promote women’s economic empowerment and inclusion. Lastly, “gender pay gap” is understood as the average difference between earnings of male and female workers, often for doing the same work.<sup>1896</sup> In the context of the commitment, “reducing the gender pay gap” is interpreted as taking concrete steps to reduce the discrepancy between the earnings of male and female workers. Examples of reducing the gender pay gap include but are not limited to: introduction/passage of legislation, increasing salary transparency, setting recruitment targets, improving recruitment processes, improving training, mentorship and educational opportunities.<sup>1897</sup>

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<sup>1892</sup> Private Sector Peer Learning, OECD (Paris) 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/dac/peer-reviews/Inventory-1-Private-Sector-Engagement-Terminology-and-Typology.pdf>.

<sup>1893</sup> Public Sector, OECD (Paris) 2014. Access Date: 19 January 2019. <https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=2199>.

<sup>1894</sup> Empowerment of Women in the Public Sector in Context of the International Economic Integration, UNDP (New York). Access Date: 19 January 2019. [http://www.vn.undp.org/content/vietnam/en/home/operations/projects/closed-projects/democratic\\_governance/Empowerment-of-Women-in-the-Public-Sector.html](http://www.vn.undp.org/content/vietnam/en/home/operations/projects/closed-projects/democratic_governance/Empowerment-of-Women-in-the-Public-Sector.html).

<sup>1895</sup> Stepping up, Gender and Development Network (United Kingdom) February 2017. Access Date: 22 January 2019. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/536c4ee8e4b0b60bc6ca7c74/t/5899c0edbf629af011f45875/1486471511934/GADN+Stepping+up+briefing.pdf>.

<sup>1896</sup> Gender Wage Gap, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 19 January 2019. <https://data.oecd.org/earnwage/gender-wage-gap.htm>.

<sup>1897</sup> Tackling the Gender Pay Gap: From Individual Choice to Institutional Change, UN Women (New York) 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2016/3/the-persistence-of-the-gender-pay-gap>.

To achieve full compliance, G20 members must take concrete actions to promote women’s economic empowerment by working with the private sector to improve labour conditions for all and by taking action in the public sphere.

For a score of partial compliance, the G20 member has taken concrete actions to promote women’s economic empowerment in the public sphere, but did not work with the private sector, or, the G20 member has worked with the private sector but has not taken initiative in the public sphere.

For a score of noncompliance, the G20 member has done none of the aforementioned criteria.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	G20 member does NOT take any action to promote women’s economic empowerment as G20 member does not take any action in the public realm NOR does it work with the private sector.
0	G20 member promotes women’s economic empowerment in the public realm but does NOT work with the private sector OR G20 member works with the private sphere but does NOT take initiative in the public realm.
+1	G20 member takes action in the public realm to promote women’s economic empowerment AND works with the private sector in order to improve labour conditions for all.

*Compliance Director: Mariya-Kvitlana Tsap  
Lead Analyst: Sofia Lopez*

**Argentina: +1**

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to promote women’s economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 11 and 12 December 2018, ministers and senior officials from the Women’s Institute of Argentina, the National Institute of Women of Uruguay and President of the Board of Directors of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, and UN-Women co-organized the “Regional consultation for Latin America and the Caribbean” in Buenos Aires.<sup>1898</sup> This consultation was an opportunity to receive input from civil society and women’s networks on the advancement of women in Latin America and the Caribbean, prior to the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women.<sup>1899</sup> The consultation resulted in the signing of the Buenos Aires declaration, which aims to promote “gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the region through the improvement of social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure.”<sup>1900</sup>

<sup>1898</sup> Declaration of Buenos Aires, UN Women (Buenos Aires) 11-12 December 2018. Access Date: 5 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org//media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/63/preparations/declaracion%20de%20buenos%20aires%202018%20eng%20final.pdf?la=en&vs=4744>.

<sup>1899</sup> Declaration of Buenos Aires, UN Women (Buenos Aires) 11-12 December 2018. Access Date: 5 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org//media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/63/preparations/declaracion%20de%20buenos%20aires%202018%20eng%20final.pdf?la=en&vs=4744>.

<sup>1900</sup> Declaration of Buenos Aires, UN Women (Buenos Aires) 11-12 December 2018. Access Date: 5 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org//media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/63/preparations/declaracion%20de%20buenos%20aires%202018%20eng%20final.pdf?la=en&vs=4744>.

On 14 December 2018, President Mauricio Macri announced the “Plan for Equality of Opportunities and Rights 2018-2020.”<sup>1901</sup> Through this initiative, the Government of Argentina will promote public policies aimed at guaranteeing gender equality among all ministries “within the framework of a process of dialogue with civil society and with the private sector.”<sup>1902</sup> This initiative was developed by all ministries, alongside the National Women’s Institute with the support of UN Women and the Inter-American Development Bank.<sup>1903</sup> The goal is to promote the number of women occupying decision making roles both in the public and the private sectors, while also improving working conditions, reducing the gender wage gap, reduce violence against women, strengthen sexuality education and promote access to contraception.<sup>1904</sup>

On 17 December 2018, the Government of Argentina launched the “Rural Women’s Alliance,” alongside the Governments of Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Estados Unidos, Mexico, Paraguay, UN Women, and organizations including GSMA, CCAT LAT, Citel, GSMA, ISOC and Viasat.<sup>1905</sup> This program aims to “promote public policies and private programmes that contribute to the empowerment of rural women through the use of information communication technologies (ICT).”<sup>1906</sup> Signatories will aim to increase connectivity to rural/remote areas, encourage ICT training for women and girls in rural areas, train women entrepreneurs in the commercial development of ICTs, disseminate best practises in public policies to empower women.<sup>1907</sup>

At the CSW63 in New York from 11 to 22 March 2019, Argentina hosted many sessions alongside other countries and non-governmental actors. Sessions included: “Transgender and gender non-confirming people and access to public services: challenges and best practices,” and “no girl left behind: adolescent girls in child, early and forced marriages and unions in latin america and the Caribbean.”<sup>1908</sup>

On 22 March 2019, the Government of Argentina signed a bilateral trade agreement with the Government of Chile.<sup>1909</sup> This agreement will “update[e] regulations and standards...to grant legal certainty to importers and exporters.”<sup>1910</sup> In addition to promoting exchange of economic goods and

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<sup>1901</sup> President Macri presented the Equal Opportunities and Rights Plan, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-presidente-macri-presento-el-plan-de-igualdad-de-oportunidades-y-derechos>.

<sup>1902</sup> President Macri presented the Equal Opportunities and Rights Plan, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-presidente-macri-presento-el-plan-de-igualdad-de-oportunidades-y-derechos>.

<sup>1903</sup> President Macri presented the Equal Opportunities and Rights Plan, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-presidente-macri-presento-el-plan-de-igualdad-de-oportunidades-y-derechos>.

<sup>1904</sup> President Macri presented the Equal Opportunities and Rights Plan, Argentina.gob.ar (Buenos Aires) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-presidente-macri-presento-el-plan-de-igualdad-de-oportunidades-y-derechos>.

<sup>1905</sup> GSMA joins ‘Rural Women’s Alliance’, a regional effort to address the digital gender divide in rural areas, GSMA (London) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.gsma.com/latinamerica/rural-womens-alliance/>.

<sup>1906</sup> GSMA joins ‘Rural Women’s Alliance’, a regional effort to address the digital gender divide in rural areas, GSMA (London) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.gsma.com/latinamerica/rural-womens-alliance/>.

<sup>1907</sup> GSMA joins ‘Rural Women’s Alliance’, a regional effort to address the digital gender divide in rural areas, GSMA (London) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.gsma.com/latinamerica/rural-womens-alliance/>.

<sup>1908</sup> Calendar of Side Events, UN Women (New York) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 4 May 2019.

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw63-2019/side-events/calendar-of-side-events>.

<sup>1909</sup> Chile and Argentina celebrate approval of trade agreement, Santiago Times (Santiago) 24 March 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019.

<https://santiagotimes.cl/2019/03/24/chile-and-argentina-celebrate-approval-of-trade-agreement/>.

<sup>1910</sup> Chile and Argentina celebrate approval of trade agreement, Santiago Times (Santiago) 24 March 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019.

<https://santiagotimes.cl/2019/03/24/chile-and-argentina-celebrate-approval-of-trade-agreement/>.

services, the agreement aims to emphasize the role of women in international trade and includes practices to guarantee gender equality.<sup>1911</sup>

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment through a series of programs and initiatives aimed at increasing gender equality in the labour force. Argentina has developed public policies to improve women's labour conditions both in the public and in the private realms.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jaiivika Kataria*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 6 December 2018, Minister for Women Kelly O'Dwyer announced the passage of new legislation to guarantee the entitlement of five days unpaid family and domestic violence leave.<sup>1912</sup> This legislation allows individuals time to handle and grieve the impact of domestic violence and to seek safety, while ensuring their job is protected during this period.<sup>1913</sup>

On 11 February 2019, Minister for Families and Social Services Paul Fletcher and Minister for Women Kelly O'Dwyer announced an AUD78 million investment in protecting women and children escaping domestic and family violence.<sup>1914</sup> The funding includes an AUD60 million grant to expand emergency accommodation facilities to 450 new facilities aimed to assist up to 6,500 people per year.<sup>1915</sup>

On 16 February 2019, Minister for Families and Social Services Paul Fletcher and Minister for Women Kelly O'Dwyer announced the funding for a new round of trials to prevent violence against women, including new technology to detect unauthorized surveillance and hacking software.<sup>1916</sup> This is one of four projects aimed at keeping women and children safe, especially in vulnerable

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<sup>1911</sup> Chile and Argentina celebrate approval of trade agreement, Santiago Times (Santiago) 24 March 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019.

<https://santiagotimes.cl/2019/03/24/chile-and-argentina-celebrate-approval-of-trade-agreement/>.

<sup>1912</sup> Historic family and domestic violence leave delivered, Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Canberra) 6 December 2018. Access Date: February 25, 2019.

<https://ministers.pmc.gov.au/odwyer/2018/historic-family-and-domestic-violence-leave-delivered>.

<sup>1913</sup> Historic family and domestic violence leave delivered, Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Canberra) 6 December 2018. Access Date: February 25, 2019.

<https://ministers.pmc.gov.au/odwyer/2018/historic-family-and-domestic-violence-leave-delivered>.

<sup>1914</sup> Funding to Support Women and Children Escaping Domestic Violence, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 11 February 2019. Access Date: February 25, 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/funding-support-women-and-children-escaping-domestic-violence>.

<sup>1915</sup> Funding to Support Women and Children Escaping Domestic Violence, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/funding-support-women-and-children-escaping-domestic-violence>.

<sup>1916</sup> Keeping Australians Safe – New Investments to Protect Women and Children, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 16 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://ministers.pmc.gov.au/odwyer/2019/keeping-australians-safe-new-investments-protect-women-and-children>.

communities.<sup>1917</sup> The funding is part of an AUD100 million Women's Safety Package designed to test innovative solutions for women and children's safety and to hold perpetrators to account.<sup>1918</sup>

On 22 February 2019, the Government of Australia, through its Direct Aid Program, announced a new program in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration to support victims of trafficking in Madagascar, who are almost exclusively women.<sup>1919</sup> The program seeks to provide emergency medical and psycho-social care to victims and support empowerment through educational and vocational training programs.<sup>1920</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced the largest ever commonwealth investment of AUD328 million for the prevention and frontline services to the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Their Children.<sup>1921</sup> Of this investment, AUD82 million will go towards frontline services, AUD68 million for prevention strategies, AUD35 million for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, AUD78 million to provide safe places for individuals impacted by domestic and family violence and AUD64 million for a telephone support service.<sup>1922</sup>

On 8 March 2019, Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced a AUD4 million grant for the Esther Foundation to support security for the next seven years.<sup>1923</sup> The foundation works to assist approximately 120 women in crisis each year with residence and mental health support.<sup>1924</sup> Programs include life skills education, creative arts, internships, legal support, counselling, family reunification and sport and recreation.<sup>1925</sup>

On 8 March 2019, Minister for Women Kelly O'Dwyer and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack announced a AUD4 million investment into careers in aviation for women.<sup>1926</sup> The Women in Aviation Initiative will encourage more women to pursue careers in the aviation sector, including programs for school-aged students and parents to learn about career options in aviation and grassroots outreach programs.<sup>1927</sup>

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<sup>1917</sup> Keeping Australians Safe – New Investments to Protect Women and Children, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 16 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://ministers.pmc.gov.au/odwyer/2019/keeping-australians-safe-new-investments-protect-women-and-children>.

<sup>1918</sup> Keeping Australians Safe – New Investments to Protect Women and Children, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 16 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://ministers.pmc.gov.au/odwyer/2019/keeping-australians-safe-new-investments-protect-women-and-children>.

<sup>1919</sup> Australia supports women empowerment in Madagascar, African Daily Voice (Johannesburg) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://africandailyvoice.com/en/2019/02/22/australia-supports-women-empowerment-in-madagascar/>.

<sup>1920</sup> Australia supports women empowerment in Madagascar, African Daily Voice (Johannesburg) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://africandailyvoice.com/en/2019/02/22/australia-supports-women-empowerment-in-madagascar/>.

<sup>1921</sup> Record funding to reduce domestic violence, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/record-funding-reduce-domestic-violence>.

<sup>1922</sup> Record funding to reduce domestic violence, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/record-funding-reduce-domestic-violence>.

<sup>1923</sup> Delivering a brighter future for young women, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/delivering-brighter-future-young-women>.

<sup>1924</sup> Delivering a brighter future for young women, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/delivering-brighter-future-young-women>.

<sup>1925</sup> Delivering a brighter future for young women, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/delivering-brighter-future-young-women>.

<sup>1926</sup> Career opportunities limitless for women in aviation, Australian Government, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Canberra) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://ministers.pmc.gov.au/odwyer/2019/career-opportunities-limitless-women-aviation>.

<sup>1927</sup> Delivering a brighter future for young women, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/delivering-brighter-future-young-women>.

On 8 March 2019, Minister for Women Kelly O'Dwyer and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack announced funding of AUD675,000 for Women Building Australia, a construction industry led program to increase the participation of young women in the sector.<sup>1928</sup> The funding is aimed at a national mentoring program for women and a national expo program to promote, retain and empower women to enter and remain in the building and construction industry.<sup>1929</sup>

On 11 to 22 March 2019, the Minister for Women, Kelly O'Dwyer led an Australian delegation to the 63rd session of the United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63) in New York.<sup>1930</sup> During the session, Jo Feldman was elected as a Vice-Chair for the commission's sixty-fourth and sixty-fifth sessions.<sup>1931</sup> During the session, the Government of Australia had an opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to women's empowerment "through an extensive programme of Australian-hosted side events, showcasing Australia's best practice approaches to enhancing economic and social outcomes for women everywhere."<sup>1932</sup>

On 30 March 2019, Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced a AUD190 million investment in women in sports, including funding for female change rooms, facility upgrades and swimming pools across the country.<sup>1933</sup> The investment is aimed at enhancing female access to sporting facilities and encourage equal participation and support.<sup>1934</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the Government of Australia invested almost AUD92 million to support better health care for all Tasmanians, including boosting maternity services.<sup>1935</sup> Of the investment AUD3 million will fund two new diagnostic mammography units to "ensure that Tasmanian women do not have to wait to obtain x-rays to check their breasts for cancer."<sup>1936</sup> A further AUD400,000 will support upgrades to new birthing suites in Launceston General Hospital.<sup>1937</sup>

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment through a number of new initiatives including improved parental programs and child support and a strong focus on protecting domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking victims, both at

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<sup>1928</sup> Coalition builds opportunities for women in construction, Australian Government, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Canberra) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<https://ministers.pmc.gov.au/odwyer/2019/coalition-builds-opportunities-women-construction>.

<sup>1929</sup> Coalition builds opportunities for women in construction, Australian Government, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Canberra) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<https://ministers.pmc.gov.au/odwyer/2019/coalition-builds-opportunities-women-construction>.

<sup>1930</sup> Concluding Sixty-Third Session, Women's Commission Approves Text on Strengthening Social Protection Systems, Sustainable Infrastructure for Gender Equality, United Nations (New York) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/wom2179.doc.htm>.

<sup>1931</sup> Concluding Sixty-Third Session, Women's Commission Approves Text on Strengthening Social Protection Systems, Sustainable Infrastructure for Gender Equality, United Nations (New York) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/wom2179.doc.htm>.

<sup>1932</sup> Australia's engagement in CSW63 underway in New York, United Nations (New York) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.pmc.gov.au/news-centre/office-women/australias-engagement-csw63-underway-new-york>.

<sup>1933</sup> Backing sporting communities and women in sport, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 30 March 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/backing-sporting-communities-and-women-sport>.

<sup>1934</sup> Backing sporting communities and women in sport, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 30 March 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/backing-sporting-communities-and-women-sport>.

<sup>1935</sup> Boosting Health Services in Tasmania, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/boosting-health-services-tasmania>.

<sup>1936</sup> Boosting Health Services in Tasmania, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/boosting-health-services-tasmania>.

<sup>1937</sup> Boosting Health Services in Tasmania, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/boosting-health-services-tasmania>.

home and abroad. Australia has also provided funding for the Esther Organization, demonstrating its commitment to work with the private sector to achieve these goals.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Natasha Comeau*

**Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to promote women’s economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 27 February 2019, the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights through the National Secretariat for Policies for Women launched the “My body is not your fantasy” campaign to prevent violence against women.<sup>1938</sup> This initiative aims to raise awareness about safety risks for women during carnival period in several states of the country.<sup>1939</sup> This initiative is also supported by the Secretariat and Women’s Procuratorate of the Chamber of Deputies, Mauritius University of Nassau, Secretariat of Public Security of the State of Bahia, and Secretariat of Social Defense of the State of Pernambuco.<sup>1940</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights through the National Secretariat for Women’s Policies launched the “Save a Woman” campaign.<sup>1941</sup> This campaign intends to address violence against women.<sup>1942</sup> The plan intends to raise awareness on the importance of all people, particularly those who work with women every day, to promote the rights of women.<sup>1943</sup> The campaign intends to work in the beauty industry to help beauty professionals guide clients who suffer from physical or psychological violence to care.<sup>1944</sup>

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<sup>1938</sup> “My body is not your fantasy”: SNPM embraces Bahia campaign on violence against women in Carnival, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/fevereiro/meu-corpo-nao-e-sua-fantasia-snpm-lanca-campanha-sobre-violencia-contra-a-mulher-no-carnaval>.

<sup>1939</sup> “My body is not your fantasy”: SNPM embraces Bahia campaign on violence against women in Carnival, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/fevereiro/meu-corpo-nao-e-sua-fantasia-snpm-lanca-campanha-sobre-violencia-contra-a-mulher-no-carnaval>.

<sup>1940</sup> “My body is not your fantasy”: SNPM embraces Bahia campaign on violence against women in Carnival, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/fevereiro/meu-corpo-nao-e-sua-fantasia-snpm-lanca-campanha-sobre-violencia-contra-a-mulher-no-carnaval>.

<sup>1941</sup> On March 8, ministry launches campaign against violence against women (Brasília) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/marco/no-08-de-marco-ministerio-lanca-campanha-de-enfrentamento-a-violencia-contra-a-mulher>.

<sup>1942</sup> On March 8, ministry launches campaign against violence against women (Brasília) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/marco/no-08-de-marco-ministerio-lanca-campanha-de-enfrentamento-a-violencia-contra-a-mulher>.

<sup>1943</sup> On March 8, ministry launches campaign against violence against women (Brasília) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/marco/no-08-de-marco-ministerio-lanca-campanha-de-enfrentamento-a-violencia-contra-a-mulher>.

<sup>1944</sup> On March 8, ministry launches campaign against violence against women (Brasília) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/marco/no-08-de-marco-ministerio-lanca-campanha-de-enfrentamento-a-violencia-contra-a-mulher>.

From 11 to 22 March 2019, the Minister for Women, Family and Human Rights Damares Alves led a Brazilian delegation to CSW63 in New York.<sup>1945</sup> Minister Alves participated in discussions with the group of Buenos Aires, Mission of Argentina; PGA event “Women in a position of power” and bilateral meetings with Argentina, Senegal, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the Holy See.<sup>1946</sup>

On 21 March 2019, Deputy Secretary of Policies for Women of the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights Rosinha da Adefal took part in launching the Parliamentary Front in Defense of Women’s Rights.<sup>1947</sup> This establishes a forum in which “deputies from various parties...discuss a particular issue,”<sup>1948</sup> placing women’s rights as a central issue in public policy.<sup>1949</sup> During the ceremony, Roberta Monzini, Coordinator of the Work and Economic Protection of Women, spoke to the importance of supporting financial independence for women who experience domestic violence.<sup>1950</sup>

On 9 to 11 April 2019, the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights, the National Secretary for Policies for the Promotion of Racial Equality Sandra Terena, and the Assistant Secretary for Policies for Women, Roseane Estrela (Rosinha da Adefal) visited Montevideo in Uruguay.<sup>1951</sup> The event intends to bring together women from various South American countries to “identify the barriers and obstacles that Indigenous and Afro-descendant women face in order to have full access to their rights... and formulate recommendations.”<sup>1952</sup>

On 8 April 2019, Minister of Women, Family and Human Rights Damares Alves received representatives from the Avon Institute in order “to increase the dissemination of the Ligue 180 (Women’s Assistance Center) and strengthen the actions to combat violence against the female

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<sup>1945</sup> Aiming at the promotion of equality between men and women, she ministered as a high-level UN, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/marco/com-foco-na-promocao-da-igualdade-entre-homens-e-mulheres-ministra-discursa-em-atividade-de-alto-nivel-da-onu>.

<sup>1946</sup> Aiming at the promotion of equality between men and women, she ministered as a high-level UN, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/marco/com-foco-na-promocao-da-igualdade-entre-homens-e-mulheres-ministra-discursa-em-atividade-de-alto-nivel-da-onu>.

<sup>1947</sup> SNPM participa do lançamento da Frente Parlamentar em Defesa dos Direitos da Mulher (Brasília) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/marco/snmp-participa-do-lancamento-da-frente-parlamentar-em-defesa-dos-direitos-da-mulher>.

<sup>1948</sup> SNPM participa do lançamento da Frente Parlamentar em Defesa dos Direitos da Mulher (Brasília) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/marco/snmp-participa-do-lancamento-da-frente-parlamentar-em-defesa-dos-direitos-da-mulher>.

<sup>1949</sup> SNPM participa do lançamento da Frente Parlamentar em Defesa dos Direitos da Mulher (Brasília) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/marco/snmp-participa-do-lancamento-da-frente-parlamentar-em-defesa-dos-direitos-da-mulher>.

<sup>1950</sup> SNPM participa do lançamento da Frente Parlamentar em Defesa dos Direitos da Mulher, Government of Brazil (Brasília) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/marco/snmp-participa-do-lancamento-da-frente-parlamentar-em-defesa-dos-direitos-da-mulher>.

<sup>1951</sup> In Uruguay, MMFDH secretaries discuss the rights of indigenous and Afro-descendant women, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/abril/no-uruguaui-secretarias-do-mmfdh-debatem-direitos-de-mulheres-indigenas-e-afrodescendentes>.

<sup>1952</sup> In Uruguay, MMFDH secretaries discuss the rights of indigenous and Afro-descendant women, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/abril/no-uruguaui-secretarias-do-mmfdh-debatem-direitos-de-mulheres-indigenas-e-afrodescendentes>.

public.”<sup>1953</sup> The meeting outlines the importance of government working together with companies and society to improve public policies.<sup>1954</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the XXII March to Brasilia in Defense of Municipalities held a panel called the “The Power of women in politics.”<sup>1955</sup> In this panel, Minister of Women, Family and Human Rights Damares Alves highlighted the importance of women occupying spaces in government and the need to encourage women to be in politics.<sup>1956</sup>

On 12 April 2019, the National Secretary for Policies for Women of the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights Tia Eron announced the “Button of Life” application with the Government of Acre.<sup>1957</sup> This technology aims to protect women against domestic violence by allowing “alerts to be sent to the police in case of threat or aggression by the husband” or male partner.<sup>1958</sup>

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to promote women’s economic empowerment through its collaboration with women-led industries and initiatives in Parliament that bring light to the accessibility of support services for finances and domestic abuse cases experienced by women.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Katherine Hewitt*

#### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote women’s economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 13 December 2018, the Budget Implementation Act, 2018, No. 2 was passed by the House of Commons, which includes legislation to create the Department for Women and Gender Equality (WAGE).<sup>1959</sup> Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef released a statement on the creation of WAGE, addressing the government’s key commitments to “advance gender equality,

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<sup>1953</sup> Partnership aims to broaden the reach of actions to combat violence against women, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/abril/parceria-visa-ampliar-o-alcance-das-acoas-de-enfrentamento-a-violencia-contra-a-mulher>.

<sup>1954</sup> Partnership aims to broaden the reach of actions to combat violence against women, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/abril/parceria-visa-ampliar-o-alcance-das-acoas-de-enfrentamento-a-violencia-contra-a-mulher>.

<sup>1955</sup> Minister Damares highlights the importance of women in politics during a march in Brasilia, Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights (Brasilia) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/abril/ministra-damares-destaca-a-importancia-das-mulheres-na-politica-durante-marcha-em-brasilia>.

<sup>1956</sup> Minister Damares highlights the importance of women in politics during a march in Brasilia, Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights (Brasilia) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/abril/ministra-damares-destaca-a-importancia-das-mulheres-na-politica-durante-marcha-em-brasilia>.

<sup>1957</sup> Ministry promotes application to protect victims of domestic violence, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/abril/ministerio-promove-aplicativo-que-visa-proteger-vitimas-de-violencia-domestica>.

<sup>1958</sup> Ministry promotes application to protect victims of domestic violence, GOV.BR (Brasilia) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.mdh.gov.br/todas-as-noticias/2019/abril/ministerio-promove-aplicativo-que-visa-proteger-vitimas-de-violencia-domestica>.

<sup>1959</sup> House Government Bill – 42<sup>nd</sup> Parliament, 1<sup>st</sup> Session, House of Commons (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/BillDetails.aspx?Language=E&billId=10127729>.

address diversity and inclusion and grow [the] economy”<sup>1960</sup> through both the private and public sectors.<sup>1961</sup>

On 19 January 2019, the Government of Canada together in partnership with the Government of Lebanon, the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, the World Bank and IFC, organized the Mashreq Conference on Women’s Economic Empowerment in Beirut.<sup>1962</sup> This conference aimed to raise awareness and promote dialogue around the importance of increasing women’s economic participation in the Mashreq region, as well as creating a “space for the Governments of Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq... the private sector, civil society and development partners, to share their commitments to this agenda.”<sup>1963</sup> More specifically, the conference set out four goals: highlight key challenges and constraints to women’s economic empowerment, identify best practices to address these challenges, announce country specific commitments, and launch the “Mashreq Gender Financing Facility” aimed at supporting client countries in achieving these commitments.<sup>1964</sup>

On 28 January 2019, the Government of Canada announced that a total of CAD450 million will be invested in venture capital to promote the success of Canada’s clean technology sector through the new Clean Technology Stream of the Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative. This initiative aims to increase regional, sectoral and gender equality in venture capital.<sup>1965</sup>

On 31 January 2019, Global Affairs Canada launched a call for preliminary proposals to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment in Latin America and the Caribbean region.<sup>1966</sup> The aim is to seek out projects that focus on up to three areas: “(i) enhancing women and girls’ participation in public life; (ii) preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence; and (iii) promoting women’s economic empowerment.”<sup>1967</sup>

On 31 January 2019, Global Affairs Canada received Expressions of Interests from members of the philanthropic community, the private sector, non-for-profit and non-governmental organizations to “catalyze new investments in support of gender equality and the rights of girls and women in

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<sup>1960</sup> Creation of the Department for Women and Gender Equality, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/12/creation-of-the-department-for-women-and-gender-equality.html>.

<sup>1961</sup> Creation of the Department for Women and Gender Equality, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2018/12/creation-of-the-department-for-women-and-gender-equality.html>.

<sup>1962</sup> Mashreq Conference on Women’s Economic Empowerment, The World Bank ( Beirut) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2018/12/05/mashreq-conference-on-womens-economic-empowerment#1>.

<sup>1963</sup> Mashreq Conference on Women’s Economic Empowerment, The World Bank ( Beirut) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2018/12/05/mashreq-conference-on-womens-economic-empowerment#1>.

<sup>1964</sup> Mashreq Conference on Women’s Economic Empowerment, The World Bank ( Beirut) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2018/12/05/mashreq-conference-on-womens-economic-empowerment#1>.

<sup>1965</sup> Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative Call for Expressions of Interest Stream 3 – Clean Technology, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/061.nsf/eng/03089.html>.

<sup>1966</sup> Call for proposals announced by Global Affairs Canada: women as agents of change in the Americas, University of Alberta (Edmonton) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.ualberta.ca/international/about-uai/international-news-and-views/news/2019/january/gac-women-agents-of-change>.

<sup>1967</sup> Call for proposals announced by Global Affairs Canada: women as agents of change in the Americas, University of Alberta (Edmonton) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.ualberta.ca/international/about-uai/international-news-and-views/news/2019/january/gac-women-agents-of-change>.

developing countries.”<sup>1968</sup> This approach aims to place gender equality at the “centre of poverty eradication by challenging the discrimination faced by women and girls around the world and by recognizing that inequalities exist along intersectional lines.”<sup>1969</sup>

On 13 and 14 February 2019, the Government of Canada participated in the “Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women” in Bangkok, Thailand.<sup>1970</sup> This meeting was held in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Development Program, United Nations Population Fund, and the Asia-Pacific UN Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women.<sup>1971</sup> The meeting focused on discussions about strengthening the policy frameworks and legislation of social protection, public services and sustainable infrastructure, addressing access barriers (financial, non-financial, legal social) to meet the needs of women and girls, promoting gender-responsive social protection and public services.<sup>1972</sup> This meeting was preceded by a regional civil society strategizing workshop on 11 and 12 February 2019.<sup>1973</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the Government of Canada announced funding of CAD295,725 for the Table de concertation de Laval en condition féminine.<sup>1974</sup> The focus of this initiative is to remove systemic barriers to employment for women in the Laval region, some of which include barriers to employment, poverty, domestic violence and abuse.<sup>1975</sup>

On 21 February 2019, the Government of Canada announced funding of CAD290,000 for the Association Nikawi Inc.’s project which aims to “empower the Indigenous women of Wemotaci to overcome the institutional, economic and social barriers to managing non-timber forest resources on their land.”<sup>1976</sup>

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<sup>1968</sup> Partnership to fund gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in developing countries, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019.

[https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/campaign-campagne/gender\\_equality-egalite\\_des\\_genres/index.aspx?lang=eng&\\_ga=2.223303516.691279448.1551143235-1731491736.1551143235](https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/campaign-campagne/gender_equality-egalite_des_genres/index.aspx?lang=eng&_ga=2.223303516.691279448.1551143235-1731491736.1551143235).

<sup>1969</sup> Request for expressions of interest to design and manage the partnership for gender equality, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. [https://international.gc.ca/world-monde/funding-financement/gender\\_equality-egalite\\_genres.aspx?lang=eng&\\_ga=2.220109790.691279448.1551143235-1731491736.1551143235](https://international.gc.ca/world-monde/funding-financement/gender_equality-egalite_genres.aspx?lang=eng&_ga=2.220109790.691279448.1551143235-1731491736.1551143235).

<sup>1970</sup> Ahead of CSW 63, regional stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific call for holistic and gender-responsive approach to social protection, UN Women (New York) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/2/news-csw63-regional-prep-meeting-in-ap>.

<sup>1971</sup> Ahead of CSW 63, regional stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific call for holistic and gender-responsive approach to social protection, UN Women (New York) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/2/news-csw63-regional-prep-meeting-in-ap>.

<sup>1972</sup> Ahead of CSW 63, regional stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific call for holistic and gender-responsive approach to social protection, UN Women (New York) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/2/news-csw63-regional-prep-meeting-in-ap>.

<sup>1973</sup> Ahead of CSW 63, regional stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific call for holistic and gender-responsive approach to social protection, UN Women (New York) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/2/news-csw63-regional-prep-meeting-in-ap>.

<sup>1974</sup> New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Laval, Status of Women Canada (Laval) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/02/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-laval.html>.

<sup>1975</sup> New federal investment will help improve women’s economic security in Laval, Status of Women Canada (Laval) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/02/new-federal-investment-will-help-improve-womens-economic-security-in-laval.html>.

<sup>1976</sup> New federal investment to strengthen the economic security and prosperity of Indigenous women in Haute-Mauricie, Status of Women Canada (Wemotaci) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/02/new-federal-investment-to-strengthen-the-economic-security-and-prosperity-of-indigenous-women-in-haute-mauricie.html>.

On 21 February 2019, Minister of Employment Patty Hajdu announced the Government of Canada's Union Training and Innovation Program (UTIP), which aims to strengthen union-based apprenticeship training, innovation and enhanced partnerships.<sup>1977</sup> UTIP's objective is to improve the quality of training in the trades to better support a "skilled, inclusive, certified and productive trades workforce"<sup>1978</sup> as well as "address barriers that prevent key groups, such as women and Indigenous people, from succeeding in the trades."<sup>1979</sup>

On 5 March 2019, the Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef announced CAD1 million in federal funding to support survivors of gender-based violence in Peterborough through a project titled "Homeward Bound in Peterborough."<sup>1980</sup> This program intended to help women "earn college diplomas, achieve self-sufficiency, and improve their safety and economic security."<sup>1981</sup>

On 7 March 2019, the Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef announced CAD850,000 in funding to support survivors of gender-based violence in Montreal.<sup>1982</sup> This project titled "The Graduation Approach and Gender-Based Violence" aims to improve the services available to newly arrived immigrant women "cope with their loss, improve their economic security and develop the ability to be independent within the community."<sup>1983</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef and Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Ahmed Hussen announced that the Government of Canada will invest in over 250 projects from women's organizations and Indigenous organizations serving women across Canada under the Capacity-building Fund.<sup>1984</sup>

From 11 to 22 March 2019, the Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef led a Canadian delegation to CSW63 in New York.<sup>1985</sup> Minister Monsef co-hosted a number of meetings, including a discussion with the United Kingdom on "challenges faced by LGBTQ2 individuals in

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<sup>1977</sup> Union Training and Innovation Program, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. [www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/union-training-innovation.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/union-training-innovation.html).

<sup>1978</sup> Union Training and Innovation Program, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. [www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/union-training-innovation.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/union-training-innovation.html).

<sup>1979</sup> Union Training and Innovation Program, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. [www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/union-training-innovation.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/union-training-innovation.html).

<sup>1980</sup> Government of Canada supports survivors of gender-based violence in Peterborough and Haliburton, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-survivors-of-gender-based-violence-in-peterborough-and-haliburton.html>.

<sup>1981</sup> Government of Canada supports survivors of gender-based violence in Peterborough and Haliburton, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-survivors-of-gender-based-violence-in-peterborough-and-haliburton.html>.

<sup>1982</sup> Government of Canada supports survivors of gender-based violence in Montreal, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-survivors-of-gender-based-violence-in-montreal.html>.

<sup>1983</sup> Government of Canada supports survivors of gender-based violence in Montreal, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-survivors-of-gender-based-violence-in-montreal.html>.

<sup>1984</sup> Government of Canada celebrates International Women's Day by making historic investment in women's movement, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-celebrates-international-womens-day-by-making-historic-investment-in-womens-movement.html>.

<sup>1985</sup> Minister Monsef leads Canadian Delegation to the 63rd Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/03/minister-monsef-leads-canadian-delegation-to-the-63rd-session-of-the-united-nations-commission-on-the-status-of-women0.html>.

gaining access to public services ... and on the need to increase space for civil society to promote the human rights of women and girls, the importance of encouraging more women leaders, and empowering women and girls with disabilities.”<sup>1986</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Government of Canada together with the Governments of Burkina Faso, Italy and Zambia, UNICEF, UNFPA and UN Women hosted the “Accelerating the elimination of harmful practices to reap the demographic dividend in Africa” event at the United Nations Headquarters as part of the 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women.<sup>1987</sup> The event discusses the commitments and steps taken to “eliminate child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation as Africa’s contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 5.3 by 2030 and Agenda 2063.”<sup>1988</sup>

On 15 March, 2019, the Government of Canada in collaboration with UN Women, the Governments of Germany, Namibia and Uruguay, as well as the Women, Peace and Security Focal Points Network, NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders and the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict came together to discuss the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (on women, peace and security) and their approaches for 2020.<sup>1989</sup> They discussed six priority areas that need urgent attention namely: “protecting women human rights defenders and civil society; expanding financing for the women, peace and security agenda; increasing the number of women in uniform; promoting women’s economic recovery in post-conflict contexts; standardizing gender-responsive conflict analysis and planning; and promoting gender inclusive peace processes and negotiations.”<sup>1990</sup>

On 22 March 2019, the 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women finished in New York with Canada, along with each UN Member State, committing to “safeguard and improve women’s access to social protection systems, public services and sustainable infrastructure, ensuring that their design ... is transformed to prevent discrimination and create a level playing field for women and girls.”<sup>1991</sup>

On 25 March 2019, the Government of Canada established the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy Expert Panel to encourage women applicants to apply to Innovation, Science and Economic

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<sup>1986</sup> Minister Monsef leads Canadian Delegation to the 63rd Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 28 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/03/minister-monsef-leads-canadian-delegation-to-the-63rd-session-of-the-united-nations-commission-on-the-status-of-women0.html>.

<sup>1987</sup> Press release: As economic uncertainties, exclusionary politics, push-back on civil society, and labour informality rise, UN’s largest meeting on gender equality begins, UN Women Europe and Central Asia (New York) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://eca.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/03/press-release-csw63>.

<sup>1988</sup> Press release: As economic uncertainties, exclusionary politics, push-back on civil society, and labour informality rise, UN’s largest meeting on gender equality begins, UN Women Europe and Central Asia (New York) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://eca.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/03/press-release-csw63>.

<sup>1989</sup> Women, peace, security experts look ahead to 2020, UN Women (New York) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/news-women-peace-and-security-experts-look-ahead-to-2020>.

<sup>1990</sup> Women, peace, security experts look ahead to 2020, UN Women (New York) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/news-women-peace-and-security-experts-look-ahead-to-2020>.

<sup>1991</sup> UN Commission on the Status of Women delivers roadmap on ensuring women’s social protection, mobility, safety, and access to economic opportunities, UN Women (New York) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/press-release-csw-63-delivers-roadmap-on-ensuring-womens-social-protection>.

Development Canada.<sup>1992</sup> The appointment process “strives for gender parity, and ensures that Indigenous peoples and minority groups are properly represented in positions of leadership.”<sup>1993</sup> This is part of the government’s efforts to support women entrepreneurs in the country.<sup>1994</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the Government of Canada in collaboration with UN Women, the office of the UN Secretary-General, the UN Department of Peace Operations, and the UN Development Programme’s Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office launched the “Elsie Initiative Fund for uniformed women in Peace operations (Elsie Initiative).”<sup>1995</sup> This initiative aims to increase meaningful participation of uniformed women in UN peacekeeping operations.<sup>1996</sup> For this initiative, the Government of Canada announced an initial contribution of USD15 million.<sup>1997</sup>

On 12 April 2019, the Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef announced funding worth CAD200,000 in Working Skills Centre for their project “Building Innovation and Growth-Women Empowerment.”<sup>1998</sup> This project aims to empower newcomer women by “building community partnerships with both the private and non-profit sectors” to help women gain skills and employment.<sup>1999</sup>

On 13 April 2019, the Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef announced funding worth CAD67,755 in the Corner Brook Status of Women Council for their project “Claiming our space.”<sup>2000</sup> “It will help ensure that the 50,000 women and families in the region have access to support for gender equality, violence prevention, education, and professional and community development.”<sup>2001</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the Bank of Montreal became the first Canadian banking institution to sign the UN Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPs), a joint initiative of UN Women and the UN Global

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<sup>1992</sup> Departmental Appointment Opportunities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/107.nsf/eng/00004.html>.

<sup>1993</sup> Departmental Appointment Opportunities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/107.nsf/eng/00004.html>.

<sup>1994</sup> Departmental Appointment Opportunities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/107.nsf/eng/00004.html>.

<sup>1995</sup> The Elsie Initiative Fund launched to increase uniformed women in UN peacekeeping, UN Women (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/news-the-elsie-initiative-fund-launched-to-increase-uniformed-women-in-un-peacekeeping>.

<sup>1996</sup> The Elsie Initiative Fund launched to increase uniformed women in UN peacekeeping, UN Women (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/news-the-elsie-initiative-fund-launched-to-increase-uniformed-women-in-un-peacekeeping>.

<sup>1997</sup> The Elsie Initiative Fund launched to increase uniformed women in UN peacekeeping, UN Women (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/news-the-elsie-initiative-fund-launched-to-increase-uniformed-women-in-un-peacekeeping>.

<sup>1998</sup> Government of Canada announces investment for women’s organization in Toronto, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-for-womens-organization-in-toronto.html>.

<sup>1999</sup> Government of Canada announces investment for women’s organization in Toronto, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-for-womens-organization-in-toronto.html>.

<sup>2000</sup> Government of Canada announces investment for women’s organization in Corner Brook, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-for-womens-organization-in-corner-brook.html>.

<sup>2001</sup> Government of Canada announces investment for women’s organization in Corner Brook, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-for-womens-organization-in-corner-brook.html>.

Compact.<sup>2002</sup> The WEPs, launched in 2010, “guide[s] businesses – regardless of size, sector or geography – to promote gender equality, and empower women in the workplace, marketplace and community.”<sup>2003</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the Government of Canada announced an investment of over CAD1.6 million in women’s organizations and Indigenous organizations serving women in the Northwest Territories under the Capacity-building Fund.<sup>2004</sup> The organizations receiving funding include: Dechinta Initiatives, FOXY, Yellowknife Women’s Society and YMCA NWT.<sup>2005</sup>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote women’s economic empowerment through its provision of trade skills training to lower barriers to access for women and the recognition of addressing gender inequalities. Canada has also worked in partnership with the private sector to promote women’s economic empowerment.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Coral Cripps*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to promote women’s economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 12 to 15 February 2019, the Government of China welcomed UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka.<sup>2006</sup> During this visit, Mlambo-Ngcuka met with government authorities, the All-China Women’s Federation, United Nations country team representatives, media and private sector members to discuss opportunities for increasing programmes and strategies for gender equality and women’s empowerment.<sup>2007</sup>

On 21 February 2019, the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, the All-China Women’s Federation and the Supreme People’s Court published a notice, which prohibits companies from

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<sup>2002</sup> Endorse the Women's Empowerment Principles, United Nations Global Compact (New York) 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/take-action/action/womens-principles>.

<sup>2003</sup> BMO Financial Group Becomes First Canadian Bank to Sign The UN Women's Empowerment Principles, Newswire (Toronto) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/bmo-financial-group-becomes-first-canadian-bank-to-sign-the-un-women-s-empowerment-principles-841012694.html>.

<sup>2004</sup> Government of Canada announces investment in Northwest Territories’ women’s organizations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-in-northwest-territories-womens-organizations.html>.

<sup>2005</sup> Government of Canada announces investment in Northwest Territories’ women’s organizations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/status-women/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-investment-in-northwest-territories-womens-organizations.html>.

<sup>2006</sup> UN Women Executive Director visits China, UN Women (New York) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/12/announcer-ed-phumzile-to-visit-china>.

<sup>2007</sup> UN Women Executive Director visits China, UN Women (New York) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/12/announcer-ed-phumzile-to-visit-china>.

rejecting any application based on gender.<sup>2008</sup> Employers can face fines of up to CNY50,000 for publishing job ads with sexist requirements.<sup>2009</sup>

China has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment by introducing an initiative aimed at increasing women's participation in the labour force. China has also worked together with media and the private sector members to discuss opportunities for promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jaiivika Kataria*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 23 December 2018, President Emmanuel Macron met with 100 female entrepreneurs in Chad and announced proposals to create a bank for women entrepreneurs in the area.<sup>2010</sup> The bank will aim to improve women's participation in political, social and economic life, leading to independent resilience and equitable access to leadership roles.<sup>2011</sup>

On 1 January 2019, a decree concerning women's labour conditions submitted by Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight Against Discrimination Marlène Schiappa, Minister of Labor Muriel Pénicaud and Prime Minister Edouard Philippe came into effect.<sup>2012</sup> The objectives of the law are to eliminate the gender pay gap and combat sexual violence in the workplace.<sup>2013</sup> Among various obligations, companies must disclose indicators of sexual discrimination and outline actions to eliminate the pay gap, otherwise they face financial penalties.<sup>2014</sup>

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<sup>2008</sup> China imposes hefty fines for sexist hiring practises, Sixth Tone (Shanghai) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.sixthtone.com/news/1003593/china-imposes-hefty-fines-for-sexist-hiring-practices>.

<sup>2009</sup> China imposes hefty fines for sexist hiring practises, Sixth Tone (Shanghai) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <https://www.sixthtone.com/news/1003593/china-imposes-hefty-fines-for-sexist-hiring-practices>.

<sup>2010</sup> The full participation of women will help build a more just and equal society, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/The-full-participation-of-women-will-help-build-a-more-just-and-equal-society>.

<sup>2011</sup> The full participation of women will help build a more just and equal society, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/The-full-participation-of-women-will-help-build-a-more-just-and-equal-society>.

<sup>2012</sup> Decree No. 2019-15 of 8 January 2019 implementing the provisions to eliminate the pay gap between women and men in the enterprise and relating to the fight against sexual violence and sexist behavior at work, Legifrance (Paris) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019.

<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000037964765&fastPos=3&fastReqId=1304327762&categorieLien=id&oldAction=rechTexte>.

<sup>2013</sup> Decree No. 2019-15 of 8 January 2019 implementing the provisions to eliminate the pay gap between women and men in the enterprise and relating to the fight against sexual violence and sexist behavior at work, Legifrance (Paris) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019.

<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000037964765&fastPos=3&fastReqId=1304327762&categorieLien=id&oldAction=rechTexte>.

<sup>2014</sup> Decree No. 2019-15 of 8 January 2019 implementing the provisions to eliminate the pay gap between women and men in the enterprise and relating to the fight against sexual violence and sexist behavior at work, Legifrance (Paris) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019.

<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000037964765&fastPos=3&fastReqId=1304327762&categorieLien=id&oldAction=rechTexte>.

On 17 January 2019, the High Council for Gender Equality published a report “1st state of sexism in France: Fight against a social tolerance that persists” and called for the launch of the First National Plan against sexism 2019-2022 based on five pillars, which include promoting awareness of sexism, reducing sexism, training professionals in security and justice sectors about sexism, supporting victims of sexism and ensuring gender-neutral public policy.<sup>2015</sup>

On 31 January 2019, State Secretary for Equality between Women and Men and the Fight Against Discrimination Marlène Schiappa announced a top priority for Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of State for Gender Equality, which is to promote an active and firm participation in French feminist diplomacy.<sup>2016</sup> Minister Schiappa presented the main priorities for promoting feminist diplomacy and announced the Government of France would allocate 50 per cent of its official development aid to gender policy initiatives by 2022.<sup>2017</sup> The French feminist diplomacy will unravel around three highlights: French action at the Commission on the Status of Women of the United Nations, French presidency at the Council of Europe and French presidency at the G7.<sup>2018</sup> The Government of France will also organize a ministerial devoted to gender equality at the 2019 G7 summit centered around three priorities: economic emancipation of African women, fight sexual violence and promote women’s education.<sup>2019</sup>

On 22 February 2019, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian announced France will increase its voluntary contributions to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) by EUR5 million meant to support projects linked to girls’ education in different areas of Africa.<sup>2020</sup> Minister Le Drian also announced he would co-chair a joint meeting of the Ministers of Development and Education on 5 July 2019 and hold an international conference on girls’ access to education.<sup>2021</sup>

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<sup>2015</sup> 1st state of sexism in France: fight against a social tolerance that persists, High Council for Equality between Women and Men (Paris) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.haut-conseil-egalite.gouv.fr/stereotypes-et-roles-sociaux/actualites/article/1er-etat-des-lieux-du-sexisme-en-france-lutter-contre-une-tolerance-sociale-qui>.

<sup>2016</sup> Equality between Women and Men, G7 Priority, Secrétariat d’État chargé de l’Égalité entre les femmes et les hommes et de la lutte contre les discriminations (Paris) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.egalite-femmes-hommes.gouv.fr/legalite-entre-les-femmes-et-les-hommes-priorite-du-g7/>.

<sup>2017</sup> Equality between Women and Men, G7 Priority, Secrétariat d’État chargé de l’Égalité entre les femmes et les hommes et de la lutte contre les discriminations (Paris) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.egalite-femmes-hommes.gouv.fr/legalite-entre-les-femmes-et-les-hommes-priorite-du-g7/>.

<sup>2018</sup> Equality between Women and Men, G7 Priority, Secrétariat d’État chargé de l’Égalité entre les femmes et les hommes et de la lutte contre les discriminations (Paris) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.egalite-femmes-hommes.gouv.fr/legalite-entre-les-femmes-et-les-hommes-priorite-du-g7/>.

<sup>2019</sup> Equality between Women and Men, G7 Priority, Secrétariat d’État chargé de l’Égalité entre les femmes et les hommes et de la lutte contre les discriminations (Paris) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.egalite-femmes-hommes.gouv.fr/legalite-entre-les-femmes-et-les-hommes-priorite-du-g7/>.

<sup>2020</sup> United Nations - Interview with Jean-Yves Le Drian with the Director General of UNESCO (22 February 2019), French Diplomatie (Paris) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/la-france-et-les-nations-unies/evenements-et-actualites-lies-aux-nations-unies/actualites/article/nations-unies-entretien-de-jean-yves-le-drian-avec-la-directrice-generale-de-l-?xtor=RSS-1>.

<sup>2021</sup> United Nations - Interview with Jean-Yves Le Drian with the Director General of UNESCO (22 February 2019), French Diplomatie (Paris) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/la-france-et-les-nations-unies/evenements-et-actualites-lies-aux-nations-unies/actualites/article/nations-unies-entretien-de-jean-yves-le-drian-avec-la-directrice-generale-de-l-?xtor=RSS-1>.

On 7 March 2019, Minister of Armed Forces Florence Parly announced the establishment of the “Mixed Plan” which has three objectives: “to recruit women, to retain them throughout their careers and to promote gender diversity in the armed forces.”<sup>2022</sup>

On 8 March 2019, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian and Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight Against Discrimination Marlène Schiappa published the op-ed “Feminist foreign policy” in the newspaper *Libération*, and announced the Government of France would be launching an initiative titled the “Biarritz Partnership for Gender Equality” in the coming weeks as part of its G7 Presidency.<sup>2023</sup> The Ministers hope the partnership will help promote a compilation of laws that are most favourable to women in the global context.<sup>2024</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Governments of France and Sweden launched a joint diplomatic initiative to “develop a strategy with the aim to fight trafficking and prostitution – in Europe and globally.”<sup>2025</sup> This initiative intends to “spread knowledge about trafficking and prostitution by stimulating debates and discussion about gender roles and gender equality; by supporting women’s shelters” and provide generous support to sexual and reproductive health and rights.<sup>2026</sup>

On 11 to 22 March 2019, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight against Discrimination Marlène Schiappa led a French delegation to CSW63 in New York.<sup>2027</sup> During this session, Minister Schiappa stressed “the need for women to have access to all the services they need to maintain their health and facilitate their social integration, their empowerment and their participation in society,”<sup>2028</sup>

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<sup>2022</sup> A revolution is under way to promote the role of women and parity, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://onu.delegfrance.org/A-revolution-isunder-way-to-promote-the-role-of-women-and-parity>.

<sup>2023</sup> International Women's Day - "Feminist foreign policy" - Joint article by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, and Mme Marlène Schiappa, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight against Discrimination, in the daily newspaper *Libération*, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://basedoc.diplomatie.gouv.fr/FranceDiplomatie/PDF/baen2019-03-11.pdf>.

<sup>2024</sup> International Women's Day - "Feminist foreign policy" - Joint article by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, and Mme Marlène Schiappa, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight against Discrimination, in the daily newspaper *Libération*, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://basedoc.diplomatie.gouv.fr/FranceDiplomatie/PDF/baen2019-03-11.pdf>.

<sup>2025</sup> Combatting human trafficking and sexual exploitation – Joint Op-Ed by Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian and his Swedish counterpart Margot Wallström (8 March 2019), French Diplomatie (Paris) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/events/article/combating-human-trafficking-and-sexual-exploitation-joint-op-ed-by-minister>.

<sup>2026</sup> Combatting human trafficking and sexual exploitation – Joint Op-Ed by Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian and his Swedish counterpart Margot Wallström (8 March 2019), French Diplomatie (Paris) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/events/article/combating-human-trafficking-and-sexual-exploitation-joint-op-ed-by-minister>.

<sup>2027</sup> United Nations – Opening of the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 11 March 2019), French Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/events-2019/article/united-nations-opening-of-the-63rd-session-of-the-commission-on-the-status-of>.

<sup>2028</sup> United Nations – Opening of the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 11 March 2019), French Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/events/events-2019/article/united-nations-opening-of-the-63rd-session-of-the-commission-on-the-status-of>.

amongst which are “access to public services, social protection in the context of sexual and reproductive health rights, and responses to the issue of unpaid work.”<sup>2029</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight Against Discrimination Marlène Schiappa announced EUR120 million investment for projects aimed at strengthening “female entrepreneurship and women’s participation in security forces” in Africa.<sup>2030</sup> In addition, the French government is working with Niger to provide EUR15 million for an “Education Sector Fund.”<sup>2031</sup> This project aims to provide accessible education and vocational training for young girls in the country.<sup>2032</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight Against Discrimination Marlène Schiappa announced at the opening of the 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women that the Government of France will host a “Beijing +25” conference next year as part of the government’s commitment to a feminist foreign policy and global gender equality.<sup>2033</sup> The goal of the conference is to encourage all UN member states to enforce the Istanbul Convention (which combats violence against women) and promote women’s access to education.<sup>2034</sup>

On 5 to 6 April 2019, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian met with other G7 foreign ministers in Dinard and Saint Malo in order to discuss the core issues involved in fighting inequality around the world.<sup>2035</sup> One of the issues addressed was reducing gender inequality in the Sahel region, as well as “protecting women from sexual violence in conflicts and strengthening the role of women in peace processes and crisis resolution.”<sup>2036</sup> Following this meeting, foreign ministers will come up with proposals for fighting inequality in advance of the G7 Biarritz Summit held from 24 to 26 August 2019.<sup>2037</sup>

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<sup>2029</sup> United Nations – Opening of the 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 11 March 2019), French Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/unity-nations/events/events-2019/article/unity-nations-opening-of-the-63rd-session-of-the-commission-on-the-status-of>.

<sup>2030</sup> The full participation of women will help build a more just and equal society, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/The-full-participation-of-women-will-help-build-a-more-just-and-equal-society>.

<sup>2031</sup> The full participation of women will help build a more just and equal society, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/The-full-participation-of-women-will-help-build-a-more-just-and-equal-society>.

<sup>2032</sup> The full participation of women will help build a more just and equal society, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/The-full-participation-of-women-will-help-build-a-more-just-and-equal-society>.

<sup>2033</sup> France will host conference “Beijing +25” in a year’s time, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/France-will-host-conference-Beijing-25-in-a-year-s-time>.

<sup>2034</sup> France will host conference “Beijing +25” in a year’s time, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/France-will-host-conference-Beijing-25-in-a-year-s-time>.

<sup>2035</sup> Foreign ministers meeting (5-6 April 2019, Dinard and Saint-Malo), French Diplomatie (Paris) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/foreign-ministers-meeting-5-6-april-2019-dinard-and-saint-malo/>.

<sup>2036</sup> Foreign ministers meeting (5-6 April 2019, Dinard and Saint-Malo), French Diplomatie (Paris) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/foreign-ministers-meeting-5-6-april-2019-dinard-and-saint-malo/>.

<sup>2037</sup> Foreign ministers meeting (5-6 April 2019, Dinard and Saint-Malo), French Diplomatie (Paris) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/foreign-ministers-meeting-5-6-april-2019-dinard-and-saint-malo/>.

On 16 April 2019, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight Against Discrimination Marlène Schiappa announced the launch of the #MaLoiPourLesFemmes consultation, meant for French citizens to propose innovative laws that would better defend and protect women as part of the government's G7 Presidency.<sup>2038</sup>

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, through its efforts to reduce the gender pay gap in cross-government public policies with UNESCO. France has also taken steps to work with the private sector to promote women's economic empowerment.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Amal Ismail-Ladak*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 19 December 2018, Germany's KfW Development Bank, on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, joined 13 other development finance institutions in launching the "Gender Finance Collaborative."<sup>2039</sup> The initiative's goal is to increase investment capital provided to female entrepreneurs, fund leaders, employees and consumers.<sup>2040</sup> Three commitments were jointly made by the development finance institutions involved, including demonstrating how investing with a gender lens can produce strong business and social returns, supporting opportunities to improve the livelihoods of women and girls around the world and increasing gender diversity in leadership and corporate governance.<sup>2041</sup>

On 19 December 2018, Germany's KfW Development Bank, on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, supported women's empowerment in developing countries with the new Business Support Services (BSS) product, a tool designed to improve financial services for women.<sup>2042</sup> It includes the "Gender Smart Opportunity Assessment," which highlights products and services designed specifically for women, which will be launched in the spring of 2019.<sup>2043</sup>

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<sup>2038</sup> Nar - Consultation Maloipourlesfemmes – 17.04.2019, Secrétariat d'État chargé de l'Égalité entre les femmes et les hommes et de la lutte contre les discriminations (Paris) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.egalite-femmes-hommes.gouv.fr/nar-consultation-maloipourlesfemmes-17-04-2019/>.

<sup>2039</sup> Women empowerment – development finance institutions launch "Gender Finance Collaborative, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details\\_501248-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_501248-2.html).

<sup>2040</sup> Women empowerment – development finance institutions launch "Gender Finance Collaborative, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details\\_501248-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_501248-2.html).

<sup>2041</sup> Women empowerment – development finance institutions launch "Gender Finance Collaborative, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details\\_501248-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_501248-2.html).

<sup>2042</sup> Women empowerment – development finance institutions launch "Gender Finance Collaborative, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details\\_501248-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_501248-2.html).

<sup>2043</sup> Women empowerment – development finance institutions launch "Gender Finance Collaborative, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details\\_501248-2.html](https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_501248-2.html).

On 2 January 2019, the Government of Germany began a new federal daycare program called “ProKindertagespflege,” which will open 43 new daycare locations across the country by 2021, with a total of EUR22.5 million in funding.<sup>2044</sup> The program will support municipalities and districts across Germany to improve childcare and working conditions in childcare.<sup>2045</sup> Three primary focus areas of the program include: more qualified childcare workers with higher education, better working conditions for employees in childcare (i.e. practical arrangements for sick leave and holidays) and better funding and cooperation across the country’s childcare services.<sup>2046</sup>

On 9 January 2019, Federal Family Minister Ranziska Giffery and Federal Labor Minister Hubertus Heil presented a new family law, which passed in the federal government’s cabinet.<sup>2047</sup> The “Strong Family Law” increases the child benefit supplements families receive and makes funding more accessible.<sup>2048</sup> This incorporates an educational financing package which includes funding for lunch programs, daycare, student transportation and tutoring sessions.<sup>2049</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the Government of Germany, through the Embassy of Germany in Nigeria, along with UN Women and the African Union, called for increased female involvement in Nigeria’s February 2019 election.<sup>2050</sup> A forum was held that brought together female leaders across various sectors to discuss strategies for further involving women in politics and urging the nation to hold peaceful elections.<sup>2051</sup>

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<sup>2044</sup> Start of the federal program ProKindertagespflege, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 2 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/start-des-bundesprogramms-prokindertagespflege/133576>.

<sup>2045</sup> Start of the federal program ProKindertagespflege, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 2 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/start-des-bundesprogramms-prokindertagespflege/133576>.

<sup>2046</sup> Start of the federal program ProKindertagespflege, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 2 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/start-des-bundesprogramms-prokindertagespflege/133576>.

<sup>2047</sup> More support for small-income families – for strong families and against child poverty, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/mehr-unterstuetzung-fuer-familien-mit-kleinen-einkommen---fuer-starke-familien-und-gegen-kinderarmut/132244>.

<sup>2048</sup> More support for small-income families – for strong families and against child poverty, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/mehr-unterstuetzung-fuer-familien-mit-kleinen-einkommen---fuer-starke-familien-und-gegen-kinderarmut/132244>.

<sup>2049</sup> More support for small-income families – for strong families and against child poverty, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/mehr-unterstuetzung-fuer-familien-mit-kleinen-einkommen---fuer-starke-familien-und-gegen-kinderarmut/132244>.

<sup>2050</sup> UN Women, AU, German Envoy Call for Women Involvement in Peaceful 2019 Election, SUNDIATA POST (Abuja) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://sundiatapost.com/2019/01/30/un-women-au-german-envoy-call-for-women-involvement-in-peaceful-2019-election/>.

<sup>2051</sup> UN Women, AU, German Envoy Call for Women Involvement in Peaceful 2019 Election, SUNDIATA POST (Abuja) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://sundiatapost.com/2019/01/30/un-women-au-german-envoy-call-for-women-involvement-in-peaceful-2019-election/>.

On 6 February 2019, the Government of Germany agreed to a compatibility directive with EU's Member States.<sup>2052</sup> The directive aims to enhance childcare, with an emphasis on fairly distributing caregiving responsibilities between men and women.<sup>2053</sup> It also promotes labour market participation for women.<sup>2054</sup> Minimum standards of the directive include ten paid leave days for the second parent after the birth of a child, four months parental leave for each parent, two of which are paid, five care days a year, flexible working arrangements for parents and caregivers and improved dismissal protections for parents and caregivers.<sup>2055</sup>

On 21 February 2019, the German Bundestag passed a pertinent bill reforming Article 219a, which will make it “easier for pregnant women experiencing conflict in conjunction with their pregnancy to obtain information about terminations of pregnancy.”<sup>2056</sup> This reform intends to create greater legal certainty for doctors, provide women with simpler access to information and increase women's rights.<sup>2057</sup>

On 4 March 2019, an agreement was signed between the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and the Federal Employment Agency for 90 contact offices throughout the country to help women with migration backgrounds find jobs.<sup>2058</sup> This program will include training, language support, child care, and help in finding compatible employment for women.<sup>2059</sup> The focus of the program is especially on new immigrant women with small children to help support as they settle in Germany.<sup>2060</sup>

On 15 March, 2019, the Government of Germany in collaboration with UN Women, the Governments of Canada, Namibia and Uruguay, as well as the Women, Peace and Security Focal

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<sup>2052</sup> Milestone for reconciling family, care and work in the European Union, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/meilenstein-fuer-die-vereinbarkeit-von-familie--pflege-und-beruf-in-der-europaeischen-union/133648>.

<sup>2053</sup> Milestone for reconciling family, care and work in the European Union, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/meilenstein-fuer-die-vereinbarkeit-von-familie--pflege-und-beruf-in-der-europaeischen-union/133648>.

<sup>2054</sup> Milestone for reconciling family, care and work in the European Union, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/meilenstein-fuer-die-vereinbarkeit-von-familie--pflege-und-beruf-in-der-europaeischen-union/133648>.

<sup>2055</sup> Milestone for reconciling family, care and work in the European Union, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/meilenstein-fuer-die-vereinbarkeit-von-familie--pflege-und-beruf-in-der-europaeischen-union/133648>.

<sup>2056</sup> More rights for pregnant women, The Federal Governemnt (Berlin) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/more-rights-for-pregnant-women-1583756>.

<sup>2057</sup> More rights for pregnant women, The Federal Governemnt (Berlin) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/more-rights-for-pregnant-women-1583756>.

<sup>2058</sup> 90 contact points bring mothers with migration backgrounds into jobs, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/90-kontaktstellen-bringen-muetter-mit-migrationshintergrund-in-jobs/134132>.

<sup>2059</sup> 90 contact points bring mothers with migration backgrounds into jobs, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/90-kontaktstellen-bringen-muetter-mit-migrationshintergrund-in-jobs/134132>.

<sup>2060</sup> 90 contact points bring mothers with migration backgrounds into jobs, Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/90-kontaktstellen-bringen-muetter-mit-migrationshintergrund-in-jobs/134132>.

Points Network, NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders and the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict came together to discuss the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (on women, peace and security) and their approaches for 2020.<sup>2061</sup> They discussed six priority areas that need urgent attention namely: “protecting women human rights defenders and civil society; expanding financing for the women, peace and security agenda; increasing the number of women in uniform; promoting women’s economic recovery in post-conflict contexts; standardizing gender-responsive conflict analysis and planning; and promoting gender inclusive peace processes and negotiations.”<sup>2062</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the Government of Germany passed a family law bringing new benefits for low and middle-income families, especially single parent families.<sup>2063</sup> The aim is to protect families from poverty, secure the needs of children and ensure gender equality in parental benefits.<sup>2064</sup> The benefits package includes additional access to educational funding, such as free lunches, transport, and tutoring fees.<sup>2065</sup>

On 5 April 2019, Federal Minister of Women Franziska Giffey appointed the Expert Commission for the Third Gender Equality Report of the Government of Germany.<sup>2066</sup> The focus of this report is equal opportunities in the digital economy and what digitization will mean for the reconciliation of family.<sup>2067</sup> A gender equality report is submitted to the Government of Germany once every legislative term and will be incorporated into political decision-making.<sup>2068</sup>

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<sup>2061</sup> Women, peace, security experts look ahead to 2020, UN Women (New York) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/news-women-peace-and-security-experts-look-ahead-to-2020>.

<sup>2062</sup> Women, peace, security experts look ahead to 2020, UN Women (New York) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/news-women-peace-and-security-experts-look-ahead-to-2020>.

<sup>2063</sup> Bundestag resolves “strong family law,” Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/bundestag-beschliesst--starke-familien-gesetz-/134738>.

<sup>2064</sup> Bundestag resolves “strong family law,” Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/bundestag-beschliesst--starke-familien-gesetz-/134738>.

<sup>2065</sup> Bundestag resolves “strong family law,” Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/bundestag-beschliesst--starke-familien-gesetz-/134738>.

<sup>2066</sup> Gender Equality Report on “Opportunities for women and men in the digital economy,” Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/gleichstellungsbericht-zum-thema--chancen-von-frauen-und-maennern-in-der-digitalen-wirtschaft-/135212>.

<sup>2067</sup> Gender Equality Report on “Opportunities for women and men in the digital economy,” Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/gleichstellungsbericht-zum-thema--chancen-von-frauen-und-maennern-in-der-digitalen-wirtschaft-/135212>.

<sup>2068</sup> Gender Equality Report on “Opportunities for women and men in the digital economy,” Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/gleichstellungsbericht-zum-thema--chancen-von-frauen-und-maennern-in-der-digitalen-wirtschaft-/135212>.

On 10 April 2019, the Government of Germany introduced the National Reform Programme, which lays out steps to attain the economic and financial goals agreed at the European level.<sup>2069</sup> Top priorities include strengthening innovation and investment, as well as social security contributions under 40 per cent.<sup>2070</sup> In order to achieve these goals, the Government of Germany will increase employment rates, particularly among older age groups and women amongst other actions.<sup>2071</sup>

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment through initiatives such as policy interventions, partnering with both the private sector and international organizations, namely the African Union, UN Security Council, and UN Women, and enhancing childcare access and affordability.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Natasha Comeau*

### **India: 0**

India has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 2 February 2019, interim Finance Minister Piyush Goyal released the financial budget for 2019-2020.<sup>2072</sup> The gender budget allocation has been increased to INR131,700 for 2019-20, up from INR121,961.<sup>2073</sup> In this budget, policies like an Integrated Child Development Scheme and the Working Women's Hostel have received increased funding to help women navigate and balance work and home.<sup>2074</sup>

On 5 February 2019, the Ministry for Women and Child Development announced that it will set up a Women's Entrepreneurship Council to support and encourage women who are small business owners.<sup>2075</sup> The council will function as a networking and mentorship platform for business women, as well as an advisory body for the government on issues regarding women's entrepreneurship.<sup>2076</sup>

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<sup>2069</sup> National Reform Programme 2019, The Federal Government (Berlin) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/issues/europe/national-reform-programme-2019-1599820>.

<sup>2070</sup> National Reform Programme 2019, The Federal Government (Berlin) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/issues/europe/national-reform-programme-2019-1599820>.

<sup>2071</sup> National Reform Programme 2019, The Federal Government (Berlin) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/issues/europe/national-reform-programme-2019-1599820>.

<sup>2072</sup> Gender budget allocation increases by Rs 9,739 crore in Budget 2019, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/gender-budget-allocation-increases-by-rs-9739-crore-in-budget-2019/articleshow/67802622.cms>.

<sup>2073</sup> Gender budget allocation increases by Rs 9,739 crore in Budget 2019, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/gender-budget-allocation-increases-by-rs-9739-crore-in-budget-2019/articleshow/67802622.cms>.

<sup>2074</sup> Gender budget allocation increases by Rs 9,739 crore in Budget 2019, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/gender-budget-allocation-increases-by-rs-9739-crore-in-budget-2019/articleshow/67802622.cms>.

<sup>2075</sup> New council for women entrepreneurs in the offing, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/small-biz/startups/newsbuzz/new-council-for-women-entrepreneurs-in-the-offing/articleshow/67844946.cms>.

<sup>2076</sup> New council for women entrepreneurs in the offing, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/small-biz/startups/newsbuzz/new-council-for-women-entrepreneurs-in-the-offing/articleshow/67844946.cms>.

On 18 February 2019, the Ministry of Women and Child Development released several initiatives to promote safety of women in their living spaces, working spaces and the public spaces.<sup>2077</sup> First, the Ministry of Telecom mandated a physical panic button on all mobile phones in the country, including enforcing a response mechanism to alert police and the individual's family.<sup>2078</sup> For the second initiative the Government of India identified eight cities for implementation of Safe City project.<sup>2079</sup> This project includes: "the identification of sensitive hot spots in each city, installation of CCTV surveillance covering the entire hot spot, automated number plate reading machines to be deployed in extremely sensitive areas, intensive patrolling in vulnerable areas beyond the identified hot spots, improving street lighting and public toilet facilities for women."<sup>2080</sup> The third initiative proposed to use DNA samples as forensic evidence in cases of sexual assault on women.<sup>2081</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh and Minister for Women and Child Development Maneka Sanjay Gandhi announced the launch of the Women Safety initiative of Emergency Response Support System in 16 States and Mumbai city.<sup>2082</sup> Through this initiative, women can dial 112 or use a Panic Button on their phones to connect to police, fire, health and other helplines through an Emergency Response Centre.<sup>2083</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) aimed at empowering women through skill development.<sup>2084</sup> This MOU aims to help women develop in demand skills and find employment immediately.<sup>2085</sup>

On 11 April 2019, Minister of Finance Arun Jaitley held a series of roundtable meetings with investors and International Monetary Fund executives to discuss India's economic future.<sup>2086</sup> During

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<sup>2077</sup> Three important initiatives on women's safety conceptualized by the WCD Ministry to be launched tomorrow, Government of India (New Delhi) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>2078</sup> Three important initiatives on women's safety conceptualized by the WCD Ministry to be launched tomorrow, Government of India (New Delhi) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>2079</sup> Three important initiatives on women's safety conceptualized by the WCD Ministry to be launched tomorrow, Government of India (New Delhi) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>2080</sup> Three important initiatives on women's safety conceptualized by the WCD Ministry to be launched tomorrow, Government of India (New Delhi) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>2081</sup> Three important initiatives on women's safety conceptualized by the WCD Ministry to be launched tomorrow, Government of India (New Delhi) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>2082</sup> Panic Button becomes available to women with launch of ERSS and pan-India Emergency number 112, Government of India (New Delhi) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>2083</sup> Panic Button becomes available to women with launch of ERSS and pan-India Emergency number 112, Government of India (New Delhi) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>2084</sup> Ministry of WCD and Ministry of Skill Development enter into MoU for improving women livelihood and empowering them through skill development, Government of India (New Delhi) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>2085</sup> Ministry of WCD and Ministry of Skill Development enter into MoU for improving women livelihood and empowering them through skill development, Government of India (New Delhi) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=64>.

<sup>2086</sup> Arun Jaitley discusses India's economic reforms with investors in US, The Economic Times (New York) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/arun-jaitley-discusses-indias-economic-reforms-with-investors-in-us/articleshow/68827691.cms>.

these meetings, it was identified that reducing poverty, providing best infrastructure and increasing participation of women were among the priorities.<sup>2087</sup>

India has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment through actions such as creating a council geared towards supporting women entrepreneurs. India has not taken significant actions to work with the private sector to promote women's economic empowerment.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Jaijika Kataria*

### **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 12 January 2019, Manpower Minister Hanif Dhakiri announced plans to introduce a new labour regulation that would allow for more flexible working hours with the intention to increase women's participation in the labour force.<sup>2088</sup> Hanif stated, "the rigid [current] regulation is not beneficial for women as they have double pressures related to their tasks in nurturing their families and developing their careers."<sup>2089</sup>

On 1 March 2019, President of Indonesia Joko Widodo accompanied by Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Yohana Yembise spoke with 16 inspirational women from various regions across Indonesia in Jakarta to commemorate International Women's Day.<sup>2090</sup> During this meeting, President Widodo and Minister Yohana reinforced that activists and community organizations should continue to fight for women's rights, including by working with the federal government to achieve these goals.<sup>2091</sup>

On 11 to 22 March 2019, Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Yohana Yembise led an Indonesian delegation to CSW63 in New York.<sup>2092</sup> Minister Yembise participated in a number of meetings "that discussed social protection systems, public services, and sustainable

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<sup>2087</sup> Arun Jaitley discusses India's economic reforms with investors in US, The Economic Times (New York) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/arun-jaitley-discusses-indias-economic-reforms-with-investors-in-us/articleshow/68827691.cms>.

<sup>2088</sup> Indonesia plans more flexible working hours for women (Jakarta) 12 January 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/01/12/indonesia-plans-more-flexible-working-hours-for-women.html>.

<sup>2089</sup> Indonesia plans more flexible working hours for women (Jakarta) 12 January 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/01/12/indonesia-plans-more-flexible-working-hours-for-women.html>.

<sup>2090</sup> Potential of women strengthening the nation, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2077/potensi-perempuan-memperkuat-bangsa>.

<sup>2091</sup> Potential of women strengthening the nation, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2077/potensi-perempuan-memperkuat-bangsa>.

<sup>2092</sup> Preparing the 63<sup>rd</sup> CSW, Asia-Pacific Degree of Meeting, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2057/persiapkan-csw-ke-63-asia-pasifik-gelar-pertemuan>.

infrastructure for gender equality and women's empowerment ... and shared current position of the progress of women's empowerment in Indonesia."<sup>2093</sup>

On 1 April 2019, Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Yohana Yembise inaugurated 15 craft centers for the Women's Empowerment Institution in Melati City of Bengkulu in order to encourage women's economic welfare and increase the number of female entrepreneurs.<sup>2094</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the Governments of Indonesia and Iran agreed to expand their field of cooperation to improve women's empowerment at the national, regional and international levels.<sup>2095</sup> The Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in Indonesia intends for both governments to follow up this meeting "with a positive and innovative program to increase commitment in women's empowerment, family resilience and child protection."<sup>2096,2097</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in collaboration with the Banda Aceh government and representatives of various youth and women's communities declared the "Preventing Domestic Violence Commitment" at the Socialization of Domestic Violence Prevention event held by the Ministry.<sup>2098</sup> The event was held to "suppress and eliminate the number of vulnerable domestic violence cases against women and children in Banda Aceh, Aceh Province."<sup>2099</sup> This is an extension to the actions taken by the Government of Indonesia to develop a model to prevent domestic violence.<sup>2100</sup>

Indonesia has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment through proposed legislation considering more flexible work weeks. Indonesia has not taken any concrete actions to work with the private sector to promote women's economic empowerment.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

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<sup>2093</sup> Preparing the 63<sup>rd</sup> CSW, Asia-Pacific Degree of Meeting, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

<https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2057/persiapkan-csw-ke-63-asia-pasifik-gelar-pertemuan>.

<sup>2094</sup> Craft centre encourages women's economic welfare, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

<https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2102/sentra-kerajinan-dorong-kesejahteraan-ekonomi-perempuan>.

<sup>2095</sup> Indonesia - Iran Agree to Expand the Field of Cooperation, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

<https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2099/indonesia-iran-sepakat-perluas-bidang-kerjasama>.

<sup>2096</sup> Indonesia - Iran Agree to Expand the Field of Cooperation, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

<https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2099/indonesia-iran-sepakat-perluas-bidang-kerjasama>.

<sup>2097</sup> Indonesia - Iran Agree to Expand the Field of Cooperation, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

<https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2099/indonesia-iran-sepakat-perluas-bidang-kerjasama>.

<sup>2098</sup> Alarming Domestic Violence Rate in Banda Aceh, Young Generation Must Rise Up!, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

<https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2106/angka-kdrt-di-banda-aceh-mengkhawatirkan-generasi-muda-harus-bangkit>.

<sup>2099</sup> Alarming Domestic Violence Rate in Banda Aceh, Young Generation Must Rise Up!, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

<https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2106/angka-kdrt-di-banda-aceh-mengkhawatirkan-generasi-muda-harus-bangkit>.

<sup>2100</sup> Alarming Domestic Violence Rate in Banda Aceh, Young Generation Must Rise Up!, Ministry of Empowerment Women and Child Protection Republic of Indonesia (Jakarta) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

<https://www.kemenpppa.go.id/index.php/page/read/29/2106/angka-kdrt-di-banda-aceh-mengkhawatirkan-generasi-muda-harus-bangkit>.

*Analyst: Katherine Hewitt*

## **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 4 December 2018, Undersecretary for Employment and Social Policies Claudio Cominardi presented a new jobs strategy, aimed at following the recommendations of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).<sup>2101</sup> The strategy is focused on improving quality of work, promoting social inclusion and greater job security, with the aid of both public and private companies.<sup>2102</sup> The strategy also outlines funding for human capital through training opportunities, with both public and private companies.<sup>2103</sup>

On 4 December 2018, the Government of Italy together with UN Women signed a two-year agreement aimed at enhancing women's entrepreneurial capacity in Fisheries and Agribusiness in Red Sea State.<sup>2104</sup> This project is funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation and implemented by the UN Agency.<sup>2105</sup> This project aims to promote women's economic empowerment through: "the introduction of new technologies to increase the productivity of women in fisheries and agribusiness; access to financial and non-financial services and promotion of women's cooperatives and associations."<sup>2106</sup>

On 7 December 2018, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation launched a humanitarian program to help Syrian refugees and host communities in Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt "empower migrants in areas of sexual health, combating gender-based violence, human rights and overall security issues."<sup>2107</sup> The program is estimated to assist 10,000 people, mainly women and children.<sup>2108</sup>

On 24 January 2019, Director General Giorgio Marrapodi of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation signed two new funding agreements of EUR4.5 million for projects in

<sup>2101</sup> L'azione del Governo anticipa la Jobs Strategy dell'OCSE, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Cominardi-l-azione-del-Governo-anticipa-la-Jobs-Strategy-dell-OCSE.aspx>.

<sup>2102</sup> L'azione del Governo anticipa la Jobs Strategy dell'OCSE, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Cominardi-l-azione-del-Governo-anticipa-la-Jobs-Strategy-dell-OCSE.aspx>.

<sup>2103</sup> L'azione del Governo anticipa la Jobs Strategy dell'OCSE, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Cominardi-l-azione-del-Governo-anticipa-la-Jobs-Strategy-dell-OCSE.aspx>.

<sup>2104</sup> Programme launched to enhance women's entrepreneurial capacity in Fisheries and Agribusiness in Red Sea State, UN Women (New York) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://africa.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2018/12/un-women-partnership-with-italy-in-sudan>.

<sup>2105</sup> Programme launched to enhance women's entrepreneurial capacity in Fisheries and Agribusiness in Red Sea State, UN Women (New York) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://africa.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2018/12/un-women-partnership-with-italy-in-sudan>.

<sup>2106</sup> Programme launched to enhance women's entrepreneurial capacity in Fisheries and Agribusiness in Red Sea State, UN Women (New York) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://africa.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2018/12/un-women-partnership-with-italy-in-sudan>.

<sup>2107</sup> Italy launches project for Syrian refugees in the Middle East, InfoMigrants (Issy-les-Moulineaux) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/13780/italy-launches-project-for-syrian-refugees-in-middle-east>.

<sup>2108</sup> Italy launches project for Syrian refugees in the Middle East, InfoMigrants (Issy-les-Moulineaux) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/13780/italy-launches-project-for-syrian-refugees-in-middle-east>.

Mozambique and Tunisia with the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) LI Yong.<sup>2109</sup> Marrapodi also announced the funding of EUR1.3 million for the second phase of a project.<sup>2110</sup> This partnership in part aims to increase employment and the economic empowerment of youth and women through job creation and the “upgrading of industries in a socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable manner.”<sup>2111</sup>

On 12 March 2019, the Government of Italy together with the UNIDO, FAO and UN Women hosted the “How can digital technology support gender equality in the MENA region?”<sup>2112</sup> event at the United Nations Headquarters.<sup>2113</sup> This event showcased how improving women’s access to ICTs can improve entrepreneurship and job opportunities.<sup>2114</sup> It also discussed the role of the private sector promoting the competitiveness of women entrepreneurs.<sup>2115</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Government of Italy together with the Governments of Burkina Faso, Canada and Zambia, UNICEF, UNFPA and UN Women hosted the “Accelerating the elimination of harmful practices to reap the demographic dividend in Africa” event at the UN Headquarters as part of the 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women.<sup>2116</sup> The event discussed the commitments and steps taken to “eliminate child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation as Africa’s contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 5.3 by 2030 and Agenda 2063.”<sup>2117</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Permanent Mission of Italy to the UN and the Federazione Italiana Donne Arti Professionie Affari hosted the “Social Protection Systems, Access to Public Services and Sustainable Infrastructure for Gender Equality and The Empowerment Of Women And Girls” side

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<sup>2109</sup> Italy to contribute EUR 5.8 million to three new UNIDO projects in Africa and the MENA region, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (Vienna) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019.

<https://www.unido.org/news/italy-contribute-eur-58-million-three-new-unido-projects-africa-and-mena-region>.

<sup>2110</sup> Italy to contribute EUR 5.8 million to three new UNIDO projects in Africa and the MENA region, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (Vienna) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019.

<https://www.unido.org/news/italy-contribute-eur-58-million-three-new-unido-projects-africa-and-mena-region>.

<sup>2111</sup> Italy to contribute EUR 5.8 million to three new UNIDO projects in Africa and the MENA region, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (Vienna) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019.

<https://www.unido.org/news/italy-contribute-eur-58-million-three-new-unido-projects-africa-and-mena-region>.

<sup>2112</sup> How can digital technology support gender equality in the MENA region? United Nations Global Compact (New York) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/take-action/events/business-guide-to-csw63>.

<sup>2113</sup> How can digital technology support gender equality in the MENA region? United Nations Global Compact (New York) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/take-action/events/business-guide-to-csw63>.

<sup>2114</sup> How can digital technology support gender equality in the MENA region? United Nations Global Compact (New York) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/take-action/events/business-guide-to-csw63>.

<sup>2115</sup> How can digital technology support gender equality in the MENA region? United Nations Global Compact (New York) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/take-action/events/business-guide-to-csw63>.

<sup>2116</sup> Press release: As economic uncertainties, exclusionary politics, push-back on civil society, and labour informality rise, UN’s largest meeting on gender equality begins, UN Women Europe and Central Asia (New York) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://eca.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/03/press-release-csw63>.

<sup>2117</sup> Press release: As economic uncertainties, exclusionary politics, push-back on civil society, and labour informality rise, UN’s largest meeting on gender equality begins, UN Women Europe and Central Asia (New York) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://eca.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/03/press-release-csw63>.

event at the 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women.<sup>2118</sup> The event focused on gender equality by discussing job creation, entrepreneurship, labour rights and policies.<sup>2119</sup>

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment. Italy has presented its new strategy to follow OECD guidelines to promote social inclusion in the workforce for disadvantaged groups, improve quality of jobs and training opportunities for both the public and private sector.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anahid Najafizadeh*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 7 January 2019, the Government of Japan published a review outlining the goals and progress of 'Abenomics', Prime Minister Abe's economy policy regarding economic reform and stimulus.<sup>2120</sup> In this review, the Government of Japan reiterates its continuing commitment of achieving a gender-equal private markets through actions such as providing female candidates with executive leadership training programs, eliminating all forms of violence against women, and promoting men taking child-care leave.<sup>2121</sup>

On 28 January 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe gave a speech to the 198<sup>th</sup> Session of the Diet.<sup>2122</sup> Abe stated that the government will be revising the "Act on Promotion of Women's Participation and Advancement in the Workplace" and support the efforts of small and medium-sized enterprises to devise a supportive workplace environment for women.<sup>2123</sup> Abe also reaffirmed the importance of eliminating sexual harassment in the workplace by declaring that the government will require all businesses to prevent power harassment.<sup>2124</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the Government of Japan reinforced its commitment to work on women's empowerment in India by promoting various field projects including creating safer modes of

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<sup>2118</sup> FIDAPA- BPW Italy - Side Event CSW 63, United Nations (New York) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://esango.un.org/SideEvents/documents/2983>.

<sup>2119</sup> FIDAPA- BPW Italy - Side Event CSW 63, United Nations (New York) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://esango.un.org/SideEvents/documents/2983>.

<sup>2120</sup> Abenomics, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [https://www.japan.go.jp/abenomics/\\_userdata/abenomics/pdf/1901\\_abenomics.pdf](https://www.japan.go.jp/abenomics/_userdata/abenomics/pdf/1901_abenomics.pdf).

<sup>2121</sup> Abenomics, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet(Tokyo) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [https://www.japan.go.jp/abenomics/\\_userdata/abenomics/pdf/1901\\_abenomics.pdf](https://www.japan.go.jp/abenomics/_userdata/abenomics/pdf/1901_abenomics.pdf).

<sup>2122</sup> Policy Speech by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the 198th Session of the Diet, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98\\_abe/statement/201801/\\_00003.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/statement/201801/_00003.html).

<sup>2123</sup> Policy Speech by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the 198th Session of the Diet, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98\\_abe/statement/201801/\\_00003.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/statement/201801/_00003.html).

<sup>2124</sup> Policy Speech by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the 198th Session of the Diet, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98\\_abe/statement/201801/\\_00003.html](https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/statement/201801/_00003.html).

transportation for women, improving irrigation facilities/increasing water supply and improving hospitals and training/education opportunities for girls and women.<sup>2125</sup>

On 8 March 2019, Minister of Special Affairs in Gender Equality Katayama Satsuki delivered a speech outlining the Government of Japan's ongoing and future plans for gender equality.<sup>2126</sup> She explained the government's continued commitment to increase the employment of women in the private sector by revising the Act of the Promotion of Women.<sup>2127</sup> The amendment of this law will increase the number of companies required to organize action plans that assist their employees with their work and child rearing responsibilities.<sup>2128</sup>

On 23 March 2019, the Government of Japan jointly hosted the fifth World Assembly for Women (WAW!) and Women 20 Japan 2019 (W20) in Tokyo.<sup>2129</sup> WAW! is a government-led initiative that promotes female participation in society and its theme was "Diversity for Growth: Corporate Management and Working Environment."<sup>2130</sup> The assembly included panel discussions and meetings between government officials, business leaders and academics around the world.<sup>2131</sup> The W20 promoted its theme for "Closing the Gender Gap for New Prosperity" by administering discussions on labor equity, financial equity, digital equity and governance.<sup>2132</sup>

On 23 March 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stated that the Government of Japan will be providing high-quality education to four million women by 2020 in developing countries.<sup>2133</sup> Prime Minister Abe "said improving access to education is important for sustainable economic development" and it will be a large focus for Japan's G20 Presidency.<sup>2134</sup>

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment through its commitment to revise an act pertaining to women's participation and advancement in the workforce. Japan has not taken any concrete actions to work with the private sector to promote women's economic empowerment.

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<sup>2125</sup> Japan renews commitment to work on women's empowerment in India, Asian News International (New Delhi) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/japan-renews-commitment-to-work-on-women-empowerment-in-india20190306003222/>.

<sup>2126</sup> Message for International Women's Day 2019, Gender Equality Bureau Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. [http://www.gender.go.jp/international/int\\_un\\_kaigi/int\\_iwd/iwd\\_2019.html](http://www.gender.go.jp/international/int_un_kaigi/int_iwd/iwd_2019.html).

<sup>2127</sup> Message for International Women's Day 2019, Gender Equality Bureau Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. [http://www.gender.go.jp/international/int\\_un\\_kaigi/int\\_iwd/iwd\\_2019.html](http://www.gender.go.jp/international/int_un_kaigi/int_iwd/iwd_2019.html).

<sup>2128</sup> Message for International Women's Day 2019, Gender Equality Bureau Cabinet Office (Tokyo) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. [http://www.gender.go.jp/international/int\\_un\\_kaigi/int\\_iwd/iwd\\_2019.html](http://www.gender.go.jp/international/int_un_kaigi/int_iwd/iwd_2019.html).

<sup>2129</sup> Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XLEfKpNKjOQ>.

<sup>2130</sup> Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XLEfKpNKjOQ>.

<sup>2131</sup> Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XLEfKpNKjOQ>.

<sup>2132</sup> Meetings aim to close gender gaps, promote diversity, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/03/22/national/meetings-aim-close-gender-gaps-promote-diversity/#.XLEfKpNKjOQ>.

<sup>2133</sup> Japan to support education for 4 mil. women in developing countries, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2019/03/70575fc9a9dd-japan-to-support-education-for-4-mil-women-in-developing-countries.html>.

<sup>2134</sup> Japan to support education for 4 mil. women in developing countries, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2019/03/70575fc9a9dd-japan-to-support-education-for-4-mil-women-in-developing-countries.html>.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Jae Yoon Mary Nob*

**Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 5 December 2018, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (MOGEF) hosted the 2018 Academy for Promising Women Conference in Seoul.<sup>2135</sup> At the conference, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family highlighted the direct relation between gender-equal culture in the workplace and business performance and national competitiveness.<sup>2136</sup>

On 20 December 2018, MOGEF briefed President Moon Jae-In on its policy plans for 2019.<sup>2137</sup> The Ministry stated it will hold gender equality education sessions for company workers, civil servants, and local district councillors and encourage central and local governments to have gender equality goals.<sup>2138</sup> The Ministry also proposed to offer incentives to companies that attempt to increase the number of female executives and administer research on companies' female executive ratios.<sup>2139</sup> Furthermore, the Ministry stated it will work on expanding a number of communal child care centers and raise the subsidies for single parents.<sup>2140</sup>

On 26 December 2018, the Government of Korea stated that it will raise the monthly benefits for paid parental leave.<sup>2141</sup> The maximum amount of monthly payment for those who take parental leave will increase from KRW2 million to KRW2.5 million.<sup>2142</sup>

On 25 January 2019, MOGEF hosted the 2019 Workshop on Career Interrupted Women Reemployment Support Project in Seoul.<sup>2143</sup> They discussed revising and expanding the Interruption Prevention Program to help women who took career hiatuses due to childbirth and childcare find

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<sup>2135</sup> The 2018 Academy for Promising Women Conference, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s201d.do?mid=eng002&bbtSn=706883](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s201d.do?mid=eng002&bbtSn=706883).

<sup>2136</sup> The 2018 Academy for Promising Women Conference, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. [http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s201d.do?mid=eng002&bbtSn=706883](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s201d.do?mid=eng002&bbtSn=706883).

<sup>2137</sup> Gender Ministry to focus on improving gender equality, supporting parents and teenagers in 2019, Korea Herald (Seoul) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181220000767>.

<sup>2138</sup> Gender Ministry to focus on improving gender equality, supporting parents and teenagers in 2019, Korea Herald (Seoul) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181220000767>.

<sup>2139</sup> Gender Ministry to focus on improving gender equality, supporting parents and teenagers in 2019, Korea Herald (Seoul) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181220000767>.

<sup>2140</sup> Gender Ministry to focus on improving gender equality, supporting parents and teenagers in 2019, Korea Herald (Seoul) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181220000767>.

<sup>2141</sup> Korea to raise monetary benefits for paid paternity leave, Korea Herald (Seoul) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181226000155>.

<sup>2142</sup> Korea to raise monetary benefits for paid paternity leave, Korea Herald (Seoul) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181226000155>.

<sup>2143</sup> Ministry of Gender Equality and Family to Expand its Career Interruption Prevention Program, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019. [http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbtSn=706204](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbtSn=706204).

new jobs and maintain employment.<sup>2144</sup> About 400 participants from local governments and Women's Reemployment Centers attended the workshop.<sup>2145</sup> In extension to this, MOGEF and Shinhan Bank signed a memorandum of understanding to support career-interrupted women from vulnerable social groups.<sup>2146</sup>

On 8 February 2019, MOGEF announced the findings of the National and Regional Gender Equality Index.<sup>2147</sup> The ministry continues to measure and announce these findings in order to monitor the status of gender equality regionally and implement gender equality policies as needed.<sup>2148</sup> Upon this announcement, Director General of the Ministry's Women Policy Bureau Ms. Lee Gun-Jeong informed that "the Ministry will move to strengthen our coordination with other relevant ministries to take gender quality across society to another level by encouraging the private sector to enhance women's representation."<sup>2149</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family announced that the government is continuing to coordinate policy measures designed to diminish sexual harassment and violence in the sports community through meetings such as the Pan-Government Council for Eradicating Sexual Harassment and Violence and Digital Sexual Crime and meeting of vice ministers of relevant ministries to discuss measures.<sup>2150</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family published a revised Regulation on Broadcasting Deliberations in order to promote gender-equal broadcasting production.<sup>2151</sup> These new regulations are aimed at tackling "gender stereotypes and promote diversity in TV programs by providing broadcasting personnel with recommendations that they can refer to during production."<sup>2152</sup>

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment by increasing parental leave support, supporting career-interrupted women seek jobs and taking

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<sup>2144</sup> Ministry of Gender Equality and Family to Expand its Career Interruption Prevention Program, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019.

[http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706204](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706204).

<sup>2145</sup> Ministry of Gender Equality and Family to Expand its Career Interruption Prevention Program, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019.

[http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706204](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706204).

<sup>2146</sup> Ministry of Gender Equality and Family to Expand its Career Interruption Prevention Program, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019.

[http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706204](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706204).

<sup>2147</sup> 2017 National Gender Equality Index Inches up to 71.5 Points, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019.

[http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706179](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706179).

<sup>2148</sup> 2017 National Gender Equality Index Inches up to 71.5 Points, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019.

[http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706179](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706179).

<sup>2149</sup> 2017 National Gender Equality Index Inches up to 71.5 Points, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2019.

[http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706179](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706179).

<sup>2150</sup> The Government will Push Ahead Measures as planned for the Me Too movement in the Sport Community, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019.

[http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706197](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706197).

<sup>2151</sup> Suggestions for Autonomously Creating a Gender-Equal Production Environment, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

[http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706259](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706259).

<sup>2152</sup> Suggestions for Autonomously Creating a Gender-Equal Production Environment, Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (Seoul) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

[http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng\\_pr\\_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706259](http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/pr/eng_pr_s101d.do?mid=eng001&bbsn=706259).

proactive measures against sexual harassment in sports workplaces. Korea has additionally promoted women's economic empowerment in partnership with the Shinhan Bank to achieve this goal.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jae Yoon Mary Nob*

### **Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 6 March 2019, Secretary of the Interior Olga Sánchez Cordero and President of the National Institute of Women Nadine Gasman presented "Plan of Emerging Actions to Guarantee the Integrity, Safety and Life of Women and Girls in Mexico."<sup>2153</sup> The plan will make the prevention, attention, sanction and eradication of violence against women a task of the federal government as a way to better combat the increase in violence against women in recent years.<sup>2154</sup>

On 6 March 2019, President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador presented a plan to combat gender violence.<sup>2155</sup> This initiative includes "efforts to identify and fix holes in active murder investigations; to strengthen co-operation between prosecutors, health services and other authorities; to standardize femicide, or killings of women that are directly gender-related, as a crime nationwide; and to search for women as soon as they are reported missing." President Gasman also announced the creation of a national registry of public transportation in an effort to prevent further disappearances of women.<sup>2156</sup>

On 11 April 2019, the National Institute of Women of Mexico co-organized the event "Sharing experiences in the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women" (CEDAW) alongside Graduate Women International, Federation of University Women and the UNESCO Chair of Human Rights of the UNAM.<sup>2157</sup> The event was part of the second meeting of the CEDAW Global Network.<sup>2158</sup>

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment through the new initiative to place the responsibility for the prevention and eradication of violence against women into the hands of the federal government to better address the increase in violence against women in recent years. Mexico has not taken concrete steps to work alongside the private sphere to promote women's economic empowerment.

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<sup>2153</sup> Segob and Inmujeres present #PlanEmergente to protect women and girls in Mexico (Mexico City) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/segob/articulos/la-segob-y-el-inmujeres-presentan-planemergente-para-proteger-a-mujeres-y-ninas-en-mexico>.

<sup>2154</sup> Segob and Inmujeres present #PlanEmergente to protect women and girls in Mexico (Mexico City) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/segob/articulos/la-segob-y-el-inmujeres-presentan-planemergente-para-proteger-a-mujeres-y-ninas-en-mexico>.

<sup>2155</sup> Mexico acknowledges failure on gender violence, unveils plan, Toronto Star (Toronto) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.thestar.com/news/world/americas/2019/03/06/mexico-acknowledges-failure-on-gender-violence-unveils-plan.html>.

<sup>2156</sup> Mexico acknowledges failure on gender violence, unveils plan, Toronto Star (Toronto) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.thestar.com/news/world/americas/2019/03/06/mexico-acknowledges-failure-on-gender-violence-unveils-plan.html>.

<sup>2157</sup> News from the Women's Museum Mexico, International Association of Women's Museums (Mexico City) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://iawm.international/2019/04/11/news-from-the-womens-museum-mexico/>.

<sup>2158</sup> News from the Women's Museum Mexico, International Association of Women's Museums (Mexico City) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://iawm.international/2019/04/11/news-from-the-womens-museum-mexico/>.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Katherine Hewitt*

**Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to promote women’s economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 1 January 2019, the Federal Program “Promoting Women Employment – Pre-School Education for 0-3 Age Children” officially started. The main objective of the program is to increase of the percentage of employed women with infant children from 64.6 per cent (2015-2017) to 68.5 by 2024. The program also aims to achieve supplementary indicators such as: the total number of women with infants involved in vocational training while taking childcare leave, the total number of infants enrolled in state-provided pre-school programs, and the cumulative indicator of accessibility of infant-related state services (100 per cent by 2024).<sup>2159</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Russian Federation officially launched the National Action Strategy for Women 2017-2022.<sup>2160</sup> The project is aimed at increasing women’s participation in public and political life.

On 22 February 2019, the first meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Action Strategy took place between the Russian Federation and the Council of Europe. The project allows the promotion of international dialogue about preventing women’s social disadvantage.<sup>2161</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the First Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Protection Alexey Vovchenko took part in the 63<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. Alexey Vovchenko delivered a speech on the topic “Social protection systems, access to governmental services and sustainable infrastructure to pursue gender equality and women and girls empowerment.” The Deputy Minister highlighted steps taken by the Russian government to enhance the level of social protection of women in the Russian Federation.<sup>2162</sup>

From to 22 to 24 March 2019, the Roscongress Foundation Deputy CEO and Director for the Socio-Economic Agenda Elena Marina attended the joint Women in the World and Women 20 (W20) Summit in Japan.<sup>2163</sup> Advisor to the Russian President Anton Kobyakov noted Roscongress’s participation at the W20 as a “landmark event as well as the continuation of work to further the

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<sup>2159</sup> Federal Project “Promoting Women Employment – Pre-School Education for 0-3 Age Children” (Moscow) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 15 May 2019. <https://rosmintrud.ru/ministry/programms/demography/2>.

<sup>2160</sup> A project of cooperation of the Russian Federation with the Council of Europe on the implementation of the National Action Strategy for Women for 2017-2022 has been launched, Ministry of Labor of Russia (Moscow) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 30 May 2019. <https://rosmintrud.ru/social/90>.

<sup>2161</sup> Russia – Council of Europe Project on Implementation of National Strategy of Action for Women 2017-2022 Started 29 January 2019 (Moscow). Access Date: 15 May 2019. <https://rosmintrud.ru/social/90>.

<sup>2162</sup> The First Vice Minister Alexey Vovchenko took part in the 63th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (Moscow) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 15 May 2019. <https://rosmintrud.ru/social/109>

<sup>2163</sup> World Assembly for Women Discusses Need to Reduce Gender Gaps, Aravot (Yerevan) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. [https://www.aravot-en.am/2019/03/25/234621/?fbclid=IwAR2l2cIR8VHkmtE-VelMdn7c5S8\\_2p9fRt4jP4StsRntnK7ZEpcFhJX4ILY](https://www.aravot-en.am/2019/03/25/234621/?fbclid=IwAR2l2cIR8VHkmtE-VelMdn7c5S8_2p9fRt4jP4StsRntnK7ZEpcFhJX4ILY).

women's agenda, eliminate gender inequality, promote women's leadership, and strengthen cooperation with international women's communities."<sup>2164</sup>

From 9 to 10 April 2019, the First Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Protection of the Russian Federation Alexey Vovchenko took part in the joint Russia – Council of Europe workshop on prevention of violence against women in Astrakhan, Russia. The Deputy Minister highlighted the actions taken by Russia including voluntary report on implementation of the European Social Charter and organization of joint workshops on gender violence in Russia's regions.<sup>2165</sup>

On 11 April 2019, the State Duma of Russia approved amendments to the Federal law “On monthly subsidies for families with children.” The amendments ease the application process for governmental subsidies – from now an applicant is allowed to apply for payments anywhere, not only in the district of permanent registration.<sup>2166</sup>

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment by creating conditions for employment of women with infant children as well as participating in international initiatives aimed at women empowerment. However, the government did not take significant action towards working with the private sector.

Thus, Russia receives a score 0.

*Analyst: Amal Ismail-Ladak*

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 5 December 2019, the Ministry of Justice's women's department announced Saudi women employees had assumed positions for the first time in the ministry in five key areas of work including: research, law, sociology and Shariah, administration and computer programming.<sup>2167</sup> The department also put together an intensive training program for new recruits to further qualify them for ministry positions.<sup>2168</sup>

On 3 January 2019, the Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Development for Social Development Dr. Tamazir Al-Ramah met with Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to Saudi Arabia Domenech Menor to discuss bilateral cooperation in the fields of social development and reaffirmed

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<sup>2164</sup> World Assembly for Women Discusses Need to Reduce Gender Gaps, Aravot (Yerevan) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. [https://www.aravot-en.am/2019/03/25/234621/?fbclid=IwAR2l2clR8VHkmtE-VelMdN7c5S8\\_2p9fRt4jP4StsRntnK7ZEpcfhJX4ILY](https://www.aravot-en.am/2019/03/25/234621/?fbclid=IwAR2l2clR8VHkmtE-VelMdN7c5S8_2p9fRt4jP4StsRntnK7ZEpcfhJX4ILY).

<sup>2165</sup> Alexey Vovchenko to Participate in Workshop on Prevention of Violence Against Women 09 April 2019 (in Russian). Access Date: 15 May 2019. <https://rosmintrud.ru/social/service/403>

<sup>2166</sup> Amendments to Application Procedure for First and Second Child Subsidies 11 April 2019 (in Russian). Access Date: 15 May 2019. <https://rosmintrud.ru/social/126>

<sup>2167</sup> Saudi women start to take over jobs at Justice Min, Saudi Gazette (Ridayh) 9 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/549842/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-women-start-to-take-over-jobs-at-Justice-Min>.

<sup>2168</sup> Saudi women start to take over jobs at Justice Min, Saudi Gazette (Ridayh) 9 December 2018. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/549842/SAUDI-ARABIA/Saudi-women-start-to-take-over-jobs-at-Justice-Min>.

the objects of the Kingdom's Vision 2030 to support the empowerment of women and the Ministry's efforts to empower women in society and the labor market.<sup>2169</sup>

On 20 January 2019, the Ministry of Labor and Social Development launched the Unified Regulation of Women's Work Environment Initiative.<sup>2170</sup> The initiative requires employers to commit to creating a suitable work environment for women and to facilitate private sector enterprises that attract women to work such as equal wages, reducing work hazards in mechanical operations, alleviating the pressure for women to perform work that does not conform to labour and local regulations and providing equal opportunities for work.<sup>2171</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the Saudi Real Estate Development Fund (REDF) announced its decision to approve property loans for Saudi women.<sup>2172</sup> This decision aims to support Saudi women who purchase property and increase the percentage of Saudi citizens who own homes.<sup>2173</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the Ministry of Education's Research and Development Office and the United Kingdom Science and Innovation Network announced the launch of the first UK-Saudi "Women in Science" network meant to support the entry of women in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and increase links between women working in STEM and the two states.<sup>2174</sup>

On 8 March 2019, upon assessment of the "Your Job ... Your Scholarship" program, the Saudi Commission for Heritage and Tourism and the National Center for Tourism Human Resources Development will fund the studies abroad of another 1,200 students and train 25,000 people as part of the National Transformation Program 2020.<sup>2175</sup> The program will now benefit close to 998 women and their empowerment in various industries, particularly tourism.<sup>2176</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Kafalah program signed an agreement with Saudi Finance Company to encourage financial institutions to invest in small and medium enterprises (SMEs).<sup>2177</sup> The Kafalah program offers favoured benefits to businesses that are at least fifty per cent owned by women and this new initiative is meant to encourage women's participation in SMEs.<sup>2178</sup>

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<sup>2169</sup> Dr. Tamdir Al-Ramah meets Belgian Ambassador and discusses bilateral cooperation in the fields of social development, Ministry of Labour and Sustainable Development (Ridayh) 3 January 2019. Access Date: 11 February 2019. <https://mlsd.gov.sa/ar/node/233761>.

<sup>2170</sup> Uniform code for women's work environment launched, Saudi Gazette (Ridayh) 20 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/557308/SAUDI-ARABIA/Uniform-code-for-womens-work-environment-launched>.

<sup>2171</sup> Uniform code for women's work environment launched, Saudi Gazette (Ridayh) 20 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/557308/SAUDI-ARABIA/Uniform-code-for-womens-work-environment-launched>.

<sup>2172</sup> Property loans for Saudi women approved, Arab News (Riyadh) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1452401/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2173</sup> Property loans for Saudi women approved, Arab News (Riyadh) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1452401/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2174</sup> Major Saudi-British energy initiative launched in the Kingdom, Arab News (Ridayh) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1458056/business-economy>.

<sup>2175</sup> Saudi tourism commission empower women in industry, Arab News (Riyadh) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1463921/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2176</sup> Saudi tourism commission empower women in industry, Arab News (Riyadh) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1463921/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2177</sup> Kafalah program for SMEs signs agreement with Saudi Finance Company, Arab News (Riyadh) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1463441/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2178</sup> Kafalah program for SMEs signs agreement with Saudi Finance Company, Arab News (Riyadh) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1463441/saudi-arabia>.

On 15 March 2019, Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Family Affairs Hala Al-Tuwaijri delivered a speech at the 63<sup>rd</sup> Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations where she affirmed the economic role of women in Saudi Arabia.<sup>2179</sup> The Secretary General highlighted initiatives such as Vision 2030, under which Saudi Arabia invests in developing women's economic resilience, and "36 strategic goals, supporting women's empowerment and ensuring their access to services through the building of supportive infrastructure."<sup>2180</sup>

On 27 March 2019, the Director General of the National Center for Tourism Human Resources Development Nasser Al-Nashmi announced the Center's plan to train 25,000 women in the tourism sector by 2020 in the hopes of developing occupational skills meant to empower Saudi women.<sup>2181</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the Shoura Council of Saudi Arabia ordered the Ministry of Justice to increase the number of women in administrative positions to better reflect the different needs and jurisdictions, and to ensure housing was included in alimony payments for divorced mothers.<sup>2182</sup> Both measures are meant to empower women's participation and ensure women's rights in Saudi society.<sup>2183</sup>

On 12 April 2019, Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Development for Social Development Dr. Tamazir Al-Rammah confirmed at the International Exhibition and Conference on Higher Education in Riyadh that the ministry is working on twelve objectives to help more Saudis find work.<sup>2184</sup> This entails increasing economic resilience and opportunities for beneficiaries of social services, grounded on the National Transformation 2020 which identifies that employment for Saudi women is "a right and a necessity."<sup>2185</sup>

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, through its efforts to improve labour conditions for women, especially in the field of STEM. Saudi Arabia has also taken actions to collaborate with the private sector to promote women's economic empowerment in the establishment of SMEs.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Amal Ismail-Ladak*

### **South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

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<sup>2179</sup> Saudi Arabia affirms economic role for women, Arab News (Riyadh) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1467411/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2180</sup> Saudi Arabia affirms economic role for women, Arab News (Riyadh) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1467411/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2181</sup> Saudi tourism body to train 25,000 women by 2020, Arab News (Riyadh) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1473106/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2182</sup> Saudi Shoura Council wants more women in court jobs, Arab News (Riyadh) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1480226/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2183</sup> Saudi Shoura Council wants more women in court jobs, Arab News (Riyadh) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1480226/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2184</sup> Dr. Tamdar Al-Ramah, speaking at the Higher Education Conference: We are working in the Ministry of Labor and Social Development to achieve 12 goals to improve the level of our services, Ministry of Labour and Sustainable Development (Riyadh) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://mlsd.gov.sa/en/node/260388>.

<sup>2185</sup> Dr. Tamdar Al-Ramah, speaking at the Higher Education Conference: We are working in the Ministry of Labor and Social Development to achieve 12 goals to improve the level of our services, Ministry of Labour and Sustainable Development (Riyadh) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://mlsd.gov.sa/en/node/260388>.

On 6 December 2018, President Cyril Ramaphosa officially launched the Atlantis Special Economic Zone in the Western Cape, a green technology hub working to prioritize local manufacturing of goods and promote trade within the African continent.<sup>2186</sup> This initiative will invest ZAR1.8 billion and is expected to create 24,000 jobs over the next 20 years.<sup>2187</sup> Ramaphosa specifically urged private companies involved in the project (for example: GRI South Africa, Skyward Windows, K-Tech and Amazon) to empower women involved by expanding opportunities for employment and ensuring women's protection and safety in the labour force.<sup>2188</sup>

On 30 December 2018, the Department of Women launched the Children's and Men's Robots aimed to bring generational change and end gender-based violence in South Africa through educational robots.<sup>2189</sup> The initiative will be introduced in schools and aims to teach the negative impacts of aggressive activities and behaviours while promoting empathy and foster friendship.<sup>2190</sup>

On 19 January 2019, the National Student Financial Aid Scheme announced they would be allocating ZAR275 per month to students in South Africa for personal care.<sup>2191</sup> The allowance is to be distributed to nearly 800,000 students across the country.<sup>2192</sup> This initiative is especially focused on recognizing women, many of whom miss school due to a lack of sanitary products.<sup>2193</sup> This is part of the government's commitment to gender responsive budgeting.<sup>2194</sup>

On 25 January 2019, the Department of Women held a consultative forum with members of the National Gender Machinery in Pretoria.<sup>2195</sup> The meeting involved members of government, academia and experts, youth organizations, the private sector, the Gender Advisory Committee, and civil

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<sup>2186</sup> Special economic zone should empower women, the youth: Ramaphosa, City Press (Johannesburg) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://city-press.news24.com/Business/special-economic-zone-should-empower-women-the-youth-ramaphosa-20181206>.

<sup>2187</sup> Special economic zone should empower women, the youth: Ramaphosa, City Press (Johannesburg) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://city-press.news24.com/Business/special-economic-zone-should-empower-women-the-youth-ramaphosa-20181206>.

<sup>2188</sup> Special economic zone should empower women, the youth: Ramaphosa, City Press (Johannesburg) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://city-press.news24.com/Business/special-economic-zone-should-empower-women-the-youth-ramaphosa-20181206>.

<sup>2189</sup> Department of Women Launches Men's and Children's Robot, Republic of South Africa, Department of Women (Cape Town) 29 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://www.women.gov.za/images/20181228-Launch-of-GBV-Robots-V2.pdf>.

<sup>2190</sup> Department of Women Launches Men's and Children's Robot, Republic of South Africa, Department of Women (Cape Town) 29 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://www.women.gov.za/images/20181228-Launch-of-GBV-Robots-V2.pdf>.

<sup>2191</sup> Department of Women on personal care allowance for students, South Africa Government (Cape Town) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-personal-care-allowance-students-19-jan-2019-0000>.

<sup>2192</sup> Department of Women on personal care allowance for students, South Africa Government (Cape Town) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-personal-care-allowance-students-19-jan-2019-0000>.

<sup>2193</sup> Department of Women on personal care allowance for students, South Africa Government (Cape Town) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-personal-care-allowance-students-19-jan-2019-0000>.

<sup>2194</sup> Department of Women on personal care allowance for students, South Africa Government (Cape Town) 19 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-personal-care-allowance-students-19-jan-2019-0000>.

<sup>2195</sup> Minister Bathabile Dlamini addresses consultative forum of gender focal points, South African Government (Cape Town) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-21-feb-2019-0000>.

society organizations.<sup>2196</sup> The forum was one component of an ongoing 25-year review of the government's advancements in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.<sup>2197</sup> This engagement, along with future meetings, will help build a Diagnostic Review Report, which outlines the success of programming, organizational efficiency and resources needed to achieve gender equality and empowerment goals.<sup>2198</sup>

On 20 February 2019, Minister of Finance Tito Mboweni announced the 2019 budget which includes an increase in payments of social grants for things such as child care, care-dependency and foster care grants.<sup>2199</sup> The monthly child support grants will increase to ZAR420 in April 2019 and to ZAR430 in October 2019.<sup>2200</sup> The foster care grants will increase to R1000 per month.<sup>2201</sup>

On 22 February 2019, the Government of South Africa held a meeting to assess the effectiveness of its gender equality and women's empowerment efforts alongside Minister of Women Bathabile Dlamini.<sup>2202</sup> The meeting involved stakeholders from all levels of government, as well as traditional local leaders, civil society organizations and members of the private sector to ensure everyone is working towards promoting gender equality.<sup>2203</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the Department of Women launches sanitary dignity programme in Piet Retief.<sup>2204</sup> The program intends to provide sanitary towels to girls and women to ensure that no girl misses school due to not having sanitary dignity products.<sup>2205</sup>

On 11 to 22 March 2019, Minister of Women Bathabile Dlamini and Minister of Small Business Development Lindiwe Zulu led a South African delegation to CSW63 in New York.<sup>2206</sup> This was an opportunity for the Government of South Africa to express their commitment to promoting

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<sup>2196</sup> Minister Bathabile Dlamini addresses consultative forum of gender focal points, South African Government (Cape Town) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-21-feb-2019-0000>.

<sup>2197</sup> Minister Bathabile Dlamini addresses consultative forum of gender focal points, South African Government (Cape Town) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-21-feb-2019-0000>.

<sup>2198</sup> Minister Bathabile Dlamini addresses consultative forum of gender focal points, South African Government (Cape Town) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-21-feb-2019-0000>.

<sup>2199</sup> #Budget19matters: What the 2019 budget speech means for the average South African, Sowetan Live (Johannesburg) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.sowetanlive.co.za/business/money/2019-02-22-budget19matters-what-the-2019-budget-speech-means-for-the-average-south-african/>.

<sup>2200</sup> Pension, child care grant increase, Sowetan Live (Johannesburg) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.sowetanlive.co.za/business/money/2019-02-20-pension-child-care-grant-increases/>.

<sup>2201</sup> Pension, child care grant increase, Sowetan Live (Johannesburg) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.sowetanlive.co.za/business/money/2019-02-20-pension-child-care-grant-increases/>.

<sup>2202</sup> South Africa: SA Evaluates Gender Equality Measures, All Africa (Cape Town) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201902220398.html>.

<sup>2203</sup> South Africa: SA Evaluates Gender Equality Measures, All Africa (Cape Town) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201902220398.html>.

<sup>2204</sup> Department of Women launches sanitary dignity programme in Piet Retief, Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/launch-sanitary-dignity-programme-26-feb-2019-0000>.

<sup>2205</sup> Department of Women launches sanitary dignity programme in Piet Retief, Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/launch-sanitary-dignity-programme-26-feb-2019-0000>.

<sup>2206</sup> Minister Bathabile Dlamini: South Africa Country Statement at the 63rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63), Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-bathabile-dlamini-south-africa-country-statement-63rd-session-commission-status>.

women's empowerment and speak to the action the federal government has taken to achieve this goal.<sup>2207</sup> The delegation presented the Government of South Africa's report on the "status of social protection system, access to public service, sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls."<sup>2208</sup> Minister Zulu also participated in some of the ministerial roundtables, high level interactive dialogue and interactive expert panels.<sup>2209</sup>

On 17 March 2019, the Secretary General of the Pan African Women's Organization and South Africa's Deputy Minister of Communications Pinky Kekana adopted the African Union's Gender and Women Empowerment Strategy 2018-2028.<sup>2210</sup> The strategy is aimed at eliminating constraints hindering gender equality and the empowerment of women.<sup>2211</sup> The policy also recognizes that violence against women and other harmful practices threatens women's security and bodily integrity and is exacerbated in conditions of conflict.<sup>2212</sup>

On 28 March 2019, President Ramaphosa signed the Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Declaration in Johannesburg at the opening of the Booyens Magistrate Courts.<sup>2213</sup> The declaration comes after the National Gender-Based Violence and Femicide Summit held in November 2018.<sup>2214</sup> The Courts include two regional courts specifically for criminal and sexual offences.<sup>2215</sup>

On 4 April 2019, Deputy Minister of Public Service and Administration Dr. Chana Pilane-Majake hosted a public service dialogue themed "Public Service Dialogue with Young Women," with young women in Mogale City.<sup>2216</sup> The focus of this discussion will be on "empowerment and development in a quest to transform the Public Service by presenting young women with information and the opportunities available in the public service."<sup>2217</sup>

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<sup>2207</sup> Minister Bathabile Dlamini: South Africa Country Statement at the 63rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63), Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-bathabile-dlamini-south-africa-country-statement-63rd-session-commission-status>.

<sup>2208</sup> Minister Lindiwe Zulu participates in 63rd Commission on Status of Women (CSW63) in New York, Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-small-business-development-ms-lindiwe-zulu-participates-63rd-commission-status>.

<sup>2209</sup> Minister Lindiwe Zulu participates in 63rd Commission on Status of Women (CSW63) in New York, Government of South Africa (Cape Town) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-small-business-development-ms-lindiwe-zulu-participates-63rd-commission-status>.

<sup>2210</sup> PAWO welcomes AU strategy on gender equality, South African Government News Agency (Cape Town) 17 March 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/pawo-welcomes-au-strategy-gender-equality>.

<sup>2211</sup> PAWO welcomes AU strategy on gender equality, South African Government News Agency (Cape Town) 17 March 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/pawo-welcomes-au-strategy-gender-equality>.

<sup>2212</sup> PAWO welcomes AU strategy on gender equality, South African Government News Agency (Cape Town) 17 March 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/pawo-welcomes-au-strategy-gender-equality>.

<sup>2213</sup> SA steps up efforts to curb women abuse, South African Government News Agency (Cape Town) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-steps-efforts-curb-women-abuse>.

<sup>2214</sup> SA steps up efforts to curb women abuse, South African Government News Agency (Cape Town) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-steps-efforts-curb-women-abuse>.

<sup>2215</sup> SA steps up efforts to curb women abuse, South African Government News Agency (Cape Town) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-steps-efforts-curb-women-abuse>.

<sup>2216</sup> Deputy Minister Chana Pilane-Majake hosts Public Service Dialogue with Young Women, South African Government (Cape Town) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/deputy-minister-chana-pilane-majake-hosts-public-service-dialogue-young-women-8-apr-4-apr>.

<sup>2217</sup> Deputy Minister Chana Pilane-Majake hosts Public Service Dialogue with Young Women, South African Government (Cape Town) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/deputy-minister-chana-pilane-majake-hosts-public-service-dialogue-young-women-8-apr-4-apr>.

On 11 April 2019, the Department of Women in partnership with the Eastern Cape Provincial Government launched the “Sanitary Dignity Programme” in Makana Municipality.<sup>2218</sup> The program intends to provide sanitary towels to girls and women to ensure that no girl misses school due to not having sanitary dignity products.<sup>2219</sup> This is part of the Government of South Africa’s initiative for a zero-tax rating on sanitary products which took effect from 1 April 2019.<sup>2220</sup>

On 15 April 2019, Defence and Military Veterans Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula officially launched the Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment Defence Sector Charter.<sup>2221</sup> One of the aims of the Charter is to benefit marginalized women and youth through economic growth and investment in job creation, especially through exports.<sup>2222</sup> The Charter will also include ownership, management and skills development programmes as well as the promotion of local businesses and entrepreneurship targeted towards women.<sup>2223</sup>

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to promote women’s economic empowerment through actions such as increasing women’s economic opportunities, improve labour conditions, enhance child care support, while also working with the private sector to achieve these goals.

Therefore, South Africa receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Natasha Comeau*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to promote women’s economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 24-25 April 2019, the Ankara Development Agency, Women Employers and Industrialists Association of Turkey and Turkmen Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants, with the support of the Ankara Governorate and Interior Minister General Directorate of Migration

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<sup>2218</sup> Department of Women launches Sanitary Dignity Programme in Eastern Cape, South African Government (Cape Town) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-launch-sanitary-dignity-programme-eastern-cape-%C2%A0-11-apr-2019-0000>.

<sup>2219</sup> Department of Women launches Sanitary Dignity Programme in Eastern Cape, South African Government (Cape Town) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-launch-sanitary-dignity-programme-eastern-cape-%C2%A0-11-apr-2019-0000>.

<sup>2220</sup> Department of Women launches Sanitary Dignity Programme in Eastern Cape, South African Government (Cape Town) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/department-women-launch-sanitary-dignity-programme-eastern-cape-%C2%A0-11-apr-2019-0000>.

<sup>2221</sup> Guy Martin, Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment Defence Sector Charter launched, Defence Web (Pretoria) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.defenceweb.co.za/featured/broad-based-black-economic-empowerment-defence-sector-charter-launched/>.

<sup>2222</sup> Guy Martin, Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment Defence Sector Charter launched, Defence Web (Pretoria) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.defenceweb.co.za/featured/broad-based-black-economic-empowerment-defence-sector-charter-launched/>.

<sup>2223</sup> Guy Martin, Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment Defence Sector Charter launched, Defence Web (Pretoria) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019. <https://www.defenceweb.co.za/featured/broad-based-black-economic-empowerment-defence-sector-charter-launched/>.

hosted the Turkish and Syrian Businesswomen Workshop.<sup>2224</sup> The workshop discussed the employment market and conditions for opportunities for businesswomen.<sup>2225</sup>

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment. While the Government of Turkey is working alongside the private sector to analyze the economic conditions for businesswomen in the country, tangible efforts have yet to be made to improve equitable access to various economic opportunities together with the private sector.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anahid Najafizadeh*

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 29 January 2019, British members of parliament (MPs) voted unanimously to implement a “trial of proxy voting for representatives on parental leave.”<sup>2226</sup> The provisions of this trial allow any MP who has recently become a parent or who has suffered a miscarriage to designate another MP to vote on their behalf.<sup>2227</sup> This initiative aims to address gender biases in political institutions.<sup>2228</sup>

On 7 February 2019, Minister for Women and Equalities Penny Mordaunt introduced a fund to help marginalised women return to work after experiencing domestic abuse, homelessness or substance abuse.<sup>2229</sup> Minister Mordaunt announced that GBP500,000 will be allocated towards organisations around England that are willing to offer job opportunities to help women return to the workplace.<sup>2230</sup>

On 8 February 2019, the Government Equalities Office published two reports designed to advise employers on how to identify “potential causes of the gender pay gap in their organisation,”<sup>2231</sup> as

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<sup>2224</sup> Workshop for Syrian, Turkish Businesswomen Next Week, Daily Sabah Business (Istanbul) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/2019/04/19/workshop-for-syrian-turkish-businesswomen-next-week>.

<sup>2225</sup> Workshop for Syrian, Turkish Businesswomen Next Week, Daily Sabah Business (Istanbul) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/2019/04/19/workshop-for-syrian-turkish-businesswomen-next-week>.

<sup>2226</sup> Towards More Gender-Inclusive Parliaments: The UK Embraces Proxy Voting, Council on Foreign Relations (London) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.cfr.org/blog/towards-more-gender-inclusive-parliaments-uk-embraces-proxy-voting>.

<sup>2227</sup> Towards More Gender-Inclusive Parliaments: The UK Embraces Proxy Voting, Council on Foreign Relations (London) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.cfr.org/blog/towards-more-gender-inclusive-parliaments-uk-embraces-proxy-voting>.

<sup>2228</sup> Towards More Gender-Inclusive Parliaments: The UK Embraces Proxy Voting, Council on Foreign Relations (London) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.cfr.org/blog/towards-more-gender-inclusive-parliaments-uk-embraces-proxy-voting>.

<sup>2229</sup> Mordaunt launches fund to help isolated and marginalised women return to work, GOV.UK (London) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mordaunt-launches-fund-to-help-isolated-and-marginalised-women-return-to-work>.

<sup>2230</sup> Mordaunt launches fund to help isolated and marginalised women return to work, GOV.UK (London) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mordaunt-launches-fund-to-help-isolated-and-marginalised-women-return-to-work>.

<sup>2231</sup> New guidance to help employers close gender pay gap, GOV.UK (London) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-guidance-to-help-employers-close-gender-pay-gap>.

well as a four-step guide to help British companies develop an effective gender pay gap action plan.<sup>2232</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland met with a United Nations committee in Geneva to discuss the United Kingdom's "lack of progress in protecting and extending equality for women in Northern Ireland."<sup>2233</sup> This included underlining the need for action plans to target the "under-representation of women in political life in Westminster, the Assembly and local government, as well as in public life and economic decision-making roles generally,"<sup>2234</sup> as well as addressing the under-representation of women in STEM fields.<sup>2235</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the United Kingdom Science and Innovation Network and the Ministry of Education's Research and Development Office announced the launch of the first UK-Saudi "Women in Science" network meant to support the entry of women in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and increase links between women working in STEM and the two states.<sup>2236</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Minister for Women and Equalities Penny Mordaunt announced a pilot programme that will start advertising full time investigative roles across nine force areas.<sup>2237</sup> This initiative will help police officers and police staff investigators who have left the force to start a family, or care for a relative or a friend, to return to permanent jobs.<sup>2238</sup> In the UK, nine out of 10 potential returners to work are women and this initiative will equip all the returners with the necessary skills, training and confidence.<sup>2239</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the Home Office published a refreshed violence against women and girls strategy to provide further support and new measures to protect victims and survivors, as well as tackle violence.<sup>2240</sup> "This includes a cross-sector, end-to-end review into how rape and sexual violence cases are handled across the criminal justice system."<sup>2241</sup>

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<sup>2232</sup> Gender pay gap: employers' action and understanding, GOV.UK (London) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gender-pay-gap-employers-action-and-understanding>.

<sup>2233</sup> Commission urges United Nations to take government to task on equality, Belfast Telegraph Digital (Belfast) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/commission-urges-united-nations-to-take-government-to-task-on-equality-37848820.html>.

<sup>2234</sup> Commission urges United Nations to take government to task on equality, Belfast Telegraph Digital (Belfast) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/commission-urges-united-nations-to-take-government-to-task-on-equality-37848820.html>.

<sup>2235</sup> Commission urges United Nations to take government to task on equality, Belfast Telegraph Digital (Belfast) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/commission-urges-united-nations-to-take-government-to-task-on-equality-37848820.html>.

<sup>2236</sup> Major Saudi-British energy initiative launched in the Kingdom, Arab News (Ridayh) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1458056/business-economy>.

<sup>2237</sup> Government pilot to help parents and carers return to policing, GOV.UK (London) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-pilot-to-help-parents-and-carers-return-to-policing>.

<sup>2238</sup> Government pilot to help parents and carers return to policing, GOV.UK (London) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-pilot-to-help-parents-and-carers-return-to-policing>.

<sup>2239</sup> Government pilot to help parents and carers return to policing, GOV.UK (London) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-pilot-to-help-parents-and-carers-return-to-policing>.

<sup>2240</sup> Government sets out key measures to tackle violence against women and girls, GOV.UK (London) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-key-measures-to-tackle-violence-against-women-and-girls>.

<sup>2241</sup> Government sets out key measures to tackle violence against women and girls, GOV.UK (London) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-key-measures-to-tackle-violence-against-women-and-girls>.

On 8 March 2019, Employment Minister Alok Sharma addressed the Future Skills project, which aims to “support women into work with skills-based training and work experience in its charity shops.”<sup>2242</sup> Minister Sharma identified the urgency to tackle employment inequality and claimed that the program’s partnership with Oxfam would commit to “working with partners, including the government, to help women in or at risk of poverty into well paid, and secure work.”<sup>2243</sup>

On 8 March 2019, Ministers across the Department for Transport wrote to industry leaders calling on them to take action to increase the availability of opportunities across the transport sector to women.<sup>2244</sup> The Department of Transport also announced that it will hold a “major round-table to look into the barriers preventing women from joining the sector.”<sup>2245</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the British High Commission in Singapore committed to a new #GenderPledge “to raise awareness about the ways that organisations, businesses and even individuals can incorporate gender equality and women’s empowerment into the way that they operate.”<sup>2246</sup> As part of the pledge, the Government of the UK committed to promoting better workplace culture and hiring practices for women, and partner with organisations or businesses, which champion gender equality, in order to promote these goals.<sup>2247</sup>

On 8 March 2019, Business Secretary Greg Clark announced GBP50,000 in funding to nine women innovators for inventions with global potential.<sup>2248</sup> This initiative aims to assist women in growing their business, while providing coaching and mentorship.<sup>2249</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Prime Minister’s Special Representative for Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Lord (Tariq) Ahmad announced GBP800,000 funding to enhance local women’s involvement in preventing conflict.<sup>2250</sup> This initiative “will support organisations that work with women to include their perspectives in peacebuilding processes.”<sup>2251</sup>

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<sup>2242</sup> Alok Sharma: 'There is still an urgency for us to act' on women’s economic independence, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/alok-sharma-there-is-still-an-urgency-for-us-to-act-on-women-s-economic-independence>.

<sup>2243</sup> Alok Sharma: 'There is still an urgency for us to act' on women’s economic independence, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/alok-sharma-there-is-still-an-urgency-for-us-to-act-on-women-s-economic-independence>.

<sup>2244</sup> Transport ministers call on industry to become leaders in gender equality, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/transport-ministers-call-on-industry-to-become-leaders-in-gender-equality>.

<sup>2245</sup> Transport ministers call on industry to become leaders in gender equality, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/transport-ministers-call-on-industry-to-become-leaders-in-gender-equality>.

<sup>2246</sup> Singapore: UK commits to a #GenderPledge on International Women's Day 2019, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-british-high-commission-singapore-commits-to-a-genderpledge-on-international-womens-day-2019>.

<sup>2247</sup> Singapore: UK commits to a #GenderPledge on International Women's Day 2019, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-british-high-commission-singapore-commits-to-a-genderpledge-on-international-womens-day-2019>.

<sup>2248</sup> 9 women innovators get government backing for inventions with global potential, GOV.UK (London) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/9-women-innovators-get-government-backing-for-inventions-with-global-potential>.

<sup>2249</sup> 9 women innovators get government backing for inventions with global potential, GOV.UK (London) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/9-women-innovators-get-government-backing-for-inventions-with-global-potential>.

<sup>2250</sup> Lord Ahmad pledges £800,000 for women’s peacebuilding, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lord-ahmad-pledges-800000-for-womens-peacebuilding>.

<sup>2251</sup> Lord Ahmad pledges £800,000 for women’s peacebuilding, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/lord-ahmad-pledges-800000-for-womens-peacebuilding>.

On 8 March 2019, the Government of the UK's "Innovate UK" awarded funding and support to nine female-led businesses, as part of its campaign to boost diversity in innovation.<sup>2252</sup> The winners received GBP50,000 in "business funding and a package of bespoke support to help grow their business and boost the UK economy."<sup>2253</sup>

On 8 March 2019, Maritime Minister Nusrat Ghani announced funding of GBP100,000 for an educational charity called 1851 Trust, which will support ten roadshows around the UK where girls can speak to women working in the maritime sector about the full breadth of careers available in this field.<sup>2254</sup> The aim of this initiative is to increase the number of women entering into the field of STEM and to address gender balance in the maritime sector.<sup>2255</sup>

On 22 March 2019, the 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women finished in New York with the UK, along with each UN Member State, committing to "safeguard and improve women's access to social protection systems, public services and sustainable infrastructure, ensuring that their design...is transformed to prevent discrimination and create a level playing field for women and girls."<sup>2256</sup>

On 25 March 2019, the Governments of the UK and Japan co-hosted an event on "Women in Peacebuilding" at the British Embassy in Tokyo.<sup>2257</sup> The event "looked in detail at the crucial role of women in peacebuilding, a key theme of WAW!"<sup>2258</sup> This is the most recent example of cooperation between the two governments on the Women, Peace and Security agenda and on gender equality.<sup>2259</sup>

On 28 March 2019, Minister for Civil Society Mims Davies announced a total of GBP15 million for various organizations in order to help improve the lives of disadvantaged women across the UK.<sup>2260</sup> "The funding will support a diverse range of projects over the next two years including helping women at risk of homelessness or modern slavery to programmes that address problem gambling and violence against women."<sup>2261</sup>

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<sup>2252</sup> Women in Innovation: 9 female-led businesses backed, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/women-in-innovation-9-female-led-businesses-backed>.

<sup>2253</sup> Women in Innovation: 9 female-led businesses backed, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/women-in-innovation-9-female-led-businesses-backed>.

<sup>2254</sup> New funding to support young women into maritime careers, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funding-to-support-young-women-into-maritime-careers>.

<sup>2255</sup> New funding to support young women into maritime careers, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funding-to-support-young-women-into-maritime-careers>.

<sup>2256</sup> UN Commission on the Status of Women delivers roadmap on ensuring women's social protection, mobility, safety, and access to economic opportunities, UN Women (New York) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/press-release-csw-63-delivers-roadmap-on-ensuring-womens-social-protection>.

<sup>2257</sup> UK-Japan WAW! Official Side Event on Women in Peacebuilding, GOV.UK (London) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-japan-waw-official-side-event-on-women-in-peacebuilding>.

<sup>2258</sup> UK-Japan WAW! Official Side Event on Women in Peacebuilding, GOV.UK (London) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-japan-waw-official-side-event-on-women-in-peacebuilding>.

<sup>2259</sup> UK-Japan WAW! Official Side Event on Women in Peacebuilding, GOV.UK (London) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-japan-waw-official-side-event-on-women-in-peacebuilding>.

<sup>2260</sup> Charities across the UK supporting vulnerable women benefit in latest round of funding from Tampon Tax Fund, GOV.UK (London) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/charities-across-the-uk-supporting-vulnerable-women-benefit-in-latest-round-of-funding-from-tampon-tax-fund>.

<sup>2261</sup> Charities across the UK supporting vulnerable women benefit in latest round of funding from Tampon Tax Fund, GOV.UK (London) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/charities-across-the-uk-supporting-vulnerable-women-benefit-in-latest-round-of-funding-from-tampon-tax-fund>.

On 16 April 2019, the Department for Education committed to provide access to free sanitary products for students in secondary schools and colleges from early 2020.<sup>2262</sup> This initiative intends to ensure that every woman and girl receives support and doesn't miss school or college.<sup>2263</sup>

The UK has partially complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment through actions such as the decision to implement initiatives to address gender bias in political institutions. UK has not taken any concrete actions to work with the private sector to promote women's economic empowerment.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Coral Cripps*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 16 January 2019, the STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act was introduced by the House of Representatives.<sup>2264</sup> The goal of this bill is to “report on the effectiveness of all [National Science Foundation] research and education programs intended to broaden the participation of women and other historically underrepresented individuals in science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines and careers.”<sup>2265</sup>

On 31 January 2019, US Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich reintroduced the Paycheck Fairness Act, a legislation that would guarantee women the right to challenge pay discrimination and hold their employers accountable for discriminatory practices.<sup>2266</sup> The act also “end[s] the practice of pay secrecy, eas[es] workers' ability to individually or jointly challenge pay discrimination, and strengthen[s] the available remedies for wronged employees.”<sup>2267</sup> The initiative aims to reinstate the Equal Pay Act of 1963 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex within any establishment.<sup>2268</sup>

On 7 February 2019, President Donald Trump signed the National Security Presidential Memorandum, which marked the official launch of the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP).<sup>2269</sup> This initiative will engage the private sector, public sector and civil society to advance women's economic empowerment by focusing on “efficiently and effectively

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<sup>2262</sup> Free sanitary products in all primary schools, GOV.UK (London) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/free-sanitary-products-in-all-primary-schools>.

<sup>2263</sup> Free sanitary products in all primary schools, GOV.UK (London) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/free-sanitary-products-in-all-primary-schools>.

<sup>2264</sup> STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/627?s=1&r=510>.

<sup>2265</sup> STEM Research and Education Effectiveness and Transparency Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/627?s=1&r=510>.

<sup>2266</sup> The Equal Pay Act of 1963, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Washington, DC). Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.eeoc.gov/laws/statutes/epa.cfm>.

<sup>2267</sup> Udall, Heinrich Work to Close Gender Wage Gap, Tom Udall – Senator For New Mexico (Washington, DC) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/news/press-releases/udall-heinrich-work-to-close-gender-wage-gap>.

<sup>2268</sup> The Equal Pay Act of 1963, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Washington, DC). Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.eeoc.gov/laws/statutes/epa.cfm>.

<sup>2269</sup> Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, The White House (Washington, DC) 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wgdp/>.

direct[ing] policy and programmatic efforts to support workforce development and women entrepreneurs.”<sup>2270</sup> It expands educational programs, financial assistance, capacity building and mentorship to advantage a target of 50 million women by 2025.<sup>2271</sup>

Announced on 7 March 2019, the company UPS and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) will collaborate to promote women’s economic empowerment and to improve women’s entrepreneurs’ ability to export as part of the Women’s Global Development and Prosperity Initiative. The program will provide training and workforce development, entrepreneurship and will create an enabling environment.<sup>2272</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the House of Representatives passed the Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act, which aims to “provide paid family and medical leave benefits to certain individuals, and for other purposes,”<sup>2273</sup> and “promote the goal of equal employment opportunity for women and men.”<sup>2274</sup> The bill identifies the physical and mental burden unpaid leave places on family caregivers, especially new mothers, and the support paid leave for mothers who eventually return to the workforce.<sup>2275</sup>

On 15 February 2019, the Senate passed the Consolidated Appropriations Act which includes USD50 million to be allocated towards programs designed to increase leadership opportunities in the public and private sectors for women in countries where they “suffer discrimination due to law, policy or practice,”<sup>2276</sup> as well as support for programs that “promote the political and economic empowerment of women”<sup>2277</sup> in countries such as Afghanistan, India and Pakistan.<sup>2278</sup>

On 3 March 2019, the Senate introduced Resolution 101 which fulfills the goals of the Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018.<sup>2279</sup> The Act aims to: i) address gender disparities “with respect to economic, social, political, educational and cultural resources, wealth,

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<sup>2270</sup> Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, U.S. Department of State (Washington, DC) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2019/02/288896.htm>.

<sup>2271</sup> Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, The White House (Washington, DC) 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wgdp/>.

<sup>2272</sup> UPS Launches Women’s Economic Empowerment Partnership With USAID, UPS Press Room (Washington, DC) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 4 May 2019. <https://pressroom.ups.com/pressroom/ContentDetailsViewer.page?ConceptType=PressReleases&id=1549561598453-574>.

<sup>2273</sup> FAMILY Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1185?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22leave%22%5D%7D&r=6&s=6>.

<sup>2274</sup> FAMILY Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1185?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22leave%22%5D%7D&r=6&s=6>.

<sup>2275</sup> FAMILY Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1185?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22leave%22%5D%7D&r=6&s=6>.

<sup>2276</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-joint-resolution/31/text>.

<sup>2277</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-joint-resolution/31/text>.

<sup>2278</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-joint-resolution/31/text>.

<sup>2279</sup> A resolution supporting the goals of International Women's Day, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-resolution/101/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women+gender%22%5D%7D&r=4&s=1>.

opportunities and services,”<sup>2280</sup> ii) eliminate gender-based violence in the workplace, iii) “support activities that secure private property rights for women in developing countries, iv) increase the capability of women to make autonomous life decisions and v) improve the access of women to higher education opportunities and thus leverage their career opportunities.”<sup>2281</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs launched the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE), a new initiative supporting women entrepreneurs around the world.<sup>2282</sup> AWE includes three main goals: “to provide online education resources, foster networks that support access to mentorships, and connect women through existing exchange programs.”<sup>2283</sup> Participants will have access to learning opportunities, an opportunity to explore the fundamentals of business, including creating business plans and raising capital.<sup>2284</sup>

On 27 March 2019, the Paycheck Fairness Act was passed in the House of Representatives.<sup>2285</sup> This bill was passed to “amend the Fair Labor Standards of 1938”<sup>2286</sup> and to “provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex.”<sup>2287</sup> This includes reducing pay disparities between men and women in both the private and governmental sectors.<sup>2288</sup>

On 22 March 2019, the 63<sup>rd</sup> session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women finished in New York with the US, along with each UN Member State, committing to “safeguard and improve women’s access to social protection systems, public services and sustainable infrastructure, ensuring that their design ... is transformed to prevent discrimination and create a level playing field for women and girls.”<sup>2289</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the House of Representatives introduced Resolution 30, which “recognizes the disparity between wages paid to men and women and its impact on women and families.”<sup>2290</sup> The

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<sup>2280</sup> A resolution supporting the goals of International Women's Day, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-resolution/101/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women+gender%22%5D%7D&r=4&s=1>.

<sup>2281</sup> A resolution supporting the goals of International Women's Day, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-resolution/101/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women+gender%22%5D%7D&r=4&s=1>.

<sup>2282</sup> State Department Launches the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Department of State (Washington DC) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/03/290040.htm>.

<sup>2283</sup> State Department Launches the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Department of State (Washington DC) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/03/290040.htm>.

<sup>2284</sup> State Department Launches the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Department of State (Washington DC) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2019/03/290040.htm>.

<sup>2285</sup> Paycheck Fairness Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7/text>.

<sup>2286</sup> Paycheck Fairness Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7/text>.

<sup>2287</sup> Paycheck Fairness Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7/text>.

<sup>2288</sup> Paycheck Fairness Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7/text>.

<sup>2289</sup> UN Commission on the Status of Women delivers roadmap on ensuring women’s social protection, mobility, safety, and access to economic opportunities, UN Women (New York) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/press-release-csw-63-delivers-roadmap-on-ensuring-womens-social-protection>.

<sup>2290</sup> Recognizing the significance of equal pay and the disparity between wages paid to men and women, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-concurrent-resolution/30?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women+gender%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=1>.

resolution aims to strengthen Congress' commitment to "supporting equal pay for equal work and to narrow the gender wage gap."<sup>2291</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Senate introduced the Keeping Girls in School Act, which aims to "support empowerment, economic security and educational opportunities for adolescent girls around the world."<sup>2292</sup> New technologies, public-private partnerships and research will be employed to support girls' transition to secondary schooling and the government will consistently monitor and evaluate the program.<sup>2293</sup>

US has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's empowerment through initiatives that promote the abandonment of workplace discrimination on the basis of gender and in employing private sector resources to build a skilled and inclusive workforce.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Coral Cripps*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment, including by working with the private sector, to improve labour conditions for all, such as through access to quality and affordable care infrastructure and parental leave, and reducing the gender pay gap.

On 18 December 2018, President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker announced new projects as part of the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs, and among the target beneficiaries of these projects are women.<sup>2294</sup> The projects include an EU guarantee that will invest EUR75 million to create 800,000 jobs and implementation of public-private dialogues with Sustainable Business for Africa to promote job creation for women in specific African countries.<sup>2295</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the European Investment Bank provided EUR5 million to the Garanti Bank Romania for investment in women entrepreneurs in Romania.<sup>2296</sup> Loans will be available to small and medium-sized enterprises with more than 50 per cent female ownership, providing favourable financing to women entrepreneurs.<sup>2297</sup> This initiative is expected to benefit up to 260 women-led businesses and support about 6,100 jobs.<sup>2298</sup>

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<sup>2291</sup> Recognizing the significance of equal pay and the disparity between wages paid to men and women, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-concurrent-resolution/30?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women+gender%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=1>.

<sup>2292</sup> Keeping Girls in School Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1071/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women+gender%22%5D%7D&r=5&s=1>.

<sup>2293</sup> Keeping Girls in School Act, Congress.gov (Washington, DC) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1071/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22women+gender%22%5D%7D&r=5&s=1>.

<sup>2294</sup> Africa-Europe Alliance: First Projects Kicked Off Just Three Months After Launch, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 17 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6804\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6804_en.htm).

<sup>2295</sup> Africa-Europe Alliance: First Projects Kicked Off Just Three Months After Launch, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 17 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6804\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6804_en.htm).

<sup>2296</sup> Women entrepreneurs in Romania to receive EIB loans, Government Europa (Congleton) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.governmenteuropa.eu/women-entrepreneurs-in-romania/91823/>.

<sup>2297</sup> Women entrepreneurs in Romania to receive EIB loans, Government Europa (Congleton) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.governmenteuropa.eu/women-entrepreneurs-in-romania/91823/>.

<sup>2298</sup> Women entrepreneurs in Romania to receive EIB loans, Government Europa (Congleton) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.governmenteuropa.eu/women-entrepreneurs-in-romania/91823/>.

On 16 January 2019, UN Women organized an international conference in Ankara in partnership with Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality, with the financial support of the EU's Regional Trust Fund for Syrian Refugees.<sup>2299</sup> The conference highlighted the importance of “ensuring gender-sensitive refugee response and advocating for greater involvement of refugee women and women from the host communities in decision-making and planning processes.”<sup>2300</sup>

On 24 January 2019, the European Parliament, Council and Commission achieved a provisional agreement on the Directive on Work-Life Balance for Parents and Carers, which aims to “open up opportunities for working women and men to share caring responsibilities, for children and relatives, on an equal basis.”<sup>2301</sup> The Directive sets minimum standards for care by fathers and explains parental leave rights as well as compensation.<sup>2302</sup> The EU representatives claim this Directive will change social norms and priorities, open up more business opportunities for women and help close the gender pay gap.<sup>2303</sup>

On 15 February 2019, the European Commission Advisory Committee published opinions and recommendations for all EU Member States on gender equality.<sup>2304</sup> Recommendations include the adoption of a five-year strategy by the Commission, affordable childcare, full participation in the labour market and the prioritization of equal pay.<sup>2305</sup>

On 21 February 2019, the EU's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional affairs released a study on the participation of women in the European Parliament.<sup>2306</sup> It includes recommendations for EU Member States and political parties to increase the representation of women, encourage a better work-life balance, provide accessible mentoring programs and have women receive specific funding for their political campaigns.<sup>2307</sup>

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<sup>2299</sup> International Conference on "Gender-sensitive Refugee Response in Turkey, UN Women (New York) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://eca.unwomen.org/en/news/events/2019/01/international-conference-on-gender-sensitive-refugee-response-in-turkey>.

<sup>2300</sup> International Conference on "Gender-sensitive Refugee Response in Turkey, UN Women (New York) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <http://eca.unwomen.org/en/news/events/2019/01/international-conference-on-gender-sensitive-refugee-response-in-turkey>.

<sup>2301</sup> Work-Life Balance: Commission Welcomes the Provisional Agreement Reached Today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STATEMENT-19-424\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm).

<sup>2302</sup> Work-Life Balance: Commission Welcomes the Provisional Agreement Reached Today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STATEMENT-19-424\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm).

<sup>2303</sup> Work-Life Balance: Commission Welcomes the Provisional Agreement Reached Today, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STATEMENT-19-424\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-424_en.htm).

<sup>2304</sup> European Commission Advisory Committee Discusses the Future Gender Equality Policy in the EU, European Trade Union Committee for Education (Brussels) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.csee-etu.org/en/news/archive/2956-european-commission-advisory-committee-discusses-the-future-gender-equality-policy-in-the-eu>.

<sup>2305</sup> European Commission Advisory Committee Discusses the Future Gender Equality Policy in the EU, European Trade Union Committee for Education (Brussels) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.csee-etu.org/en/news/archive/2956-european-commission-advisory-committee-discusses-the-future-gender-equality-policy-in-the-eu>.

<sup>2306</sup> Women in Political Decision-Making in View of the Next European Elections, European Parliament (Brussels) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2019/608863/IPOL\\_STU\(2019\)608863\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2019/608863/IPOL_STU(2019)608863_EN.pdf).

<sup>2307</sup> Women in Political Decision-Making in View of the Next European Elections, European Parliament (Brussels) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2019/608863/IPOL\\_STU\(2019\)608863\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2019/608863/IPOL_STU(2019)608863_EN.pdf).

On 22 February 2019, the first meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Action Strategy for 2017-2022 took place between the Russian Federation and the Council of Europe. The project allows the promotion of international dialogue about preventing women's social disadvantage.<sup>2308</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the EU in collaboration with the UN announced an EUR50 million investment to tackle domestic violence in the Pacific region, as part of the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative.<sup>2309</sup> Measures include providing “protection and quality services to victims, accompanied by broader efforts to ensure women's economic empowerment and their participation in all aspects of society.”<sup>2310</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the EU and UN Women jointly launched a program called “WeEmpower Asia” to encourage the private sector to enhance women's economic participation for women in China, Indonesia, India, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The program is funded by the EU, and UN Women will implement the EUR8 million program to integrate gender concerns into business practices in the region.<sup>2311</sup>

On 16 April 2019, commissioners of the European Commission for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality Věra Jourová and for Digital Economy and Society Mariya Gabriel announced a new digital campaign: #DigitalRespect4Her.<sup>2312</sup> The campaign is aimed at calling out and acting against the online abuse of women, which can lead to their self-censorship from debates and politics and decrease the representativeness of democratic processes in countries.<sup>2313</sup>

The EU has fully complied with its commitment to promote women's economic empowerment by publishing a series of reports with recommendations and official opinions for Member States to ensure the principles of women's economic empowerment are prioritized and so that specific measures are taken to ensure women are involved in political process of the EU. The EU has also collaborated with the private sector to achieve these goals.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anabid Najafizadeh*

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<sup>2308</sup> Russia – Council of Europe Project on Implementation of National Strategy of Action for Women 2017-2022 Started 29 January 2019 (Moscow). Access Date: 15 May 2019. <https://rosmintrud.ru/social/90>.

<sup>2309</sup> Spotlight Initiative – EU and UN fight against domestic violence in the Pacific region, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1410\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1410_en.htm).

<sup>2310</sup> Spotlight Initiative – EU and UN fight against domestic violence in the Pacific region, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1410\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1410_en.htm).

<sup>2311</sup> When More Women Work, Economies Grow: European Union and UN Women partner to boost Women's Economic Rights and Opportunities in Asia, European Commission (Brussels) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 6 May 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/fpi/news/eu-and-un-women-partner-to-boost-women-economic-empowerment\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/fpi/news/eu-and-un-women-partner-to-boost-women-economic-empowerment_en).

<sup>2312</sup> Joint Statement by Commissioners Jourová and Gabriel on the Launch of the #Digitalrespect4her Campaign, European Commission (Strasbourg) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STATEMENT-19-2156\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-2156_en.htm).

<sup>2313</sup> Joint Statement by Commissioners Jourová and Gabriel on the Launch of the #Digitalrespect4her Campaign, European Commission (Strasbourg) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STATEMENT-19-2156\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-19-2156_en.htm).

## 9. Reform of the International Financial Institutions: International Monetary Fund

“We reaffirm our commitment to further strengthening the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF at its centre.”

*G20 Buenos Aires Action Plan*

### Assessment

Country	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia		0	
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
India			+1
Indonesia	-1		
Italy	-1		
Japan			+1
Korea		0	
Mexico			+1
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.35	

### Background

The Global Financial Safety Net (GFSN) comprises international reserves, central bank bilateral swap arrangements, regional financing arrangements, fund resources and market-based instruments.<sup>2314</sup> The aim of the safety net is to provide nations with insurance against crises, financing when shocks hit, and incentives for sound macroeconomic policies.<sup>2315</sup> The GFSN has expanded formidably since the crisis and these past reforms have strengthened the safety net.<sup>2316</sup> The

<sup>2314</sup> Adequacy of the Global Financial Safety Net, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 10 March 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2016/12/31/Adequacy-of-the-Global-Financial-Safety-Net-PP5025>.

<sup>2315</sup> Adequacy of the Global Financial Safety Net, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 10 March 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2016/12/31/Adequacy-of-the-Global-Financial-Safety-Net-PP5025>.

<sup>2316</sup> Adequacy of the Global Financial Safety Net, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 10 March 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2016/12/31/Adequacy-of-the-Global-Financial-Safety-Net-PP5025>.

introduction of the Flexible Credit Line and Precautionary Liquidity Line has filled gaps in the net but they still have limited utility and thus require more fund reforms to be enacted.<sup>2317</sup>

In general, G20 members have been committed to placing international financial institution (IFI) reform at the forefront of their agenda since the first G20 summit in Washington in 2008.<sup>2318</sup> It began at 2008 with 14 commitments made.<sup>2319</sup>

However, the emphasis the G20 has placed on the importance of IFI reform has remained in flux. Throughout the G20's history, the number of IFI reform commitments have fluctuated between peaks and lows. On 2 April 2009, at the London Summit, the G20 members made an all-time high with 29 IFI commitments.<sup>2320</sup> However, when Canada succeeded the United Kingdom as G20 host, IFI commitments dropped to four.<sup>2321</sup> While the subsequent two summits would see another peak in IFI commitments, with the Seoul Summit producing 16 IFI commitments and the Cannes Summit producing 22 IFI commitments,<sup>2322</sup> the G20's focus would shift away from IFI reform until the 2017 Hamburg Summit.

On April 2017, prior to the 2017 Hamburg Summit, G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors commissioned the creation of the G20 Eminent Persons Group on Global Financial Governance (EPG).<sup>2323</sup> The EPG's mandate was to recommend reforms of the global financial architecture and governance of IFI structures.<sup>2324</sup> In their report released on October 2018, at the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting Bali,<sup>2325</sup> the EPG recommended that G20 members commit to timely conclusion of quota reviews in order to ensure there was an adequately resourced GFSN.<sup>2326</sup>

Since 2008, the majority of the G20's work on IFI reform has focused on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.<sup>2327</sup> This trend continued at the 2018 G20 Summit in Buenos Aires. Just months prior to the Summit, Argentina received the largest loan in IMF history, USD57 billion.<sup>2328</sup> This bailout set the stage for a conversation on increasing funding for the IMF, as

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<sup>2317</sup> Adequacy of the Global Financial Safety Net, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 10 March 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2016/12/31/Adequacy-of-the-Global-Financial-Safety-Net-PP5025>.

<sup>2318</sup> G20 International Financial Institution Reform Commitments and Compliance, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 January 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/170105-ifi-reform-research.html>.

<sup>2319</sup> G20 International Financial Institution Reform Commitments and Compliance, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 January 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/170105-ifi-reform-research.html>.

<sup>2320</sup> G20 International Financial Institution Reform Commitments and Compliance, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 January 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/170105-ifi-reform-research.html>.

<sup>2321</sup> G20 International Financial Institution Reform Commitments and Compliance, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 January 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/170105-ifi-reform-research.html>.

<sup>2322</sup> G20 International Financial Institution Reform Commitments and Compliance, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 January 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/170105-ifi-reform-research.html>.

<sup>2323</sup> About the G20 Eminent Persons Group on Global Financial Governance (Washington, D.C.) Access Date: 20 January 2019. <https://www.globalfinancialgovernance.org/about-g20-epg/>.

<sup>2324</sup> About the G20 Eminent Persons Group on Global Financial Governance (Washington, D.C.) Access Date: 20 January 2019. <https://www.globalfinancialgovernance.org/about-g20-epg/>.

<sup>2325</sup> Making the Global Financial System Work for All, G20 Eminent Persons Group (Bali) October 2018. Access Date: 20 January 2019. <https://www.globalfinancialgovernance.org/assets/pdf/G20EPG-Full%20Report.pdf>.

<sup>2326</sup> Making the Global Financial System Work for All, G20 Eminent Persons Group (Bali) October 2018. Access Date: 20 January 2019. <https://www.globalfinancialgovernance.org/assets/pdf/G20EPG-Full%20Report.pdf>.

<sup>2327</sup> G20 International Financial Institution Reform Commitments and Compliance, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 January 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/170105-ifi-reform-research.html>.

<sup>2328</sup> Argentina gets biggest loan in IMF's history at \$57bn, The Guardian (Buenos Aires) 27 September 2018. Access Date: 20 January 2018. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/sep/26/argentina-imf-biggest-loan>.

emphasized by its role in stabilizing one of the G20's own members. Thus, G20 members recognized the importance of adequately resourcing the IMF.

### **Commitment Features**

The G20 members “reaffirm our commitment to further strengthening the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.”<sup>2329</sup> “We reaffirm” is understood to refer to commitments that “have been established in the past.”<sup>2330</sup> It should not be considered a “new initiative; however, new efforts in the area should be made.”<sup>2331</sup>

The overall commitment is to “reaffirm their commitment to further strengthening the global financial safety net.”<sup>2332</sup> “Strengthening” in this context is defined to “make or become stronger.”<sup>2333</sup> The GFSN is considered to be comprised of mostly “countries’ own reserves and external public sources of insurance and financing.”<sup>2334</sup>

This commitment to strengthen the GFSN can be done through three mechanisms: 1) “a strong” 2) “quota based” and 3) “adequately resourced IMF at its centre.”<sup>2335</sup>

The first mechanism is a “strong” IMF. A “strong” IMF is understood to mean strong fundamentals and policies within the IMF in order to achieve its mission, which is the stability of the international monetary system.<sup>2336</sup> This is achieved through three primary areas 1) economic surveillance of its member countries, 2) loans to members experiencing balance of payments problems and 3) capacity development.<sup>2337</sup>

Furthermore, in order to ensure G20 members have the capacity to support the strengthening of the IMF, G20 members must also take action to strengthen their domestic financial stability. Increasing domestic financial security can be taken as a prevention measure for negative spillover effects to other IMF members, thereby strengthening the global financial safety net.

To fulfill the first mechanism of the commitment, the G20 member must support the IMF in one or more of its three primary areas or take steps to ensure their own financial stability.

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<sup>2329</sup> Buenos Aires Action Plan, G20 Argentina 2018 (Buenos Aires) November 2018. Access Date: 10 January 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos\\_aires\\_action\\_plan\\_0.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos_aires_action_plan_0.pdf).

<sup>2330</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

<sup>2331</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

<sup>2332</sup> Buenos Aires Action Plan, G20 Argentina 2018 (Buenos Aires) November 2018. Access Date: 10 January 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos\\_aires\\_action\\_plan\\_0.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos_aires_action_plan_0.pdf).

<sup>2333</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 11 January 2019.

<sup>2334</sup> Adequacy of the Global Financial Safety Net, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 10 March 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2016/12/31/Adequacy-of-the-Global-Financial-Safety-Net-PP5025>.

<sup>2335</sup> Buenos Aires Action Plan, G20 Argentina 2018 (Buenos Aires) November 2018. Access Date: 10 January 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos\\_aires\\_action\\_plan\\_0.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos_aires_action_plan_0.pdf).

<sup>2336</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 21 April 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2018/04/20/communique-of-the-thirty-seventh-meeting-of-the-international-monetary-and-financial-committee>.

<sup>2337</sup> About the International Monetary Fund (Washington D. C.) Access Date: 1 April 2019. <http://www.imf.org/external/about.htm>.

The second mechanism is a “quota-based” IMF at its centre. “Quota-based refers to the innate structure of the IMF, which is a quota-based institution.<sup>2338</sup> Quotas are the fundamental aspects of the IMF’s financial and governance structure, where a single member nation’s quota broadly represents its “relative position in the world economy.”<sup>2339</sup> The IMF has agreed on a new quota formula as a “bases for a realignment of quota shares” that will cause “increased shares for dynamic economies” and thus, are hence “in the share of emerging market and developing countries as a whole, while protecting the voice and representation of the poorest members.”<sup>2340</sup>

To fulfill the second mechanism of the commitment, the G20 member must work to create a reformed quota-based IMF to be a stable centre for the GFSN. The G20 members must work with the new “realigned” quota shares.

The third mechanism is a “adequately resourced IMF at its centre.”<sup>2341</sup> “Adequately resourced” entails the importance of holding sufficient reserves for precautionary measures.<sup>2342</sup> This requires the G20 members to implement reserve buffers for precautionary purposes for “non-reserve issuers without predictable access to reserve currencies.”<sup>2343</sup> External buffers, including reserves, provide “insurance against the risk of dysfunction.”<sup>2344</sup> To measure the size of the reserve, some of these factors may be considered: “relevant indicators cited in the survey responses include foreign exchange market turnover, foreign liabilities, and short-term external debt.”<sup>2345</sup> Some major crises that the IMF responded to in the past are: the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997 as well as the 2007-2008 Financial Crisis.<sup>2346,2347</sup>

To fulfill the third mechanism, the member has to contribute to an adequately resourced IMF with reserves for times of crisis.

Thus, to achieve full compliance, the G20 member must have reaffirmed fulfilled both mechanism of the commitment. This means that the G20 member has successfully strengthened the GFSN with a strong, quota-based and adequately resources IMF. Successful implementation of both mechanism of this commitment will gain the G20 member a score of +1 for full compliance.

Partial compliance is scored when the G20 member fulfills either the former or the latter of the two mechanism. This means that the G20 member has reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the

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<sup>2338</sup> IMF Quotas, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 19 April 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019.

<https://www.imf.org/en/About/Factsheets/Sheets/2016/07/14/12/21/IMF-Quotas>.

<sup>2339</sup> <https://www.imf.org/en/About/Factsheets/Sheets/2016/07/14/12/21/IMF-Quotas>.

<sup>2340</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Seventh Meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 21 April 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019.

<https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2018/04/20/communique-of-the-thirty-seventh-meeting-of-the-international-monetary-and-financial-committee>.

<sup>2341</sup> Buenos Aires Action Plan, G20 Argentina 2018 (Buenos Aires) November 2018. Access Date: 10 January 2019.

[http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos\\_aires\\_action\\_plan\\_0.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/buenos_aires_action_plan_0.pdf).

<sup>2342</sup> Assessing Reserve Adequacy, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 14 February 2011. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/external/np/spr/ara/>.

<sup>2343</sup> Assessing Reserve Adequacy – Specific Proposals, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) April 2015. Access Date: 21 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/external/np/pp/eng/2014/121914.pdf>.

<sup>2344</sup> Assessing Reserve Adequacy – Specific Proposals, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) April 2015. Access Date: 21 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/external/np/pp/eng/2014/121914.pdf>.

<sup>2345</sup> Assessing Reserve Adequacy – Specific Proposals, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) April 2015. Access Date: 21 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/external/np/pp/eng/2014/121914.pdf>.

<sup>2346</sup> The Fund’s Response to the 2007=08 Financial Crisis..., International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 15 September 2008. Access Date: 21 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/external/np/pp/eng/2008/091508.pdf>.

<sup>2347</sup> The Asia Crisis: Causes, Policy Responses, and Outcomes, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 1 October 1999. Access Date: 21 January 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WP/Issues/2016/12/30/The-Asia-Crisis-Causes-Policy-Responses-and-Outcomes-3295>.

GFSN by either a strong, quota-based IMF or an adequately resourced IMF. G20 members will receive a score of –1 for non-compliance if they have not successfully further strengthened GFSN with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF at its centre.

### Scoring Guidelines

–1	The G20 member does not support the IMF’s fundamental mission AND does not support a quota-based IMF AND does not adequately resource the IMF
0	The G20 member supports the IMF’s fundamental mission AND supports a quota-based IMF BUT does not adequately resource the IMF OR the G20 member supports the IMF’s fundamental AND adequately resource the IMF BUT does not support a quota-based IMF OR the G20 member does not support the IMF’s fundamental mission BUT supports a quota-based IMF AND adequately resources the IMF
+1	The G20 member supports the IMF’s fundamental mission AND supports a quota-based IMF AND adequately resources the IMF

*Compliance Director: Julia Tops  
Lead Analyst: Lily Amiri*

### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to further strengthen the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 18 January 2019, Argentine bonds have rallied and “benefited from a ‘risk-on’ moment in emerging markets.”<sup>2348</sup> The government is expected to run a surplus with the USD56 billion IMF bailout, inflation is forecasted to drop by 20 percentage points in the coming year, and the Argentine peso is projected to steady in the event that the incumbent President Mauricio Marci win over relative broad-based economic stability.<sup>2349</sup> As part of the deal with the IMF, Argentina pledged to tighten its monetary policy by “[accelerating] budget savings and [freezing] the supply of money to the economy in an effort to stamp out inflation.”<sup>2350</sup> This includes prohibiting the expenditure of Argentine foreign currency reserves to purchase pesos, a strategy the BCRA used in an attempt to stabilize the depreciating currency earlier in 2018.<sup>2351</sup>

On 5 April 2019, the IMF Executive Board completed the third review of Argentina’s economic progress.<sup>2352</sup> A statement made by the IMF’s Managing Director, Ms. Christine Lagarde, confirmed the third mission’s findings: IMF-supported policy reforms have been implemented and are seeing results; “the 2018 primary deficit” has been reduced “below the program target” to correct the debt-to-GDP ratio; and, legislature has been submitted to Congress to enshrine reformed monetary

<sup>2348</sup> Argentina in 2019 — make or break?, Financial Times (London) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/5e6a3642-1b0e-11e9-9e64-d150b3105d21>.

<sup>2349</sup> Argentina in 2019 — make or break?, Financial Times (London) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/5e6a3642-1b0e-11e9-9e64-d150b3105d21>.

<sup>2350</sup> Argentina Gets \$57 Billion as IMF Doubles Down on Record Bailout, Bloomberg (New York) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-09-26/argentina-gets-57-billion-as-imf-doubles-down-on-record-bailout>.

<sup>2351</sup> Argentina Gets \$57 Billion as IMF Doubles Down on Record Bailout, Bloomberg (New York) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-09-26/argentina-gets-57-billion-as-imf-doubles-down-on-record-bailout>.

<sup>2352</sup> IMF Executive Board Completes Third Review Under Argentina’s Stand-By Arrangement, Approves US\$10.8 Billion Disbursement (Washington D.C.) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/05/pr19107-argentina-imf-executive-board-completes-third-review-under-argentinass-stand-by-arrangement>.

policy.<sup>2353</sup> Ms. Lagarde’s statement encouraged the continued implementation of Argentina’s economic action plan. It also highlighted the importance of side-supply reforms to equitably enhance economic productivity and standard of living.<sup>2354</sup> The IMF disbursed approximately USD10.8 billion to Argentina.<sup>2355</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Argentina’s Minister of the Treasury Nicolás Dujovne reaffirmed their commitment “to a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF at the center of the International Monetary System and the Global Financial Safety Net.”<sup>2356</sup> In a statement following the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee (IMFC), Minister Dujovne outlined the latest reforms to Argentina’s monetary policy and its successful results.<sup>2357</sup> “So far in 2019, sovereign spreads have moderated, the stock market has rebounded, and public debt rollovers have been higher.”<sup>2358</sup> Central bank reserves increased, supported by a strong peso in January and February 2019.<sup>2359</sup> Officials have continued to follow IMF-supported reforms by working to enshrine the BCRA’s autonomy, to increase social benefit funding for “the most vulnerable,” and to deregulate markets. “At the country level, flexible macroeconomic policy frameworks ... have proven critical for reaping the benefits of global integration.”<sup>2360</sup> “The administration will continue developing its strategy to sustain ... essential elements that would spur robust private sector activity and wealth generation, and would allow the benefits of economic growth to be shared by all segments of society.”<sup>2361</sup>

On 17 April 2019, Argentine President Mauricio Macri announced ‘a series of measures to protect Argentinians while officials go forward with the necessary reforms to tackle the country’s long-standing inflation issue.’<sup>2362</sup> The measures respond to comments by IMF Managing Director Ms. Christine Lagarde, who insisted “protecting the most vulnerable from the impact of the recession

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<sup>2353</sup> IMF Staff Concludes Third Review Mission to Argentina (Washington D.C.) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/03/18/pr1978-argentina-imf-staff-concludes-third-review-mission-to-argentina>.

<sup>2354</sup> IMF Staff Concludes Third Review Mission to Argentina (Washington D.C.) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/03/18/pr1978-argentina-imf-staff-concludes-third-review-mission-to-argentina>.

<sup>2355</sup> IMF Staff Concludes Third Review Mission to Argentina (Washington D.C.) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/03/18/pr1978-argentina-imf-staff-concludes-third-review-mission-to-argentina>.

<sup>2356</sup> IMFC Statement by Nicolás Dujovne, Minister of the Treasury of Argentina on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/arg.ashx>.

<sup>2357</sup> IMFC Statement by Nicolás Dujovne, Minister of the Treasury of Argentina on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/arg.ashx>.

<sup>2358</sup> IMFC Statement by Nicolás Dujovne, Minister of the Treasury of Argentina on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/arg.ashx>.

<sup>2359</sup> IMFC Statement by Nicolás Dujovne, Minister of the Treasury of Argentina on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/arg.ashx>.

<sup>2360</sup> IMFC Statement by Nicolás Dujovne, Minister of the Treasury of Argentina on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/arg.ashx>.

<sup>2361</sup> IMFC Statement by Nicolás Dujovne, Minister of the Treasury of Argentina on behalf of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/arg.ashx>.

<sup>2362</sup> Tweet at 4:30pm by Mauricio Macri (@mauriciomacri) (Buenos Aires) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.caserosada.gob.ar/pdf/Medidas%20economicas%20y%20sociales.pdf>.

and from high inflation remains a key priority.”<sup>2363</sup> The federal government struck deals with 16 companies to freeze the prices of 60 essential products for at least six months.<sup>2364</sup> The federal government also froze tariff increases on federally-funded public utilities, such as electricity, gas, and transportation, for the rest of the year.<sup>2365</sup> “Critics worry that the measures could lead to shortages and will not fix the root of the problem, even if they could help temporarily ease pressure from consumers.”<sup>2366</sup>

Argentina has increased its international reserves through tighter monetary policy, success in the bond market, and a USD56 billion bailout from the IMF. Through its reaffirmation of its commitment to a strong, quota-based IMF, and its adequate resourcing of the IMF and its international reserves, Argentina has fully complied with its trade commitment.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Philip Schwarz*

### **Australia: 0**

Australia has partially complied with its commitments to keep strengthening the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its center.

On 21 February 2019, the IMF Executive Board released their evaluation of the Article IV consultation with Australia.<sup>2367</sup> The Executive Board of the IMF states that Australia has advanced its economic rebalancing, banks are well capitalized and profitable and concluded that Australia’s financial system remains fundamentally sound.<sup>2368</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Australia participated in the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee (IMFC). During this meeting, attendees issued a communiqué reaffirming their commitment to support a “strong, quota-based and adequately resourced” IMF.<sup>2369</sup>

Australia has partially complied with their commitment by maintaining their pledge to strengthening the Global Financial Safety Net by a strong quote-based IMF, keeping the mission of the IMF at its core.

Thus, Australia receives a score of 0.

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<sup>2363</sup> IMF Staff Concludes Third Review Mission to Argentina (Washington D.C.) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/03/18/pr1978-argentina-imf-staff-concludes-third-review-mission-to-argentina>.

<sup>2364</sup> Medidas económicas y sociales (Buenos Aires) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.caserosada.gob.ar/pdf/Medidas%20economicas%20y%20sociales.pdf>.

<sup>2365</sup> Medidas económicas y sociales (Buenos Aires) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.caserosada.gob.ar/pdf/Medidas%20economicas%20y%20sociales.pdf>.

<sup>2366</sup> Argentina unveils price controls to tame inflation (Buenos Aires) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/1eb6728c-6121-11e9-b285-3acd5d43599e>.

<sup>2367</sup> IMF Executive Board Concludes 2018 Article IV Consultation with Australia. International Monetary Fund. 21 February 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/02/21/pr1953-australia-imf-executive-board-concludes-2018-article-iv-consultation>.

<sup>2368</sup> IMF Executive Board Concludes 2018 Article IV Consultation with Australia. International Monetary Fund. 21 February 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/02/21/pr1953-australia-imf-executive-board-concludes-2018-article-iv-consultation>.

<sup>2369</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

**Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to further strengthen the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 28 March 2019, the IMF published April 2019's World Economic Outlook, which revised January's economic projections for Brazil.<sup>2370</sup> According to the report, the expected rate dropped from 2.5 to 2.1 per cent, however the 2020 projections increased from 2.2 to 2.5 per cent.<sup>2371</sup> The report stresses the need to contain rising public debt, recommending "cuts to the public wage bill and pension reforms to curb rising outlays."<sup>2372</sup>

On 12 April 2019, Bolsonaro issued a draft bill proposing the formal autonomy of Brazil's Central Bank.<sup>2373</sup> This aligns the country with "other major economies where those who make monetary policy are legally protected from political interference."<sup>2374</sup> According to the current president of the bank, Roberto Campos Neto, this policy would enable a reduction of risk by maintaining low inflation and interest rates, thus fostering long term economic growth.<sup>2375</sup>

On 12 April 2019, Brazilian Ministry of Economy, Paulo Guedes, issued a statement during the International Monetary and Financial Committee's Thirty-Ninth meeting.<sup>2376</sup> Guedes reinforced Brazil's willingness "to continue to contribute in the efforts to ensure that IMF resources will not decline."<sup>2377</sup> Guedes noted "economic recovery in Brazil, albeit slower than anticipated, has posted eight consecutive quarters of growth."<sup>2378</sup> Adding that "the expected acceleration of the Brazilian economy shall generate positive spillovers, continuing to better economic performances in Latin America and among EMDEs in 2020."<sup>2379</sup>

<sup>2370</sup> World Economic Outlook, April 2019: Growth slowdown, precarious recovery (Washington D.C.) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2019/03/28/world-economic-outlook-april-2019>.

<sup>2371</sup> World Economic Outlook, April 2019 : Growth slowdown, precarious recovery (Washington D.C.) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2019/03/28/world-economic-outlook-april-2019>

<sup>2372</sup> World Economic Outlook, April 2019: Growth slowdown, precarious recovery (Washington D.C.) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019.

<https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2019/03/28/world-economic-outlook-april-2019>.

<sup>2373</sup> Brazil's Bolsonaro proposes formal central bank autonomy (São Paulo) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-cenbank-independence/brazils-bolsonaro-proposes-formal-central-bank-autonomy-idUSL1N21U0E7>.

<sup>2374</sup> Brazil's Bolsonaro proposes formal central bank autonomy (São Paulo) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-cenbank-independence/brazils-bolsonaro-proposes-formal-central-bank-autonomy-idUSL1N21U0E7>.

<sup>2375</sup> Campos Neto defende autonomia do BC e reformas para estimular of crescimento (Brasilia) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019.

<https://oglobo.globo.com/economia/campos-neto-defende-autonomia-do-bc-reformas-para-estimular-crescimento-23582872>.

<sup>2376</sup> IMFC Statement by Paulo Guedes, Ministry of Economy (Washington D.C.) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019 <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/bra.ashx>.

<sup>2377</sup> IMFC Statement by Paulo Guedes, Ministry of Economy (Washington D.C.) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019 <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/bra.ashx>.

<sup>2378</sup> IMFC Statement by Paulo Guedes, Ministry of Economy (Washington D.C.) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019 <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/bra.ashx>.

<sup>2379</sup> IMFC Statement by Paulo Guedes, Ministry of Economy (Washington D.C.) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019 <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/bra.ashx>.

On 13 April 2019, Brazil participated in the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Finance Committee (IMFC). During this meeting, attendees issued a communiqué reaffirming their commitment to support a “strong, quota-based and adequately resourced” IMF.<sup>2380</sup>

Brazil has fully complied with reaffirming its commitment to further strengthening the global finance safety net with both a strong, quota based and adequately resourced IMF at its centre while keeping the IMF's mission at its core.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pedro Melo Trindade*

### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to further strengthen the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 16 January 2019, the Government of Canada announced plans to issue a three-year USD3 billion global bond as part of the Government's “Debt Management Strategy for 2018-2019.”<sup>2381</sup> In addition to “[supplementing] and [diversifying] Canada's foreign exchange reserves,”<sup>2382</sup> the strategy hopes to source CAD113 billion from bonds to “support the ongoing refinancing of government debt coming to maturity, the execution of the budget plan and the financial operations of the Government.”<sup>2383</sup> According to the Department of Finance, “the issuance of a global bond is in line with the commitment that the Government made in Budget 2018 to maintain liquid foreign reserves at or above 3 per cent of nominal gross domestic product.”<sup>2384</sup> Canada remains the G7 country with the lowest net debt as a percentage of gross domestic product.<sup>2385</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Canada's Minister of Finance Bill Morneau issued a statement after the 39th Meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee.<sup>2386</sup> Minister Morneau reaffirmed Canada's “[commitment] to ensuring that the IMF remains adequately resourced, at the centre of the Global Financial Safety Net (GFSN), and representative of the modern economy.”<sup>2387</sup> He also addressed the collective challenges and collective solutions the international financial system faces,

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<sup>2380</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2381</sup> Official International Reserves, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-009-eng.asp>.

<sup>2382</sup> Official International Reserves, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-009-eng.asp>.

<sup>2383</sup> Budget Plan 2018: Equality + Growth, A Strong Middle Class, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 27 February 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2018/docs/plan/anx-03-en.html#Debt-Management-Strategy-for-2018-19>.

<sup>2384</sup> Government Strengthens Canada's International Foreign Reserves by Issuing Global Bond, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-006-eng.asp>.

<sup>2385</sup> Net debt (% of GDP), International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019.

[https://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/GGXWDN\\_G01\\_GDP\\_PT@FM/ADVEC/FM\\_EMG/FM\\_LIDC](https://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/GGXWDN_G01_GDP_PT@FM/ADVEC/FM_EMG/FM_LIDC).

<sup>2386</sup> IMFC Statement by Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance, Canada on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Ireland, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/can.ashx>.

<sup>2387</sup> IMFC Statement by Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance, Canada on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Ireland, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/can.ashx>.

emphasizing the need for multilateral cooperation and transparency in light of rising trade tensions and growing debt vulnerabilities.<sup>2388</sup>

Canada has increased its international reserves through productive management operations, successful investment, and the announcement of a USD global bond. Through its reaffirmation of its commitment to a strong, quota-based IMF, and its adequate resourcing of the IMF and its international reserves, Canada has fully complied with its commitment.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Philip Schwarz*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with reaffirming its commitment to further strengthening the Global Financial Safety Net (GFSN) with a strong, quota based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 17 December 2018, Governor Yi Gang of the People's Bank of China (PBoC), under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, made a speech commemorating the 40th anniversary of China's economic reform and the 70th anniversary of the PBoC.<sup>2389</sup> He said the PBoC has actively participated in global economic governance and policy coordination, including promoting the IMF Quota, Governance and Surveillance Reform.<sup>2390</sup>

On 18 January 2019, Chinese Vice Premier Liu He and German Vice Chancellor and Minister of Finance Olaf Scholz met and co-chaired a financial forum in Beijing.<sup>2391</sup> At the forum, they committed to concluding the 15th General Review of Quotas and agreeing on a new quota formula for a realignment of quota shares.<sup>2392</sup> They further committed to strengthening the GFSN with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF at its centre.<sup>2393</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Deputy Governor Chen Yulu of the PBoC attended the 39<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) in Washington, D.C.<sup>2394</sup> He made a speech

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<sup>2388</sup> IMFC Statement by Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance, Canada on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Ireland, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/can.ashx>.

<sup>2389</sup> Speech by Yi Gang, Governor of the People's Bank of China (Beijing) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bis.org/review/r181220h.htm>.

<sup>2390</sup> Speech by Yi Gang, Governor of the People's Bank of China (Beijing) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.bis.org/review/r181220h.htm>.

<sup>2391</sup> Joint Statement of the 2nd China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2).

<sup>2392</sup> Joint Statement of the 2nd China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2).

<sup>2393</sup> Joint Statement of the 2nd China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2).

<sup>2394</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary and Finance Committee (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

supporting a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF to preserve its central role in the GFSN<sup>2395</sup> and called for the conclusion of the 15th General Review of Quotas.<sup>2396</sup> As an attendee of the 39th Meeting, China reaffirmed their commitment to a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF at the centre of the GFSN.<sup>2397</sup> Furthermore, the meeting attendees requested that the 15th General Review of Quotas to conclude no later than the Annual Meetings of 2019.<sup>2398</sup>

China has fully complied with reaffirming its commitment to further strengthening the global finance safety net with both a strong, quota based and adequately resourced IMF at its centre while keeping the IMF's mission at its core.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Adrienne Nan*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitments keep strengthening the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its center.

France has partially complied with because it has maintained its pledge to strengthening the Global Financial Safety Net by a keeping an adequately resourced IMF but has not taken any new steps towards supporting the IMF's fundamental mission.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Abigail Lessard*

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partially complied with reaffirming its commitment to further strengthening the Global Financial Safety Net (GFSN) with a strong, quota based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 18 January 2019, German Vice Chancellor and Minister of Finance Olaf Scholz and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He met and co-chaired a financial dialogue in Beijing,<sup>2399</sup> At the dialogue, they committed to concluding the 15th General Review of Quotas and agreeing on a new quota formula

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<sup>2395</sup> Statement by Deputy Governor Chen Yulu at the Ministerial Meeting of the 39th Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary and Financial Committee (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/chn.ashx>.

<sup>2396</sup> Deputy Governor Chen Yulu Attended the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee, People's Bank of China (Beijing) 14 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <http://www.pbc.gov.cn/en/3688110/3688172/3807119/index.html>.

<sup>2397</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary and Finance Committee (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2398</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary and Finance Committee (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2399</sup> Joint Statement of the 2nd China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2).

for a realignment of quota shares.<sup>2400</sup> They further committed to strengthening the GFSN with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF at its centre.<sup>2401</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Olaf Scholz, the Minister of Finance of the Federal Republic of Germany, attended the Thirty-Ninth International Monetary and Financial Committee. He reaffirmed that Germany “remains committed to a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF to fulfil its mandate.”<sup>2402</sup> He expressed the importance of securing an adequate level of resources for the IMF and the readiness of Germany to contribute their fair share to the overall IMF resource envelope.<sup>2403</sup> Attendees at the meeting also reaffirmed their commitment to a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF to preserve its role at the centre of the GFSN.<sup>2404</sup> The group requested that the 15th General Review of Quotas to be concluded no later than the 2019 annual meetings.<sup>2405</sup>

Germany has partially complied with because it has maintained its pledge to strengthening the GFSN by a keeping an adequately resourced IMF but has not taken any new steps towards supporting the IMF’s fundamental mission.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Adrienne Nan*

### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with reaffirming its commitment to further strengthening the Global Financial Safety Net (GFSN) with a strong, quota based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 27 February 2019, Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, along with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, met in Zhejiang to discuss regional and international concerns.<sup>2406</sup> They supported the strengthening of the GFSN with a strong, quota-

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<sup>2400</sup> Joint Statement of the 2nd China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2).

<sup>2401</sup> Joint Statement of the 2nd China-Germany High Level Financial Dialogue, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 22 February 2019. [https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=2](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/FR/Downloads/2019-01-18-D-C-Finanzdialog-Statement.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2).

<sup>2402</sup> International Monetary and Financial Committee - Thirty-Ninth Meeting, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 25 June 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/deu.ashx>.

<sup>2403</sup> Statement by Minister of Finance of the Federal Republic of Germany Olaf Scholz, International Monetary and Finance Committee (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/deu.ashx>.

<sup>2404</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary and Finance Committee (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2405</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary and Finance Committee (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2406</sup> Joint Communiqué of the 16th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Russian Federation, the Republic of India and the People’s Republic of China, Government of India Ministry of External Affairs (Zhejiang) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/31097/joint+communique+of+the+16th+meeting+of+the+foreign+ministers+of+the+russian+federation+the+republic+of+india+and+the+peoples+republic+of+china>.

based, and adequately-resourced IMF at the centre.<sup>2407</sup> The ministers stated their hope to see the 15th General Review of Quotas and a new formula as basis for the realignment of quota shares completed by no later than the Annual Meetings 2019.<sup>2408</sup>

On 11 April 2019, Executive Director to the IMF Subir Gokarn representing India was in attendance at the Intergovernmental Group of Twenty Four (G-24) meeting in Washington, D.C.<sup>2409</sup> At the meeting, the call for a strong GFSN with a quota-based and adequately-resourced IMF at its centre was reiterated.<sup>2410</sup> The resulting G-24 communique supported the progress in quota and governance reforms in the IMF and regretted the insufficient support for a quota increase under the 15th General Review of Quotas.<sup>2411</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India and Leader of the Indian Delegation to the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) Shaktikanta Das attended the 39th Meeting of the IMFC in Washington, D.C., and agreed to further efforts to strengthen the GFSN.<sup>2412</sup> In a statement to the IMFC, he restated that the IMF should remain as a quota-based organisation at the centre of the GFSN.<sup>2413</sup> At the meeting, the attendees further reaffirmed their commitment to a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF to preserve its role as the centre of the GFSN and requested that the 15th General Review of Quotas to be concluded by no later than the Annual Meetings of 2019.<sup>2414</sup>

India has fully complied with reaffirming its commitment to further strengthening the global finance safety net with a strong, quota based, and adequately resourced IMF at its centre.

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<sup>2407</sup> Joint Communiqué of the 16th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Russian Federation, the Republic of India and the People's Republic of China, Government of India Ministry of External Affairs (Zhejiang) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/31097/joint+communique+of+the+16th+meeting+of+the+foreign+ministers+of+the+russian+federation+the+republic+of+india+and+the+peoples+republic+of+china>.

<sup>2408</sup> Joint Communiqué of the 16th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Russian Federation, the Republic of India and the People's Republic of China, Government of India Ministry of External Affairs (Zhejiang) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/31097/joint+communique+of+the+16th+meeting+of+the+foreign+ministers+of+the+russian+federation+the+republic+of+india+and+the+peoples+republic+of+china>.

<sup>2409</sup> Intergovernmental Group of Twenty Four on International Monetary Affairs and Development Communiqué, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/11/cm041119-intergovernmental-group-of-twenty-four-on-international-monetary-affairs-and-development>.

<sup>2410</sup> Intergovernmental Group of Twenty Four on International Monetary Affairs and Development Communiqué, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/11/cm041119-intergovernmental-group-of-twenty-four-on-international-monetary-affairs-and-development>.

<sup>2411</sup> Intergovernmental Group of Twenty Four on International Monetary Affairs and Development Communiqué, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/11/cm041119-intergovernmental-group-of-twenty-four-on-international-monetary-affairs-and-development>.

<sup>2412</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary and Finance Committee (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2413</sup> Statement by Governor of Reserve Bank of India and Leader of the Indian Delegation to the IMFC Shaktikanta Das, International Monetary and Financial Committee (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/ind.ashx>.

<sup>2414</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC, International Monetary and Finance Committee (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Adrienne Nan*

### **Indonesia: -1**

Indonesia has failed to comply with its commitment to further strengthen the Global Financial Safety Net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund at its centre.

Within this compliance cycle, no actions were found for this report after searching publicly available online sources published by the government, relevant ministries, and international organizations.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of -1.<sup>2415</sup>

*Analyst: Aaron Kivell*

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<sup>2415</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <https://www.bis.org/review/r181220n.htm>, <https://www.bi.go.id/en/Default.aspx>, <https://www.bi.go.id/en/iru/government-press-release/Pages/Official-Reserve-Assets-Are-High-Enough-in-January-2019.aspx>, <https://www.bi.go.id/en/moneter/indikator/Default.aspx>, <https://www.bi.go.id/en/publikasi/neraca-pembayaran/Default.aspx>, <https://www.bi.go.id/en/statistik/sski/default.aspx>, [https://www.bi.go.id/en/statistik/sski/Pages/SSKI\\_January\\_2019.aspx](https://www.bi.go.id/en/statistik/sski/Pages/SSKI_January_2019.aspx), <https://www.bi.go.id/en/tentang-bi/hubungan-kelembagaan/internasional/Contents/Default.aspx>, <https://www.bi.go.id/en/tentang-bi/hubungan-kelembagaan/negara/Contents/Default.aspx>, <https://eng.yidaiyilu.gov.cn/home/rolling/72137.htm>, <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/>, <https://www.g20.org/en/news/https://cdn.indonesia-investments.com/documents/Look-Inside-January-2019-Research-Report-Indonesia-Investments.pdf>, <https://www.indonesia-investments.com/about-us/research-report/item8658>, <https://www.indonesia-investments.com/culture/economy/item177>, <https://www.indonesia-investments.com/finance/macroeconomic-indicators/item16>, <https://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/bank-indonesia-expects-low-inflation-in-february-2019/item9087>, <https://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/indonesia-australia-cepa-expected-to-be-signed-in-march-2019/item9092>, <https://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/monetary-policy-has-the-tightening-cycle-among-emerging-market-central-banks-come-to-an-end/item9085>, <https://www.indonesia-investments.com/tag/item31?tag=399>, <https://www.insideindonesia.org/imf-aid-helping-the-poor>, <https://www.iif.com/Research/Regional-Country/Asia-Pacific/Indonesia>, <https://www.imf.org/external/am/index.htm>, <https://www.oaklandinstitute.org/sites/oaklandinstitute.org/files/indonesia-world-bank-failed-east-asian-miracle.pdf>, <https://www.ojk.go.id/en/berita-dan-kegiatan/publikasi/Pages/Indonesian-Financial-Services-Sector-Master-Plan-2015-2019.aspx>, <https://asiafoundation.org/latest-by-location/?wpcountries=Indonesia>, <https://asiafoundation.org/where-we-work/indonesia/>, <http://www.indonesia.cz/general-info/>, <http://www.indonesia.cz/the-government-of-the-republic-of-indonesia/#>, <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/01/03/world-bank-clarifies-report-on-indonesian-infrastructure.html>, <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/04/16/imf-gives-indonesia-low-scores-in-public-investment-effectiveness.html>, <https://www.bi.go.id/en/iru/government-press-release/Pages/Official-Reserve-Assets-Are-High-Enough-in-January-2019.aspx>, <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/se-asia/indonesia-president-joko-widodo-puts-economy-at-heart-of-re-election-pitch>, <https://www.straitstimes.com/tags/indonesia-election-2019>, <https://www.smh.com.au/world/asia/jokowi-vs-prabowo-indonesian-presidential-debate-robotic-risk-averse-20190117-p50s2r.html>, <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/405721549908851209/Indonesia-ID-PAMSIMAS-Support-Trust-Fund>, <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/30969/IEQ2018Dec.pdf>, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/indonesia>, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/indonesia/publication/indonesia-economic-quarterly-december-2018>, <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/indonesia/publication/indonesia-economic-quarterly-reports>, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/indonesia/overview>, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/statement/2019/01/01/world-bank-statement>, <https://meetings.imf.org/en/2019/Spring>.

### **Italy: -1**

Italy has not complied with its commitment to further strengthen the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund at its centre.

On 19 December 2018, the Italian government averted European Union sanctions after reaching a compromise with the European commission over its 2019 budget.<sup>2416</sup> Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte made an agreement to reduce the deficit target to 2.04 per cent of gross domestic product from 2.4 per cent.<sup>2417</sup>

On 18 February 2019, Italy started talks with the EU over the renewal of state guarantee scheme set to help banks shed bad loans.<sup>2418</sup>

On 3 April 2019, Italy's ruling party pushed ahead efforts to seize control of Bank of Italy and its gold reserves. Aside from two laws targeting the bank currently under debate in the parliament,<sup>2419</sup> the ruling coalition "weighed in on board nominations and cast doubt on ownership of its USD100 billion stash of gold."<sup>2420</sup>

On 16 April 2019, an official from the Bank of Italy said the country's deficit would rise to 3.4 per cent of gross domestic product in 2020, which is considered a breach of European Union regulations.<sup>2421</sup> The announcement resulted in an Italian stocks and government bonds sell off.<sup>2422</sup>

Italy has not made efforts to reaffirm its commitments to a strong, quota-based IMF, and failed to further financial buffers in its international reserves.

Thus, Italy receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Pedro Melo Trindade*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to further strengthen the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

From 12 to 13 April 2019 Taro Aso, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance for Japan spoke at the 39th Meeting of the IMFC in Washington, D.C.<sup>2423</sup> He stated that Japan's contributed to the

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<sup>2416</sup> Italy avoids EU sanctions after reaching 2019 budget agreement (London) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/dec/19/italy-avoids-eu-sanctions-after-reaching-2019-budget-agreement>.

<sup>2417</sup> Italy avoids EU sanctions after reaching 2019 budget agreement (London) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/dec/19/italy-avoids-eu-sanctions-after-reaching-2019-budget-agreement>.

<sup>2418</sup> Italy starts talk with EU over bank bad loan scheme renewal: source (Milan) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-bad-loans-guarantee/italy-starts-talks-with-eu-over-bank-bad-loan-scheme-renewal-source-idUSKCN1Q71U3>.

<sup>2419</sup> Italy's populists covet Central Bank and its gold (Rome) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 21 February 2019. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/italys-populists-covet-central-bank-and-its-gold-11554300000>

<sup>2420</sup> Italy's populist leaders besiege the Central Bank, lenders (Rome) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-04-17/noose-tightens-at-central-bank-besieged-by-italy-s-populists>

<sup>2421</sup> UPDATE 2 – Italian bond yields jump after Bank of Italy's deficit warning (Davos) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/eurozone-bonds/update-2-italian-bond-yields-jump-after-bank-of-italys-deficit-warning-idUSL5N21Y2M5>

<sup>2422</sup> UPDATE 2 – Italian bond yields jump after Bank of Italy's deficit warning (Davos) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/eurozone-bonds/update-2-italian-bond-yields-jump-after-bank-of-italys-deficit-warning-idUSL5N21Y2M5>

IMF through a multipronged approach that will contribute USD5 million over five years to the IMF's Data for Decisions fund.<sup>2424</sup> Furthermore, Japan pledges USD1.5 million to the World's Debt Management Facility III for its initial year, which is supported by the IMF as well.<sup>2425</sup> These two initiatives are expected to play a leading role in borrowing countries' capacity development, supporting the IMF's overall mission.<sup>2426</sup>

On 13 April 2019, a representative for Japan attended the Thirty-Ninth International Monetary and Financial Committee. Japan remains committed to "a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF that should preserve its role at the centre of the Global Financial Safety Net."<sup>2427</sup>

Japan has fully complied with reaffirming its commitment to further strengthening the global finance safety net with a strong, quota based, and adequately resourced IMF at its centre.

This, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Julia Tops*

### **Korea: 0**

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to further strengthen the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 26 February 2019, Korea hosted IMF officials for its annual review of the country's economy and economic policies.<sup>2428</sup> The meeting is expected to wrap up on 12 March 2019.

Korea has worked to have an adequately resources IMF but has not made efforts to promote a strong, quota-based system.

Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Julia Tops*

### **Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to further strengthen the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 12 March 2019, Mexico's Deputy Finance Minister Arturo Herrera "stressed the new government's commitment to delivering a promised budget surplus this year equal to 1 per cent of gross domestic product."<sup>2429</sup> This came after Mexican officials announced a refinery project would be

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<sup>2423</sup> International Monetary and Financial Committee Thirty-Ninth Meeting (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. file:///Users/juliatops/Downloads/jpn.pdf.

<sup>2424</sup> International Monetary and Financial Committee Thirty-Ninth Meeting (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. file:///Users/juliatops/Downloads/jpn.pdf.

<sup>2425</sup> International Monetary and Financial Committee Thirty-Ninth Meeting (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. file:///Users/juliatops/Downloads/jpn.pdf.

<sup>2426</sup> International Monetary and Financial Committee Thirty-Ninth Meeting (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. file:///Users/juliatops/Downloads/jpn.pdf.

<sup>2427</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2428</sup> South Korea holds annual meeting with IMF on Economy (Seoul) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. [http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/biz/2019/04/367\\_264421.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/biz/2019/04/367_264421.html).

<sup>2429</sup> Mexico delays contentious oil refinery project, Financial Times (Mexico City) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 23 April 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/b78ec42a-4428-11e9-b168-96a37d002cd3>.

put on hold and its funds would instead be channelled into increasing production for the state-owned energy company Pemex.<sup>2430</sup> Deputy Minister Herrera said the government was having “technical” discussions with the IMF regarding “structuring a fresh capital injection for Pemex” and that “no borrowing was involved.”<sup>2431</sup>

On 13 April 2019, a representative for Mexico attended the Thirty-Ninth International Monetary and Financial Committee. Mexico remains “firmly committed to a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF that should preserve its role at the centre of the Global Financial Safety Net.”<sup>2432</sup>

Mexico has increased its international reserves through successful fund and investment management, tighter monetary policy, and focusing on improving its image to regain the trust of foreign investors. Through reaffirming its commitment to a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced of the IMF, and its adequate resourcing of the IMF and its international reserves, Mexico has fully complied with its trade commitment.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Philip Schwarz*

### **Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to further strengthen the Global Financial Safety Net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund at its centre.

On 13 April 2019, a representative for Russia attended the Thirty-Ninth International Monetary and Financial Committee. Russia remains committed to “a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF that should preserve its role at the centre of the Global Financial Safety Net.”<sup>2433</sup>

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<sup>2430</sup> Mexico delays contentious oil refinery project, Financial Times (Mexico City) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 23 April 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/b78ec42a-4428-11e9-b168-96a37d002cd3>.

<sup>2431</sup> Mexico delays contentious oil refinery project, Financial Times (Mexico City) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 23 April 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/b78ec42a-4428-11e9-b168-96a37d002cd3>.

<sup>2432</sup> IMFC Statement by Nadia María Calviño Santamaría, Minister of Economy and Business, Spain on behalf of Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Spain, and República Bolivariana de Venezuela, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://meetings.imf.org/~media/AMSM/Files/SM2019/IMFC/esp.ashx>.

<sup>2433</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.<sup>2434</sup>

*Analyst: Aaron Kivell*

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to further strengthen the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 18 February 2019, Saudi Arabia pledged USD20 billion to Pakistan to support Pakistan's efforts to lower the amount of the bailout package it will need from the IMF.<sup>2435</sup>

On 13 April 2019, a representative for Saudi Arabia attended the 39th International Monetary and Financial Committee. Saudi Arabia remains committed to "a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF that should preserve its role at the centre of the Global Financial Safety Net."<sup>2436</sup>

Saudi Arabia has fully complied and reaffirmed its commitment to further strengthening the global finance safety net with a strong, quota based and adequately resourced IMF at its centre by keeping to the IMF's mission statement.

<sup>2434</sup> This assessment was determined after a search of the following websites:

<https://www.almasdarnews.com/article/turkey-russia-iran-reaffirm-commitment-to-maintaining-syrias-territorial-integrity/>,<https://www.bis.org/press/p190329.htm>,[https://www.bis.org/publ/qtrpdf/r\\_qt1903.htm](https://www.bis.org/publ/qtrpdf/r_qt1903.htm),[https://www.bis.org/publ/qtrpdf/r\\_qt1812.htm](https://www.bis.org/publ/qtrpdf/r_qt1812.htm),<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-01-09/russia-boosted-yuan-euro-holdings-as-it-dumped-dollars-in-2018>,<https://www.bloomberg.com/research/stocks/private/snapshot.asp?privcapId=10048730>,<http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/>,<http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/>,<https://www.g20.org/en/news/>,<https://blogs.imf.org/2017/12/19/strength-in-numbers-a-safety-net-to-prevent-crisis-in-the-global-economy/>,<https://iib.int/en/articles/iib-supports-foreign-investment-in-romania>,<https://iib.int/en/articles/v-moskve-proshlo-vtoroe-zasedanie-soveta-direktorov-mib>,<https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/ResRep/RUS>,<https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/RUS>,<https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/11/tr041119-transcript-managing-director-christine-lagarde-press-conference-2019-spring-meetings>,<https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2019/01/11/weo-update-january-2019>,<https://www.imf.org/external/np/g20/>,<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2019/03/interview-with-russian-central-bank-governor-elvira-nabiullina.htm>,<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20190220-russia-saudi-arabia-reaffirm-continuing-energy-cooperation/>,<https://www.politico.eu/blogs/the-coming-wars/2019/02/russia-china-alliance-rule-the-world/>,<https://www.reuters.com/places/russia>,<https://www.russiamatters.org/news/russia-analytical-report/russia-analytical-report-dec-17-2018-jan-7-2019>,<https://worldview.stratfor.com/article/russias-fraying-financial-safety-net-hangs-thread>,<http://tass.com/politics/1033923>,<https://www.cbr.ru/eng/DKP/>,<https://www.cbr.ru/eng/news/>,<https://www.cbr.ru/eng/press/event/?id=2414>,<https://www.cbr.ru/eng/press/st/2018-12-14/>,[https://www.cbr.ru/eng/statistics/?Prtid=svs&ch=ITM\\_19041#CheckedItem](https://www.cbr.ru/eng/statistics/?Prtid=svs&ch=ITM_19041#CheckedItem),<https://www.cbr.ru/eng/today/>,<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2019/01/17/the-central-bank-of-russia-shifts-its-reserves-away-from-the-dollar>,<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/01/09/world-bank-downgrades-2019-growth-forecast-for-russia-a64071>,<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/03/06/russia-may-be-done-raising-rates-after-2018-hikes-central-banker-says-a64727>,<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/04/05/world-bank-lowers-russias-2019-gdp-forecast-to-14-pct-a65104>,<http://government.ru/en/>,<http://government.ru/en/docs/>,<http://government.ru/en/news/>,<http://government.ru/en/news/35590/>,<http://government.ru/en/news/35726/>,<http://government.ru/en/structure/>,<https://www.wsj.com/articles/russia-central-bank-raises-interest-rates-in-effort-to-stem-inflation-11544787610>,<http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/russia/publication/rer>,<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/12/04/russia-economic-report-40>

<sup>2435</sup> Saudi Arabia signs \$20bn in deals with Pakistan. BBC News, 18 February 2019.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-47274672>.

<sup>2436</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Tasneem Gedi*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to further strengthen the Global Financial Safety Net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 13 April 2019, a representative for South Africa chaired the Thirty-Ninth International Monetary and Financial Committee. South Africa remains committed to “a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF that should preserve its role at the centre of the Global Financial Safety Net.”<sup>2437</sup>

South Africa has not made efforts to address the impact of public debt caused by SOE’s and has in face bailed out Eskom thereby negatively impacting its future growth opportunities and international reserves. On the other hand, it has made efforts to further its commitment to a strong, quota-based IMF.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Tasneem Gedi*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to further strengthen the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 13 April 2019, a representative for Turkey attended the Thirty-Ninth International Monetary and Financial Committee. Turkey remains committed to “a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF that should preserve its role at the centre of the Global Financial Safety Net.”<sup>2438</sup>

Turkey has partially complied to further strengthening the global finance safety net with a strong, quota based nor adequately resourced IMF at its centre.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.<sup>2439</sup>

*Analyst: Tasneem Gedi*

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<sup>2437</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2438</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2439</sup> This assessment was determined after a search of the following websites:  
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/03/turkey-falls-recession-time-decade-190311121710318.html>,  
<https://www.cnbc.com/2019/04/14/turkish-central-bank-needs-to-be-fully-independent-imf-europe-chief.html>,  
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-economy-unemployment/turkish-unemployment-jumps-to-highest-in-nearly-a-decade-idUSKCN1RR0K0>,  
<https://www.cnbc.com/2019/04/25/turkeys-lira-dives-as-central-bank-drops-hawkish-interest-rate-pledge.html>,  
<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2019/03/14/the-struggle-to-restore-turkeys-stricken-economy>,  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/mar/27/turkey-may-be-the-spark-that-lights-a-fire-in-the-world-economy>,  
<https://www.ft.com/content/92818e7c-43c6-11e9-b168-96a37d002cd3>,  
<https://ftalphaville.ft.com/2019/03/11/1552315955000/Turkey-s-recession-has-been-a-long-time-coming/>

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to further strengthen the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its centre.

On 13 April 2019, a representative for the United Kingdom attended the Thirty-Ninth International Monetary and Financial Committee. The United Kingdom remains committed to “a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF that should preserve its role at the centre of the Global Financial Safety Net.”<sup>2440</sup>

The United Kingdom has taken some measures to support a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF.

Thus, the UK receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pedro Melo Trindade*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitments keep strengthening the global financial safety net with a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its center.

On 13 April 2019, a representative for the US attended the Thirty-Ninth International Monetary and Financial Committee. The US remains committed to “a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF that should preserve its role at the centre of the Global Financial Safety Net.”<sup>2441</sup>

The United States has partially complied because it has maintained its pledge to strengthening the GFSN by a strong quota-based IMF with an adequately resourced IMF.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Abigail Lessard*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitments keep strengthening the Global Financial Safety Net (GFSN) with a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund (IMF) at its center.

On 11 January 2019, the IMF released their World Economic Outlook Update which stated that growth in the euro is set to moderate from 1.8 per cent in 2018 to 1.6 per cent in 2019, partially due to the negative impact of street protests and industrial action, like the Yellow Vest Movement.<sup>2442</sup>

On 8 February 2019, the Eurosystem released their consolidated financial statement.<sup>2443</sup> Gold and gold receivables remained unchanged, the net position of the Eurosystem in foreign currency

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<sup>2440</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2441</sup> Communiqué of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the IMFC (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 12 May 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2442</sup> World Economic Outlook Update, January 2019, International Monetary Fund. 11 January 2019. Date of Access: 18 February 2018. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2019/01/11/weo-update-january-2019>.

<sup>2443</sup> Consolidated financial statement of the Eurosystem as at 8 February 2019, The Banque de France. 12 February 2019. Date of Access: 18 February 2019. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/wfs/2019/html/ecb.fst190212.en.html>.

remained unchanged leading to the net lending to credit institutions to increase from EUR13.4 billion to EUR70.1 billion.<sup>2444</sup>

On 12 April 2019, President of the European Central Bank (ECB) Mario Draghi made a statement at the 39th Meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) that the ECB sees a need for the GFSN to be strengthened with a strong, quota-based, and adequately resourced IMF at its centre.<sup>2445</sup>

On 13 April 2019, the European Commissioner attended the Thirty-Ninth International Monetary and Financial Committee.<sup>2446</sup> The European Union “committed to a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced IMF that should preserve its role at the centre of the Global Financial Safety Net.”<sup>2447</sup>

The European Union has fully complied by maintaining their pledge to strengthening the GFSN by a strong quota-based IMF with an adequately resourced IMF and keeps in mind the IMF’s mission.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Julia Tops*

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<sup>2444</sup> Consolidated financial statement of the Eurosystem as at 8 February 2019, The Banque de France. 12 February 2019. Date of Access: 18 February 2019. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/pr/wfs/2019/html/ecb.fst190212.en.html>.

<sup>2445</sup> Statement by President of the European Central Bank Mario Draghi, European Central Bank (Washington, D.C.) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 18 April 2019. <https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/key/date/2019/html/ecb.sp190412~8acda1aa03.en.html>.

<sup>2446</sup> International Monetary and Financial Committee Thirty-Ninth Meeting (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

<sup>2447</sup> International Monetary and Financial Committee Thirty-Ninth Meeting 13 April 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/04/13/communique-of-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-imfc>.

## 10. Macroeconomics: Inclusive Growth

“We are steadfast in our commitment to ensure that growth is inclusive and that the benefits are shared widely amongst our citizens.”

*Buenos Aires Action Plan*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
India		0	
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
Korea		0	
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.70	

### Background

The G20 leaders first committed to addressing the challenge of generating inclusive economic growth at the 2014 Brisbane Summit. The “ambitious goal” made at that summit to ensure 2 per cent economic growth by 2018 was made in part to “support development and inclusive growth and help to reduce inequality and poverty.”<sup>2448</sup> Despite their ambitious target, the G20 fell short in meeting their goal by 2018.<sup>2449</sup>

At the Antalya Summit on 14-15 November 2015, the G20 leaders “recognize[d] that advancing inclusive growth ... require[s] the use of all policy tools and strong engagement with all stakeholders.”<sup>2450</sup> Additionally, the G20 made commitments relating to inclusive growth, stating their commitment to “ensure that growth is inclusive, job-rich and benefits all segments of our societies,”

<sup>2448</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communique Brisbane, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communique.html>.

<sup>2449</sup> Europe admits G20 economies will miss extra growth target, Reuters (Valletta) 8 April 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-g20-growth-europe-idUSKBN17A0GA>.

<sup>2450</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communique Antalya, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 November 2015. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communique.html>.

with special emphasis placed on promoting labour market inclusion and reducing inequalities through balanced and multifaceted policies.<sup>2451</sup>

On 4-5 September 2016, the G20 leaders at the Hangzhou Summit made further commitments relating to inclusive growth. The G20 committed to spearheading “sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth,” which was to be based on the policies and actions outlined in the Hangzhou Consensus.<sup>2452</sup> These policies and actions included the principles of: Vision, exploring new avenues for growth, Integration, increasing synergy between different policy realms, Openness, embracing an open world economy, and Inclusiveness, working to ensure that the benefits of growth are widely distributed.<sup>2453</sup>

At the Hamburg Summit on 7-8 July 2017, the G20 leaders made more ambitious commitments regarding the importance of inclusive growth stating that “strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth ... remains our highest priority.”<sup>2454</sup> In particular, the *Leader’s Declaration* included a commitment to use “all policy tools,” including “monetary, fiscal and structure” in pursuit of inclusive growth.<sup>2455</sup> The importance of international investment and digitalization in achieving inclusive growth was also highlighted, as well as the necessity of empowering women and fostering equal access to the financial system and the formal economy.<sup>2456</sup> In the area of international cooperation, the G20 Africa Partnership, one of the principal new initiatives of the Hamburg Summit, was framed as an opportunity to promote inclusive economic growth in emerging African economies.<sup>2457</sup>

The G20 continued to address the importance of inclusive growth at the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit. Leaders committed to “use all policy tools to achieve strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth” in the *Leaders’ Declaration*.<sup>2458</sup> Inclusive growth was also tied to the Argentinian Presidency’s priority area of infrastructure, which was acknowledged as a “key driver” of inclusive growth.<sup>2459</sup> Leaders additionally recognized the importance of making growth inclusive and distributing the benefits of growth widely in the *Buenos Aires Action Plan*.<sup>2460</sup> The action plan recognized the need to better understand the drivers of inclusive growth and inequality, and also listed a variety of examples of successful and relevant measures by G20 members to promote inclusive growth, including in tax, education, social security reform, financial regulation, and labour.<sup>2461</sup>

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<sup>2451</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communique Antalya, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 November 2015. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communicue.html>.

<sup>2452</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communique Hangzhou, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 May 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communicue.html>.

<sup>2453</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communique Hangzhou, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 24 May 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communicue.html>.

<sup>2454</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Hamburg, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>2455</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Hamburg, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>2456</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Hamburg, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>2457</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Hamburg, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>2458</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Buenos Aires, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>2459</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Buenos Aires, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

<sup>2460</sup> Buenos Aires Action Plan, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-buenos-aires-action-plan.html>.

<sup>2461</sup> Buenos Aires Action Plan, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-buenos-aires-action-plan.html>.

## Commitment Features

The G20 has stated that “in recent decades, economic growth has significantly improved living standards around the world and, at the same time, has helped reduce extreme poverty and inequality between countries. Nevertheless, income inequality and poverty levels remain high and more effort is needed.”<sup>2462</sup> Thus, the G20 emphasized: “we are steadfast in our commitment to ensure that growth is inclusive and that the benefits are shared widely amongst our citizens.”<sup>2463</sup>

“Steadfast” is defined as “resolutely or dutifully firm and unwavering.”<sup>2464</sup>

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) defines inclusive growth as “economic growth that is distributed fairly across society and creates opportunities for all.”<sup>2465</sup> Similarly, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) views inclusive growth as consisting of both participation and benefit-sharing, where everyone can participate in the growth process and can equally share the benefits of this growth.<sup>2466</sup>

There are three broad components to this commitment, which are based on the OECD’s framework for policy action on inclusive growth. These include: investing in people and places that are left behind, promoting business dynamism and supportive labour markets, and building responsive institutions.<sup>2467</sup>

## Investing in People and Places

The first component of this commitment entails investing in people and regions that are considered vulnerable. Some ways to achieve this goal includes promoting life-long learning and acquisition of skills, increasing social mobility, supporting vulnerable regions, and investing in social capital.<sup>2468</sup>

For example, G20 members can promote life-long learning and the acquisition of skills by enhancing education and training systems to help prepare workers for the labour force and improve their competencies, fostering youth skills and reskilling and skill adaptation for current workers.<sup>2469</sup> To increase social mobility, members can work to lower barriers to labour mobility, promote equal opportunities for youth and women, and support the less fortunate through the tax and benefit system.<sup>2470</sup> Recognizing also that there are regional disparities, the G20 can work to attract and maintain investment in regions that are lagging behind economically in their given territory. G20

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<sup>2462</sup> Buenos Aires Action Plan, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-buenos-aires-action-plan.html>.

<sup>2463</sup> Buenos Aires Action Plan, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 12 January 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-buenos-aires-action-plan.html>.

<sup>2464</sup> Steadfast, Oxford Dictionaries (London). Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/steadfast>.

<sup>2465</sup> What is Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 20 January 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/inclusive-growth/>.

<sup>2466</sup> Report on the OECD Framework for Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 6-7 May 2014. Access Date: 25 January 2019. [https://www.oecd.org/mcm/IG\\_MCM\\_ENG.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/mcm/IG_MCM_ENG.pdf).

<sup>2467</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2468</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2469</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2470</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

members can invest in social capital by increasing and improving equal access to public services for citizens, including services like health care, housing and education, and stimulating and incentivizing private investment in social capital and public goods.<sup>2471</sup>

This component is primarily focused on the domestic sphere, although international actions could include sharing best practices, increasing funding abroad, and engaging in global partnerships also counts towards compliance.

### **Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets**

To achieve the second component of this commitment, members can work towards boosting productivity in the labour market and promoting business dynamism, while also ensuring new technologies are adapted to foster economic growth.<sup>2472</sup>

Members can achieve this through a number of ways. In the realm of structural and regulatory policies, members can focus on improving business environments to foster entrepreneurship, including providing equal access to the labour market as entrepreneurs and reducing barriers to entrepreneurship.<sup>2473</sup> Members can also take action to strengthen competition and foster investment. Creating regulatory policies that foster positive environments for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) is also considered a positive action.<sup>2474</sup> Furthermore, members can work towards creating an environment that is conducive to fostering a smooth reallocation process of workers and capital.<sup>2475</sup>

In addition, members can work towards adapting labour market policies that foster employment protections. Members can also strengthen and adapt labour market institutions, like policies, regulations and their enforcement, and social protection systems for workers in emerging industries. Action that strengthens and coordinates social dialogue amongst citizens and other parties in the realm of labour market policies also counts towards compliance.<sup>2476</sup> Furthermore, enacting new policies that enable technological innovations and productivity also count towards compliance.<sup>2477</sup>

Adapting tax policies to ensure that growth is inclusive and to deliver sustainable revenues also count towards compliance, especially if it incorporates the impact on skills development and use on

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<sup>2471</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2472</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2473</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2474</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2475</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2476</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2477</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

business dynamism.<sup>2478</sup> For example, enhancing the redistributive capacity of tax and benefit systems including those for low- and middle-income earners counts towards compliance.<sup>2479</sup>

This component is primarily domestic focused, though sharing of best practices, information sharing, engaging in global partnerships and participating in international initiatives also count towards compliance.

### **Building Resilient and Responsive Institutions**

The third component is building efficient, resilient and responsive institutions.

In order to achieve inclusive growth, G20 members can work towards including excluded populations in decision-making processes and other initiatives of public interest. For example, in policymaking, members can take coordinated action to “strengthen institutional frameworks for mainstreaming and budgeting of gender diversity” and to increase greater stakeholder engagement in order to strengthen policies that affect the general public.<sup>2480</sup>

Furthermore, members can take action towards making policies more inclusive and accountable to the public through improving budget transparency, ensuring sound financial management, and strengthening the capacity to deal with adverse shocks, financially, socially or politically.<sup>2481</sup>

This component is both domestic and international in scope. International actions would include building resilient and responsive multilateral institutions and though sharing of best practices, information sharing, engaging in global partnerships and participating in international initiatives.

To achieve full compliance, G20 members must take action in all three areas. Partial compliance entails members taking action in one or two of the three areas, while a member achieves negative compliance by failing to take action in any of the three areas.

### **Scoring Guidelines**

-1	G20 member has failed to take action in any three of the key areas of investing in people and places that are left behind, promoting business dynamism and supportive labour markets, and building responsive institutions.
0	G20 member has taken action in one OR two of the three areas of investing in people and places that are left behind, promoting business dynamism and supportive labour markets, and building responsive institutions.
+1	G20 member has taken action in all three areas of investing in people and places that are left behind, promoting business dynamism and supportive labour markets, and building responsive institutions.

*Compliance Director: Christopher Sims  
Lead Analyst: Joanna Ilunga*

<sup>2478</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2479</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2480</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

<sup>2481</sup> Opportunities for All: A Framework for Policy Action on Inclusive Growth, OECD (Paris) 2018. Access Date: 3 February 2019. [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth\\_9789264301665-4-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/opportunities-for-all/the-framework-for-policy-action-on-inclusive-growth_9789264301665-4-en).

## Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 4 December 2018, President Mauricio Macri agreed to cooperate more closely with China in 30 fields after meeting with President Xi Jinping.<sup>2482</sup> The deals will expand the countries' currency swap program, increase Chinese collaboration in Argentine infrastructure, and expand Argentine food exports to China.<sup>2483</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the Government of Argentina announced that starting on 1 January 2019, provincial jurisdictions will assume the responsibility of providing health benefits to people with disabilities.<sup>2484</sup> This will be implemented through a federal health program, beneficiaries of the non-contributory pensions may receive medical coverage.<sup>2485</sup>

On 21 December 2018, the National Disability Agency signed an agreement with Banco de la Nación Argentina to increase accessibility in branches throughout Argentina and increase the number of disabled individuals employed at the bank.<sup>2486</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the Government of Argentina announced that there will be tax deductions made to encourage higher saving for retirement plans, incentivize the efficient operation of capital markets, and ensure stable life amongst its citizens after retirement.<sup>2487</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship updated the Argentina Trade Net, which is a website developed to provide a platform for Argentine exporters and the public on market information regarding trade.<sup>2488</sup>

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<sup>2482</sup> China deepens economic cooperation with Argentina, Nikkei Asian Review (Buenos Aires) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/China-deepens-economic-cooperation-with-Argentina>.

<sup>2483</sup> China deepens economic cooperation with Argentina, Nikkei Asian Review (Buenos Aires) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/China-deepens-economic-cooperation-with-Argentina>.

<sup>2484</sup> El Gobierno Nacional descentraliza la administracion del Programa Federal Incluir Salud para agilizar los tramites de prestaciones medicas en las provincias, Agencia Nacional de Discapacidad (Buenos Aires) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-nacional-descentraliza-la-administracion-del-programa-federal-incluir-salud>.

<sup>2485</sup> El Gobierno Nacional descentraliza la administracion del Programa Federal Incluir Salud para agilizar los tramites de prestaciones medicas en las provincias, Agencia Nacional de Discapacidad (Buenos Aires) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-nacional-descentraliza-la-administracion-del-programa-federal-incluir-salud>.

<sup>2486</sup> La Agencia Nacional de Discapacidad firmo un convenio con el Banco Nacion para mejorar la accesibilidad en las sucursales de todo el pais, Agencia Nacional de Discapacidad (Buenos Aires) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/la-agencia-nacional-de-discapacidad-firmo-un-convenio-con-el-banco-nacion-para-mejorar-la>.

<sup>2487</sup> El Gobierno incentive los seguros de vida y retiro para generar ahorro e inversion en PyMes, Ministerio de Hacienda (Buenos Aires) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-incentiva-los-seguros-de-vida-y-retiro-para-generar-ahorro-e-inversion-en-pymes>.

<sup>2488</sup> News-Argentina Trade Net updated: A support website for exports that is a key instrument for the internationalization of SMesde las PyMES, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship Argentine Republic (Buenos Aires). 29 January 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/en/announcements/news/argentina-trade-net-updated-support-website-exports-key-instrument>.

On 19 February 2019, the Government of Argentina hosted a workshop session in La Plata for prison staff in order to increase communication and exchange of information regarding foreigners being held in Argentine prisons between migrants and the Buenos Aires Penitentiary Service.<sup>2489</sup>

On 27 February 2019, the Government of Argentina announced the creation of a new National Vocational Training Center for professional training for teachers, students, and professionals in the energy sector, under an agreement signed between the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology and the Embassy of France.<sup>2490</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the Government of Argentina hosted a workshop session to officials from the Ministries of Education of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago, officials from the University of the West Indies' Department of Languages, Linguistics and Literatures, and officials of the national education portfolio and the Language Laboratory of the UBA.<sup>2491</sup> The purpose of this workshop was to teach Argentine officials better technique of teaching Spanish as a second language and to consolidate the relationship between Argentina and English-speaking Caribbean states.<sup>2492</sup>

On 6 March 2019, Argentina and Peru began the first round of Negotiations for the Bilateral Expansion and Strengthening of the Economic Complementarity Agreement to facilitate bilateral trade relations and improve business opportunities between both countries.<sup>2493</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the Ministry of Production and Labour held the first meeting for the Commission of Social Dialogue to facilitate communication between the private and public sector on challenges and opportunities existing in the labor market to help the government in creating an inclusive business environment.<sup>2494</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the Government of Argentina announced that Exporta Simple, a program to facilitate easier export licensing, was introducing new logistical partners to eliminate weight limits and

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<sup>2489</sup> Capacitacion judicial migratoria a personal penitenciario bonaerense, Ministerio del Interior (La Plata) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 26 February 2019. [http://www.migraciones.gov.ar/accesible/indexA.php?mostrar\\_novedad=4508](http://www.migraciones.gov.ar/accesible/indexA.php?mostrar_novedad=4508).

<sup>2490</sup> Se creara un Centro Nacional de Formacion Profesional en eficiencia energetica y energias renovables, Ministerio de Educacion, Cultura, Ciencia y Tecnologia (Buenos Aires) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-creara-un-centro-nacional-de-formacion-profesional-en-eficiencia-energetica-y-energias>.

<sup>2491</sup> Taller de trabajo con paises del Caribe para la ensenanza del espanol, Ministerio de Educacion, Cultura, Ciencia y Tecnologia (Buenos Aires) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/taller-de-trabajo-con-paises-del-caribe-para-la-ensenanza-del-espanol>.

<sup>2492</sup> Taller de trabajo con paises del Caribe para la ensenanza del espanol, Ministerio de Educacion, Cultura, Ciencia y Tecnologia (Buenos Aires) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/taller-de-trabajo-con-paises-del-caribe-para-la-ensenanza-del-espanol>.

<sup>2493</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Round of Argentina-Peru Trade Negotiations begins in Buenos Aires , Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship Argentine Republic (6 March 2019). Access Date: 22 April 2019.

<https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/en/announcements/news/1st-round-argentina-peru-trade-negotiations-begins-buenos-aires>.

<sup>2494</sup> Se creó la Comisión de Diálogo Social para el Futuro del Trabajo, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (9 April 2019). Access Date: 22 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-creo-la-comision-de-dialogo-social-para-el-futuro-del-trabajo>.

lower costs for local exporters.<sup>2495</sup> Exporta Simple is part of the larger Buy Argentina program, which is an online platform to connect local exporters and importers of the world.<sup>2496</sup>

On 16 April 2019, the Ministry of Production and Labour launched a new version of the Small and Medium Ssized Enterprises (SME) Training Program to help small and medium sized enterprises to train their management staff by offering 100 per cent reimbursements on the training costs.<sup>2497</sup>

On 16 April 2019, the National Registry of Persons began the New Documentation Operation in the province of La Rioja to help people obtain their national identity documents in the most extensive operation of its type that has yet been conducted.<sup>2498</sup>

Argentina has taken action in all three key areas by improving accessibility services and healthcare program to people with disabilities and helping people in rural areas, to obtain their national identity documentation; in supporting business and inclusive labour markets by strengthening economic ties with China, building Vocational Training Center and organizing skill training workshops, and creating opportunity for dialogue between the private and public sectors on challenges in the labour market; and in building resilient and responsive institutions by launching the Argentina Trade Net to provide information on export trade for Argentine exporters and updating Export Simple to help local exporters reduce their cost in doing business. These actions fulfill all three components of the commitment.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jijun Meng*

#### **Australia: + 1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 7 December 2018, the Government of Australia provided an ASD4.9 million grant to 12 businesses to help support innovative products and services into the domestic and international market.<sup>2499</sup> This grant was provided by the Accelerating Commercialisation element of the

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<sup>2495</sup> El Gobierno anunció mejoras en Exporta Simple para que más PyMEs puedan salir a venderle al mundo, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (10 April 2019). Access Date: 22 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-anuncio-mejoras-en-exporta-simple-para-que-mas-pymes-puedan-salir-venderle-al>.

<sup>2496</sup> El Gobierno anunció mejoras en Exporta Simple para que más PyMEs puedan salir a venderle al mundo, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (10 April 2019). Access Date: 22 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-anuncio-mejoras-en-exporta-simple-para-que-mas-pymes-puedan-salir-venderle-al>.

<sup>2497</sup> Producción relanza el programa Capacitación PyME para seguir mejorando la productividad empresarial, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (16 April 2019). Access Date: 22 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/produccion-relanza-el-programa-capacitacion-pyme-para-seguir-mejorando-la-productividad>.

<sup>2498</sup> Comienzan nuevos operativos de Renaper en La Rioja para que más argentinos puedan tener su DNI por primera vez, , Ministerio del Interior, Obras Públicas y Vivienda (16 April 2019). Access Date: 22 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comienzan-nuevos-operativos-de-renaper-en-la-rioja-para-que-mas-argentinos-puedan-tener-su>.

<sup>2499</sup> 12 businesses get \$4.9m to help support their innovative idea, Australian Government (Canberra). 7 December 2018. Access date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.business.gov.au/news/12-businesses-get-4-9m-to-help-support-their-innovate-idea>.

Entrepreneurs Program and will help business realize their ideas, expand and connect with new international markets.<sup>2500</sup>

On 19 December 2019, Minister for Industry, Science and Technology Karen Andrews announced a new government digital technology strategy to replace the existing strategy last updated in 2016.<sup>2501</sup> The new strategy will focus on the four key areas of people, services, digital assets and the enabling environment and highlights the need to improve labour market information and upgrade the technology used by small businesses.<sup>2502</sup>

On 23 January 2019, the Australian government offered a fund of ASD9.7 million to support innovative products and services into the domestic and international market.<sup>2503</sup> This grant was provided by the Accelerating Commercialisation element of the Entrepreneurs Program and will help business realize their ideas, expand and connect with new international markets.<sup>2504</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the Government of Australia vowed to build a better tax system in order to provide tax relief more than three million small businesses.<sup>2505</sup> Measures include tax cuts for incorporated small and medium enterprises, increasing the tax discount rate for unincorporated small businesses, and increasing access to various tax concessions.<sup>2506</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the Government of Australia and the Government of the United Arab Emirates have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Arab Emirates Space Agency in order to have a closer working relationship. This will help Australia grow in the global space economy, and generate ASD12 billion a year and create 20,000 jobs in the sector.<sup>2507</sup> Commenting about the memorandum, Deputy Head of the Australian Space Agency Anthony Murfett stated that “the agreement will facilitate cooperation across shared areas of interest, including exchange of best practice, and support academic and research capability.”<sup>2508</sup>

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<sup>2500</sup> 12 businesses get \$4.9m to help support their innovative idea, Australian Government (Canberra) 7 December 2018. Access date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.business.gov.au/news/12-businesses-get-4-9m-to-help-support-their-innovate-idea>.

<sup>2501</sup> Australia finally gets a new technology strategy, ITNews (Canberra) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.itnews.com.au/news/australia-finally-gets-a-new-digital-economy-strategy-517102>.

<sup>2502</sup> Australia finally gets a new technology strategy, ITNews (Canberra) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.itnews.com.au/news/australia-finally-gets-a-new-digital-economy-strategy-517102>.

<sup>2503</sup> 16 businesses share \$9.7m to help support their great ideas, Australian Government (Canberra) 23 January 2019. Access date: 1 March 2019. [https://www.business.gov.au/news/16-businesses-share-\\$9-7m-to-help-support-their-great-ideas](https://www.business.gov.au/news/16-businesses-share-$9-7m-to-help-support-their-great-ideas).

<sup>2504</sup> 16 businesses share \$9.7m to help support their great ideas, Australian Government (Canberra) 23 January 2019. Access date: 1 March 2019. [https://www.business.gov.au/news/16-businesses-share-\\$9-7m-to-help-support-their-great-ideas](https://www.business.gov.au/news/16-businesses-share-$9-7m-to-help-support-their-great-ideas).

<sup>2505</sup> Building a better tax system for Australian businesses, Australian Government (Canberra) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.business.gov.au/news/building-a-better-tax-system-for-australian-businesses>.

<sup>2506</sup> Building a better tax system for Australian businesses, Australian Government GOV.AU (Canberra). 29 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.business.gov.au/news/building-a-better-tax-system-for-australian-businesses>.

<sup>2507</sup> Australia and United Arab Emirates partner in space, Australian Government GOV.AU (Canberra). 14 February 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/news-media/australian-space-agency-news/australia-and-united-arab-emirates-partner-in-space>.

<sup>2508</sup> Australia and United Arab Emirates partner in space, Australian Government GOV.AU (Canberra). 14 February 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/news-media/australian-space-agency-news/australia-and-united-arab-emirates-partner-in-space>.

On 25 February 2019, the Government of Australia gave funds to 12 businesses totaling to ASD5.4 million.<sup>2509</sup> This grant was provided by the Accelerating Commercialisation element of the Entrepreneurs Program and will help business realize their ideas, expand and connect with new international markets.<sup>2510</sup>

On 28 March 2019, the Government of Australia provided ASD5.3 million in funding to 15 businesses to help their products go into international and domestic markets.<sup>2511</sup>

On 28 March 2019, the Government of Australia released a “Critical Minerals Strategy” which sets out a vision for Australia to lead in terms of extracting, producing and processing critical minerals in a variety of industries.<sup>2512</sup> The strategy makes more plans for future investments, innovations and developments in infrastructure.<sup>2513</sup>

On 3 April 2019, the Government of Australia released a report on “Advancing Space: Australian Civil Space Strategy 2019-28.”<sup>2514</sup> The strategy is built on four pillars: to be international, national, responsible and inspirational, as well as focusing on seven priorities that are informed by Australia’s current strengths such as in communication, earth observation and R&D.<sup>2515</sup> To fund these projects, the government has spent over ASD72 million on establishing the Australian Space Agency, Space Infrastructure Fund, and related expenditures.<sup>2516</sup>

On 7 April 2019, the Government of Australia released a report called “Advancing Women in STEM” which creates more initiatives to have more gender equality in STEM.<sup>2517</sup> There will be funding of ASD6 million to support these initiatives, including ASD1.8 million over three years to bolster the Science in Australia Gender Equity program and another ASD1.5 million will create a “digital awareness initiative,” which will showcase female leaders in Australian STEM.<sup>2518</sup>

Australia has taken action in Investing in People and Places by promoting gender equalization in STEM fields; in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by supporting innovative small

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<sup>2509</sup> 12 businesses share in \$5.4m of grants, Australian Government (Canberra) 26 February 2019. Access date: 1 March 2019. [https://www.business.gov.au/news/12-businesses-share-in-\\$5-4m-of-grants](https://www.business.gov.au/news/12-businesses-share-in-$5-4m-of-grants).

<sup>2510</sup> 12 businesses share in \$5.4m of grants, Australian Government (Canberra) 26 February 2019. Access date: 1 March 2019. [https://www.business.gov.au/news/12-businesses-share-in-\\$5-4m-of-grants](https://www.business.gov.au/news/12-businesses-share-in-$5-4m-of-grants).

<sup>2511</sup> 15 businesses share in \$5.3m of Accelerating Commercialisation grants, Australian Government Gov.Au (Canberra), 28 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [https://www.business.gov.au/news/15-businesses-share-in-\\$5-3m-of-accelerating-commercialisation-grants](https://www.business.gov.au/news/15-businesses-share-in-$5-3m-of-accelerating-commercialisation-grants).

<sup>2512</sup> Australia’s Critical Minerals Strategy Released, Government of Australia Gov.au (Canberra), 28 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/news-media/australias-critical-minerals-strategy-released>.

<sup>2513</sup> Australia’s Critical Minerals Strategy Released, Government of Australia Gov.au (Canberra), 28 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/news-media/australias-critical-minerals-strategy-released>.

<sup>2514</sup> Australian Civil Space Strategy: A message from Head, Dr Megan Clark AC, Government of Australia Gov.au (Canberra), 3 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/news-media/australian-space-agency-news/australian-civil-space-strategy-a-message-from-head-dr-megan-clark-ac>.

<sup>2515</sup> Australian Civil Space Strategy: A message from Head, Dr Megan Clark AC, Government of Australia Gov.au (Canberra), 3 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/news-media/australian-space-agency-news/australian-civil-space-strategy-a-message-from-head-dr-megan-clark-ac>.

<sup>2516</sup> Australian Civil Space Strategy: A message from Head, Dr Megan Clark AC, Government of Australia Gov.au (Canberra), 3 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/news-media/australian-space-agency-news/australian-civil-space-strategy-a-message-from-head-dr-megan-clark-ac>.

<sup>2517</sup> New strategy for advancing women in STEM, Government of Australia Gov.au (Canberra), 7 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/news-media/science-news/new-strategy-for-advancing-women-in-stem>.

<sup>2518</sup> New strategy for advancing women in STEM, Government of Australia Gov.au (Canberra), 7 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.industry.gov.au/news-media/science-news/new-strategy-for-advancing-women-in-stem>.

businesses, providing small business tax relief, and releasing strategies on minerals and space; and in Building Resilient and Responsive Institutions by announcing a new digital technology strategy. These actions fulfill all three components of the commitment.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Isha Chaudhuri*

### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 2 January 2019, Economy Minister Paulo Guedes announced broad reforms of Brazil's government and business environment in an inaugural speech.<sup>2519</sup> Measures include cutting pensions, reducing state involvement in the economy, reducing the size of the civil service and simplifying the taxation system.<sup>2520</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the National Monetary Council announced the Government of Brazil will grant approximately BRL6 billion for small and medium farmers in the current harvest cycle to finance for the cost of agriculture and livestock.<sup>2521</sup> The council also adjusted agricultural financing rules to loosen restrictions on access to rural credit.<sup>2522</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the Government of Brazil began to simplify the licensing process for exporters in order to facilitate export trade between Brazil to European Union and Colombia in livestock and vehicles.<sup>2523</sup>

On 15 February 2019, the Government of Brazil held the "Oval Table" meeting, which approximately 400 business owners along with government officials attended to discuss opportunities within the private sector.<sup>2524</sup> Special Secretary for Productivity, Employment and Competitiveness

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<sup>2519</sup> Brazil's Economy Chief Vows to Drain the Swamp of Government Waste, Bloomberg (Brasília) 2 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-01-02/brazil-economy-chief-vows-to-drain-the-swamp-of-government-waste>.

<sup>2520</sup> Brazil's Economy Chief Vows to Drain the Swamp of Government Waste, Bloomberg (Brasília) 2 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-01-02/brazil-economy-chief-vows-to-drain-the-swamp-of-government-waste>.

<sup>2521</sup> Pequenos e médios agricultores terão mais R\$ 6 bilhões para financiamento, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/economia-e-financas/2019/02/pequenos-e-medios-agricultores-terao-mais-r-6-bilhoes-para-financiamento>.

<sup>2522</sup> Pequenos e médios agricultores terão mais R\$ 6 bilhões para financiamento, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/economia-e-financas/2019/02/pequenos-e-medios-agricultores-terao-mais-r-6-bilhoes-para-financiamento>.

<sup>2523</sup> Governo simplifica concessão de licenças para uso de cotas de exportação, Ministério de Economia (Brasília) 2 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/02/governo-simplifica-concessao-de-licencas-para-uso-de-cotas-de-exportacao>.

<sup>2524</sup> Nós estamos de portas abertas para dialogar com o setor privado, Ministério de Economia (Brasília) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/02/201cnos-estamos-de-portas-abertas-para-dialogar-com-o-setor-privado201d>.

Carlos Da Costa stated the importance of the three priority initiatives of Social Security Reform, cutting government expenditure, and reducing the tax burden.<sup>2525</sup>

On 20 February 2019, Minister of Health Luis Henrique Mandetta announced BRL30.4 million in additional funds for the public healthcare system in the southern state of Santa Catarina, where 43 municipalities will benefit from this funding.<sup>2526</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the Ministry of Economy sent a proposal for a new pension plan to Congress and presented the proposal to the president.<sup>2527</sup> The new pension plan proposal intends to raise the retirement age among women by two years (from 60 to 62, compared to 65 for men), increasing the contribution rate for high-income earners and decreasing it for low-income earners, and rules to prevent fraud.<sup>2528</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Ministry of Economy and the General Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic hosted the Doing Business Brazil 2020 event in São Paulo, which approximately 100 small and medium-sized entrepreneurs (SMEs) attended along with municipal government officials to discuss how to improve the business environment in Brazil.<sup>2529</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Ministry of Infrastructure held a public hearing to present to the Senate's plans for highways, railways, airports, and public infrastructures, which the Ministry intends to finance with private investment along with public funding.<sup>2530</sup>

On 27 February 2019, the National Monetary Council announced that it authorized financial institutions to extend the maturity date of rural credit operations to 1 July 2019, so that people affected by the collapse of the Corrego do Feijao Mine Dam would not default because of the collapse.<sup>2531</sup>

On 27 February 2019, the Ministry of Economy presented a new strategy called Novo SINE, which is a database that will help job seekers to explore employment opportunities and allow employers to

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<sup>2525</sup> Nós estamos de portas abertas para dialogar com o setor privado, Ministério de Economia (Brasília) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/02/201cnos-estamos-de-portas-abertas-para-dialogar-com-o-setor-privado201d>.

<sup>2526</sup> Governo repassa R\$ 30,4 milhões para ações de saúde em Santa Catarina, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/saude/2019/02/governo--repassa-r-30-4-milhoes-para-acoes-em-santa-catarina>.

<sup>2527</sup> Nova Previdência reduz desigualdades e assegura aposentadoria das futuras gerações, Ministério da Economia (Brasília) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/02/nova-previdencia-reduz-desigualdades-e-assegura-aposentadoria-das-futuras-geracoes>.

<sup>2528</sup> Nova Previdência reduz desigualdades e assegura aposentadoria das futuras gerações, Ministério da Economia (Brasília) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/02/nova-previdencia-reduz-desigualdades-e-assegura-aposentadoria-das-futuras-geracoes>.

<sup>2529</sup> Event in Sao Paulo discusses improvements in the business environment, Ministry of Economy (Brasília) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/02/evento-em-sao-paulo-debate-melhorias-no-ambiente-de-negocios>.

<sup>2530</sup> Castro, Augusto. Ministro da Infraestrutura expõe planos para rodovias, ferrovias e aeroportos, Senado Notícias (Brasília). 26 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2019/02/26/ministro-da-infraestrutura-expoe-planos-para-rodovias-ferrovias-e-aeroportos>.

<sup>2531</sup> CMN prorroga vencimento de operações de crédito de agricultores de Brumadinho, Ministério da Economia (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/02/cmn-autoriza-prorrogaocao-de-vencimento-de-operacoes-de-credito-de-produtores-rurais-de-brumadinho>.

search for qualified candidates directly through the database.<sup>2532</sup> Further plans include the standardization of data on employers and employees.<sup>2533</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the National Secretariat for Civil Protection and Defense announced that it will offer financial assistance of BRL1.1 million to several cities affected by natural disasters for them to rebuild basic infrastructure.<sup>2534</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Ministry of Regional Development announced that it will increase its supports to families affected by the storm in São Paulo state by allowing withdrawals from the Fundo de Garantia do Tempo e Serviço, a government indemnity fund and increasing funding for housing reconstruction.<sup>2535</sup> The Ministry also plans to complete at BRL400 million project to mitigate the impact of future floods in São Paulo state.<sup>2536</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the Ministry of Health began the National Influenza Vaccination Campaign to help people get vaccinated.<sup>2537</sup> The federal government increased the age range of children able to benefit from the campaign and has also included health workers, indigenous groups, the elderly and pregnant women among beneficiaries of the campaign.<sup>2538</sup>

On 11 April 2019, the federal government began to regulate Article 51 and 52 of the Brazilian Inclusion Law to help people with disabilities have increased access to disability-compatible taxis and rental cars.<sup>2539</sup>

On 11 April 2019, President Jair Bolsonaro announced that the Brazilian government will establish a unique portal “gov.br” starting on 1 July 2019, which will combine online federal government

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<sup>2532</sup> Governo apresenta medidas para acelerar recolocação profissional, Ministério da Economia (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/02/governo-apresenta-medidas-para-acelerar-recolocacao-profissional>.

<sup>2533</sup> Governo apresenta medidas para acelerar recolocação profissional, Ministério da Economia (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/02/governo-apresenta-medidas-para-acelerar-recolocacao-profissional>.

<sup>2534</sup> Governo federal repassa R\$ 1,1 milhão para cidades atingidas por desastres, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/infraestrutura/2019/02/governo-federal-repassa-r-1-1-milhao-para-cidades-atingidas-por-desastres>.

<sup>2535</sup> Governo Federal viabiliza apoio para famílias afetadas por fortes chuvas em São Paulo, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/governo-federal-viabiliza-apoio-para-familias-afetadas-por-fortes-chuvas-em-sao-paulo>.

<sup>2536</sup> Governo Federal viabiliza apoio para famílias afetadas por fortes chuvas em São Paulo, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/governo-federal-viabiliza-apoio-para-familias-afetadas-por-fortes-chuvas-em-sao-paulo>.

<sup>2537</sup> Ministério da Saúde lança Campanha Nacional de Vacinação contra a Gripe, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/saude/2019/04/ministerio-da-saude-lanca-campanha-nacional-de-vacinacao-contra-a-gripe>.

<sup>2538</sup> Ministério da Saúde lança Campanha Nacional de Vacinação contra a Gripe, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/saude/2019/04/ministerio-da-saude-lanca-campanha-nacional-de-vacinacao-contra-a-gripe>.

<sup>2539</sup> Regulamentação de Estatuto facilitará a vida de pessoas com deficiência, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/100dias/noticias/regulamentacao-de-estatuto-facilitara-a-vida-de-pessoas-com-deficiencia>.

services and information for the first time.<sup>2540</sup> Starting in 2020, the “gov.br” portal will allow all actions of social communication and public utility services.<sup>2541</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the Special Secretary of Productivity, Employment and Competitiveness Carlos Da Costa announced the government’s four plans to generate employment and increase productivity.<sup>2542</sup> The four plans are “Simplify” (reducing time of opening of new companies), “Pro-market” (reviewing regulations that impede the development of companies and amending them), Brazil 4.0 (encouraging startups, technology innovations, and services and processes digitalization through government incentives), and “Employs +” (using artificial intelligence to accelerate employment market).<sup>2543</sup>

On 17 April 2019, the Ministry of Health announced that it will fund BRL1.3 billion in helping patients diagnosed with hemorrhagic diseases such as hemophilia to purchase medicines.<sup>2544</sup>

Brazil has taken action in Investing in People and Places by providing financial assistance to people affected by natural disasters, providing financial assistance to municipalities to increase health welfare, providing funding to help people affected by natural disasters and mitigating the impact of future natural disasters; in Supporting Business and Inclusive Labour Markets by introducing government strategy in helping job seekers in their job hunting process, facilitating dialogue between public and private sectors to discuss the current business environment and future plans for improvement, and simplifying the process of company registration; and in Building Resilient and Responsive Institutions by having financial institutions to extend debt maturity for people being affected by natural disasters and creating a simplified one-stop government website for information and public services. These actions fulfill all three components of the commitment.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jijun Meng*

### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

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<sup>2540</sup> Brasileiros terão portal único “gov.br” para acessar informações e serviços públicos, Ministério da Economia (Brasília) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019.

<http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/04/brasileiros-terao-portal-unico-201cgov-br201d-para-acessar-informacoes-e-servicos-publicos>.

<sup>2541</sup> Brasileiros terão portal único “gov.br” para acessar informações e serviços públicos, Ministério da Economia (Brasília) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019.

<http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/04/brasileiros-terao-portal-unico-201cgov-br201d-para-acessar-informacoes-e-servicos-publicos>.

<sup>2542</sup> Ministério anuncia medidas para retomada da produtividade e geração de emprego, Ministério da Economia (Brasília) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019.

<http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/04/ministerio-anuncia-medidas-para-retomada-da-produtividade-e-geracao-de-emprego>.

<sup>2543</sup> Ministério anuncia medidas para retomada da produtividade e geração de emprego, Ministério da Economia (Brasília) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019.

<http://editor.economia.gov.br:8080/Economia/noticias/2019/04/ministerio-anuncia-medidas-para-retomada-da-produtividade-e-geracao-de-emprego>.

<sup>2544</sup> Ministério da Saúde garante R\$ 1,3 bilhão para tratamento de hemofílicos, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/saude/ministerio-da-saude-garante-r-1-3-bilhao-para-tratamento-de-hemofilicos>.

On 5 December 2018, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Navdeep Bains announced CAD6.3 million in funding for artificial intelligence businesses in the Montréal region to scale up and expand their firms.<sup>2545</sup>

On 13 December 2018, a proactive pay equity legislation received Royal Assent.<sup>2546</sup> Under the new law, employers in federally regulated workplaces will be required to examine their compensation practices to ensure equal pay for work of equal value between women and men, and a Pay Equity Commissioner will be appointed to play both educational and enforcement roles with respect to the legislation.<sup>2547</sup>

On 13 December 2018, legislation for increased federal labour standards received Royal Assent, becoming law in Canada.<sup>2548</sup> Changes include greater employee eligibility for entitlements such as holiday pay and personal leave, equal pay for employees in temporary positions compared to full-time employees, and increased financial support for workers employed by insolvent employers under the Wage Earner Protection Program (WEPP).<sup>2549</sup> The legislation will be implemented over the next 18 months, with CAD50.7 million over five years allocated to supporting implementation and enforcement of the new amendments.<sup>2550</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the Government of Canada cut the small business tax rate from 10 per cent to 9 per cent effective 1 January 2019.<sup>2551</sup> This reduction will result in up to CAD7,500 in federal tax savings for small businesses compared to 2017.<sup>2552</sup>

On 1 January 2019, Phase 1 of the new Canada Pension Plan (CPP) enhancement was implemented, in which the maximum CPP contribution is increased from 4.95 per cent to 5.1 per cent, and the CPP retirement pension increased from replacing one quarter to one third of average work

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<sup>2545</sup> Government of Canada invests in artificial intelligence and creates close to 1,000 middle-class jobs, Newswire (Montreal) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-invests-in-artificial-intelligence-and-creates-close-to-1000-middle-class-jobs-701981461.html>.

<sup>2546</sup> Historic proactive pay equity legislation receives Royal Assent, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/12/historic-proactive-pay-equity-legislation-receives-royal-assent.html>.

<sup>2547</sup> Historic proactive pay equity legislation receives Royal Assent, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/12/historic-proactive-pay-equity-legislation-receives-royal-assent.html>.

<sup>2548</sup> Legislation to better protect workers and support good quality jobs receives Royal Assent, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/12/legislation-to-better-protect-workers-and-support-good-quality-jobs-receives-royal-assent.html>.

<sup>2549</sup> Legislation to better protect workers and support good quality jobs receives Royal Assent, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/12/legislation-to-better-protect-workers-and-support-good-quality-jobs-receives-royal-assent.html>.

<sup>2550</sup> Legislation to better protect workers and support good quality jobs receives Royal Assent, Employment and Social Development Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2018/12/legislation-to-better-protect-workers-and-support-good-quality-jobs-receives-royal-assent.html>.

<sup>2551</sup> 2019 Brings Lower Taxes for Small Businesses and More Help for Canadian Workers, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-123-eng.asp>.

<sup>2552</sup> 2019 Brings Lower Taxes for Small Businesses and More Help for Canadian Workers, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n18/18-123-eng.asp>.

earnings.<sup>2553</sup> The rate will continue to gradually rise until the contribution rate is raised to 5.95 per cent in 2023, with the intention of helping Canadians save for retirement.<sup>2554</sup>

On 10 January 2019, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna announced that Enwave Energy Corporation is the first recipient of CAD10 million from the Low Carbon Economy Challenge's Champions stream.<sup>2555</sup> The Champion stream of the Low Carbon Economy Fund is designed to fund business ventures that directly reduce Canada's emissions.<sup>2556</sup>

On 28 January 2019, Canada invested CAD50 million in venture capital for Canadian clean technology companies through the new Clean Technology Stream of the Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative (VCCI).<sup>2557</sup> Intended to help clean technology companies scale and compete, the new stream is in addition to the existing CAD400 million indicated in Budget 2017 for the VCCI.<sup>2558</sup>

On 11 February 2019, Minister of National Revenue Diane Lebovitch opened three Canada Revenue Agency Northern Service Centres in Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit, the capitals of Canada's three territories.<sup>2559</sup> These centres offer year-round tax support and free income tax filing services for modest income individuals and raise awareness through outreach information sessions.<sup>2560</sup>

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<sup>2553</sup> The Canada Pension Plan enhancement – Businesses, individuals and self-employed: what it means for you, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 1 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2018/10/the-canada-pension-plan-enhancement--businesses-individuals-and-self-employed-what-it-means-for-you.html>.

<sup>2554</sup> The Canada Pension Plan enhancement – Businesses, individuals and self-employed: what it means for you, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 1 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2018/10/the-canada-pension-plan-enhancement--businesses-individuals-and-self-employed-what-it-means-for-you.html>.

<sup>2555</sup> Government of Canada supporting Canadian innovation through the Low Carbon Economy Challenge - First recipient under the Champions stream announced, Newswire (Ottawa) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-supporting-canadian-innovation-through-the-low-carbon-economy-challenge-first-recipient-under-the-champions-stream-announced-868220751.html>.

<sup>2556</sup> Government of Canada supporting Canadian innovation through the Low Carbon Economy Challenge - First recipient under the Champions stream announced, Newswire (Ottawa) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-supporting-canadian-innovation-through-the-low-carbon-economy-challenge-first-recipient-under-the-champions-stream-announced-868220751.html>.

<sup>2557</sup> Minister Ng announces investment in venture capital for Canadian clean tech companies, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/minister-ng-announces-investment-in-venture-capital-for-canadian-clean-tech-companies.html>.

<sup>2558</sup> Minister Ng announces investment in venture capital for Canadian clean tech companies, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/01/minister-ng-announces-investment-in-venture-capital-for-canadian-clean-tech-companies.html>.

<sup>2559</sup> Minister Lebovitch opens three Canada Revenue Agency Northern Service Centres, Canada Revenue Agency (Yellowknife) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2019/02/minister-lebovitch-opens-three-canada-revenue-agency-northern-service-centres.html>.

<sup>2560</sup> Minister Lebovitch opens three Canada Revenue Agency Northern Service Centres, Canada Revenue Agency (Yellowknife) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2019/02/minister-lebovitch-opens-three-canada-revenue-agency-northern-service-centres.html>.

On 12 February 2019, Minister of Natural Resources Amarjeet Sohi announced an investment of nearly CAD13 million in Calgary-based clean technology companies, to help create jobs in Alberta as well as develop and commercialize their products.<sup>2561</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Minister of Finance Bill Morneau and Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour Patty Hadju announced the new Future Skills Centre and Future Skills Council.<sup>2562</sup> Its purpose is to fund projects to develop, test and measure new approaches to skills assessment and development, and advise the Minister of Employment on emerging skills and workforce trends.<sup>2563</sup> The Government of Canada is investing CAD225 million over four years, and CAD75 million per year thereafter in the initiative.<sup>2564</sup>

On 19 March 2019, CAD1.7 billion over five years in funding was proposed in the 2019 federal budget to implement the Canada Training Benefit.<sup>2565</sup> It includes the Canada Training Credit, which allows eligible workers to accumulate up to CAD5000 to supplement training fees, as well as new leave provisions and the Employment Insurance Training Support Benefit to provide workers with protections and up to four weeks of income support to take time off from work to pursue training.<sup>2566</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the 2019 federal budget proposed to enhance the Guaranteed Income Supplement earnings exemption for low-income seniors.<sup>2567</sup> The exemption would provide full or partial exemptions of up to CAD15000 of annual employment income, allowing pension recipients to earn a higher income before benefits are reduced.<sup>2568</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the 2019 federal budget proposed to provide the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) with an additional CAD150.8 million over five years to combat tax evasion and avoidance.<sup>2569</sup> A

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<sup>2561</sup> Government of Canada invests in clean technology across the oil and gas value chain, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Calgary) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-invests-in-clean-technology-across-the-oil-and-gas-value-chain.html>.

<sup>2562</sup> Government of Canada takes action to ensure Canadian workers are prepared for the jobs of tomorrow, Department of Finance Canada (Toronto) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-takes-action-to-ensure-canadian-workers-are-prepared-for-the-jobs-of-tomorrow.html>.

<sup>2563</sup> Government of Canada takes action to ensure Canadian workers are prepared for the jobs of tomorrow, Department of Finance Canada (Toronto) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-takes-action-to-ensure-canadian-workers-are-prepared-for-the-jobs-of-tomorrow.html>.

<sup>2564</sup> Government of Canada takes action to ensure Canadian workers are prepared for the jobs of tomorrow, Department of Finance Canada (Toronto) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-takes-action-to-ensure-canadian-workers-are-prepared-for-the-jobs-of-tomorrow.html>.

<sup>2565</sup> The Canada Training Benefit, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/themes/good-jobs-de-bons-emplois-en.html>.

<sup>2566</sup> The Canada Training Benefit, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/themes/good-jobs-de-bons-emplois-en.html>.

<sup>2567</sup> A Secure and Dignified Retirement for Canadians, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/themes/seniors-aines-en.html>.

<sup>2568</sup> A Secure and Dignified Retirement for Canadians, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/themes/seniors-aines-en.html>.

<sup>2569</sup> Part 7: A Fair Tax System for All Canadians, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-04-en.html#Part-7-A-Fair-Tax-System-for-All-Canadians>.

separate fund of CAD65.8 million over five years will also be invested to improve the ability of the CRA's information technology systems to combat technology-driven tax evasion schemes.<sup>2570</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the 2019 federal budget proposed a number of measures to make post-secondary education more affordable and accessible.<sup>2571</sup> CAD1.7 billion in forgone revenue over five years and CAD375.9 million after will be invested to lower student loan interest rates and implement a new interest-free grace period.<sup>2572</sup> Additional proposals include expanding disability benefits and parental leave, offering graduate scholarships, and increasing funding support for indigenous students.<sup>2573</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the 2019 federal budget proposed an investment of CAD219.1 million over five years to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Health Canada and Transport Canada to modernize regulatory frameworks, accommodate emerging technologies and facilitate cooperation across jurisdictions.<sup>2574</sup> These regulatory roadmaps were designed using over 140 responses from businesses and Canadians across the country.<sup>2575</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the 2019 federal budget proposed to invest in a number of measures to improve indigenous governance tools.<sup>2576</sup> They include a new co-developed collaborative self-government fiscal policy with self-governing indigenous groups, CAD78.9 million over seven years to fund data collection for improved policy decision-making, and CAD48 million over two years to financially support governance capacity.<sup>2577</sup>

Canada has taken action in Investing in People and Places by increasing funding for raising labour standards, cutting small business tax rates and increasing accessibility to job training and education; in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by investing in new technological industries and innovation and diversification programs; and Building More Resilient and Responsive Institutions by strengthening tax compliance enforcement, collaboratively re-designing government-indigenous governance models, and modernizing regulatory frameworks. These actions fulfill three out of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, Canada. receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Denise Lee*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

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<sup>2570</sup> Part 7: A Fair Tax System for All Canadians, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-04-en.html#Part-7-A-Fair-Tax-System-for-All-Canadians>.

<sup>2571</sup> Preparing Young Canadians for Good Jobs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-01-en.html#Affordable-and-Accessible-Education>.

<sup>2572</sup> Gender Equality Statement, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-05-en.html#Economic-Participation-and-Prosperity>.

<sup>2573</sup> Preparing Young Canadians for Good Jobs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-01-en.html#Affordable-and-Accessible-Education>.

<sup>2574</sup> Bringing Innovation to Regulations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-02-en.html#Bringing-Innovation-to-Regulations>.

<sup>2575</sup> Bringing Innovation to Regulations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-02-en.html#Bringing-Innovation-to-Regulations>.

<sup>2576</sup> Part 2: Strengthening Governance Tools, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-03-en.html#Part-2-Strengthening-Governance-Tools>.

<sup>2577</sup> Part 2: Strengthening Governance Tools, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2019/docs/plan/chap-03-en.html#Part-2-Strengthening-Governance-Tools>.

On 19 December 2018, the Chinese National Development and Reform Commission announced the approval of a series of urban rail projects in Shanghai worth of approximately CNY298.35 billion, 45 per cent of which will come from local government's financial funds.<sup>2578</sup> These projects will further connect the existing transportation network in Shanghai and facilitate movements among the subways, train stations and airports.<sup>2579</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the Chinese Ministry of Industry and Information Technology announced future efforts to commercialize 5G communication technology.<sup>2580</sup> It also welcomed foreign enterprises to participate in the process as the country sought to expand opening-up policies.<sup>2581</sup>

On 14 February 2019, General Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the General Office of the State Council issued "Opinions on Strengthening Financial Services for Private Enterprises" to provide guidance and call upon enforcement by local governments and regional departments.<sup>2582</sup> The document promoted financial support for privately owned medium, small and micro businesses through policies such as more adequate credit evaluation, less reliance on collateral securities, and speedier approval of loans.<sup>2583</sup>

On 25 February 2019, China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (CBIRC) demanded more than 30 per cent increase in loans from large state-owned lenders to small and micro businesses.<sup>2584</sup> This is an effort to provide better financial support to private firms.<sup>2585</sup> The CBIRC also ordered commercial banks to present their annual targets on financing private firms by the end of March as it would monitor their progresses quarterly.<sup>2586</sup> Vice Chairman of the commission Wang Zhaoxing said that the annual increase of over 21 per cent in such loans has already outpaced the overall bank loan growth in the country.<sup>2587</sup>

On 15 March 2019, Premier Li Keqiang announced a reduction of the value-added tax (VAT) in the manufacturing, transport, and construction sectors starting on 1 April.<sup>2588</sup> Social security fees for

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<sup>2578</sup> China approves urban rail projects worth US\$43.3B for Shanghai, China Internal Information Centre (Beijing) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://www.china.org.cn/business/2018-12/20/content\\_74295208.htm](http://www.china.org.cn/business/2018-12/20/content_74295208.htm).

<sup>2579</sup> 国家发改委关于上海市城市轨道交通第三期建设规划的批复, Bendibao (Shanghai) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://sh.bendibao.com/traffic/20181219/200735.shtm>.

<sup>2580</sup> Nation to ratchet up efforts on 5G technology development, China Daily (Beijing) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201901/30/WS5c50dc51a3106c65c34e72e8.html>.

<sup>2581</sup> Nation to ratchet up efforts on 5G technology development, China Daily (Beijing) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201901/30/WS5c50dc51a3106c65c34e72e8.html>.

<sup>2582</sup> 中共中央办公厅 国务院办公厅印发《关于加强金融服务民营企业的若干意见》, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/politics/2019-02/14/c\\_1124116039.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/politics/2019-02/14/c_1124116039.htm).

<sup>2583</sup> 中共中央办公厅 国务院办公厅印发《关于加强金融服务民营企业的若干意见》, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/politics/2019-02/14/c\\_1124116039.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/politics/2019-02/14/c_1124116039.htm).

<sup>2584</sup> China to increase bank loans to private firms, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/25/c\\_137849420.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/25/c_137849420.htm).

<sup>2585</sup> China to increase bank loans to private firms, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/25/c\\_137849420.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/25/c_137849420.htm).

<sup>2586</sup> China to increase bank loans to private firms, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/25/c\\_137849420.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/25/c_137849420.htm).

<sup>2587</sup> China to increase bank loans to private firms, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/25/c\\_137849420.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/25/c_137849420.htm).

<sup>2588</sup> China will cut value-added tax for manufacturers on Apr 1 - premier, CNBC (Beijing) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/03/14/reuters-america-china-will-cut-value-added-tax-for-manufacturers-on-apr-1--premier.html>.

companies will also be reduced as of 1 May.<sup>2589</sup> The estimated total reduction in taxes and fees this year for all companies in the three sectors is approximately CNY2 trillion.<sup>2590</sup>

On 7 March 2019, Finance Minister Liu Kun and Vice Finance Minister Liu Wei announced a CNY60 billion budget with a 35.9 per cent increase from last year in environmental protection funds to address pollution, with an additional CNY5 billion to prevent air pollution.<sup>2591</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the National People's Congress passed a new foreign investment law that would come into force on the 1 January 2020.<sup>2592</sup> The law would replace three foreign capital laws, including the Law on Sino-Foreign Equity Joint Ventures, the Law on Sino-Foreign Contractual Joint Ventures and the Law on Foreign-Capital Enterprises, aiming to address outstanding concerns from foreign investors about unfair treatment in market access and government procurement, forced technology transfer and theft of commercial secrets by Chinese businesses.<sup>2593</sup> Premier Li Keqiang announced the government's plan to prioritize employment and to create more than 11 million new urban jobs in 2019 through various policies, including lowering tax and fee and lowering real interest rates.<sup>2594</sup>

On 23 March 2019, President Xi and Italian Deputy Prime Minister Luigi Di Maio announced that Italy will join the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), China's global investment programme as the first G7 member to sign on the programme.<sup>2595</sup> Deputy Prime Minister Di Miao and President Xi signed 29 deals that amounted to EUR2.5 billion which will enable Italian firms access to the Chinese market and Chinese firms access to Italian ports and infrastructure among other agreements.<sup>2596</sup>

On 25 March 2019, President Xi visited France and signed 15 business contracts with French President Emmanuel Macron, including a multi-plane order with Airbus and a EUR1 billion contract for Électricité de France to build an offshore wind farm in China.<sup>2597</sup>

On 19 April 2019, the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee discussed the country's current economic situation and poverty alleviation work in the past year.<sup>2598</sup> It called on further efforts in deepening economic reform, stimulating economic vitality and eradicating

<sup>2589</sup> China will cut value-added tax for manufacturers on Apr 1 - premier, CNBC (Beijing) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/03/14/reuters-america-china-will-cut-value-added-tax-for-manufacturers-on-apr-1--premier.html>.

<sup>2590</sup> China will cut value-added tax for manufacturers on Apr 1 - premier, CNBC (Beijing) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/03/14/reuters-america-china-will-cut-value-added-tax-for-manufacturers-on-apr-1--premier.html>.

<sup>2591</sup> 财政部…今年安排为累计净筹资600亿 大气方面增加50亿 利率平25%, National Business Daily (Chengdu) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://www.nbd.com.cn/articles/2019-03-07/1307631.html>.

<sup>2592</sup> China approves new foreign investment law designed to level domestic playing field for overseas investors, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.scmp.com/economy/china-economy/article/3001780/china-approves-new-foreign-investment-law-designed-level>.

<sup>2593</sup> China approves new foreign investment law designed to level domestic playing field for overseas investors, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.scmp.com/economy/china-economy/article/3001780/china-approves-new-foreign-investment-law-designed-level>.

<sup>2594</sup> China to ensure creation of over 11 million new urban jobs in 2019, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/15/c\\_137897684.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/15/c_137897684.htm).

<sup>2595</sup> Italy joins China's New Silk Road project (Rome) 23 March 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-47679760>.

<sup>2596</sup> Italy joins China's New Silk Road project (Rome) 23 March 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-47679760>.

<sup>2597</sup> France, China sign multibillion trade deals as Xi Jinping meets Macron, France 24 (Paris) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20190325-france-china-sign-multibillion-trade-deals-xi-jinping-meets-macron>.

<sup>2598</sup> Economy and poverty alleviation discussed at CPC meeting, CGTN (Beijing) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d3d774d3249544d34457a6333566d54/index.html>.

poverty.<sup>2599</sup> It also illustrated the importance to promote high-quality development of manufacture industry, to expand emerging industries for supporting steady growth and to provide financial supports to private and small and medium-sized companies and lift them to upgrade.<sup>2600</sup>

China has taken action in Investing in People and Places by putting efforts in poverty alleviation; and in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by working towards the commercialization of 5G communication technology and providing better support for private enterprises; and in Building Resilient and Responsive Institutions by addressing concerns from foreign investors through new legislation. These actions fulfill all three components of the commitment.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Wenny Jin*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 4 December 2018 Prime Minister Édouard Philippe announced that a temporary suspension of the carbon tax as a result of the “Yellow Jacket” protests.<sup>2601</sup> Furthermore, President Emmanuel Macron has proposed to hike the minimum wage in order to raise France’s budget deficit above three per cent of gross domestic product.<sup>2602</sup> It was also declared that between 15 January 2019 to 1 March 2019, France will have a debate at a national level on both taxes and public spending to address the future of public services.<sup>2603</sup> Lastly, President Macron announced that France would cancel a tax rise for low-income pensioners, as well as introducing a EUR100 pay increase for minimum wage workers through a state-funded income supplement.<sup>2604</sup>

On 17 December 2018, Economy Minister Bruno Le Maire announced that France would introduce a tax on internet giants Google, Apple, Facebook and Amazon starting on 1 January 2019.<sup>2605</sup> The tax is hoped to raise EUR500 million in revenue in 2019 and comes after an EU-wide tax failed to gain traction.<sup>2606</sup> The tax was implemented on 6 March 2019.<sup>2607</sup>

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<sup>2599</sup> Economy and poverty alleviation discussed at CPC meeting, CGTN (Beijing) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d3d774d3249544d34457a6333566d54/index.html>.

<sup>2600</sup> Economy and poverty alleviation discussed at CPC meeting, CGTN (Beijing) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d3d774d3249544d34457a6333566d54/index.html>.

<sup>2601</sup> France suspends fuel tax after weeks of unrest (Paris) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/france-suspends-controversial-fuel-tax-after-weeks-of-unrest/2018/12/04/d32577a6-f7b6-11e8-8d64-4e79db33382f\\_story.html?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.4f0f051f8e8f](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/france-suspends-controversial-fuel-tax-after-weeks-of-unrest/2018/12/04/d32577a6-f7b6-11e8-8d64-4e79db33382f_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.4f0f051f8e8f).

<sup>2602</sup> Will EU treat Italy more leniently as France’s Macron risks breaching fiscal rules? (Paris) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/will-eu-treat-italy-more-leniently-as-frances-macron-risks-breaching-fiscal-rules-2018-12-11>.

<sup>2603</sup> France suspends fuel tax after weeks of unrest (Paris) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/france-suspends-controversial-fuel-tax-after-weeks-of-unrest/2018/12/04/d32577a6-f7b6-11e8-8d64-4e79db33382f\\_story.html?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.54ad734561d5](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/france-suspends-controversial-fuel-tax-after-weeks-of-unrest/2018/12/04/d32577a6-f7b6-11e8-8d64-4e79db33382f_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.54ad734561d5).

<sup>2604</sup> French deficit will increase to finance social measures, says PM (Paris) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.politico.eu/article/french-deficit-will-increase-to-finance-social-measures-says-pm/>.

<sup>2605</sup> France to tax tech giants from 2019 as EU fails to act, Deutsche Welle (Paris) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/france-to-tax-tech-giants-from-2019-as-eu-fails-to-act/a-46618258>.

<sup>2606</sup> France to tax tech giants from 2019 as EU fails to act, Deutsche Welle (Paris) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/france-to-tax-tech-giants-from-2019-as-eu-fails-to-act/a-46618258>.

<sup>2607</sup> France targets Google, Amazon, and Facebook with 3% digital tax (Paris) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/03/06/france-3-percent-digital-tax-targets-google-amazon-and-facebook.html>.

On 24 December 2018, the French government adopted a set of emergency measures in response to the “Yellow Jacket” protests.<sup>2608</sup> The measures include forcing employees to give a EUR1000 bonus to employees earning less than three times the minimum wage, exempting overtime pay from certain taxes and deductions, and an increase of the tax that funds social security and unemployment insurance.<sup>2609</sup>

On 15 January 2019, the French government confirmed that Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) will take place in Paris, to provide a chance for the members of the EITI to discuss how to promote sustainable growth in extractive industries worldwide.<sup>2610</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the French government partnered with the governments of Germany and the United Kingdom to create a payment system to allow European businesses to trade with Iran, as well as allow French banks to make direct payments to Iran without risking US sanctions.<sup>2611</sup> The Instrument for Supporting Trade Exchanges (INSETX) includes the trade of food, pharmaceuticals and consumer goods, although not oil.<sup>2612</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the French government with the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers in Paris pledged EUR700 million to the manufacturing of battery cells necessary for electric vehicles within new battery cell factories in Germany and France.<sup>2613</sup>

On 13 March 2019, French President Emmanuel Macron pledged EUR2.5 billion that will finance 10,000 African startups by providing them credit, technical support, and equity financing.<sup>2614</sup>

France has taken action in Investing in People and Places by temporarily suspending the carbon tax, beginning a debate about tax and public spending in order to address the future of public services, cancelling a tax rise for low-income pensioners; and in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by introducing a EUR100 pay increase for minimum wage workers, supporting battery cell manufacturing, investing in African startups, and partnering with Germany and the UK to develop a payment system for Iran. These actions fulfill two out of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nicole Vucemilo*

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<sup>2608</sup> France Adopts Emergency Economic Measures in Response to “Yellow Vest” Protests, Library of Congress (Washington) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://www.loc.gov/law/foreign-news/article/france-adopts-emergency-economic-measures-in-response-to-yellow-vest-protests/>.

<sup>2609</sup> France Adopts Emergency Economic Measures in Response to “Yellow Vest” Protests, Library of Congress (Washington) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://www.loc.gov/law/foreign-news/article/france-adopts-emergency-economic-measures-in-response-to-yellow-vest-protests/>.

<sup>2610</sup> Government of France to host EITI Global Conference in Paris in June, EITI (Paris) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://eiti.org/news/government-of-france-to-host-eiti-global-conference-in-paris-in-june>.

<sup>2611</sup> UK, France, and Germany create payments system to trade with Iran (Berlin) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-47072020>.

<sup>2612</sup> UK, France, and Germany create payments system to trade with Iran (Berlin) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-47072020>.

<sup>2613</sup> France Betting Big On Batteries With 700 Million Euro Investment (Paris) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 3 April 2019. <https://cleantechnica.com/2019/02/25/france-betting-big-on-batteries-with-700-million-euro-investment/>.

<sup>2614</sup> France Pledges \$2.8 Billion African Business Investment by 2022 (Paris) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-03-13/france-pledges-2-8-billion-african-business-investment-by-2022>.

## Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 13 November 2018, the German government declared that it would invest EUR1 billion into EV battery cell manufacturing.<sup>2615</sup> German Economy Minister Peter Altmaier stated that the investment would begin the foundation of large-scale battery production within Europe while ensuring the local production of the battery cells.<sup>2616</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the German federal cabinet approved a new immigration law to go before parliament in order to simplify the access to the labour market of non-EU citizens in order to solve shortages in qualified labour.<sup>2617</sup> It is the country's first ever immigration law focused on skilled immigrants.

On 23 January 2019, Minister of Education and Research Anja Karliczek announced that the government will begin to fund research facilities for the development of technology for batteries involved in electric cars.<sup>2618</sup> The funding of EUR500 million comes in addition to previous funding of EUR1 billion announced by the treasury department.<sup>2619</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the German government partnered with the governments of France and the United Kingdom to create a payment system to allow European businesses to trade with Iran, as well as allow German banks to make direct payments to Iran without risking US sanctions.<sup>2620</sup> The Instrument for Supporting Trade Exchanges (INSETX) include the trade of food, pharmaceuticals and consumer goods, although not oil.<sup>2621</sup>

On 5 February 2019, Economy Minister Peter Altmaier announced that the government many begin to take steps to address solutions to prevent foreign takeovers of the German market, including purchasing stakes in several major German firms.<sup>2622</sup> The announcement comes after increased

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<sup>2615</sup> Germany announces EUR 1 billion investment in local battery cell production to support EV growth (Berlin) 13 November 2018. Access date: 20 April 2019. <https://electrek.co/2018/11/13/germany-battery-cell-production-support-ev-growth/>

<sup>2616</sup> Germany to invest in EUR 1bn in EV battery cell production (Berlin) 15 November 2018. Access date: 20 April 2019. <https://insideevs.com/news/341111/germany-plays-catch-up-pours-12-billion-into-ev-batteries/>

<sup>2617</sup> German cabinet approves new rules to simplify labour market (Berlin) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 16 February 2019. <https://www.irishtimes.com/business/economy/german-cabinet-approves-new-rules-to-simplify-labour-market-1.3737504>.

<sup>2618</sup> Germany to fund research facility for EV battery technology (Berlin) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-batteries/germany-to-fund-research-facility-for-ev-battery-technology-idUSKCN1PH1NT>.

<sup>2619</sup> Germany to fund research facility for EV battery technology (Berlin) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-batteries/germany-to-fund-research-facility-for-ev-battery-technology-idUSKCN1PH1NT>.

<sup>2620</sup> UK, France, and Germany create payments system to trade with Iran (Berlin) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-47072020>.

<sup>2621</sup> UK, France, and Germany create payments system to trade with Iran (Berlin) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-47072020>.

<sup>2622</sup> Germany is prepared to invest in key companies to prevent foreign takeovers (Berlin) 5 February 2019. Access date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/international-business/european-business/article-germany-prepared-to-invest-in-key-companies-to-prevent-foreign/>.

worries that the country's technical knowledge and manufacturing base is being eroded by foreign investment.<sup>2623</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Gerd Muller pledged to provide vocational training to young Ghanaians, improve access of Ghanaian and sub-Saharan African firms to European markets, and promote transparent and fair-trading rules between European firms and African firms and producers.<sup>2624</sup>

Germany has taken action in Investing in People and Places by providing vocational training to young Ghanaians in order to improve access to access between European firms and sub-Saharan African firms; and in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets and approving a new immigration law to simplify the access to labour market of non-EU citizens, announcing the development of research facilities, creating solutions to prevent foreign takeovers of German technology and firms, and partnering with France and the UK to develop a payment system for Iran. These actions fulfill two out of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nicole Vucemilo*

### **India: 0**

India has partially complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 7 January 2019, the Indian government approved a ten per cent expansion of the jobs and higher education reservation for "economy backward" groups in upper castes.<sup>2625</sup> This expansion comes in addition to the existing 50 per cent reservation of jobs and higher education places for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes.<sup>2626</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Goods and Services Tax Council took decisions to reduce the tax and compliance burden on Small and Medium Enterprises, through increasing the annual turnover limit under which companies are exempt from the GST from INR2 million to INR4 million.<sup>2627</sup>

On 1 February 2019, Finance Minister Piyush Goyal announced the Interim Budget for 2019, which will include a farmer's income transfer scheme aimed at providing income support to vulnerable

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<sup>2623</sup> Germany is prepared to invest in key companies to prevent foreign takeovers (Berlin) 5 February 2019. Access date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/international-business/european-business/article-germany-prepared-to-invest-in-key-companies-to-prevent-foreign/>.

<sup>2624</sup> German business delegation explores investment opportunities in Africa (Accra) 14 February 2019. Access date: 23 February 2019. <https://businessghana.com/site/news/business/181938/German-business-delegation-explores-investment-opportunities-in-Africa>.

<sup>2625</sup> Modi govt announces 10 per cent quota for economically backward in general category, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. [economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/67418661.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/67418661.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst).

<sup>2626</sup> Modi govt announces 10 per cent quota for economically backward in general category, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. [economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/67418661.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/67418661.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst).

<sup>2627</sup> GST burden on small businesses eased (Chennai) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019 <https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/gst-burden-on-small-businesses-eased/article25962678.ece>.

landholding farmers with less than 2 hectares of land.<sup>2628</sup> Farmers will receive the transfer of INR6,000 per year in the form of tax relief.<sup>2629</sup> Other announcements included that those earning less than INR50,000 would be exempt from income tax and an increase in the standard deduction limit from INR400,000 to INR500,000.<sup>2630</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the Government of India enacted new rules related to the angel tax, a tax levied on companies who have raised investment through share sales at higher-than-market value prices.<sup>2631</sup> These new rules will allow newly registered startups to be exempt from the angel tax during their infancy, for investments up till INR100 million.<sup>2632</sup> This change aims to spur economic growth and promote entrepreneurial activity.<sup>2633</sup>

India has taken action in Investing in People and Places by reserving a higher proportion of jobs and higher education places for disadvantaged groups and providing tax relief for vulnerable farmers; and in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets through reductions in the angel tax and reducing tax compliance for small businesses. These actions fulfill two out of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nour Habli*

### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 8 December 2018, Coordinating Economic Minister Darmin Nasution inaugurated a Special Economic zone (SEZ) in the Riau Islands, which has an estimated investment value of USD2.5 billion.<sup>2634</sup> The minister stated that the SEZ would create new jobs through the employment of

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<sup>2628</sup> Interim Budget 2019: an exercise aimed at pleasing farmers, informal workers, salaried taxpayers (Chennai) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019 <https://www.thehindu.com/business/budget/interim-budget-2019-aimed-at-pleasing-farmers-informal-workers-salaried-taxpayers/article26149070.ece>.

<sup>2629</sup> Interim Budget 2019: an exercise aimed at pleasing farmers, informal workers, salaried taxpayers (Chennai) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.thehindu.com/business/budget/interim-budget-2019-aimed-at-pleasing-farmers-informal-workers-salaried-taxpayers/article26149070.ece>.

<sup>2630</sup> Interim Budget 2019: an exercise aimed at pleasing farmers, informal workers, salaried taxpayers (Chennai) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.thehindu.com/business/budget/interim-budget-2019-aimed-at-pleasing-farmers-informal-workers-salaried-taxpayers/article26149070.ece>.

<sup>2631</sup> New angel tax rules provide relief to eligible start-ups (Chennai) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.thehindu.com/business/new-angel-tax-rules-provide-relief-to-eligible-start-ups/article26314438.ece>.

<sup>2632</sup> New angel tax rules provide relief to eligible start-ups (Chennai) 19 February 2019. Access Date: February 24 2019. <https://www.thehindu.com/business/new-angel-tax-rules-provide-relief-to-eligible-start-ups/article26314438.ece>.

<sup>2633</sup> New angel tax rules provide relief to eligible start-ups (Chennai) 19 February 2019. February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.thehindu.com/business/new-angel-tax-rules-provide-relief-to-eligible-start-ups/article26314438.ece>.

<sup>2634</sup> New special economic zone opens for business in Riau Islands, Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 8 December 2018. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2018/12/10/new--special-economic-zone-opens-for-business-in-riau-islands.html>.

23,300 workers and lift economic activity in the region by developing a major aluminum production centre.<sup>2635</sup>

On 11 December 2018, the Government of Indonesia launched the One Map Policy Geoportal, a detailed map of land use that seeks to resolve overlapping territorial claims across the country, in order to improve the investment climate of Indonesia through facilitating accurate development planning.<sup>2636</sup>

On 16 December 2018, the Government of Indonesia and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) signed the Indonesia-EFTA Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). The agreement aims to increase Indonesian exports to EFTA countries, creating new jobs in export-oriented industries.<sup>2637</sup>

On 11 February 2019, National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas) head Bambang Brodjonegoro announced that Indonesia's new medium-term development plan, which is being drafted by Bappenas, will heavily emphasize investing in manufacturing to diversify Indonesia's export products.<sup>2638</sup> First steps in the development plan will include increasing value-added for Indonesian commodities and promoting greater collaboration between government and industry.<sup>2639</sup>

On 24 March 2019, President Joko Widodo inaugurated the Mass Rapid Transit in Jakarta, an underground railway infrastructure project that will facilitate commuter movement in Jakarta, expected to carry 170,000 travelers daily.<sup>2640</sup>

Indonesia has taken action in Investing in People and Places by establishing a new SEZ in the Riau Islands and investing in transportation infrastructure; in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by launching the One Map Policy Geoportal and announcing a new industrial strategy; and in Building Resilient and Responsive Institutions by signing the CEPA agreement. These actions fulfill all three components of the commitment.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nour Habli*

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<sup>2635</sup> New special economic zone opens for business in Riau Islands, Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 8 December 2018. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2018/12/10/new--special-economic-zone-opens-for-business-in-riau-islands.html>.

<sup>2636</sup> Indonesia Launches One Map Policy Geoportal to Improve Investment Climate, Indonesia Investments (Jakarta) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/indonesia-launches-one-map-policy-geoportal-to-improve-investment-climate/item9053?>

<sup>2637</sup> Indonesia-EFTA CEPA Trade Deal Signed, Will it Bring New Trade Opportunities?, Indonesia Investments (Jakarta) 16 December 2018. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/indonesia-efta-cepa-trade-deal-signed-will-it-bring-new-trade-opportunities/item9057?>

<sup>2638</sup> Manufacturing sector to drive Indonesia's economy: Bappenas, Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/11/manufacturing-sector-to-drive-indonesias-economy-bappenas.html>.

<sup>2639</sup> Manufacturing sector to drive Indonesia's economy: Bappenas, Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/11/manufacturing-sector-to-drive-indonesias-economy-bappenas.html>.

<sup>2640</sup> Indonesia Underground Opens, Making 34-Year Dream Reality, Bloomberg (New York) 24 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019 <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-03-24/first-indonesia-underground-opens-making-34-year-dream-reality>.

**Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 11 December 2018, the Lega Nord coalition government stated that it would register a deficit of 2.04 per cent of Italian gross domestic product in response to European Commission demands that Italy reduce its deficit in light of its high debt-to-GDP ratio.<sup>2641</sup> New economic measures, worth EUR3 billion, will tax high-polluting vehicles and place a cut on high pensions.<sup>2642</sup> The Italian 2019 spending plan will introduce proposals for basic income directed at lower income citizens, as well as potentially lowering the age of retirement and introducing a flat tax rate.<sup>2643</sup>

On 18 January 2019, the Italian government approved a “citizen’s income” to provide greater support to Italians living in poverty with benefits ranging from EUR780 per month for an individual to EUR1,032 per month for families.<sup>2644</sup> The new income supports are conditional on unemployed citizens undertaking job training and committing to relocate in another region.<sup>2645</sup>

On 23 March 2019, Deputy Prime Minister Luigi Di Maio announced that Italy will join the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), China’s global investment programme as the first G7 member to sign on the programme.<sup>2646</sup> Di Miao and Chinese President Xi Jinping signed 29 deals that amounted to EUR2.5 billion which will enable Italian firms access to the Chinese market and Chinese firms access to Italian ports and infrastructure among other agreements.<sup>2647</sup>

Italy has taken action in Investing in People and Places by introducing measures that will tax high-polluting vehicles and reducing pension inequality and by introducing the “citizen’s income”; in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by entering the BRI; and in Building Responsive and Resilient Institutions by decreasing the budget deficit in line with European Union standards. These actions fulfilled all three components of the commitment.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nicole Vucemilo*

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<sup>2641</sup> Italy makes concessions in latest budget draft proposal, Euractiv Elections19 (Rome) 17 December 2018. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/economic-governance/news/italy-makes-concessions-in-latest-budget-draft-proposal/>.

<sup>2642</sup> Italy makes concessions in latest budget draft proposal, Euractiv Elections19 (Rome) 17 December 2018. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/economic-governance/news/italy-makes-concessions-in-latest-budget-draft-proposal/>.

<sup>2643</sup> Rome and EU could be ready to compromise over Italy’s spending plans, local media reports (Rome) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/12/11/rome-and-eu-could-be-ready-to-compromise-over-italys-spending-plans-local-media-reports.html>.

<sup>2644</sup> Italian government approves overhaul of welfare and pensions, The Local (Rome) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.thelocal.it/20190118/italian-government-approves-overhaul-of-welfare-and-pensions>.

<sup>2645</sup> Italian government approves overhaul of welfare and pensions, The Local (Rome) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.thelocal.it/20190118/italian-government-approves-overhaul-of-welfare-and-pensions>.

<sup>2646</sup> Italy joins China’s New Silk Road project (Rome) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-47679760>.

<sup>2647</sup> Italy joins China’s New Silk Road project (Rome) 23 March 2019. Access Dsate: 20 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-47679760>.

## Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 7 December 2018, the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation held the sixth Japan-Russia Meeting Concerning Small and Medium Enterprise Cooperation in Khabarovsk, Russia.<sup>2648</sup> The conference consisted of an inter-governmental dialogue and networking opportunities among SMEs and other entities from the two countries.<sup>2649</sup>

On 18 December 2018, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry and Minister for Economic Cooperation with Russia Hiroshige Seko met with Minister of Economic Development and Special Representative for Trade and Economic Cooperation with Japan Maksim Stanislavovich Oreshkin during his visit to Japan.<sup>2650</sup> Both sides confirmed the progress in the eight-point cooperation plan established in 2016 and agreed to further interactions between the two economies.<sup>2651</sup> The two ministers also witnessed the signing ceremony for the development and operation of new terminals in Khabarovsk International Airport, which was one of the projects under the eight-point cooperation plan.<sup>2652</sup>

On 9 February 2019, a government advisory panel announced plans to create a new regulatory agency for the purpose of monitoring large technology companies and their handling of personal data as well as potential monopoly practices.<sup>2653</sup> This agency will also monitor mergers and acquisitions within the technology sector and make further anti-trust recommendations.<sup>2654</sup>

On 15 February 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz met to discuss improving diplomatic relations.<sup>2655</sup> Both leaders agreed to expand tourism between the two countries as well as promote trade between the countries, and free-trade worldwide.<sup>2656</sup>

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<sup>2648</sup> METI Holds the 6th Japan-Russia Meeting Concerning SME Cooperation, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) (Tokyo) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

[http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1210\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1210_002.html).

<sup>2649</sup> METI Holds the 6th Japan-Russia Meeting Concerning SME Cooperation, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) (Tokyo) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019.

[http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1210\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1210_002.html).

<sup>2650</sup> Abe presents 8-point economic cooperation plan to Putin, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 7 May 2016. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Abe-presents-8-point-economic-cooperation-plan-to-Putin>.

<sup>2651</sup> Abe presents 8-point economic cooperation plan to Putin, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 7 May 2016. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Abe-presents-8-point-economic-cooperation-plan-to-Putin>.

<sup>2652</sup> Minister Seko Holds Meeting with Mr. Maksim Stanislavovich Oreshkin, Minister of Economic Development and Special Representative for Trade and Economic Cooperation with Japan of Russia, METI (Tokyo) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1219\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1219_002.html).

<sup>2653</sup> Japan Sets Sights on Tighter Anti-Trust Regulations for Big Tech, Reuters (London) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-japan-economy-tech/japan-sets-sights-on-tighter-anti-trust-regulations-for-big-tech-idUSKCN1Q20YB>.

<sup>2654</sup> Japan Sets Sights on Tighter Anti-Trust Regulations for Big Tech, Reuters (London) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-japan-economy-tech/japan-sets-sights-on-tighter-anti-trust-regulations-for-big-tech-idUSKCN1Q20YB>.

<sup>2655</sup> Abe and Austria's Kurz Agree to Expand Tourism and Economic Cooperation, Japan Times (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/02/15/national/politics-diplomacy/abe-austrias-sebastian-kurz-agree-expand-tourism-economic-cooperation/>.

<sup>2656</sup> Abe and Austria's Kurz Agree to Expand Tourism and Economic Cooperation, Japan Times (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/02/15/national/politics-diplomacy/abe-austrias-sebastian-kurz-agree-expand-tourism-economic-cooperation/>.

On 24 April 2019, the Bank of Japan (BOJ) announced plans to maintain interest rates at current low-levels throughout the duration of 2019. The BOJ cited weak global demand for Japanese goods and trade-tensions with the United States<sup>2657</sup>.

Japan has taken action in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by developing closer economic ties with Russia, by cooperating with Austria to increase trade, and maintaining low interest rates; and in Building Resilient and Responsive Institutions by creating a new regulatory agency to monitor large technology companies and by raising the consumption tax. These actions fulfill two of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sebastian Warma*

### **Korea: 0**

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 17 January 2019, President Moon Jae-in announced plans to expand Korea's hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) economy by increasing fuel-cell electric vehicle production and building more refueling stations through subsidies and cooperation with local governments.<sup>2658</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the Korean government announced plans to invest USD2.61 billion this year to develop new biotechnology, a 2.9 per cent increase from a year earlier.<sup>2659</sup> Most of the budget will be allocated for research and development of new drugs and medical instruments in an effort to become the foremost biotechnology hub in the world.<sup>2660</sup>

On 25 February 2019, Korea's Financial Services Commission announced plans to create an interbank payment network which is accessible to both banks and financial technology (fintech) companies.<sup>2661</sup> Usage fees will be lower for smaller companies to ensure equal access, which had previously been impaired by the inability of fintech companies to independent access the interbank payment network.<sup>2662</sup>

Korea has taken action in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by supporting new technologies and placing fintech companies on a more equitable legal footing. These actions fulfill one of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sebastian Warma*

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<sup>2657</sup> Bank of Japan says super-low rates to last another year, giving first timeframe (Davos) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-japan-economy-boj/bank-of-japan-gives-first-timeframe-for-super-low-rates-says-will-remain-another-year-idUSKCN1S02Q5>.

<sup>2658</sup> South Korea unveils hydrogen economy plans, Gasworld (Ulsan) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.gasworld.com/south-korea-unveils-hydrogen-economy-plans/2016332.article>.

<sup>2659</sup> Korea to spend 2.93t won to develop biotech in 2019, Korea Herald (Seoul) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190218000535>.

<sup>2660</sup> Korea to spend 2.93t won to develop biotech in 2019, Korea Herald (Seoul) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190218000535>.

<sup>2661</sup> Korea to form open financial payment network to boost fintech, Korea Herald (Seoul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190225000708>.

<sup>2662</sup> Korea to form open financial payment network to boost fintech, Korea Herald (Seoul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190225000708>.

**Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 5 December 2018, Mexico's Supreme Court ruled that enrolling domestic workers in the social security system was now mandatory.<sup>2663</sup> These workers will get access to the public health system, and Mexico's social security system will benefit from the greater number of employers paying into it.<sup>2664</sup>

On 17 December 2018, President López Obrador promised to cut government expenditures by 0.2 per cent in 2019, primarily by cutting funding to "autonomous agencies."<sup>2665</sup> The budget has a one per cent primary surplus target, and also increases social security payments for the elderly and scholarships for students.<sup>2666</sup>

On 5 January 2019, President López Obrador announced plans to stimulate economic activity on the Mexican side of the U.S.-Mexico border by reducing corporate taxes and the value-added tax.<sup>2667</sup> The aim of the tax changes is to create wage and job increases via lower taxes and productivity gains.<sup>2668</sup>

On 15 February 2019, state-run oil company Pemex announced that it would not issue any new bonds in 2019 as it embarks on a major financial turnaround.<sup>2669</sup> The administration of President López Obrador announced that it would increase the tax breaks offered to the firm by 36 per cent to a total of MXN90 billion over six years.<sup>2670</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the administration of President López Obrador announced that a digital payment system that will allow Mexicans to perform transactions through their smartphones free of charge will be built and run by the central bank.<sup>2671</sup> This financial technology solution is intended to

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<sup>2663</sup> Mexico's top court ruling can change lives of domestic workforce, Al Jazeera (Mexico City) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/12/mexicos-top-court-ruling-change-lives-domestic-workforce-181217111939154.html>.

<sup>2664</sup> Mexico's top court ruling can change lives of domestic workforce, Al Jazeera (Mexico City) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/12/mexicos-top-court-ruling-change-lives-domestic-workforce-181217111939154.html>.

<sup>2665</sup> In First Budget Mexico's President Obrador Promises To Shrink Government, Forbes (Mexico City) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/kenrapoza/2018/12/17/mexico-budget-amlo-obrador-shrinks-government-makes-investors-happy/#179659a01e23>.

<sup>2666</sup> In First Budget Mexico's President Obrador Promises To Shrink Government, Forbes (Mexico City) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 3 May 2019. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/kenrapoza/2018/12/17/mexico-budget-amlo-obrador-shrinks-government-makes-investors-happy/#179659a01e23>.

<sup>2667</sup> Mexico launches plan to stimulate US border economy, Financial Post (Mexico City) 5 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://business.financialpost.com/pmnbusiness-pmn/mexico-launches-plan-to-stimulate-us-border-economy>.

<sup>2668</sup> Mexico launches plan to stimulate US border economy, Financial Post (Mexico City) 5 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://business.financialpost.com/pmnbusiness-pmn/mexico-launches-plan-to-stimulate-us-border-economy>.

<sup>2669</sup> Pemex Assistance Plan Fails to Impress Bondholders, Bloomberg (Mexico City) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-02-15/pemex-cfo-says-company-won-t-increase-debt-load-this-year>.

<sup>2670</sup> Pemex Assistance Plan Fails to Impress Bondholders, Bloomberg (Mexico City) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-02-15/pemex-cfo-says-company-won-t-increase-debt-load-this-year>.

<sup>2671</sup> Mexico pushes mobile payments to help unbanked consumers ditch cash, Reuters (Mexico City/New York) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mexico-fintech-unbanked/mexico-pushes-mobile-payments-to-help-unbanked-consumers-ditch-cash-idUSKCN1Q80FN>.

draw some of the 42 million unbanked Mexicans who have avoided mainstream banks because of taxes, high fees, and scandals into the formal economy.<sup>2672</sup>

On 24 February 2019, President López Obrador announced that the federal government has created a six-year tourism strategy intended to create jobs, improve living conditions for tourism workers, promote growth, and support regions that are lagging behind.<sup>2673</sup> One of the major components of the strategy is the construction of the Maya Train rail project to connect southeastern Mexican cities.<sup>2674</sup>

On 22 March 2019, President López Obrador called for greater competition among banks to urge them to offer lower commissions.<sup>2675</sup> The president said the government would give out more licenses in order to create new banks if needed, with the aim to include millions of previously unbanked Mexicans in the formal economy.<sup>2676</sup>

Mexico has taken action in Investing in People and Places by raising the minimum wage, decreasing taxes in the US border region, announcing a digital payment system for the unbanked, and urging banks to charge lower fees; in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by extending social security to domestic workers, offering greater supports to Pemex, investing in the tourism industry, and creating 269,143 jobs; and in Building Resilient and Responsive Institutions by proposing a fiscally responsible 2019 budget. These actions fulfill all three components of the commitment.

Thus, Mexico has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Joshua Raghubir*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 7 December 2018, the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation along with the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry held the sixth Japan-Russia Meeting Concerning Small and Medium Enterprise Cooperation in Khabarovsk, Russia.<sup>2677</sup> The conference

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<sup>2672</sup> Mexico pushes mobile payments to help unbanked consumers ditch cash, Reuters (Mexico City/New York) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mexico-fintech-unbanked/mexico-pushes-mobile-payments-to-help-unbanked-consumers-ditch-cash-idUSKCN1Q80FN>.

<sup>2673</sup> Government unveils tourism strategy intended to boost revenues, create jobs, Mexico News Daily (Mexico City) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://mexiconewsdaily.com/news/government-unveils-six-year-tourism-strategy/>.

<sup>2674</sup> Government unveils tourism strategy intended to boost revenues, create jobs, Mexico News Daily (Mexico City) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://mexiconewsdaily.com/news/government-unveils-six-year-tourism-strategy/>.

<sup>2675</sup> Mexican president urges bank competition to boost financial inclusion, Reuters (Acapulco) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mexico-banks-commissions/mexican-president-urges-bank-competition-to-boost-financial-inclusion-idUSKCN1R400Y>.

<sup>2676</sup> Mexican president urges bank competition to boost financial inclusion, Reuters (Acapulco) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mexico-banks-commissions/mexican-president-urges-bank-competition-to-boost-financial-inclusion-idUSKCN1R400Y>.

<sup>2677</sup> METI Holds the 6th Japan-Russia Meeting Concerning SME Cooperation, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) (Tokyo) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1210\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1210_002.html).

consisted of an inter-governmental dialogue and networking opportunities among SMEs and other entities from the two countries.<sup>2678</sup>

On 18 December 2018, Minister of Economic Development and Special Representative for Trade and Economic Cooperation with Japan Maksim Stanislavovich Oreshkin met with Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry and Minister for Economic Cooperation with Russia Hiroshige Seko during his visit to Japan.<sup>2679</sup> Both sides confirmed the progress in the eight-point cooperation plan established in 2016 and agreed to further interactions between the two economies.<sup>2680</sup> The two ministers also witnessed the signing ceremony for the development and operation of new terminals in Khabarovsk International Airport, which was one of the projects under the eight-point cooperation plan.<sup>2681</sup>

On 20 December 2018, Russian President Vladimir Putin stated his expectation for gross domestic product growth by three per cent after 2021 and announced that the government would allocate RUB20.4 trillion in these years to support domestic industry.<sup>2682</sup> Stressing the desire for breakthrough and a new technological paradigm, the government would earmark RUB20.8 trillion for national projects and RUB6.5 trillion for infrastructure development.<sup>2683</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the National Plan “Transforming business climate” was adopted by the government. The plan is aimed at improving the investment climate in 12 areas: technological connection to utility networks; town planning activity; registration of property rights and cadastral valuation; customs administration; international trade and export development; access of small and medium-sized businesses to procurement; access of small and medium-sized businesses to finance; registration of legal entities; human capital and labor productivity; corporate governance; tax administration; control and supervisory activities. In order to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the Plan, target indicators and their values until 2024 have been approved.<sup>2684</sup>

On 11 February 2019, the Russian government published information on 12 National Projects that will be implemented until 2024.<sup>2685</sup> These national projects include mandating higher use of Russian software by the public sector, boosting agricultural and industrial exports, and ensure that at least 90.8 per cent of Russians have access to clean drinking water by 2024.<sup>2686</sup>

On 11 February 2019, the government published the passport of the national program “Digital Economy of the Russian Federation.” Among the different tracks of the program is the initiative on

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<sup>2678</sup> METI Holds the 6th Japan-Russia Meeting Concerning SME Cooperation, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) (Tokyo) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1210\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1210_002.html).

<sup>2679</sup> Abe presents 8-point economic cooperation plan to Putin, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 7 May 2016. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Abe-presents-8-point-economic-cooperation-plan-to-Putin>.

<sup>2680</sup> Abe presents 8-point economic cooperation plan to Putin, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 7 May 2016. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Abe-presents-8-point-economic-cooperation-plan-to-Putin>.

<sup>2681</sup> Minister Seko Holds Meeting with Mr. Maksim Stanislavovich Oreshkin, Minister of Economic Development and Special Representative for Trade and Economic Cooperation with Japan of Russia, METI (Tokyo) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1219\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1219_002.html).

<sup>2682</sup> Putin expands on Russia’s economic structure, Russian News Agency TASS (Moscow) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://tass.com/economy/1036952>.

<sup>2683</sup> Putin expands on Russia’s economic structure, Russian News Agency TASS (Moscow) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <http://tass.com/economy/1036952>.

<sup>2684</sup> On approval of the plan “Transformation of the business climate”, Russian Government (Moscow) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 22 May 2019. <http://government.ru/docs/35415/>.

<sup>2685</sup> Putin’s ‘Great Society’ program: Russian government outlines 12 major National Projects, TASS (Moscow) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <http://tass.com/politics/1044056>.

<sup>2686</sup> Putin’s ‘Great Society’ program: Russian government outlines 12 major National Projects, TASS (Moscow) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <http://tass.com/politics/1044056>.

Digital Government. The main objective of the project is to introduce digital technologies in public administration in rendering public services. It supports the creation of a National Data Management System, providing access to public services through a single portal in the “one window” mode, as well as the opportunity to obtain an “electronic passport.” This makes the system of governance more transparent and efficient.<sup>2687</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the Russian government approved a Spatial Development Strategy until 2025 which aims to specify the priorities and objectives of Russia’s development policy and ensure that economic growth occurs more equally throughout the country.<sup>2688</sup> In particular, several mid-sized Russian cities have been designated as potential growth powerhouses in addition to the major economic centres of Moscow and St. Petersburg.<sup>2689</sup>

Russia has taken action in investing in people and places through the 12 National Projects and the spatial development strategy; in supporting businesses and inclusive labour markets by cooperating with Japan and approving the Spatial Development Strategy and in supporting resilient and responsive institutions through its digital management strategy. These actions fulfill two out of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Wenny Jin*

#### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 20 January 2019, the Human Resources Development Fund launched a program to provide 30 per cent of the salaries of males and females working in the private sector during their first year in the labour force.<sup>2690</sup> With additional support for people with disabilities and people from small towns and villages, the initiative aims to raise the participation of male and female citizens in the labor market and provide them with the necessary skills training needed in the private sector.<sup>2691</sup>

On 22 January 2019, Saudi Arabia unveiled seen investment principles based on international best practices that includes: ensuring equality between Saudi and foreign investors, ensuring protection of investments, enabling sustainability of investments, providing access to equal investment incentives, implementing social and environmental standards and ensuring investor compliance with Saudi health, safety and environmental standards, facilitating access procedures for foreign workers and their families, and ensuring a solid transfer of knowledge, technology and enhancement of local

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<sup>2687</sup> The passport of the national program "Digital Economy of the Russian Federation" is published, Russian Government (Moscow) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 22 May 2019. <http://government.ru/info/35568/>.

<sup>2688</sup> Об утверждении Стратегии пространственного развития до 2025 года, Government of Russia (Moscow) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <http://government.ru/docs/35733/>.

<sup>2689</sup> Putin Turns Swathes of Russia Into Flyover Country, Bloomberg (Berlin) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2019-03-07/putin-s-development-plan-picks-favorites-among-russian-regions>.

<sup>2690</sup> HRDF provides 30% of salaries of Saudis working in private sector, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 20 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1876132>.

<sup>2691</sup> HRDF provides 30% of salaries of Saudis working in private sector, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 20 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1876132>.

human capital. These principles, particularly the last, contribute to building strong and responsive institutions.<sup>2692</sup>

On 26 January 2019, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman announced a major plan to develop new infrastructure in Saudi Arabia, which is planned to provide over USD400 billion in investment funds and create 1.6 million jobs.<sup>2693</sup> International firms such as Boeing and IBM committed to increase their operations in Saudi Arabia through the plan.<sup>2694</sup>

On 10 February 2019, the Saudi Development Fund signed a finance agreement investing SAR292 million with the Tawteen Finance Program to build clad steel pipes plants.<sup>2695</sup> This investment will increase the private sector contribution in non-oil industries and is projected to decrease the rate of unemployment.<sup>2696</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture Abdulrahman bin Abdulmohsen Al-Fadhli signed a cooperative agreement with the Director General of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Graziano da Silva.<sup>2697</sup> This agreement will provide UN support for the implementation of the Sustainable Agricultural Rural Development Program, over a seven year period and promote the production, processing and marketing of Saudi agricultural products.<sup>2698</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the Public Investment Fund, Saudi Arabia's Sovereign Wealth Fund, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with India's largest hospitality company OYO, to strengthen Saudi Arabia's tourism and hospitality industries in order to help diversify the economy through the creation of jobs and support of businesses in those sectors.<sup>2699</sup>

On 23 February 2019, the National Housing Company signed an MoU with the Chinese State Construction Engineering Company to build affordable housing on land owned by the Ministry of Housing with a total area of 2.7 million square meters in Riyadh, offering 5,590 residential units at competitive prices for the underprivileged.<sup>2700</sup>

On 20 March 2019, King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman launched four new projects worth USD23 billion to increase living standards and boost the quality of life in the Saudi

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<sup>2692</sup> Saudi Arabia unveils seven principles to raise investment, Arab News (Jeddah) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 24 June 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1440261/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2693</sup> Saudi Arabia Kicks Off \$426 Billion Infrastructure Bonanza, Bloomberg (Riyadh) 26 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-01-26/saudi-crown-prince-to-launch-425-billion-infrastructure-plan>.

<sup>2694</sup> Saudi Arabia Kicks Off \$426 Billion Infrastructure Bonanza, Bloomberg (Riyadh) 26 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-01-26/saudi-crown-prince-to-launch-425-billion-infrastructure-plan>.

<sup>2695</sup> SIDF Signs first Finance Agreement within Tawteen Program for Local Content, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 10 February 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1883961>.

<sup>2696</sup> SIDF Signs first Finance Agreement within Tawteen Program for Local Content, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 10 February 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1883961>.

<sup>2697</sup> Saudi Minister of Environment, Water, and Agriculture signs with FAO cooperation agreement (Riyadh) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1885788>.

<sup>2698</sup> Saudi Minister of Environment, Water, and Agriculture signs with FAO cooperation agreement, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1885788>.

<sup>2699</sup> PIF signs MoU with OYO, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1888444>.

<sup>2700</sup> "NHC" signs agreement with China State Construction Engineering company during the Crown Prince's visit to China, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 23 February 2019. Access Date: 24 February 2019. <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1889363>.

capital of Riyadh.<sup>2701</sup> The projects aim to create green spaces in the city, diversify the economy, and create 70,000 new jobs in the city.<sup>2702</sup>

On 24 March 2019, Prince Khalid Al-Faisal, the Governor of the Makkah Region, signed a MoU with Saudi Minister of Energy Khalid bin Abdulaziz Al-Faleh, to implement the Al-Faisaliyah solar energy project in the Makkah Region which aims to provide a capacity of 2600Mega-Watts to tackle the region's issues of growing populations and demand for electricity through a supply of clean energy.<sup>2703</sup>

On 14 April 2019, Minister of Environment, Water, and Agriculture Abdulrahman Al-Fadhley launched the Agriculture Terraces Rehabilitation and Rainwater Harvesting Techniques Implementation Initiative in the region of Jazan.<sup>2704</sup> The first phase of the project aims to develop better irrigation systems and rainwater reservoirs for the farmers of the region, as well as provide Jazan farmers with crops familiar to the region such as coffee and banana plants.<sup>2705</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken action in Investing in People and Places by supporting new, particularly disabled and rural, workers in the labour force, providing new jobs in Riyadh, better access to electricity in the Makkah region, and partnering to build affordable housing; in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by partnering with Tawteen Finance Program, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and OYO and announcing a major new investment plan. These actions fulfill three of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nour Habli*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 7 February 2019, President Cyril Ramaphosa delivered his annual state of the nation address to parliament.<sup>2706</sup> President Ramaphosa proposed a new government agency that will aim to reduce regulatory and administrative barriers for businesses.<sup>2707</sup> Additionally, President Ramaphosa detailed

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<sup>2701</sup> Saudi unveils 4 projects worth \$23-bn to improve quality of life in Riyadh, Business Standard (New Delhi) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019 [https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/saudi-unveils-4-projects-worth-23-bn-to-improve-quality-of-life-in-riyadh-119032000060\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/saudi-unveils-4-projects-worth-23-bn-to-improve-quality-of-life-in-riyadh-119032000060_1.html).

<sup>2702</sup> Saudi unveils 4 projects worth \$23-bn to improve quality of life in Riyadh, Business Standard (New Delhi) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019 [https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/saudi-unveils-4-projects-worth-23-bn-to-improve-quality-of-life-in-riyadh-119032000060\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/saudi-unveils-4-projects-worth-23-bn-to-improve-quality-of-life-in-riyadh-119032000060_1.html).

<sup>2703</sup> Ministry of Energy and Development Authority of Makkah Region sign MoU on solar energy project, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 24 March 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2019 <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1903080>.

<sup>2704</sup> Eng. AlFadhley launches first phase of Agricultural Terraces rehabilitation Initiative in Jazan, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 14 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019 <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1912617>.

<sup>2705</sup> Eng. AlFadhley launches first phase of Agricultural Terraces rehabilitation Initiative in Jazan, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 14 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019 <https://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1912617>.

<sup>2706</sup> State of the Nation Address Puts Emphasis on the Economy, Economist Intelligence Unit (London) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

<http://country.eiu.com/article.aspx?articleid=487638832&Country=South%20Africa&topic=Politics>.

<sup>2707</sup> State of the Nation Address Puts Emphasis on the Economy, Economist Intelligence Unit (London) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

<http://country.eiu.com/article.aspx?articleid=487638832&Country=South%20Africa&topic=Politics>.

plans to increase the creation of tax incentivized special economic zones as well as plans to form a presidential commission to facilitate a digital transformation of the South African economy.<sup>2708</sup>

On 7 February 2019, President Ramaphosa announced plans to split state power company Eskom into three entities.<sup>2709</sup> Eskom provides 90 per cent of energy for South Africa, and currently has USD30 billion in debt.<sup>2710</sup> Large scale energy cuts and blackouts have been occurring, and have been drawing criticism from business executives and resulting in a decline in the value of the South African rand.<sup>2711</sup>

On 29 March 2019, President Ramaphosa announced the creation of the South Africa Small and Medium Enterprise Fund (SA SME Fund).<sup>2712</sup> The USD95 million fund is led by South African business leaders and aims to stimulate investment and growth in areas that will benefit the South African economy.<sup>2713</sup> The fund will target businesses with turnover between USD1.4 million and USD35.23 million.<sup>2714</sup>

South Africa has taken action in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by reducing barriers for business and fostering digitization, and by creating SA SME Fund; and in Building Resilient and Responsive Institutions by restructuring Eskom into a more financially sustainable entity. These actions fulfill two of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, South Africa has received a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sebastian Warma*

### **Turkey: +1**

Turkey has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 25 December 2018, Family, Labor and Social Services Minister Zehra Zümrüt Selçuk announced that a commission made up of the labour ministry, trade and employer unions implemented a new

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<sup>2708</sup> State of the Nation Address Puts Emphasis on the Economy, Economist Intelligence Unit (London) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019.

<http://country.eiu.com/article.aspx?articleid=487638832&Country=South%20Africa&topic=Politics>.

<sup>2709</sup> Eskom split to minimize risks to South Africa, Ramaphosa says (London) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-safrica-eskom/eskom-split-to-minimize-risks-to-south-africa-ramaphosa-says-idUSKCN1Q32BL>.

<sup>2710</sup> Eskom split to minimize risks to South Africa, Ramaphosa says (London) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-safrica-eskom/eskom-split-to-minimize-risks-to-south-africa-ramaphosa-says-idUSKCN1Q32BL>.

<sup>2711</sup> Eskom split to minimize risks to South Africa, Ramaphosa says (London) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 23 February 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-safrica-eskom/eskom-split-to-minimize-risks-to-south-africa-ramaphosa-says-idUSKCN1Q32BL>.

<sup>2712</sup> South Africa Launches \$95 Million Fund to Grow Small Businesses (Jersey City) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019 <https://www.forbes.com/sites/tobyschapshak/2019/03/29/south-africa-launches-95m-fund-to-grow-small-businesses/#4162fef44850>.

<sup>2713</sup> Company Overview of SA SME Fund (New York) Access Date: 25 April 2019.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/research/stocks/private/snapshot.asp?privcapId=403113447>.

<sup>2714</sup> Company Overview of SA SME Fund (New York) Access Date: 25 April 2019.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/research/stocks/private/snapshot.asp?privcapId=403113447>.

minimum wage of TL2020 (USD380), a 26 per cent increase.<sup>2715</sup> Selçuk said that the commission unanimously agreed on the new minimum wage.<sup>2716</sup>

On 25 December 2018, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan told the ruling Justice and Development (AK Party) parliamentary group that workers who are hired for the first time in 2019 and 2020 based on the minimum wage will have their social security premiums and taxes paid for by the state.<sup>2717</sup> In addition, the TL101 subsidy that was given for the first nine months of 2018 will be given for 12 months in 2019 to businesses employing more than 500 people.<sup>2718</sup> For businesses employing fewer than 500 people, the subsidy will be increased to TL150.<sup>2719</sup>

On 1 January 2019, Industry and Technology Minister Mustafa Varank announced that over USD1 billion has been allocated to support industrialists, entrepreneurs and researchers in the upcoming year.<sup>2720</sup> This funding will come from the ministry, the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK), Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization (KOSGEB), development agencies and regional development administrations.<sup>2721</sup>

On 10 January 2019, Treasury and Finance Minister Berat Albayrak announced a finance package of USD3.7 billion, funded in participation with 13 Turkish lenders, for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)<sup>2722</sup>. Albayrak said that around 20,000 – 40,000 SMEs will benefit from this package, and that this finance package will not affect the country's treasury because it was created by lenders.<sup>2723</sup>

On 17 January 2019, President Erdoğan was granted emergency powers by parliament to mitigate threats to the country's financial stability.<sup>2724</sup> Parliament additionally approved the formation of the

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<sup>2715</sup> Minimum wage in Turkey rises to TL 2,020 with 26 percent increase, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2018/12/25/minimum-wage-in-turkey-rises-to-tl-2020-with-26-percent-increase>.

<sup>2716</sup> Minimum wage in Turkey rises to TL 2,020 with 26 percent increase, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2018/12/25/minimum-wage-in-turkey-rises-to-tl-2020-with-26-percent-increase>.

<sup>2717</sup> Minimum wage in Turkey rises to TL 2,020 with 26 percent increase, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2018/12/25/minimum-wage-in-turkey-rises-to-tl-2020-with-26-percent-increase>.

<sup>2718</sup> Minimum wage in Turkey rises to TL 2,020 with 26 percent increase, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2018/12/25/minimum-wage-in-turkey-rises-to-tl-2020-with-26-percent-increase>.

<sup>2719</sup> Minimum wage in Turkey rises to TL 2,020 with 26 percent increase, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2018/12/25/minimum-wage-in-turkey-rises-to-tl-2020-with-26-percent-increase>.

<sup>2720</sup> Turkey to allocate over \$1B to assist researchers, entrepreneurs in 2019, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 2 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/technology/2019/01/02/turkey-to-allocate-over-1b-to-assist-researchers-entrepreneurs-in-2019>.

<sup>2721</sup> Turkey to allocate over \$1B to assist researchers, entrepreneurs in 2019, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 2 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/technology/2019/01/02/turkey-to-allocate-over-1b-to-assist-researchers-entrepreneurs-in-2019>.

<sup>2722</sup> Turkish banks to support SMEs with \$3.7 billion loan package, Hurriyet Daily News (Istanbul) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-banks-to-support-smes-with-3-7-billion-loan-package-140427>.

<sup>2723</sup> Turkish banks to support SMEs with \$3.7 billion loan package, Hurriyet Daily News (Istanbul) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-banks-to-support-smes-with-3-7-billion-loan-package-140427>.

<sup>2724</sup> Erdogan Gets Emergency Powers Over the Turkish Economy, Bloomberg (Istanbul) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-01-17/erdogan-gets-emergency-powers-to-use-if-turkish-economy-at-risk>.

Financial Stability and Development Committee, which will coordinate response to threats to financial stability and security.<sup>2725</sup>

On 11 February 2019, the Turkish government opened government vegetable stalls to battle food price inflation and the rising cost of labour and transport by selling food at half the regular shop prices.<sup>2726</sup> Agriculture Minister Bekir Pakdemirli said the project would continue as long as needed, perhaps becoming permanent.<sup>2727</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the Turkish government announced a campaign to increase employment by supporting Turkish businesses.<sup>2728</sup> Minister Selçuk said that the state would pay the salaries, taxes, and premiums of people who were employed by businesses for three months and continue paying their taxes and premiums for nine more months.<sup>2729</sup>

On 1 March 2019, Treasury and Finance Minister Berat Albayrak announced a USD4.67 billion loan package for SMEs funded in participation with 17 banks following a similar government package issued in January.<sup>2730</sup> The loans will allow for six months without principal repayments, and will be offered at a 1.54 per cent monthly interest rate.<sup>2731</sup>

On 10 April 2019, Treasury and Finance Minister Albayrak unveiled a new reform package to be implemented over the next 4.5 years.<sup>2732</sup> Minister Albayrak said that the reform package will address urgent issues in the financial sector, food price inflation, trade logistics, tourism, exports, and judicial and tax reforms which are crucial to sustainable economic development.<sup>2733</sup>

Turkey has taken action in Investing in People and Places by paying for social security premiums for new workers, battling food price inflation, and issuing a sweeping reform package; in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by raising the minimum wage, extending an existing subsidy to SMEs, partnering with the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization to fund industry and technology, allocating USD3.7 billion for SMEs, financing businesses to hire new

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<sup>2725</sup> Erdogan Gets Emergency Powers Over the Turkish Economy, Bloomberg (Istanbul) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-01-17/erdogan-gets-emergency-powers-to-use-if-turkish-economy-at-risk>.

<sup>2726</sup> Turkey opens government vegetable stalls in battle with inflation, Reuters (Istanbul) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-economy-inflation/turkey-opens-government-vegetable-stalls-in-battle-with-inflation-idUSKCN1Q01TN>.

<sup>2727</sup> Turkey opens government vegetable stalls in battle with inflation, Reuters (Istanbul) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-economy-inflation/turkey-opens-government-vegetable-stalls-in-battle-with-inflation-idUSKCN1Q01TN>.

<sup>2728</sup> Turkish government launches campaign to boost employment, Hurriyet Daily News (Ankara) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-government-launches-campaign-to-boost-employment-141478>.

<sup>2729</sup> Turkish government launches campaign to boost employment, Hurriyet Daily News (Ankara) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-government-launches-campaign-to-boost-employment-141478>.

<sup>2730</sup> UPDATE 2-Turkey to offer SMEs a second 25 billion-lira loan package, Reuters (Istanbul) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/turkey-economy-loans/update-2-turkey-to-offer-smes-a-second-25-billion-lira-loan-package-idUSL5N2001O8>.

<sup>2731</sup> UPDATE 2-Turkey to offer SMEs a second 25 billion-lira loan package, Reuters (Istanbul) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/turkey-economy-loans/update-2-turkey-to-offer-smes-a-second-25-billion-lira-loan-package-idUSL5N2001O8>.

<sup>2732</sup> Turkey's new reform agenda takes on finance, inflation, tax regime, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2019/04/11/turkeys-new-reform-agenda-takes-on-finance-inflation-tax-regime>.

<sup>2733</sup> Turkey's new reform agenda takes on finance, inflation, tax regime, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 20 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2019/04/11/turkeys-new-reform-agenda-takes-on-finance-inflation-tax-regime>.

employees, and allocating an additional USD4.67 billion for SMEs; and in building resilient and responsive institutions by implementing a major reform package to address the financial sector and ensure sustainable growth. These actions fulfill all three components of the commitment.

Thus, Turkey has received a score of +1.

*Analyst: Joshua Raghubir*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied in its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 3 December 2018, the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced an initiative called the “Local Industrial Strategies,” which consults with different local businesses, public partners and civilians to ensure new ways to work together to increase job growth in local communities.<sup>2734</sup>

On 5 December 2018, the United Kingdom announced their second Life Sciences Sector Deal.<sup>2735</sup> The government worked to gain funding with ten private corporations, including securing GBP1 billion from the biopharmaceutical company UCB.<sup>2736</sup> The government will also provide GBP79 million as part of the Industrial Strategy plan.<sup>2737</sup> This deal will allow the integration of artificial intelligence into hospital treatments to help spot and prevent early diseases.<sup>2738</sup>

On 6 December 2018, the United Kingdom announced a joint deal with the aerospace sector, to develop the modernized electric planes, drones and autonomous aircrafts in a plan called “Future Flight” by 2025.<sup>2739</sup> The government will provide GBP125 million from the Industrial Strategy

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<sup>2734</sup> Local Industrial Strategies to drive growth across the country, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/local-industrial-strategies-to-drive-growth-across-the-country>.

<sup>2735</sup> £1.3 billion industry/government investment in UK economy and new partnership driving early disease detection, Government of the United Kingdom GOV.UK (London) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/13-billion-industry-government-investment-in-uk-economy-and-new-partnership-driving-early-disease-detection>.

<sup>2736</sup> £1.3 billion industry/government investment in UK economy and new partnership driving early disease detection, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/13-billion-industry-government-investment-in-uk-economy-and-new-partnership-driving-early-disease-detection>.

<sup>2737</sup> £1.3 billion industry/government investment in UK economy and new partnership driving early disease detection, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/13-billion-industry-government-investment-in-uk-economy-and-new-partnership-driving-early-disease-detection>.

<sup>2738</sup> £1.3 billion industry/government investment in UK economy and new partnership driving early disease detection, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/13-billion-industry-government-investment-in-uk-economy-and-new-partnership-driving-early-disease-detection>.

<sup>2739</sup> New backing to transform the UK's future through the modern Industrial Strategy. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-backing-to-transform-the-uks-future-through-the-modern-industrial-strategy>.

plan.<sup>2740</sup> There will be an additional GBP15 million invested in GKN Aerospace's new Global Technology Centre in Bristol which is set to open in 2020.<sup>2741</sup>

On 10 December 2018, the United Kingdom announced new measures to combat international money laundering and stop the abuse of limited partnerships.<sup>2742</sup> The government is ensuring a higher amount of anti-corruption and transparency checks to stop money laundering.<sup>2743</sup> There will be more thorough checks for those applying for Limited Partnerships, and required annual filing for corporations with limited partnerships to ensure the government has up to date information.<sup>2744</sup>

On 11 December 2018, the United Kingdom announced a GBP100 million investment toward 40 new renewable energy projects in Africa.<sup>2745</sup> These projects entail small solar, wind, hydro and geothermal sources that will promote the use of renewable energy.<sup>2746</sup> These new projects are projected to forestall three million tonnes of carbon emissions.<sup>2747</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the United Kingdom announced a goal of being the world's first "net zero carbon" industrial nation by 2040.<sup>2748</sup> This goal is backed by GBP170 million in funding, which will be backed by private industries as well. The government believes this can be achievable through the use of carbon capture and storage technology.<sup>2749</sup> The government is expecting growth of over two

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<sup>2740</sup>New backing to transform the UK's future through the modern Industrial Strategy. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-backing-to-transform-the-uks-future-through-the-modern-industrial-strategy>.

<sup>2741</sup>New backing to transform the UK's future through the modern Industrial Strategy. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-backing-to-transform-the-uks-future-through-the-modern-industrial-strategy>.

<sup>2742</sup>New measures to tackle international money laundering. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-measures-to-tackle-international-money-laundering>.

<sup>2743</sup>New measures to tackle international money laundering. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-measures-to-tackle-international-money-laundering>.

<sup>2744</sup>New measures to tackle international money laundering. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-measures-to-tackle-international-money-laundering>.

<sup>2745</sup>£100 million for renewable energy projects in Africa to provide electricity to 2.4 million people a year. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-million-for-renewable-energy-projects-in-africa-to-provide-electricity-to-24-million-people-a-year>.

<sup>2746</sup>£100 million for renewable energy projects in Africa to provide electricity to 2.4 million people a year. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-million-for-renewable-energy-projects-in-africa-to-provide-electricity-to-24-million-people-a-year>.

<sup>2747</sup>£100 million for renewable energy projects in Africa to provide electricity to 2.4 million people a year. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-million-for-renewable-energy-projects-in-africa-to-provide-electricity-to-24-million-people-a-year>.

<sup>2748</sup>'World-first carbon 'net-zero' hub of heavy industry to help UK seize global economic opportunities of clean growth. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-first-carbon-net-zero-hub-of-heavy-industry-to-help-uk-seize-global-economic-opportunities-of-clean-growth>.

<sup>2749</sup>'World-first carbon 'net-zero' hub of heavy industry to help UK seize global economic opportunities of clean growth. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-first-carbon-net-zero-hub-of-heavy-industry-to-help-uk-seize-global-economic-opportunities-of-clean-growth>.

million “green collar” jobs in 2030, and low carbon exports from the UK being valued at GBP170 billion.<sup>2750</sup>

On 17 December 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom announced an update to worker’s rights legislation, it is the biggest update in 20 years.<sup>2751</sup> It took 51 of the 53 recommendations made by Matthew Taylor, who has been in charge of overlooking Britain’s workplace policies, in order to make a fairer workplace for all.<sup>2752,2753</sup> It also addresses Sir David Metcalf’s Labour Market Strategy, with new policies in place to help low paid workers avoid exploitation.<sup>2754</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom announced an initiative to improve the standards of the nation’s audit market through an independent, nonpartisan review.<sup>2755</sup> The government has appointed Donald Bryton, who is the former Chair of the London Stock Exchange Group.<sup>2756</sup> This review will build on the Financial Reporting Council Review and the Competition and Market Authority’s market study which examined the audit market.<sup>2757</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom announced that the Independent Review of the Financial Reporting Council by Sir John Kingman was completed.<sup>2758</sup> The review has made multiple accountability and transparency measures for the financial sector moving forward.<sup>2759</sup>

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<sup>2750</sup>World-first carbon 'net-zero' hub of heavy industry to help UK seize global economic opportunities of clean growth. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-first-carbon-net-zero-hub-of-heavy-industry-to-help-uk-seize-global-economic-opportunities-of-clean-growth>.

<sup>2751</sup>Largest upgrade in a generation to workplace rights - getting work right for British workers and businesses. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/largest-upgrade-in-a-generation-to-workplace-rights-getting-work-right-for-british-workers-and-businesses>.

<sup>2752</sup>Largest upgrade in a generation to workplace rights - getting work right for British workers and businesses. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/largest-upgrade-in-a-generation-to-workplace-rights-getting-work-right-for-british-workers-and-businesses>.

<sup>2753</sup>Largest upgrade in a generation to workplace rights - getting work right for British workers and businesses. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/largest-upgrade-in-a-generation-to-workplace-rights-getting-work-right-for-british-workers-and-businesses>.

<sup>2754</sup>Largest upgrade in a generation to workplace rights - getting work right for British workers and businesses. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/largest-upgrade-in-a-generation-to-workplace-rights-getting-work-right-for-british-workers-and-businesses>.

<sup>2755</sup>Government takes next step in improving standards of UK audit market with new independent review into audit standards. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-takes-next-step-in-improving-standards-of-uk-audit-market-with-new-independent-review-into-audit-standards>.

<sup>2756</sup>Government takes next step in improving standards of UK audit market with new independent review into audit standards. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-takes-next-step-in-improving-standards-of-uk-audit-market-with-new-independent-review-into-audit-standards>.

<sup>2757</sup>Government takes next step in improving standards of UK audit market with new independent review into audit standards. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-takes-next-step-in-improving-standards-of-uk-audit-market-with-new-independent-review-into-audit-standards>.

<sup>2758</sup>Independent review of the Financial Reporting Council (FRC) launches report. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/independent-review-of-the-financial-reporting-council-frc-launches-report>.

On 1 January 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom announced an initiative to protect energy customers from price hikes.<sup>2760</sup> The cap will create GBP1 billion in energy savings for families by 2020, and energy providers are expected to work with regulators to find a fairer price.<sup>2761</sup>

On 1 January 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom is enforcing new transparency regulations regarding compensation for corporate executives.<sup>2762</sup> The Government is requiring any corporation with over 250 employees to share the wage of the CEO in comparison to different levels of workers.<sup>2763</sup> The companies will also have to report how executives consider needs of employees and shareholders when making business decisions.<sup>2764</sup>

On 4 January 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom announced a new service to help startups register their company and register for tax called the Streamlined Company Registration Service.<sup>2765</sup>

On 23 January 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom entered a new partnership with the World Economic Forum to create a more modern regulatory approach that integrates the use of technology while protecting consumers.<sup>2766</sup> This partnership will expand on the UK's *Industrial Strategy Grand Challenges* which focus on: AI and machine learning, autonomous and urban progress, drones and advancement of medicine.<sup>2767</sup>

On 24 January 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom announced new plans to protect protection for pregnant women and new parents rejoining the workforce.<sup>2768</sup> It proposes that legal protections against “redundancy” for women who are pregnant or new mothers is now provided

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<sup>2759</sup>Independent review of the Financial Reporting Council (FRC) launches report. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/independent-review-of-the-financial-reporting-council-frc-launches-report>.

<sup>2760</sup>Loyal energy customers to pay fair price from today. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 1 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/loyal-energy-customers-to-pay-fair-price-from-today>.

<sup>2761</sup>Loyal energy customers to pay fair price from today. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 1 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/loyal-energy-customers-to-pay-fair-price-from-today>.

<sup>2762</sup>New executive pay transparency measures come into force. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 1 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-executive-pay-transparency-measures-come-into-force>.

<sup>2763</sup>New executive pay transparency measures come into force. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 1 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-executive-pay-transparency-measures-come-into-force>.

<sup>2764</sup>New executive pay transparency measures come into force. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 1 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-executive-pay-transparency-measures-come-into-force>.

<sup>2765</sup>Helping hand to set up new businesses. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 4 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/helping-hand-to-set-up-new-businesses>.

<sup>2766</sup>UK and World Economic Forum to lead regulation revolution to foster industries of the future. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-world-economic-forum-to-lead-regulation-revolution-to-foster-industries-of-the-future>.

<sup>2767</sup>UK and World Economic Forum to lead regulation revolution to foster industries of the future. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 21 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-world-economic-forum-to-lead-regulation-revolution-to-foster-industries-of-the-future>.

<sup>2768</sup>Plans to boost protections for pregnant women and new parents returning to work. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 24 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plans-to-boost-protections-for-pregnant-women-and-new-parents-returning-to-work>.

until six months after they return to work after maternity leave.<sup>2769</sup> These rights will also be granted to parents returning from adopted or shared parental leave.<sup>2770</sup>

On 28 January 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom announced measures to strengthen business and consumer cyber security protection through a GBP70 million investment into research into design and development of hardware to protect from attacks.<sup>2771</sup> The research will produce better hardware that will program security measures into chip designs in order to protect against cyber threats.<sup>2772</sup> This investment is important as the government estimates that almost all UK businesses run on technology, and that 40 per cent have faced a threat or breach in the past year.<sup>2773</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom announced a new fund of up to GBP30 million to create a “data trust initiative.”<sup>2774</sup> This will enable different charities to share information between each other in order to track those who illegally trade animals, audio data can be used to notify park rangers of gunshots or illegal fishing ships, image data is shared between charities and the government to identify illegal animal components on the internet.<sup>2775</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom partnered with the governments of Germany and the France to create a payment system to allow European businesses to trade with Iran, as well as allow French banks to make direct payments to Iran without risking US sanctions.<sup>2776</sup> The Instrument for Supporting Trade Exchanges (INSETX) includes the trade of food, pharmaceuticals and consumer goods, although not oil.<sup>2777</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom delivered important parts of their “international transparency agenda” through publishing their UK Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Reconciliation Report.<sup>2778</sup> The government worked with 58 companies in the United

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<sup>2769</sup>Plans to boost protections for pregnant women and new parents returning to work. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 24 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plans-to-boost-protections-for-pregnant-women-and-new-parents-returning-to-work>.

<sup>2770</sup>Plans to boost protections for pregnant women and new parents returning to work. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 24 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plans-to-boost-protections-for-pregnant-women-and-new-parents-returning-to-work>.

<sup>2771</sup>‘Designing out’ cyber threats to businesses and personal data. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/designing-out-cyber-threats-to-businesses-and-personal-data>.

<sup>2772</sup>‘Designing out’ cyber threats to businesses and personal data. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/designing-out-cyber-threats-to-businesses-and-personal-data>.

<sup>2773</sup>‘Designing out’ cyber threats to businesses and personal data. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/designing-out-cyber-threats-to-businesses-and-personal-data>.

<sup>2774</sup>Digital revolution to use the power of data to combat illegal wildlife trade and reduce food waste. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 31 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/digital-revolution-to-use-the-power-of-data-to-combat-illegal-wildlife-trade-and-reduce-food-waste>.

<sup>2775</sup>Digital revolution to use the power of data to combat illegal wildlife trade and reduce food waste. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 31 January 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/digital-revolution-to-use-the-power-of-data-to-combat-illegal-wildlife-trade-and-reduce-food-waste>.

<sup>2776</sup>UK, France, and Germany create payments system to trade with Iran (Berlin) 31 January 2019. Access date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-47072020>.

<sup>2777</sup>UK, France, and Germany create payments system to trade with Iran (Berlin) 31 January 2019. Access date: 21 April 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-47072020>.

<sup>2778</sup>UK government delivers key strand of international transparency agenda. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 25 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-delivers-key-strand-of-international-transparency-agenda>.

Kingdom to conduct this voluntary report with the EITI, as the government has been a supporter of the organization's work since it was admitted in 2014.<sup>2779</sup> The transparency report, conducted according to EITI regulations ensures that the nation's oil, gas and minerals revenues are accounted for responsibly.<sup>2780</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the United Kingdom created ten new University Enterprise Zones in England.<sup>2781</sup> This will create a closer relationship between local businesses and universities in the area, so that schools have a greater understanding of what skills employers expect from students upon graduation.<sup>2782</sup> The government made a GBP10 million investment to fund the project.<sup>2783</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the the United Kingdom announced a new "Offshore Wind Sector" deal, that is aiming to have 33 per cent of women to be part of the offshore wind industry before 2030, an increase from the current level of 16 per cent.<sup>2784</sup> The government is aiming to have 27,000 new jobs created in this sector over the next 10 years.<sup>2785</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the United Kingdom announced that Parliament will be working to ensure that workers' rights will be protected in United Kingdom law, in consultation with trade unions and businesses to make future plans.<sup>2786</sup> One proposal is to create a single enforcement body to protect vulnerable workers.<sup>2787</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the United Kingdom vowed to assist young entrepreneurs through making a review that will study the challenges they face in making their businesses succeed.<sup>2788</sup> The review is part of the government's modern Industrial Strategy, which is aimed at ensuring that the United

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<sup>2779</sup> UK government delivers key strand of international transparency agenda. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 25 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-delivers-key-strand-of-international-transparency-agenda>.

<sup>2780</sup> UK government delivers key strand of international transparency agenda. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 25 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-delivers-key-strand-of-international-transparency-agenda>.

<sup>2781</sup> New university-business partnerships to boost jobs and local economies. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-university-business-partnerships-to-boost-jobs-and-local-economies>.

<sup>2782</sup> New university-business partnerships to boost jobs and local economies. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-university-business-partnerships-to-boost-jobs-and-local-economies>.

<sup>2783</sup> New university-business partnerships to boost jobs and local economies. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-university-business-partnerships-to-boost-jobs-and-local-economies>.

<sup>2784</sup> Green collar jobs in offshore wind set to triple by 2030. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 March 2018. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/green-collar-jobs-in-offshore-wind-set-to-triple-by-2030>.

<sup>2785</sup> Green collar jobs in offshore wind set to triple by 2030. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 March 2018. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/green-collar-jobs-in-offshore-wind-set-to-triple-by-2030>.

<sup>2786</sup> Workers rights to be protected in UK law. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 March 2018. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/workers-rights-to-be-protected-in-uk-law>.

<sup>2787</sup> Workers rights to be protected in UK law. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 March 2018. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/workers-rights-to-be-protected-in-uk-law>.

<sup>2788</sup> New plans to help next generation of young entrepreneurs turn their ideas into reality. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 March 2018. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-plans-to-help-next-generation-of-young-entrepreneurs-turn-their-ideas-into-reality>.

Kingdom is an attractive jurisdiction to start a business, and will examine issues such as access to credit and networks.<sup>2789</sup>

On 12 March 2019, the United Kingdom launched a new ad campaign on “holiday pay” to bring awareness about workers’ rights and people’s eligibility to receive holiday pay.<sup>2790</sup> The government found that many people were missing out on receiving holiday pay which amounted to GBP1.8 billion every year.<sup>2791</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the United Kingdom announced new investments to boost research, development and job growth in the country.<sup>2792</sup> They government will pledge 2.4% of the gross domestic product by 2027 towards research and development. Targets of these funds include developing a supercomputer, genetic research, nuclear technology, reducing energy usage by small business, sustainable energy, and fracking.<sup>2793</sup>

On 28 March 2019, the United Kingdom announced they would provide GBP9 million in funding toward AI and machine learning projects in the digital health sector in hopes that they will help future patients.<sup>2794</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the United Kingdom increased the National Living Wage by 5 per cent to GBP8.21 per hour in the largest raise in history.<sup>2795</sup> The government claims that 2.1 million workers will benefit from the increases, specifically those in the retail and hospitality industry.<sup>2796</sup>

On 8 April 2019, the government of the United Kingdom required employers to issue payslips to all workers, including those on casual and zero-hour contracts, that include the amount of hours they

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<sup>2789</sup> New plans to help next generation of young entrepreneurs turn their ideas into reality. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 6 March 2018. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-plans-to-help-next-generation-of-young-entrepreneurs-turn-their-ideas-into-reality>.

<sup>2790</sup> Government has launched its first holiday pay advertising campaign. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-has-launched-its-first-holiday-pay-advertising-campaign>.

<sup>2791</sup> Government has launched its first holiday pay advertising campaign. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-has-launched-its-first-holiday-pay-advertising-campaign>.

<sup>2792</sup> Spring statement support for modern industrial strategy. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/spring-statement-support-for-modern-industrial-strategy>.

<sup>2793</sup> Spring statement support for modern industrial strategy. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/spring-statement-support-for-modern-industrial-strategy>.

<sup>2794</sup> £9m awarded to breakthrough digital health technologies. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/9m-awarded-to-breakthrough-digital-health-technologies>.

<sup>2795</sup> Biggest ever increase to National Living Wage comes into effect. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biggest-ever-increase-to-national-living-wage-comes-into-effect>.

<sup>2796</sup> Biggest ever increase to National Living Wage comes into effect. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biggest-ever-increase-to-national-living-wage-comes-into-effect>.

worked each week.<sup>2797</sup> The government is also closing the “Swedish derogation” loophole which allowed firms to pay agency workers less than permanent staff.<sup>2798</sup>

The United Kingdom has taken action in Investing in People and Places by announcing the Local Industrial Strategies initiative, updating workers’ rights legislation, protecting consumers from energy price hikes, in addition to other actions. On Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets they took action by announcing a Life Sciences Sector Deal, partnering with the aerospace industry, supporting the green economy through carbon capture and storage, easing registration process for start-ups, among other actions. On Building Resilient and Responsive Institutions, the government adopted stronger anti-money laundering laws, increased the transparency of limited partnerships, invested in renewable energy in Africa, and improved the standards of the audit market, among others. These actions fulfill all three components of the commitment.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Isha Chaudhuri*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 12 December 2018, President Donald Trump issued the Executive Order on Establishing the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council to utilize public funds to revitalize urban and economically distressed communities.<sup>2799</sup>

On 7 February 2019, President Trump issued the Presidential Memorandum on Promoting Women’s Global Development and Prosperity, including USD50 million in proposed funding for the Women’s Global Development and Prosperity Fund within United States Agency for International Development (USAID).<sup>2800</sup> The establishment of this initiative aims to economically empower 50 million women across the developing world by 2025 through workforce development and skills training, increasing entrepreneurship and access to capital, and addressing barriers in laws and norms.<sup>2801</sup>

On 11 February 2019, President Trump issued an executive order on maintaining American leadership in artificial intelligence (AI), calling for AI to be designated as an agency research and

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<sup>2797</sup> New laws give 300,000 workers a payslip for the first time. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-laws-give-300000-workers-a-payslip-for-the-first-time>.

<sup>2798</sup> New laws give 300,000 workers a payslip for the first time. Government of the United Kingdom (London) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-laws-give-300000-workers-a-payslip-for-the-first-time>.

<sup>2799</sup> Executive Order on Establishing the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, The White House (Washington) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-establishing-white-house-opportunity-revitalization-council/>.

<sup>2800</sup> Presidential Memorandum on Promoting Women’s Global Development and Prosperity, The White House (Washington) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-memorandum-promoting-womens-global-development-prosperity/>.

<sup>2801</sup> Presidential Memorandum on Promoting Women’s Global Development and Prosperity, The White House (Washington) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-memorandum-promoting-womens-global-development-prosperity/>.

development priority for all federal government agencies that fund or conduct AI research.<sup>2802</sup> The increased funding aims to promote scientific discovery, economic competitiveness and national security.<sup>2803</sup>

On 13 February 2019, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and Presidential Adviser Ivanka Trump announced the creation of the American Workforce Policy Advisory Board.<sup>2804</sup> The board is intended to ensure inclusive growth through developing a national campaign to promote education and training, improving labour market data and increasing private sector investment.<sup>2805</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the first of a series of “Fed Listens” events will take place in Dallas, Texas for the Federal Reserve to gather recommendations from the public to be presented in a 2020 report.<sup>2806</sup> Events in Minneapolis and Chicago will follow in the following months, with the Federal Open Market Committee using the perspectives gathered to conduct a broad review of the Reserve’s existing policy framework.<sup>2807</sup>

On 28 February 2019, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced a new USD5 billion annual investment for Education Freedom Scholarships, to expand students’ access to additional educational opportunities.<sup>2808</sup> Funded through a federal tax credit from voluntary donations, the state-based scholarship program can expand the public education system through investing in existing programs and services, or fund additional out-of-school programs, such as home education, apprenticeships or tutoring.<sup>2809</sup>

On 12 April 2019, President Trump announced a new USD20.4 billion Rural Digital Opportunity Fund under the Federal Communications Commission to extend high-speed broadband to four million homes and small businesses as part of an initiative to make the US a world leader in 5G technology.<sup>2810</sup>

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<sup>2802</sup> Executive Order on Maintaining American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence, The White House (Washington) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-maintaining-american-leadership-artificial-intelligence>.

<sup>2803</sup> Executive Order on Maintaining American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence, The White House (Washington) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-maintaining-american-leadership-artificial-intelligence>.

<sup>2804</sup> Bloomberg: “Wilbur Ross, Ivanka Trump Introduce Workforce Advisory Board”, The White House (Washington) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/icymi-bloomberg-wilbur-ross-ivanka-trump-introduce-workforce-advisory-board/>.

<sup>2805</sup> Wilbur Ross, Ivanka Trump Introduce Workforce Advisory Board, Bloomberg (New York) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-02-26/house-votes-to-block-trump-s-national-emergency-for-border-wall>.

<sup>2806</sup> Review of Monetary Policy Strategy, Tools, and Communications, The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Washington) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/review-of-monetary-policy-strategy-tools-and-communications-fed-listens-events.htm>.

<sup>2807</sup> Review of Monetary Policy Strategy, Tools, and Communications, The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Washington) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 25 February 2019. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/review-of-monetary-policy-strategy-tools-and-communications.htm>.

<sup>2808</sup> Fast Facts: Education Freedom Scholarships, U.S. Department of Education (Washington) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/trump-administration-unveils-plan-historic-investment-america-students-through-education-freedom-scholarships>.

<sup>2809</sup> Fast Facts: Education Freedom Scholarships, U.S. Department of Education (Washington) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/trump-administration-unveils-plan-historic-investment-america-students-through-education-freedom-scholarships>.

<sup>2810</sup> President Donald J. Trump Is Taking Action to Ensure that America Wins the Race to 5G, The White House (Washington) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-taking-action-ensure-america-wins-race-5g/>.

On 18 April 2019, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced their Integrated Modernization Business Plan to upgrade its information technology systems, to drive innovation and support the IRS mission and its future.<sup>2811</sup> Costing between USD2.3 billion to 2.7 billion over six years, the plan is built on four “Modernization Pillars”: the taxpayer experience, core taxpayer services and enforcement, modernized IRS operations, and cybersecurity and data protection.<sup>2812</sup> US290 million was proposed in the budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2020.<sup>2813</sup>

The United States has taken action in Investing in People and Places by establishing urban revitalization projects, funding female entrepreneurship programs, and investing scholarship programs; in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by improving labour market data and promoting artificial intelligence research; and Building More Resilient and Responsive Institutions by consulting with stakeholders regarding federal reforms and modernizing government services. These actions fulfill three out of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Denise Lee*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to invest in people and regions that are considered vulnerable, to support businesses and inclusive labour markets, and to build efficient, resilient, and responsive institutions.

On 5 December 2018, the European Commission announced proposals to reduce the European Union’s dependence on the US dollar.<sup>2814</sup> Specific proposals include the creation of euro-denominated price benchmarks for energy commodities and a fully integrated payment system, which combined will “[yield] important potential for better protecting European citizens and companies against external shocks and making the international finance and monetary system more resilient,” per Economic Affairs Commissioner Pierre Moscovici.

On 18 January 2019, the European Investment Bank (EIB) announced a EUR255 million, 20-year loan with the Greek Public Power Corporation to upgrade its national electricity network.<sup>2815</sup> The

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<sup>2811</sup> IRS announces multi-year plan to update, modernize IT systems; Effort focused on improved taxpayer services, expanded cybersecurity and taxpayer data protections, Internal Revenue Service (Washington) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-announces-multi-year-plan-to-update-modernize-it-systems-effort-focused-on-improved-taxpayer-services-expanded-cybersecurity-and-taxpayer-data-protections>.

<sup>2812</sup> IRS announces multi-year plan to update, modernize IT systems; Effort focused on improved taxpayer services, expanded cybersecurity and taxpayer data protections, Internal Revenue Service (Washington) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-announces-multi-year-plan-to-update-modernize-it-systems-effort-focused-on-improved-taxpayer-services-expanded-cybersecurity-and-taxpayer-data-protections>.

<sup>2813</sup> IRS announces multi-year plan to update, modernize IT systems; Effort focused on improved taxpayer services, expanded cybersecurity and taxpayer data protections, Internal Revenue Service (Washington) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-announces-multi-year-plan-to-update-modernize-it-systems-effort-focused-on-improved-taxpayer-services-expanded-cybersecurity-and-taxpayer-data-protections>.

<sup>2814</sup> EU’s dependence on dollar to be reduced under new proposals, The Guardian (Brussels) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/dec/05/european-union-dependence-on-dollar-to-be-reduced-under-new-proposals>.

<sup>2815</sup> EUR 255m EIB support to the upgrade of Greek national electricity network, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/press/releases/all/2019/2019-012-eur-255m-eib-support-to-the-upgrade-of-greek-national-electricity-network?media=rss&language=EN>.

investment will be used to implement over 7,000 kilometres of new distribution infrastructure to cater to future demand.<sup>2816</sup>

On 24 January 2019, the EIB provided EUR1.2 billion in research, development and innovation (RDI) loans to support science in Spain under the EU InnovFin programme.<sup>2817</sup> This is the largest RDI loan to date, and will be used to finance public research centres and institutions for the development of patents and new areas of research, particularly those closely related to industry needs.<sup>2818</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the European Economic and Social Committee voted to adopt the policy statement “For a European Framework directive on a Minimum Income” which calls on the European Commission to establish an adequate minimum income for each Member State.<sup>2819</sup> The statement was made in response to the perceived failure of the existing anti-poverty policy tool, the Open Method of Coordination, which has failed to prevent increases in inequalities both within and between Member States..<sup>2820</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the EU announced an investment programme worth over EUR10 billion for low-carbon technologies, by offering grants to cover up to 60 per cent of capital and operational costs for selected projects.<sup>2821</sup> Intended to boost global competitiveness and acquire first mover benefits by increasing exports of European sustainable products, as well as grow local jobs and a cleaner environment, the first call for proposals will be launched in 2020.<sup>2822</sup>

On 26 February 2019, EU and Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP) negotiators met in Samoa to discuss a New ACP-EU Partnership.<sup>2823</sup> The current Cotonou Agreement created in 2000 is set to

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<sup>2816</sup> EUR 255m EIB support to the upgrade of Greek national electricity network, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 18 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

<https://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/press/releases/all/2019/2019-012-eur-255m-eib-support-to-the-upgrade-of-greek-national-electricity-network?media=rss&language=EN>.

<sup>2817</sup> Support for science in Spain: EIB provides EUR 1.2bn under EU InnovFin programme, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

<https://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/press/releases/all/2019/2019-022-support-for-science-in-spain-eib-provides-eur-1-2bn-under-eu-innovfin-programme?media=rss&language=EN>.

<sup>2818</sup> Support for science in Spain: EIB provides EUR 1.2bn under EU InnovFin programme, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019.

<https://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/press/releases/all/2019/2019-022-support-for-science-in-spain-eib-provides-eur-1-2bn-under-eu-innovfin-programme?media=rss&language=EN>.

<sup>2819</sup> EU’s civil society consultative body votes in favour of EU-supported decent minimum income for all EU citizens in need, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/press-releases/eus-civil-society-consultative-body-votes-favour-eu-supported-decent-minimum-income-all-eu-citizens-need>.

<sup>2820</sup> EU’s civil society consultative body votes in favour of EU-supported decent minimum income for all EU citizens in need, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019.

<https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/news-media/press-releases/eus-civil-society-consultative-body-votes-favour-eu-supported-decent-minimum-income-all-eu-citizens-need>.

<sup>2821</sup> Towards a climate-neutral Europe: EU invests over €10bn in innovative clean technologies, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1381\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1381_en.htm).

<sup>2822</sup> Towards a climate-neutral Europe: EU invests over €10bn in innovative clean technologies, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1381\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1381_en.htm).

<sup>2823</sup> New ACP-EU Partnership: EU and Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific Leaders intensify the regional talks in Samoa, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1409\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1409_en.htm).

expire in 2020, and both parties expressed commitment to the creation of a new EU-Pacific pillar that will “find new ways to fight climate change, and to protect our people and our planet.”<sup>2824</sup>

On 28 February 2019, Unicredit and the EIB announced EUR500 million in credit line availability for Italian small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with special emphasis on promoting female entrepreneurship and climate action.<sup>2825</sup> Unicredit will match the initial EUR250 million from the EIB, with funds to be used to finance new and existing projects for businesses in any productive sector, with specific streams for businesses managed or controlled by women, innovative SMEs, and environmental projects.<sup>2826</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the EIB signed to commit USD15 million to the Africa Industrialization I Fund, to invest and acquire equity in SMEs with a high growth potential in North Africa.<sup>2827</sup> This private equity fund aims to contribute to the development of the private sector by increasing access to capital, with a focus on sectors such as education, healthcare and manufacturing.<sup>2828</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the EIB board approved a EUR4 billion investment, including EUR1.3 billion of financing for private sector investment to support new climate mitigation projects.<sup>2829</sup> Dedicated credit lines across Europe will be created to support female entrepreneurs and youth employment, energy efficiency investments, and product research and development.<sup>2830</sup> The remaining funds will be directed towards improvements in transport, clean energy generation and infrastructure projects.<sup>2831</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the European Commission announced a new EU framework for the screening of foreign direct investments.<sup>2832</sup> The new framework will create a cooperation mechanism between

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<sup>2824</sup> New ACP-EU Partnership: EU and Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific Leaders intensify the regional talks in Samoa, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 4 March 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1409\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1409_en.htm).

<sup>2825</sup> UniCredit and the EIB: EUR 500 million for Italian SMEs to promote female entrepreneurship and climate action, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/press/releases/all/2019/2019-061-unicredit-and-the-eib-eur-500-million-for-italian-smes-to-promote-female-entrepreneurship-and-climate-action?media=rss&language=EN>.

<sup>2826</sup> UniCredit and the EIB: EUR 500 million for Italian SMEs to promote female entrepreneurship and climate action, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 1 March 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/infocentre/press/releases/all/2019/2019-061-unicredit-and-the-eib-eur-500-million-for-italian-smes-to-promote-female-entrepreneurship-and-climate-action?media=rss&language=EN>.

<sup>2827</sup> EIB invests in Africa Industrialization Fund to support growth capital investments, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-093-eib-invests-in-africa-industrialization-fund-to-support-growth-capital-investments?media=rss&language=EN>.

<sup>2828</sup> EIB invests in Africa Industrialization Fund to support growth capital investments, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-093-eib-invests-in-africa-industrialization-fund-to-support-growth-capital-investments?media=rss&language=EN>.

<sup>2829</sup> EIB backs EUR 4 billion transport, business, clean energy and climate resilience investment, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-100-eib-backs-eur-4-billion-transport-business-clean-energy-and-climate-resilience-investment>.

<sup>2830</sup> EIB backs EUR 4 billion transport, business, clean energy and climate resilience investment, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-100-eib-backs-eur-4-billion-transport-business-clean-energy-and-climate-resilience-investment>.

<sup>2831</sup> EIB backs EUR 4 billion transport, business, clean energy and climate resilience investment, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg, Luxembourg) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-100-eib-backs-eur-4-billion-transport-business-clean-energy-and-climate-resilience-investment>.

<sup>2832</sup> EU foreign investment screening regulation enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-2088\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2088_en.htm).

Member States to exchange information and raise concerns, encourage international cooperation and set screening mechanism requirements.<sup>2833</sup>

The EU has taken action in Investing in People and Places through financing infrastructure projects in and supporting climate mitigation and transportation projects; in Supporting Businesses and Inclusive Labour Markets by implementing EIB loans for RDI, low-carbon technologies, and SMEs dedicated to female entrepreneurship, and contributing to the Africa Industrialization I Fund; and in Building Resilient and Responsive Institutions through reducing the Euro's dependence on the US dollar, and adapting policy to establish compliance within the EU, among others. These actions fulfill three out of the three components of the commitment.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Denise Lee*

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<sup>2833</sup> EU foreign investment screening regulation enters into force, European Commission (Brussels) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-2088\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2088_en.htm).

## 11. Climate Change: Paris Agreement

“[Signatories to the Paris Agreement, who have also joined the Hamburg Action Plan], commit to its full implementation, reflecting common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in light of different national circumstances.”

*G20 Leaders Buenos Aires Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States	Not applicable		
European Union			+1
Average Score	+0.74		

### Background

The G20 first addressed the issue of climate change at its inaugural summit in Washington, D.C. in 2008.<sup>2834</sup> It is recognized that, “climate change represents an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to human societies and the planet, and thus requires to be urgently addressed by all [countries].”<sup>2835</sup> Many commitments made at past G20 summits have either dealt directly with climate change, or have had climate change as an underlying theme. These include commitments relating to clean energy, food and agriculture, among others.

At the London Summit in 2009, G20 members expressed their support for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).<sup>2836</sup> This support was reiterated at every G20 summit, including the one in Hamburg in 2017 where leaders reiterated the importance of fulfilling

<sup>2834</sup> Declaration of the Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy, 2008 Washington Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2008. Date of Access: 7 December 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/g20/2008/2008declaration1115.html>.

<sup>2835</sup> Report of the Conference of the Parties on its Seventeenth Session, Held in Durban from 28 November to 11 December 2011, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 15 March 2012. Date of Access: 7 December 2018. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2011/cop17/eng/09a01.pdf#page=2>.

<sup>2836</sup> Global Plan for Recovery and Reform, 2009 London Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 April 2009. Date of Access: 7 December 2018. [www.g7.utoronto.ca/g20/2009/2009communique0402.html](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/g20/2009/2009communique0402.html).

the UNFCCC commitment by developed countries in providing means of implementation including financial resources to assist developing countries with respect to both mitigation and adaptation actions in line with Paris outcomes and note the OECD's report "Investing in Climate, Investing in Growth."<sup>2837</sup>

The Paris Agreement was adopted by the participants of the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC on 12 December 2015. The provisions agreed upon by the parties are aimed at keeping the global average temperature below 2°C above pre-industrial level. In addition, the parties pledged to "pursue efforts" to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C. COP participants also agreed provide national inventory reports on anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and provide other information necessary for assessing the implementation progress.<sup>2838</sup>

The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016 after the threshold of 55 ratifying parties responsible for at least 55 per cent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions had been met. The Agreement has been ratified by 152 states to date.<sup>2839</sup>

The US withdrawal raised concerns over the prospects of the agreement itself and international climate change cooperation in general. United States President Donald Trump, announcing the termination of his country's participation in the Agreement on 1 June 2017, justified his decision by the need to protect the interests of American industry and workers, as well as reduce the costs for American taxpayers. D. Trump also announced the termination of US contributions to the Green Climate Fund.<sup>2840</sup>

However, according to the provisions of Article 28 of the document, the termination of the participation of a signatory and ratifying party to the agreement is only possible four years after its entry into force (three years before a country can withdraw and another year before the decision takes effect), that is, on 4 November 2020. Thus, for the purposes of this compliance report the United States are considered to be a signatory of the Paris Agreement and are assessed on equal footing with the rest of the G20 members.

### **Commitment Features**

The commitment requires the G20 members to strive for the full implementation of the Paris Agreement. The Agreement stipulates three major goals:

- a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;
- b) Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and

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<sup>2837</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration Shaping an interconnected world, CIIR RANEPa (Hamburg) July 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2019.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders\\_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf)

<sup>2838</sup> Paris Agreement, United Nations (New York) 2015. Access Date: 27 May 2019

[http://unfccc.int/files/essential\\_background/convention/application/pdf/english\\_paris\\_agreement.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf)

<sup>2839</sup> The Paris Agreement, United Nations (New York) 2015. Access Date: 14 May 2019.

[http://unfccc.int/paris\\_agreement/items/9485.php](http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php)

<sup>2840</sup> Statement by President Trump on the Paris Climate Accord, the White House (Washington) 1 June 2017. Access Date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/06/01/statement-president-trump-paris-climate-accord>.

- c) Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.<sup>2841</sup>

Thus, to fully comply with the commitment the G20 members must take action on all the three main issue areas of the Paris Agreement, that is: to take action aimed at greenhouse gases emissions reduction; to support climate adaptation and resilience; to mobilize climate finance from a wide variety of sources. Partial

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member does not take action to implement the Paris Agreement in any area.
0	Member takes action to implement the Paris Agreement but fails to address all three issue areas outlined.
+1	Member takes action to implement the Paris Agreement, addressing all three issue areas outlined in it.

### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment to implement the Paris Accord.

On 8 January 2019, Argentine Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development Sergio Bergman and President of the National Agricultural Technology Institute Juan Balbín signed an agreement on establishing a demonstration unit “San Pedro Kora” of native forest areas and livestock management located in Santiago del Estero province.<sup>2842</sup> The unit is integrated into a national network of demonstration sites of Management with Integrated Livestock Initiative promoted by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development which aims to disseminate sustainable practices by combining agro-productive development with the conservation of native forest systems. By January 2019, five units had already been established in Chaco, Salta and Santa Cruz provinces.<sup>2843</sup>

On 14 January 2019, Argentine Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development Sergio Bergman participated in the third Ministerial Conference of the Partnership for Action on Green Economy held in Cape Town, South Africa.<sup>2844</sup> The event brought together more 500 innovators and leaders from governments, civil society, private sector, development organizations and media to share their experiences on transiting to green and circular economy. Sergio Bergman presented Argentina’s progress in this sphere and proposed a road map for the country’s participation in the initiative including cooperation with United Nations bodies that support the Partnership for Action on Green Economy.<sup>2845</sup>

<sup>2841</sup> Paris Agreement, United Nations (New York) 2015. Access date: 27 May 2019.

[https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english\\_paris\\_agreement.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf).

<sup>2842</sup> Ambiente impulsa el manejo de bosques con ganadería integrada, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-impulsa-el-manejo-de-bosques-con-ganaderia-integrada>.

<sup>2843</sup> Ambiente impulsa el manejo de bosques con ganadería integrada, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-impulsa-el-manejo-de-bosques-con-ganaderia-integrada>.

<sup>2844</sup> Economía Verde: Argentina participó de un encuentro internacional con expertos en la materia, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/economia-verde-argentina-participo-de-un-encuentro-internacional-con-expertos-en-la-materia>.

<sup>2845</sup> Economía Verde: Argentina participó de un encuentro internacional con expertos en la materia, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 14 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/economia-verde-argentina-participo-de-un-encuentro-internacional-con-expertos-en-la-materia>.

On 15 January 2019, a wind farm Chubut Norte I with an area of 834 hectares located about 30 kilometers from Madryn was opened by Argentinian President Mauricio Macri, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina Sergio Bergman and Governor of Chubut Mariano Arcioni.<sup>2846</sup> The park has eight Vestas V126 wind turbines with an output of 28.8 MW that will produce 128,400 MWh per year. The investment to the project was more than USD45 million. A construction process took 17 months. The project was awarded under RenovAr, the Government's program for the supply of electricity from renewable sources.<sup>2847</sup>

On 15 January 2019, the Argentine Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development under ForestAR 2030 closed the second call for projects of the National Plan for the Restoration of Native Forests in order to recover 870 hectares in the ecoregions of Yungas, Misiones Jungle and Chaco Park.<sup>2848</sup> The Plan contains a goal of restoring 20,000 hectares per year and reaching a goal of zero net deforestation in the country by 2030 thus contributing to the National Strategy for Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change.<sup>2849</sup> In the region of yungas and chaqueño park, which includes the provinces of Jujuy, Salta, Chaco and Formosa, main causes of forest degradation are the advance of the agricultural frontier, extensive cattle ranching, fires and exploitation unsustainable forest. The main actions include restoration of degraded forests, promoting the connection between core areas through biological corridors, etc.<sup>2850</sup>

On 25 January 2019, the Argentinian Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development participated in the UNESCO meeting that took place in Santiago de Chile to present the Atlas of Glaciers and Andean Waters that identifies the current status of glaciers in the region and analyzes the progress of the impact of climate change on the glaciers and in the availability of water in the communities.<sup>2851</sup> At the meeting Argentina presented its glacier protection policies. In 2018 Argentina completed the National Glacier Inventory that yielded a total of 16,968 ice bodies (16,078 over the Andes and 890 in the South Atlantic Islands) and occupy an area of 8,484 km<sup>2</sup>, one size equivalent to 41 times the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.<sup>2852</sup> The inventory is a fundamental tool

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<sup>2846</sup> Junto con el presidente Macri, Bergman participó en el acto de inauguración de un parque eólico en Puerto Madryn, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/junto-con-el-presidente-macri-bergman-participo-en-el-acto-de-inauguracion-de-un-parque>.

<sup>2847</sup> Junto con el presidente Macri, Bergman participó en el acto de inauguración de un parque eólico en Puerto Madryn, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/junto-con-el-presidente-macri-bergman-participo-en-el-acto-de-inauguracion-de-un-parque>.

<sup>2848</sup> Finalizó la segunda convocatoria del Plan Nacional de Restauración de Bosques Nativos, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/finalizo-la-segunda-convocatoria-del-plan-nacional-de-restauracion-de-bosques-nativos>.

<sup>2849</sup> Finalizó la segunda convocatoria del Plan Nacional de Restauración de Bosques Nativos, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/finalizo-la-segunda-convocatoria-del-plan-nacional-de-restauracion-de-bosques-nativos>.

<sup>2850</sup> Finalizó la segunda convocatoria del Plan Nacional de Restauración de Bosques Nativos, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/finalizo-la-segunda-convocatoria-del-plan-nacional-de-restauracion-de-bosques-nativos>.

<sup>2851</sup> Argentina presentó sus políticas de protección de glaciares en Chile, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-presento-sus-politicas-de-proteccion-de-glaciares-en-chile>.

<sup>2852</sup> Argentina presentó sus políticas de protección de glaciares en Chile, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-presento-sus-politicas-de-proteccion-de-glaciares-en-chile>.

for decision making and design of public policies in the protection of water resources and mountain ecosystems.<sup>2853</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the Secretariat of Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina, together with Ministry of the Interior, Public Works and Housing and Ministry of Finance, launched the Sustainable Housing Manual, an innovative instrument that provides guidelines to promote sustainable design, construction and use of neighborhoods and housing to improve environmental performance.<sup>2854</sup> The Manual, developed with the support of the Global Environment Facility and the Inter-American Development Bank, also contains indicators for a sustainability self-assessment of projects. The manual can be used by provincial housing institutes as well as private architects and engineers who wish to incorporate the sustainable variable in their building projects.<sup>2855</sup>

On 26 March 2019, the Argentine government presented the draft reform of the Criminal Code in the National Congress.<sup>2856</sup> The initiative pursues an adequate systematization and ordering of all penal regulations and incorporates crimes against the environment. According to new modification, the environment is considered as a protected legal asset and, therefore, pollution and damage to natural resources are considered as crimes.<sup>2857</sup>

On 4 April 2019, Celeste Saulo, director of the Argentinian National Methodological Service (SMN), and Juan Balbín, president of National Agricultural Technology Institute (INTA), signed a technical cooperation agreement aimed at cooperating scientifically, technically and operationally in the field of agricultural meteorology and climatology, in particular by synchronizing radars of two organizations that provide climate and meteorological observation.<sup>2858</sup> To this end, both agencies will integrate in a network the three radars of INTA, installed in Pergamino (Buenos Aires), Paraná (Entre Ríos) and Anguil (La Pampa), and the SMN ones.<sup>2859</sup>

On 5 April 2019, the Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina presented sector-specific guides aimed at promoting innovation and good environmental practices to increase sustainability in various productive and service sectors, including wine, metallurgy and

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<sup>2853</sup> Argentina presentó sus políticas de protección de glaciares en Chile, Secretaría General: Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-presento-sus-politicas-de-proteccion-de-glaciares-en-chile>.

<sup>2854</sup> El Gobierno nacional lanza el Manual de Vivienda Sustentable, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-nacional-lanza-el-manual-de-vivienda-sustentable>.

<sup>2855</sup> El Gobierno nacional lanza el Manual de Vivienda Sustentable, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-nacional-lanza-el-manual-de-vivienda-sustentable>.

<sup>2856</sup> El Gobierno nacional presentó el proyecto de reforma del Código Penal en el Congreso de la Nación, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-nacional-presento-el-proyecto-de-reforma-del-codigo-penal-en-el-congreso-de-la>.

<sup>2857</sup> El Gobierno nacional presentó el proyecto de reforma del Código Penal en el Congreso de la Nación, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-nacional-presento-el-proyecto-de-reforma-del-codigo-penal-en-el-congreso-de-la>.

<sup>2858</sup> INTA y SMN: asociados para potenciar la climatología agrícola, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/inta-y-smn-asociados-para-potenciar-la-climatologia-agricola>.

<sup>2859</sup> INTA y SMN: asociados para potenciar la climatología agrícola, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/inta-y-smn-asociados-para-potenciar-la-climatologia-agricola>.

surface treatment.<sup>2860</sup> The guides aim to facilitate access to information on available technologies. The initiative is in line with the national integral strategy to strengthen consumption and sustainable production to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. The publications were prepared with participation of chambers of commerce, business associations and companies working in the selected areas.<sup>2861</sup>

On 17 April 2019, the Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina approved finance allocations to four provinces, namely Jujuy, San Juan, Santiago del Estero and Santa Fe, in amount of more USD46 million for native forest conservation programs.<sup>2862</sup> The decision was made at the second meeting of the Executive Committee of the Forest and Climate Change Trust Fund. The forest conservation is considered by the Argentinian government as one of the main sources for combating climate change and promoting sustainable development of the country.<sup>2863</sup>

On 22 April 2019, the Secretariat of Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina launched the fourth edition of the National PROESUS Contest, held within the framework of the National Program of Entrepreneurs for Sustainable Development, which awards outstanding initiatives in the promotion of sustainability and the use of new technologies in the country.<sup>2864</sup> After May 12, fifteen innovative proposals with positive environmental impact will be selected and awarded. Participants must be over 18 years old and be registered through a form available at [www.argentina.gob.ar/proesus](http://www.argentina.gob.ar/proesus).<sup>2865</sup> The projects presented may be individual or group and should be oriented to issues such as: actions to address climate change, water protection, sustainable production and energy, waste management, natural resources conservation, sustainable agricultural sector, transport and housing and construction.<sup>2866</sup>

On 24 April 2019, Secretary of the Government of Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina, Sergio Bergman, met with legislators and regulators from a number of Latin American countries to exchange experiences in order to reach consensus on key regulatory aspects of electric

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<sup>2860</sup> Producción sustentable: Ambiente lanza recomendaciones para los sectores vitivinícola, metalmecánico y tratamientos superficiales, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/produccion-sustentable-ambiente-lanza-recomendaciones-para-los-sectores-vitivinicola>.

<sup>2861</sup> Producción sustentable: Ambiente lanza recomendaciones para los sectores vitivinícola, metalmecánico y tratamientos superficiales, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/produccion-sustentable-ambiente-lanza-recomendaciones-para-los-sectores-vitivinicola>.

<sup>2862</sup> Cuatro provincias recibirán nuevas transferencias del fondo de bosques, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/cuatro-provincias-recibiran-nuevas-transferencias-del-fondo-de-bosques>.

<sup>2863</sup> Cuatro provincias recibirán nuevas transferencias del fondo de bosques, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 17 April 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/cuatro-provincias-recibiran-nuevas-transferencias-del-fondo-de-bosques>.

<sup>2864</sup> Ambiente presenta la cuarta edición del Concurso PROESUS para emprendedores sustentables, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 22 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-presenta-la-cuarta-edicion-del-concurso-proesus-para-emprendedores-sustentables>.

<sup>2865</sup> Ambiente presenta la cuarta edición del Concurso PROESUS para emprendedores sustentables, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 22 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-presenta-la-cuarta-edicion-del-concurso-proesus-para-emprendedores-sustentables>.

<sup>2866</sup> Ambiente presenta la cuarta edición del Concurso PROESUS para emprendedores sustentables, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 22 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-presenta-la-cuarta-edicion-del-concurso-proesus-para-emprendedores-sustentables>.

mobility.<sup>2867</sup> The event took place within the framework of a regional dialogue on sustainable transport. The participants discussed a wide range of issues, in particular public electric transport and reconversion of used vehicles as well as legislation issues.<sup>2868</sup>

On 24-25 April 2019, the Secretariat of Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina organized a first workshop for with the aim of development of a long-term national strategy on low greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>2869</sup> The event was co-organized by the Secretariat of Agroindustry, National Agricultural Technology Institute and Avina Foundation. The workshop aimed to develop a local modeling capacity, strengthen a dialogue between decision makers and academia and provide technical inputs for the formulation of the national low emissions strategy in various sectors to 2050 in line with the National Cabinet of Climate Change activities.<sup>2870</sup>

The event was part of Argentina's efforts to comply with the Paris Agreement. Argentina presented its first contribution in 2015 and that revised in 2016, committing an absolute goal of not issuing more than 483 million tons by 2030.<sup>2871</sup>

Argentina has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

#### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 16 February 2019, it was announced that Australia aims to plant a billion trees by 2050 as part of a new forestry plan the government says will help the country meet its Paris Agreement climate targets. A sod-turning spree on that scale would contribute to the removal of 18 million tons of greenhouse gas per year by 2030 in a country currently producing in excess of 500 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent per year.<sup>2872</sup>

On 25 February 2019, Australia's prime minister Scott Morrison announced the launch of a new climate solutions package that would enable the country to meet its commitments without drastically

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<sup>2867</sup> El Secretario de Ambiente recibió a legisladores latinoamericanos especialistas en movilidad eléctrica, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-secretario-de-ambiente-recibio-legisladores-latinoamericanos-especialistas-en-movilidad>.

<sup>2868</sup> El Secretario de Ambiente recibió a legisladores latinoamericanos especialistas en movilidad eléctrica, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-secretario-de-ambiente-recibio-legisladores-latinoamericanos-especialistas-en-movilidad>.

<sup>2869</sup> Avanza la conformación de una estrategia nacional de largo plazo baja en emisiones, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanza-la-conformacion-de-una-estrategia-nacional-de-largo-plazo-baja-en-emisiones>.

<sup>2870</sup> Avanza la conformación de una estrategia nacional de largo plazo baja en emisiones, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanza-la-conformacion-de-una-estrategia-nacional-de-largo-plazo-baja-en-emisiones>.

<sup>2871</sup> Avanza la conformación de una estrategia nacional de largo plazo baja en emisiones, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanza-la-conformacion-de-una-estrategia-nacional-de-largo-plazo-baja-en-emisiones>.

<sup>2872</sup> Australia in Tree-Planting Binge to Help Meet Climate Targets, Bloomberg (London) 16 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-02-16/australia-in-tree-planting-binge-to-help-meet-climate-targets>.

affecting the economy.<sup>2873</sup> Australia plans to pay farmers, landholders and businesses an extra ARS2 billion (USD1.4 billion) to curb greenhouse gas emissions over the next decade amid concerns it could fail to meet its Paris climate change targets. The emissions reduction fund has signed contracts for 193m tonnes in emissions abatement.<sup>2874</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the Government announced the investment of ARS6.5 million to commence the process to introduce an energy rating label to space heating appliances. An energy rating label will allow consumers to compare different heating technologies and make a more informed decision which best fits their heating needs. This measure will deliver up to 15 million tonnes in emissions reductions to 2030.<sup>2875</sup>

Australia has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 3 December 2018, the Ministry of Mines and Energy held a workshop on “sustainability in mine closure and management of environmental impacts” with lecture, among other topics, on post-closing sustainability and environmental impact management.<sup>2876</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the National Bank for Economic and Social Development received a contribution of BRL163 million for new financing of the Climate Fund. This fund supports projects for the implementation of projects, acquisition of machinery and equipment and technological development since they are related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>2877</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the Minister of Agriculture of Brazil presented a report during the 24th Conference to the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change witnessing of reducing from 100.21 to 154.38 million mg of carbon dioxide equivalent between 2010 and 2018. With the result, Brazil reached between 68 per cent and 105 per cent of the reduction target established for 2020 by the agriculture sector plan (Plan ABC).<sup>2878</sup>

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<sup>2873</sup> Australia launches climate change plan to tackle emissions, Financial Times (London) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/eed6abe6-389d-11e9-b72b-2c7f526ca5d0>.

<sup>2874</sup> Australia launches climate change plan to tackle emissions, Financial Times (London) 25 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.ft.com/content/eed6abe6-389d-11e9-b72b-2c7f526ca5d0>.

<sup>2875</sup> Energy rating labels on space heating appliances factsheet, Department of the Environment and Energy (Canberra) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/publications/energy-rating-labels-space-heating-appliances-factsheet>.

<sup>2876</sup> MME promove workshop “Sustentabilidade para fechamento de minas e gestão dos impactos ambientais”, Ministério de Minas e Energia (Brasília) 4 December 2018. Access Date : 15 March 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset\\_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-promove-workshop-sustentabilidade-para-fechamento-de-minas-e-gestao-dos-impactos-ambientais-;jsessionid=3B31FAD1DE985475154CFF49EF1B0D04.srv155](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-promove-workshop-sustentabilidade-para-fechamento-de-minas-e-gestao-dos-impactos-ambientais-;jsessionid=3B31FAD1DE985475154CFF49EF1B0D04.srv155)

<sup>2877</sup> BNDES terá mais R\$ 163 mi para projetos que reduzam gases de efeito estufa, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/economia-e-financas/2018/12/bndes-tera-mais-r-163-mi-para-projetos-que-reduzam-gases-de-efeito-estufa>

<sup>2878</sup> Brasil antecipa compromisso de reduzir emissões de CO<sub>2</sub>, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/meio-ambiente/2018/12/brasil-antecipa-compromisso-de-reduzir-emissoes-de-co2>.

On 1 February 2019, the Ministry of agriculture announced that interested in obtaining the “Agro + Integrity Seal” 2019/2020 can register on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture, starting February 1<sup>st</sup>. Ordinance No. 212/2019 establishes the rules of award for Agribusiness companies and cooperatives that, admittedly, develop good practices of integrity, ethics, social responsibility and sustainability.<sup>2879</sup>

On 3 April 2019, the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply Tereza Cristina launched the Rural Landscapes Project aimed at preservation of the Brazilian savannah.<sup>2880</sup>

Brazil has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 18 December 2018, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna signed the new Agreement on Environmental Cooperation among the Governments of Canada, the United States of America, and Mexico. This environmental cooperation agreement complements the ambitious environment chapter of the recently signed Agreement between Canada, the United States of America, and the United Mexican States and strengthens environmental cooperation between the three trade partners.<sup>2881</sup> The environmental cooperation agreement addresses international environmental challenges and identifies ways to seize opportunities presented by the new Agreement between Canada, the United States of America, and the United Mexican States.<sup>2882</sup>

On 20 December 2018, Catherine McKenna launched the CAD50 million Partnerships stream of the Low carbon economy challenge.<sup>2883</sup> The Partnerships stream will focus on projects that will generate clean growth and reduce emissions for Indigenous communities and organizations, small and medium-sized businesses, not-for-profit organizations, and small municipalities. Applicants to the

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<sup>2879</sup> Inscrições para o Selo Agro+Integridade estão abertas, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/inscricoes-para-o-selo-agro-integridade-estao-abertas>.

<sup>2880</sup> Ministra participa do lançamento de projeto que vai recuperar paisagens degradadas do cerrado, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/ministra-participa-do-lancamento-de-projeto-que-vai-recuperar-paisagens-degradadas-do-cerrado>.

<sup>2881</sup> Government of Canada signs environmental cooperation agreement with the United States and Mexico, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-signs-environmental-cooperation-agreement-with-the-united-states-and-mexico.html>.

<sup>2882</sup> Government of Canada signs environmental cooperation agreement with the United States and Mexico, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-signs-environmental-cooperation-agreement-with-the-united-states-and-mexico.html>.

<sup>2883</sup> Government of Canada supporting Canadian ingenuity through the Low Carbon Economy Challenge, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-supporting-canadian-ingenuity-through-the-low-carbon-economy-challenge.html>.

Partnerships stream will have until 8 March 2019, to apply, and information can be found on the Low Carbon Economy Challenge.<sup>2884</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna announced the first-ever recipient of funding from the Low Carbon Economy Challenge's Champions stream, Enwave Energy Corporation. The Government is investing CAD10 million in the expansion of Enwave's deep lake water cooling system. This technology draws cold water from Lake Ontario and uses it to cool hospitals as well as government, educational, and high-rise buildings in Toronto's downtown core.<sup>2885</sup>

On 14 January 2019, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities François-Philippe Champagne and President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Vicki-May Hamm announced funding totaling CAD1.5 million from the Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program for two projects. The goal of these projects is to try out innovative solutions to reducing greenhouse gas emissions across the province.<sup>2886</sup>

On 25 January 2019, the Minister of Indigenous Services Seamus O'Regan announced that Newfoundland and Labrador will receive over CAD44 million through the Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund for programs that support the province's climate action programs. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is matching this funding for a total investment of over CAD89 million.<sup>2887</sup>

On 12 February 2019, Catherine McKenna announced a new collaboration between the Canadian Centre for Climate Services and the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium, based at the University of Victoria. Through this collaboration, the Government of Canada is investing CAD1.25 million over five years, in the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium, enabling its scientists to share their expertise with Canadians.<sup>2888</sup> The Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium and the Canadian Centre for Climate Services will help Canadians plan for the impacts of climate change.<sup>2889</sup>

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<sup>2884</sup> Government of Canada supporting Canadian ingenuity through the Low Carbon Economy Challenge, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-supporting-canadian-ingenuity-through-the-low-carbon-economy-challenge.html>.

<sup>2885</sup> Government of Canada supporting Canadian innovation through the Low Carbon Economy Challenge, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-supporting-canadian-innovation-through-the-low-carbon-economy-challenge.html>.

<sup>2886</sup> New funding for green infrastructure projects in Quebec, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2019. Access date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2019/01/new-funding-for-green-infrastructure-projects-in-quebec.html>.

<sup>2887</sup> Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador announce funding to fight climate change, help homeowners save money, and improve energy efficiency in public buildings, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 25 January 2019. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/01/canada-and-newfoundland-and-labrador-announce-funding-to-fight-climate-change-help-homeowners-save-money-and-improve-energy-efficiency-in-public-bu.html>.

<sup>2888</sup> Government of Canada delivering climate expertise to Canadians in collaboration with Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-delivering-climate-expertise-to-canadians-in-collaboration-with-pacific-climate-impacts-consortium.html>.

<sup>2889</sup> Government of Canada delivering climate expertise to Canadians in collaboration with Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-delivering-climate-expertise-to-canadians-in-collaboration-with-pacific-climate-impacts-consortium.html>.

On 12 February 2019, the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Ralph Goodale announced support for climate action by the City of Regina. Almost CAD1.3 million in funding will help expand Regina's successful landfill-gas-collection system.<sup>2890</sup> The system collects methane emitted by the landfill, reducing air pollution by preventing this potent greenhouse gas from being released into the atmosphere. The expansion project is an example of investing in practical solutions that will reduce carbon pollution by up to 30 per cent.<sup>2891</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Minister McKenna, announced the launch of WeatherCAN, the new Government of Canada weather app for mobile devices. WeatherCAN offers Canadians authoritative and up-to-date weather information.<sup>2892</sup> From daily updates on rainy or snowy weather, to information on extreme heat or cold forecasted weeks ahead, to warnings of severe storms and tornadoes, this app ensures Canadians get reliable weather forecasts and warnings.<sup>2893</sup>

On 15 February 2019, Minister McKenna, announced funding through the Climate Action Fund to Ecology Ottawa for their Youth Climate Ambassadors program. This project will enable 40 young Canadians to receive training and gain climate-related expertise.<sup>2894</sup> Ecology Ottawa is helping to raise awareness of climate change, cultivate the next generation of environmental leaders, and make Ottawa greener. The Climate Action Fund provides up to CAD3 million to support projects delivered by students, youth, Indigenous Peoples and organizations, not-for-profit organizations, small and medium-sized businesses, and research and educational institutions.<sup>2895</sup>

On 15 February 2019, it was announced that CAD184,000 will be allocated in support of a climate change project, which will lay the groundwork to rehabilitate Canada's abandoned and orphaned mines. This project, led by the Mining Innovation Rehabilitation and Applied Research Corporation, will develop a comprehensive approach for evaluating rehabilitation plans for abandoned mines through a review of 15 to 20 sites in Ontario and the Northwest Territories, including an in-depth review of three.<sup>2896</sup>

On 22 February 2019, Minister McKenna, announced support for climate action by McGill University. The government is investing up to CAD1.8 million to help McGill upgrade its heating

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<sup>2890</sup> Government of Canada supports climate action by City of Regina, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-city-of-regina.html>.

<sup>2891</sup> Government of Canada supports climate action by City of Regina, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-city-of-regina.html>.

<sup>2892</sup> Environment and Climate Change Canada launches weather app, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/environment-and-climate-change-canada-launches-weather-app.html>.

<sup>2893</sup> Environment and Climate Change Canada launches weather app, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/environment-and-climate-change-canada-launches-weather-app.html>.

<sup>2894</sup> Government of Canada supports climate action to help Ottawa youth become environment leaders, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2019. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-to-help-ottawa-youth-become-environment-leaders.html>.

<sup>2895</sup> Government of Canada supports climate action to help Ottawa youth become environment leaders, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-to-help-ottawa-youth-become-environment-leaders.html>.

<sup>2896</sup> Canada Invests in Climate Change Research for Abandoned and Orphaned Mines, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-climate-change-research-for-abandoned-and-orphaned-mines.html>.

equipment and distribution system, upgrades that will reduce fuel consumption, reduce emissions, and make the local air cleaner.<sup>2897</sup>

On 22 February 2019, Minister McKenna, announced a new collaboration between the Canadian Centre for Climate Services and Ouranos, in Quebec. Through this collaboration, the Government of Canada is investing CAD1.25 million over five years, in Ouranos—a climate-science consortium based in Quebec. This investment will enhance Ouranos’s ability to share climate-science expertise and help Canadians plan for the impacts of climate change.<sup>2898</sup>

On 22 February 2019, Gagan Sikand, Member of Parliament for Mississauga–Streetsville, on behalf of the Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources, announced more than CAD1.3 million to support six climate change projects in Southern Ontario. Funded through the Climate Change Adaptation Program, the projects will focus on water management and infrastructure. Research findings will help communities and decision makers better adapt to climate change and mitigate its impacts.<sup>2899</sup>

On 1 March 2019, Catherine McKenna welcomed the Royal Assent of Bill C-57, the Act to Amend the Federal Sustainable Development Act, now covering nearly three times its original scope. This renewed approach to sustainable development in Canada makes decision-making more transparent, more accountable to Parliament, and promotes close collaboration across over 90 federal organizations.<sup>2900</sup>

On 12 March 2019, the Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and Member of Parliament for Waterloo, Bardish Chagger, on behalf of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, announced support for climate action by the Region of Waterloo. The Government is investing up to CAD1.5 million, subject to a formal funding agreement, to help the Region of Waterloo increase gas collection efficiency at the Waterloo Landfill facility.<sup>2901</sup>

On 29 March 2019, Catherine McKenna and Member of Parliament for Kanata—Carleton and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Karen McCrimmon, were in Kanata to highlight Budget 2019, Investing in the Middle Class.<sup>2902</sup> The Budget makes significant investments to protect Canada’s environment—while also helping create new jobs and make life more affordable for Canadians. These investments go hand-in-hand with efforts to

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<sup>2897</sup> Government of Canada supports climate action by McGill University, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-mcgill-university.html>.

<sup>2898</sup> Government of Canada collaborates with Quebec’s Ouranos to bring climate expertise to Canadians, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-collaborates-with-quebecs-ouranos-to-bring-climate-expertise-to-canadians.html>.

<sup>2899</sup> Canada Invests in Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience for Water Systems in Southern Ontario, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-climate-change-adaptation-and-resilience-for-water-systems-in-southern-ontario.html>.

<sup>2900</sup> Government of Canada strengthens accountability and transparency for sustainable development, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-strengthens-accountability-and-transparency-for-sustainable-development.html>.

<sup>2901</sup> Government of Canada supports climate action by Region of Waterloo, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-region-of-waterloo.html>

<sup>2902</sup> Budget 2019: Building a Clean Economy, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/03/budget-2019-building-a-clean-economy.html>.

help more people find a home, find and keep good jobs, retire with confidence, and get affordable prescription drugs when they need them.<sup>2903</sup>

On 3 April 2019, Parliamentary Secretary to Canada's Minister of Natural Resources Paul Lefebvre announced a CAD22.7 million investment to help FPInnovations diversify markets and fight climate change. The investments include: over CAD20.4 million to advance new forest-based products to go on the market; and over CAD2.3 million to support a research project to help the Canadian forest sector protect the market access and improve environmental performance.<sup>2904</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Minister of Seniors Filomena Tassi highlighted funding through the Climate Action Fund to help the Centre for Climate Change at Mohawk College advance climate action in the Bay Area. Through this funding, Mohawk College recently organized the Cities in Action: Bay Area Climate Change Summit from 25-28 March, and the Youth Summit on 29 March 2019. These events empowered people and organizations to take climate action in their communities.<sup>2905</sup>

On 8 April 2019, Minister McKenna announced funding from the Low Carbon Economy Challenge's Champions stream to Loblaw. The Government is investing up to CAD12 million, subject to a funding agreement, to help the company convert the refrigeration systems in approximately 370 stores across Canada over the next three years.<sup>2906</sup> This project will help reduce Loblaw's annual emissions by approximately 23 per cent. By leveraging up to CAD36 million in investments made by Loblaw, the Government is working together with Canadian business to support ingenuity and grow Canada's clean economy.<sup>2907</sup>

On 23 April 2019, Catherine McKenna, announced that the Nature Conservancy of Canada will lead the administration and delivery of a new CAD100 million, four-year national program (pending a final funding agreement) that will help protect more of Canada's nature.<sup>2908</sup> The Natural Heritage Conservation Program will be delivered by the Nature Conservancy of Canada and its partners, including Ducks Unlimited Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada, and the Canadian Land Trusts Working Committee. The program will assist local, provincial, and national conservation land trusts in securing land from private landowners, as well as in securing private interests (e.g. forest tenures) on land to establish new protected and conserved areas.<sup>2909</sup>

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<sup>2903</sup> Budget 2019: Building a Clean Economy, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/03/budget-2019-building-a-clean-economy.html>.

<sup>2904</sup> Canada Invests in Forest Innovation to Grow the Economy and Create Good Jobs, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 3 April 2019. Access date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/04/canada-invests-in-forest-innovation-to-grow-the-economy-and-create-good-jobs.html>

<sup>2905</sup> Government of Canada supports climate action by Mohawk College to empower young people and reduce carbon pollution, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 4 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-mohawk-college-to-empower-young-people-and-reduce-carbon-pollution.html>

<sup>2906</sup> Government of Canada supports climate action by Loblaw, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 8 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-loblaw.html>

<sup>2907</sup> Government of Canada supports climate action by Loblaw, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 8 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-loblaw.html>

<sup>2908</sup> Canada invests to protect more nature in southern Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 23 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/canada-invests-to-protect-more-nature-in-southern-canada.html>

<sup>2909</sup> Canada invests to protect more nature in southern Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 23 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/canada-invests-to-protect-more-nature-in-southern-canada.html>

Canada has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

**China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 29 December 2018, two solar power bases in Qinghai Province, with a total installed power generating capacity of 1 GW, were launched and connected to the grid. It is planned that solar power bases will help to cut annual emissions of carbon dioxide and sulfur dioxide.<sup>2910</sup>

On 4 January 2019, Beijing Municipal Commission of Planning and Natural Resources and the district government of Tongzhou announced the Regulatory Planning of Beijing Sub-center. They plan to focus on building environmental-friendly transport network, reduction of greenhouse gas emission, promotion of clean energy such as electricity and natural gas, and clean energy supporting facilities.<sup>2911</sup>

On 11 January 2019, Shanxi and Heilongjiang province authorities took measures to reduce coal consumption and switch to renewable sources of energy. In Shanxi, the total installed wind and solar power generating capacities exceeded 19 GW. Heilongjiang is also seeking to reduce its long-time reliance on coal by developing more new energy power generating capacities.<sup>2912</sup>

China has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

**France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 7 December 2018, French Ministry of Agriculture and Food took part in the 24th Conference of the Parties to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to participate in the negotiations on agriculture and land issue and also to organize or to take part in side events and international initiatives under the Global Agenda on Climate Action.<sup>2913</sup>

On 7 January 2019, Conference of the French Development Agency on Solutions Based on Nature & Development was held in the presence of more than 150 participants, agency directors, agents and partners of the group to deal with major problems like climate change, water scarcity, health, food, uncontrolled urbanization.<sup>2914</sup>

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<sup>2910</sup> Two solar power bases launched in northwestern China, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 29 December 2018. Access Date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/29/c\\_137707579.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/29/c_137707579.htm)

<sup>2911</sup> Beijing's sub-center aims for green transport, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/04/c\\_137719688.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/04/c_137719688.htm).

<sup>2912</sup> Chinese coal-rich provinces turn to more new energy, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/11/c\\_137736534.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/11/c_137736534.htm)

<sup>2913</sup> UN Climate Change Conference (COP24), FAO (Rome) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.fao.org/climate-change/international-fora/major-events/cop-24/en/>.

<sup>2914</sup> SOLUTIONS FONDÉES SUR LA NATURE & DÉVELOPPEMENT, Le groupe Agence française de développement (AFD) (Paris) 1 January 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/solutions-fondees-sur-la-nature-developpement>.

On 6 February 2019, the order of the Minister of State, Minister of Ecological and Solidary Transition announcing the opening of the competition for the recruitment of sustainable development researchers was published.<sup>2915</sup>

On 23 April 2019, the Ministers of Ecological Transition, Agriculture and Food François de Rugy and Didier Guillaume, and the Secretary of State to the Minister of Ecological Transition Brune Poirson, announced the launch of the low-carbon label.<sup>2916</sup>

On 25 April 2019, Minister for Ecological and Solidarity Transition Emmanuelle Wargon signed the Ecological Transition Contract of the rural territorial balance Pole of Briançonnais, Ecrins, Guillestrois and Queyras.<sup>2917</sup>

France has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

**Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 3 December 2018, at the 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Katowice, German Environment Minister Svenja Schulze and German Development Minister Gerd Müller announced that the country would commit new funding of EUR1.5 billion to the Green Climate Fund in order to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement and global cooperation in the effort to tackle climate change.<sup>2918</sup>

On 7 December 2018, the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety announced new support of EUR25 million for several forest conservation and restoration projects in Colombia, Vietnam, Kenya and some other African countries to be channeled through its International Climate Initiative (IKI).<sup>2919</sup>

On 11 December 2018, Environment Minister Svenja Schulze announced that the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety will make an additional EUR70 million available to the Adaptation Fund that helps regions particularly affected by climate change to better

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<sup>2915</sup> Arrêté du 6 février 2019 autorisant au titre de l'année 2019 l'ouverture d'un concours pour le recrutement de chargés de recherche du développement durable de classe normale, Le Service Public de la Diffusion du Droit (Paris) 10 February 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000038109365&fastPos=9&fastReqId=1501862455&categorieLien=id&oldAction=rechTexte>.

<sup>2916</sup> Le gouvernement lance le label bas-carbone, Les Marchés (Paris) 24 April 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://lesmarches.reussir.fr/le-gouvernement-lance-le-label-bas-carbone>

<sup>2917</sup> Emmanuelle Wargon signe le premier Contrat de transition écologique (CTE) de montagne, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 25 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/emmanuelle-wargon-signe-premier-contrat-transition-ecologique-cte-montagne>

<sup>2918</sup> Environment Minister Schulze and Development Minister Müller in Katowice: Germany to double pledge for Green Climate Fund, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/environment-minister-schulze-and-development-minister-mueller-in-katowice-germany-to-double-pledge-f-1/>.

<sup>2919</sup> Germany invests in regenerative climate action, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-investiert-in-nachwachsenden-klimaschutz/>.

prepare themselves for climate impacts.<sup>2920</sup> The Fund finances, inter alia, early warning systems for floods and heavy rainfall, and measures for securing water supply and switching to drought-resistant farming methods in agriculture. Germany is the largest donor to the Fund.<sup>2921</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety announced at the Climate Change Conference in Katowice that Germany will provide EUR68 million to the global Partnership for implementing nationally determined contributions (NDCs). The NDC Partnership was established in 2016 by Morocco and Germany and currently includes almost 90 countries and 20 international organizations.<sup>2922</sup>

On 13 February 2019, Federal Environment Minister Schulze and her Indian counterpart Harsh Vardhan participated in the third Indo-German Environment Forum and agreed that Germany will fund Indian climate action projects, including sustainable forests projects, with an additional EUR35 million.<sup>2923</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety launched the third call for project ideas, running up to 12 April 2019, under the European Climate Initiative (EUKI). In the call, non-profit organizations were invited to submit project ideas aimed at accelerating the implementation of the Paris Agreement in Europe and contributing to intra-European dialogue and cooperation between different European Union member states.<sup>2924</sup>

Germany has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepon*

### **India: 0**

India has partially complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 13 February 2019, Federal Environment Minister Schulze and her Indian counterpart Harsh Vardhan participated in the third Indo-German Environment Forum and agreed that Germany will

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<sup>2920</sup> Germany boosts international fund for adaptation to climate change with 70 million euros, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-staerkt-internationalen-fonds-zur-anpassung-an-den-klimawandel-mit-70-millionen-euro/>.

<sup>2921</sup> Germany boosts international fund for adaptation to climate change with 70 million euros, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-staerkt-internationalen-fonds-zur-anpassung-an-den-klimawandel-mit-70-millionen-euro/>.

<sup>2922</sup> Germany helps developing countries and emerging economies implement climate targets, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-hilft-entwicklungs-und-schwellenlaendern-bei-umsetzung-ihrer-klimaziele/>.

<sup>2923</sup> Minister Schulze agrees closer environmental cooperation with India, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-vereinbart-engere-umweltzusammenarbeit-mit-indien/>.

<sup>2924</sup> Federal Environment Ministry launches third call for project ideas under the European Climate Initiative, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/bundesumweltministerium-startet-dritten-ideenwettbewerb-der-europaeischen-klimaschutzinitiative/>.

fund Indian climate action projects, including sustainable forests projects, with an additional EUR35 million.<sup>2925</sup>

On 16 April 2019, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change organized one-day National workshop on Loss and Damage in India to deliberate and brainstorm on emerging perspectives on approaches to assess, minimize and address climate-related loss and damage.<sup>2926</sup>

India has taken actions aimed at climate change adaptation and financing but failed to address issue of holding the increase of global temperature in agreed numbers.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 4 February 2019, it was reported that the Asian Development Bank had invested USD20 million in AC Energy's (Philippines) climate bond issuance (worth in total USD410 million); the listing was US dollar climate bonds in Southeast Asia listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange, the proceeds from which will finance renewable energy projects in the Asia and Pacific region, including Indonesia.<sup>2927</sup>

On 19 February 2019, Indonesia Low Emissions Network was launched by Green Partner Foundation (a self-funded non-governmental organization), with the goal to strengthen partnerships between state and non-state actors, to help the government develop and review low carbon development related policies, improve access to low carbon financial resources and increase private sector involvement in implementing low carbon development policies in Indonesia.<sup>2928</sup>

On 20 February 2019, it was reported that the government of Indonesia listed two green sukuk issuances at Nasdaq Dubai, one valued at USD1.25 billion and the other at USD0.75 billion, which are intended to raise capital for sustainable development initiatives.<sup>2929</sup>

On 11 March 2019, it was reported that Indonesia's Ministry of Finance was considering tax changes to boost output and exports of greener cars; currently vehicles are taxed in Indonesia on a range of between 0 percent to 125 per cent depending on engine capacity, the size of the car, the type of fuel it uses and whether it is two- or four-wheel drive, while it is proposed to charge an 8 percent luxury

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<sup>2925</sup> Minister Schulze agrees closer environmental cooperation with India, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/schulze-vereinbart-engere-umweltzusammenarbeit-mit-indien/>.

<sup>2926</sup> One day National workshop on Loss and Damage in India, organized by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2019.

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1570790>.

<sup>2927</sup> Asian Development Bank invests into new climate bond issuance for AC Energy, Think GeoEnergy (Reykjavik) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.thinkgeoenergy.com/asian-development-bank-invests-into-new-climate-bond-issuance-for-ac-energy/>

<sup>2928</sup> Indonesia's climate change stakeholders boosted, The ASEAN Post (Kuala Lumpur) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://theaseanpost.com/article/indonesias-climate-change-stakeholders-boosted>

<sup>2929</sup> Indonesia lists \$2bn green sukuk on Nasdaq Dubai, Arabian Business (Dubai) 20 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.arabianbusiness.com/banking-finance/413666-indonesia-issues-2bn-green-sukuk-on-nasdaq-dubai>.

tax for cars running on renewable fuel, including palm oil-based fuel, eliminate taxes for electric vehicles, and cut taxes for hybrid cars.<sup>2930</sup>

Indonesia has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 2-15 December 2018, during the 24th Conference of the Parties to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Katowice, Environment Minister Sergio Costa reiterated the importance and urgency, for the international community, to “accelerate the pace of the fight against climate change, which cannot be separated from the adoption of a package of ambitious and effective rules applicable to all, in full agreement with the spirit of Paris.”<sup>2931</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the Unified Conference was held in the presence of Undersecretary for Economic Development Davide Crippa. Among the topics on the agenda there were the Plan for sustainable mobility and the opinion on the draft decree of the Ministry of Economic Development for encouraging the production of energy from renewable sources. The new Sustainable Mobility Plan provides 80 per cent incentives for the purchase of new zero-emission buses and urban electric buses with the possibility for the regions to carry out studies for the transformation of transport into electricity.<sup>2932</sup>

On 30 December 2018, the Italian Government approved Budget law that includes introduction of ecotax on acquisition of new cars that emit between 161 and 175 CO<sub>2</sub> g / km to make people refuse such cars and, therefore, to decrease the amount of emissions released into the air.<sup>2933</sup>

On 8 January 2019, the Italian government sent to Brussels the national energy climate 2030 proposal that aims to define the actions necessary to achieve the ambitious objectives of reducing emissions and increasing renewables, which will allow us to continue on our virtuous path of decarbonizing the economy, starting with the full elimination of the use of coal by 2025.<sup>2934</sup>

On 8 January 2019, the Italian government elaborated amendment to the Simplification Decree which included introduction of the Plan for Sustainable Energy Transition of the Eligible Areas. This plan falls fully within the program of the Government of Change oriented to decarbonisation, with

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<sup>2930</sup> Indonesia plans tax changes to drive output, exports of greener cars, Reuters (Jakarta) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-autos-tax/indonesia-plans-tax-changes-to-drive-output-exports-of-greener-cars-idUSKBN1QS11B>.

<sup>2931</sup> Cop 24, Ministro Costa a Katowice: “Urgente intensificare lotta a cambiamenti climatici”, Ministero dell’Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 2 and 15 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/comunicati/cop-24-ministro-costa-katowice-urgente-intensificare-lotta-cambiamenti-climatici>.

<sup>2932</sup> Crippa a conferenza unificata pieno accordo sul nuovo piano mobilità sostenibile, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039006-crippa-a-conferenza-unificato-pieno-%20for%20agreement-on-the-new-piano%20-%20mobilita%20->

<sup>2933</sup> LEGGE 30 dicembre 2018, n. 145, GAZZETTA UFFICIALE (Rome) 31 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/gu/2018/12/31/302/so/62/sg/pdf>.

<sup>2934</sup> Il Mise pubblica la proposta di Piano nazionale energia e clima 2030, Rinnovabili.it (Rome) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 30 February 2019. <http://www.rinnovabili.it/energia/piano-nazionale-energia-clima/>

the replacement of oil and derivatives and the use of renewable sources to achieve sustainability and independence of the national energy system.<sup>2935</sup>

On 20 March 2019, the Ministry of the Environment and the Economic Development Department presented the Integrated National Plan for Energy and Climate 2030. The plan aims to implement a vision of wide transformation of the economy, in which decarbonisation, the circular economy, efficiency and the rational and equitable use of natural resources together represent objectives and tools for an economy that is more respectful of people and the environment.<sup>2936</sup>

Italy has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 25 December 2018, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry published guidelines for corporate climate-related financial disclosures aimed to encourage companies to effectively disclose the strong points of their proactive efforts for addressing climate change, thereby encouraging a further growing number of investors and other stakeholders have been requesting that companies disclose corporate information on their efforts involving climate change.<sup>2937</sup>

On 1 February 2019, Japan's Agency for Natural Resources and Energy announced establishment of a new office named the "Carbon Recycling Promotion Office" aiming to promote technological innovations involving capture, storage and utilization of carbon dioxide, including "as fuel or a raw material or even in the growing of vegetables."<sup>2938</sup>

On 19 December 2018, Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a project implementation agreement worth approximately USD 4 million, with the United Nations Development Programme under the international mechanism to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, to implement the project of conserving valuable forests and biodiversity of the Congo Basin of Africa (Democratic Republic of Congo), the second largest rainforest area in the world critical to fighting global climate change.<sup>2939</sup>

On 20 December 2018, Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a record of discussions with the Government of Samoa for the project for capacity-building on climate resilience in the Pacific, a technical cooperation project aimed to enhance climate resilience in the Pacific region by expanding training functionality at the Pacific Climate Change Center launched with grant aid from Japan, which

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<sup>2935</sup> Pronto l'emendamento 'blocca trivelle' che sarà presentato nel Decreto Semplificazione, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039052-decreto-semplificazioni-pronto-l-emendamento-blocca-trivelle>.

<sup>2936</sup> Piano energia e clima 2030, l'Italia verso la decarbonizzazione, Biblus-net (Rome) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <http://biblus.acca.it/piano-energia-e-clima-2030/>

<sup>2937</sup> METI Formulates TCFD Guidance and Declares its Support for TCFD, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 25 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1225\\_006.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1225_006.html).

<sup>2938</sup> Carbon Recycling Promotion Office to be Established at ANRE, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 25 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0201\\_004.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0201_004.html)

<sup>2939</sup> JICA receives a Central African Forest Initiative Funding Project Fund for the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Contributing to forest conservation and fighting global climate change in the Congo Basin, JICA (Tokyo) 19 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/181219\\_01\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/181219_01_01.html)

will provide regional training in climate change adaptation, mitigation, and access to climate finance.<sup>2940</sup>

On 18 January 2019, Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a loan agreement with the Government of India on JPY15 billion to finance the Program for Japan-India Cooperative Actions towards Sustainable Development Goals in India.<sup>2941</sup>

On 22 January 2019, Japan's Global Environment Centre Foundation announced the results of selection of six new projects under the Joint Crediting Mechanism [which is designed to appropriately evaluate contributions from Japan to greenhouse gas emission reductions or removals in a quantitative manner achieved through the diffusion of low carbon technologies, products, systems, services, and infrastructure as well as implementation of mitigation actions in developing countries] that will be implemented in Kenya, Lao PDR, Indonesia (2 projects) and Thailand (2 projects).<sup>2942</sup>

Japan has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 24 December 2018, the Ministry of Environment of Korea presented the national plan of Korea on implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).<sup>2943</sup> The Plan contains a set of specified targets to ensure sustainability of Korea, including climate change adaptation and mitigation. The Ministry of Environment of Korea presented the national plan of Korea on implementation of the SDGs.<sup>2944</sup> The Plan contains a set of specified targets to ensure sustainability of Korea, including climate change adaptation and mitigation. The Ministry of Environment has worked with the Korea Major Groups and other Stakeholders (K-MGoS) which is made up from 90 organizations and institutions and has held two large scale public forums to gather public opinion.<sup>2945</sup> The outcome of that process was finalized through coordination with other concerned government offices. The K-SDGs plan differs from the previous sustainable development

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<sup>2940</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Samoa: Support for strengthening climate resilience in the Pacific region, JICA (Tokyo) 20 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/181220\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/181220_01.html)

<sup>2941</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreements with India: Contributing to economic growth and social development in India toward sustainable development, JICA (Tokyo) 18 January December 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190118\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190118_01.html)

<sup>2942</sup> Preliminary Selection Result for Financing Programme for JCM Model Projects in FY2018 (2nd Announcement for 2nd Call), GEC (Tokyo) 29 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://gec.jp/jcm/kobo/mp190129/>

<sup>2943</sup> A milestone for the sustainable future, establishing K-SDGs, Korean Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 24 December 2018. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=934470&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>2944</sup> A milestone for the sustainable future, establishing K-SDGs, Korean Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=934470&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>2945</sup> A milestone for the sustainable future, establishing K-SDGs, Korean Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=934470&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

plan of Korea applied in 2016 in terms of consistency with the SDGs milestones.<sup>2946</sup> The main frameworks such as structure or the setting of targets are now in line with the SDGs. However, targets have been reshaped to fit the local settings, namely such indicators and goals as the proportion of the population in abject poverty, tackling malnutrition, ending open defecation, and eliminating female genital mutilation are excluded as they are not suited to the circumstances in Korea.<sup>2947</sup> In line with the K-SDGs plan, 5 strategies along with 17 goals and 122 targets were suggested for implementation. Korea's national priorities now embrace all the SDGs and those related to climate change in particular covering all the features outlined in the related section of the commitment's description (SDG 13).<sup>2948</sup>

Korea has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

### **Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 29 December 2018, Secretary Josefa González Blanco announced that Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources will carry out the integral plan to rescue the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve as a matter of urgency in attention to the issues of water, reforestation and surveillance in the region.<sup>2949</sup>

On 16 December 2018, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources announced that it is maintaining a permanent monitoring of the activities that are carried out in Dos Bocas in order to ensure compliance with environmental legislation, or otherwise, punish anyone who has incurred in any irregularity.<sup>2950</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna signed the new Agreement on Environmental Cooperation among the Governments of Canada, the United States of America, and Mexico.<sup>2951</sup> This environmental cooperation agreement complements

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<sup>2946</sup> A milestone for the sustainable future, establishing K-SDGs, Korean Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=934470&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>2947</sup> A milestone for the sustainable future, establishing K-SDGs, Korean Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=934470&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>2948</sup> A milestone for the sustainable future, establishing K-SDGs, Korean Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=934470&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>2949</sup> SEMARNAT, Gobierno de Michoacán, ejidatarios y comuneros diseñarán plan integral para rescatar la Reserva de la Biósfera Mariposa Monarca, Mexican Government (Mexico) 29 December 2018. Access Date: 21 March 2019.

<https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/semarnat-gobierno-de-michoacan-ejidatarios-y-comuneros-disenaran-plan-integral-para-rescatar-la-reserva-de-la-biosfera-mariposa-monarca?idiom=es>.

<sup>2950</sup> La SEMARNAT mantiene un monitoreo permanente de las actividades que se llevan a cabo en Dos Bocas, Mexican Government (Mexico) 16 December 2018. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/la-semarnat-mantiene-un-monitoreo-permanente-de-las-actividades-que-se-llevan-a-cabo-en-dos-bocas?idiom=es>.

<sup>2951</sup> Government of Canada signs environmental cooperation agreement with the United States and Mexico, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-signs-environmental-cooperation-agreement-with-the-united-states-and-mexico.html>.

the ambitious environment chapter of the recently signed Agreement between Canada, the United States of America, and the United Mexican States and strengthens environmental cooperation between the three trade partners.<sup>2952</sup> The environmental cooperation agreement addresses international environmental challenges and identifies ways to seize opportunities presented by the new Agreement between Canada, the United States of America, and the United Mexican States.<sup>2953</sup>

On 24 January 2019, the Agency of Security, Energy and Environment imposed compensatory measures and fines in forestry and environmental impact to the company responsible for the clearing of a property located in the municipality of Paraíso, Tabasco. The company is also obliged to establish a reforestation program for mangroves in 82.8 hectares. This measure allows to preserve environment and to fight the climate change.<sup>2954</sup>

On 31 January 2019, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources announced that the Government of Mexico will launch the Comprehensive Program for Fisheries Sustainability in the Upper Gulf of California.<sup>2955</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources Josefa González Blanco announced the new policies to achieve a true sustainable management of waste, during the presentation of the National Vision towards Sustainable Management, he made an urgent call to the whole society to join this transformation, which begins with the sanitation of the Las Matas open-air dump.<sup>2956</sup>

On 5 February 2019, call for online course Climate Change Diplomacy: Negotiating Effectively Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change for members of the Mexican Foreign Service and other officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was published by Instituto Matías Romero. Professional development of the officials in the sphere of climate change allows Mexico to ensure better compliance with the Paris Agreement.<sup>2957</sup>

On 11 February 2019, Secretariat of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development announced establishing collaboration mechanisms with Britain to benefit the integral development of Mexico. The representatives of both bodies agreed on the importance of exchanging experiences on issues

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<sup>2952</sup> Government of Canada signs environmental cooperation agreement with the United States and Mexico, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-signs-environmental-cooperation-agreement-with-the-united-states-and-mexico.html>.

<sup>2953</sup> Government of Canada signs environmental cooperation agreement with the United States and Mexico, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-signs-environmental-cooperation-agreement-with-the-united-states-and-mexico.html>.

<sup>2954</sup> Impone ASEA sanciones a empresa responsable por desmonte en terreno ubicado en Dos Bocas, Tabasco, Mexican Government (Mexico) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/asea/prensa/impone-asea-sanciones-a-empresa-responsable-por-desmonte-en-terreno-ubicado-en-dos-bocas-tabasco>.

<sup>2955</sup> Segunda Reunión de Trabajo de la Comisión Intersecretarial para atender arribazón de sargazo en Quintana Roo, Mexican Government (Mexico) 31 January 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/segunda-reunion-de-trabajo-de-la-comision-intersecretarial-para-atender-arribazon-de-sargazo-en-quintana-roo?idiom=es>.

<sup>2956</sup> Anunció Josefa González Blanco las nuevas políticas para lograr una verdadera gestión sustentable de los residuos, Mexican Government (Mexico) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/anuncio-josefa-gonzalez-blanco-las-nuevas-politicas-para-lograr-una-verdadera-gestion-sustentable-de-los-residuos?idiom=es>.

<sup>2957</sup> Convocatoria curso en línea Climate Change Diplomacy: Negotiating Effectively Under the UNFCCC - Febrero 2019, Mexican Government (Mexico) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/imr/documentos/convocatoria-curso-en-linea-climate-change-diplomacy-negotiating-effectively-under-the-unfccc-febrero-2019>.

such as: climate change, mitigation of greenhouse gases and land use, poverty reduction, mobility, connectivity, infrastructure in cities. This collaboration contributes to fighting climate change and the implementation of the Paris Agreement.<sup>2958</sup>

On 18 February 2019, National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change proposed elements to develop a comprehensive strategy for the responsible management of pesticides in Mexico. This strategy allows to decrease negative impacts of pesticides on human health and environment.<sup>2959</sup>

On 26 February 2019, strategic evaluation of the subnational progress of the national climate change policy was published by the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change. The evaluation reviews policies, programs and public actions on key issues of mitigation with respect to electric power generation, transportation and urban solid waste management in six states and 18 municipalities. This research contributes to further coping with climate change and proposing better measures.<sup>2960</sup>

Mexico has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

### **Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 12 December 2018, the Russian presidential envoy for climate issues, Ruslan Edelgeriyev announced that Russia will fulfill its obligations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to no more than 75 per cent of the 1990 baseline emissions.<sup>2961</sup>

On 26 February 2019, Presidential Adviser, Special Representative of the President on Climate Issues Ruslan Edelgeriyev held the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the interdepartmental working group under the Presidential Administration on issues related to climate change and sustainable development.<sup>2962</sup> The meeting considered the issue of the preparation of the final report to the head of state on ratification of the Paris Agreement. During the meeting, there was also a discussion of the draft national adaptation plan for climate change submitted by the Ministry of Economic Development of Russia. It was noted that this plan is a key strategic document, laying the adaptation basis for the further development of the country in a changing climate.<sup>2963</sup>

Russia has taken actions aimed at climate change adaptation and holding the increase of global temperature in agreed numbers but failed to address issues of financing.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

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<sup>2958</sup> Colaborarán SEDATU y Embajada Británica en elaboración de proyectos de desarrollo integral, Mexican Government (Mexico) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sedatu/prensa/colaboraran-sedatu-y-embajada-britanica-en-elaboracion-de-proyectos-de-desarrollo-integral?idiom=es>.

<sup>2959</sup> Presenta INECC documento para avanzar en la gestión responsable de plaguicidas en México, Mexican Government (Mexico) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 21 March 2019 <https://www.gob.mx/inecc/prensa/presenta-inecc-documento-para-avanzar-en-la-gestion-responsable-de-plaguicidas-en-mexico>.

<sup>2960</sup> Resultados Evaluación Estratégica, Mexican Government (Mexico) 26 February 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/inecc/articulos/resultados-evaluacion-estrategica?idiom=es>

<sup>2961</sup> Russia, at the UN Climate Forum, confirmed compliance with emission reduction commitments, TASS (Moscow) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 8 May 2019. <https://tass.ru/obschestvo/5905409>.

<sup>2962</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on Climate Change, Site of the President of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 8 May 2019. <http://kremlin.ru/events/administration/59905>.

<sup>2963</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on Climate Change, Site of the President of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 8 May 2019. <http://kremlin.ru/events/administration/59905>.

*Analyst: Anna Pielabnits*

**Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 13 December 2018, Saudi Arabia announced the endorsement of the World Bank's "Zero Routine Flaring by 2030" initiative at the 24th Conference of the Parties to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change took place in Katowice, Poland. Saudi Arabia joins 28 other governments, along with oil companies and development institutions backing the initiative, who agree to cooperate to eliminate routine flaring of associated gas no later than 2030.<sup>2964</sup>

On 15 January 2019, Saudi Arabia announced its intention to deploy 40 GW of solar power capacity and 20 GW of wind and other renewable sources of energy by 2030 in line with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 and the National Transformation 2020 Programme.<sup>2965</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken actions aimed at climate change adaptation and holding the increase of global temperature in agreed numbers but failed to address issues of financing.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

**South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 19 February 2019, South African Parliament approved long-delayed carbon tax bill in pursue to reduce harmful carbon emissions in Africa's most industrialized and polluted country. The new law allowed a tax rate of ZAR120 (USD8.48) per tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent and stated that total tax-free allowances during the first phase until around 2022 could be as high as 95 percent.<sup>2966</sup>

South Africa has taken actions aimed at climate change adaptation and holding the increase of global temperature in agreed numbers but failed to address issues of financing.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

**Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment on climate change.

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<sup>2964</sup> Saudi Arabia Endorses World Bank's "Zero Routine Flaring by 2030" initiative, KSA Climate (Katowice) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 6 May 2019. <https://ksa-climate.com/saudi-arabia-endorses-world-banks-zero-routine-flaring-by-2030-initiative/>.

<sup>2965</sup> Saudi Arabia targets 60 GW of renewables by 2030 – report, Renewables now (Riyadh) 15 January 2019. Access Date: 6 May 2019. <https://renewablesnow.com/news/saudi-arabia-targets-60-gw-of-renewables-by-2030-report-639430/>.

<sup>2966</sup> South African parliament approves long-delayed carbon tax bill, Reuters (Cape Town) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-safrica-carbontax/south-african-parliament-approves-long-delayed-carbon-tax-bill-idUSKCN1Q81U8>.

On 13 February 2019, it was reported that Turkey invested in total USD650 million in 2018 in wind power plants, having increase wind power installed capacity by 497 megawatts (or 7.2 per cent) to 7369 megawatts.<sup>2967</sup>

On 5 March 2019, it was reported that Turkey's highest administrative court had blocked construction of 1,320-megawatt coal power plant in Bartın province, noting that its environmental assessment was inadequate.<sup>2968</sup>

Turkey has taken actions aimed at financing and holding the increase of global temperature in agreed numbers but failed to address issues of climate change adaptation.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment on climate change.

On 21 February 2019, New Zealand and the UK reaffirmed joint commitment to work with Pacific Island countries to take action to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, reduce vulnerability and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change.<sup>2969</sup>

On 5 February 2019, the government awarded more than GBP6 million to support ultra-low emission taxis right across the country, furthering its ambition for a zero-emission future. Over 300 charge points for ultra-low emission taxis to be created. Ultra-low emission taxis will improve air quality in towns and city centres.<sup>2970</sup>

On 7 March 2019, Energy and Clean Growth Minister Claire Perry announced the launch of the new joint government-industry Offshore Wind Sector Deal. This deal will mean for the first time in UK history there will be more electricity from renewables than fossil fuels, with 70 per cent of British electricity predicted to be from low carbon sources by 2030 and over GBP40 billion of infrastructure investment in the UK.<sup>2971</sup>

On 15 March 2019, it was announced that the UK government is investing USD2.2 million in the development of two solar plants in Kenya to give more people access to affordable, clean energy.<sup>2972</sup>

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

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<sup>2967</sup> Turkey invested \$650M in wind power plants last year, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 13 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/energy/2019/02/13/turkey-invested-650m-in-wind-power-plants-last-year>

<sup>2968</sup> Turkish supreme court blocks coal plant, as wave of new projects stalls, Climate Home News (London) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/03/05/turkish-supreme-court-blocks-coal-plant-wave-new-projects-stalls/>.

<sup>2969</sup> New Zealand and United Kingdom joint statement on climate change and resilience in the Pacific, UK Government (London) 21 January 2019. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-zealand-and-united-kingdom-joint-statement-on-climate-change-and-resilience-in-the-pacific>.

<sup>2970</sup> Thousands of green taxis to benefit from new chargepoints, UK Government (London) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-of-green-taxis-to-benefit-from-new-chargepoints>.

<sup>2971</sup> Offshore wind energy revolution to provide a third of all UK electricity by 2030, UK Government (London) 7 March 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/offshore-wind-energy-revolution-to-provide-a-third-of-all-uk-electricity-by-2030>.

<sup>2972</sup> UK aid to give clean energy boost to Kenya, UK Government (London) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-give-clean-energy-boost-to-kenya>.

**United States: N/A**

The United States is not included in the commitment to implement the Paris Agreement. However, the government has taken some environmental action.

On 18 December 2018, the new Agreement on Environmental Cooperation was signed by the governments of Canada, the United States of America, and Mexico. This environmental cooperation agreement complements the ambitious environment chapter of the recently signed Agreement between Canada, the United States of America, and the United Mexican States and strengthens environmental cooperation between the three trade partners. The environmental cooperation agreement addresses international environmental challenges and identifies ways to seize opportunities presented by the new Agreement between Canada, the United States of America, and the United Mexican States.<sup>2973</sup>

On 19 February 2019, Trident Seafoods Corporation agreed to reduce emissions of ozone-depleting substances from refrigeration equipment on its vessels, under a proposed settlement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Justice to resolve alleged violations of the Clean Air Act. Under the settlement, Trident will spend up to USD23 million to reduce coolant leaks from refrigerators and other equipment, use alternative refrigerants, and improve company-wide compliance. The company will also pay a USD900,000 civil penalty.<sup>2974</sup>

On 19 April 2019, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Justice and the State of Colorado announced a settlement with Denver-based HighPoint Operating Corporation resolving alleged Clean Air Act violations. The settlement resolves alleged claims that HighPoint violated requirements to reduce volatile organic compounds emissions from its oil and natural gas production operations in the Denver-Julesburg Basin.<sup>2975</sup>

On 23 April 2019, Cargill's corn milling facility in Eddyville, Iowa, received an EPA Region 7 Pollution Prevention (P2) Award today during ceremonies at the Midwest Environmental Compliance Conference at the Kansas City Convention Center. Cargill Eddyville pursued and obtained ISO 50001 Energy Management System certification, which provides a framework to manage and improve energy performance.<sup>2976</sup> By implementing these standards, Cargill Eddyville's facility energy performance and greenhouse gas emission reductions improved significantly.<sup>2977</sup> For example, a drying system and distillation process reduced those emissions by nearly 15,000 metric tons. Due to the success of this project, additional Cargill facilities in North America and Brazil are

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<sup>2973</sup> Government of Canada signs environmental cooperation agreement with the United States and Mexico, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-signs-environmental-cooperation-agreement-with-the-united-states-and-mexico.html>.

<sup>2974</sup> U. S. Settles with Trident Seafoods Corporation to Reduce Ozone-Depleting Emissions, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/u-s-settles-trident-seafoods-corporation-reduce-ozone-depleting-emissions>.

<sup>2975</sup> EPA, DOJ, and State of Colorado reach agreement with HighPoint Operating Corporation to resolve alleged Clean Air Act violations and reduce air pollution, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-doj-and-state-colorado-reach-agreement-highpoint-operating-corporation-resolve>.

<sup>2976</sup> Cargill of Eddyville, Iowa, Receives EPA Region 7 Pollution Prevention Award, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/cargill-eddyville-iowa-receives-epa-region-7-pollution-prevention-award>

<sup>2977</sup> Cargill of Eddyville, Iowa, Receives EPA Region 7 Pollution Prevention Award, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/cargill-eddyville-iowa-receives-epa-region-7-pollution-prevention-award>.

pursuing ISO 50001 certifications in support of Cargill's corporate goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 10 percent by 2025.<sup>2978</sup>

On 26 April 2019, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced the launch of Smart Sectors Pacific Southwest, a partnership initiative between the agency and regulated business sectors that is focused on achieving better environmental outcomes.<sup>2979</sup> "We are very pleased to work with partners in the oil and gas sector to ensure communities are protected and facilities are complying with EPA requirements," said Pacific Southwest Regional Administrator Mike Stoker.<sup>2980</sup>

The United States has taken some actions aimed at financing and holding the increase of global temperature but failed to address issues of climate change adaptation.

*Analyst: Dmitry Lukanin*

### **European Union: +1**

European Union has fully complied with the commitment on climate change.

On 11 December 2018, the EU announced that the EU and its Member States were stepping up voluntary contributions to the Adaptation Fund, helping developing countries build resilience and adapt to climate change.<sup>2981</sup> The EU pledged a voluntary contribution of EUR10 million to the Adaptation Fund for 2019, the European Commission announced at the 24th Conference of the Parties to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP24) taking place on 2-14 December in Katowice, Poland. This contribution complemented the new pledges already made by European Union Member States.<sup>2982</sup> Taken together, they attested to the growing importance Europe puts on adaptation activities and on supporting the most vulnerable developing countries in their efforts.<sup>2983</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Technical Expert Group published its report on climate-related disclosures. This report corresponded to task 4 of the group's mandate, which was to "Develop climate-related metrics in the context of its work on an EU taxonomy allowing improving disclosure on climate-related information and publish the outcome in a report."<sup>2984</sup> This would allow the European

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<sup>2978</sup> Cargill of Eddyville, Iowa, Receives EPA Region 7 Pollution Prevention Award, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/cargill-eddyville-iowa-receives-epa-region-7-pollution-prevention-award>.

<sup>2979</sup> EPA Launches Smart Sectors Program in Pacific Southwest to Achieve Better Environmental Outcomes, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 26 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-smart-sectors-program-pacific-southwest-achieve-better-environmental>.

<sup>2980</sup> EPA Launches Smart Sectors Program in Pacific Southwest to Achieve Better Environmental Outcomes, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 26 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-launches-smart-sectors-program-pacific-southwest-achieve-better-environmental>.

<sup>2981</sup> EU steps up support to the Adaptation Fund, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access date: 13 February 2018. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-steps-support-adaptation-fund\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-steps-support-adaptation-fund_en).

<sup>2982</sup> EU steps up support to the Adaptation Fund, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access date: 13 February 2018. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-steps-support-adaptation-fund\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-steps-support-adaptation-fund_en).

<sup>2983</sup> EU steps up support to the Adaptation Fund, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access date: 13 February 2018. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-steps-support-adaptation-fund\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-steps-support-adaptation-fund_en).

<sup>2984</sup> Technical Expert Group on sustainable finance: report on climate-related disclosures, European Commission (Brussels) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/190110-sustainable-finance-teg-report-climate-related-disclosures\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/190110-sustainable-finance-teg-report-climate-related-disclosures_en).

Commission to take climate change into consideration when it updates the financial framework of the non-binding guidelines on non-financial disclosure.<sup>2985</sup>

On 12-13 December 2018, the European Commission hosted a series of side events on strategies and perspectives for long-term greenhouse gas emissions reduction at COP24 in Katowice, Poland.<sup>2986</sup> The Commission presented its strategic vision for a climate-neutral Europe by 2050 on 28 November, kicking off a broad debate on how Europe can contribute to the long-term temperature goals of the Paris Agreement and how the required transformation can be achieved.<sup>2987</sup> The events at COP24 presented the Commission's vision to an international audience and explored stakeholder perspectives for long-term decarbonization.<sup>2988</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the European Commission announced that EU's companies met the EU's phasedown limit for hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) for the third year in a row, as a new report by the European Environment Agency showed.<sup>2989</sup> The EU phasedown of HFCs – highly warming fluorinated gases (F-gases) – was being implemented through a system of annual quotas allocated to producers and importers of these synthetic substances, used mainly as a coolant in refrigeration and air conditioning equipment.<sup>2990</sup> Phasing down F-gas emissions was an important part of the EU's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Under its F-gas Regulation, the EU was aiming to cut F-gas emissions by two-thirds by 2030, compared to 2014 levels.<sup>2991</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the European Environment Agency published a paper highlighting the climate change adaptation (CCA) efforts undertaken in transnational regions of Europe.<sup>2992</sup> Cooperation to prevent climate extreme events made sense in the functional geographic areas of the Arctic and the Mediterranean regions and was encouraged under the EU strategy on adaptation to climate change.<sup>2993</sup> The findings provided an overview of the actions in the current transnational cooperation on supporting CCA. In particular, it focuses on exchange of regionally specific adaptation knowledge

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<sup>2985</sup> Technical Expert Group on sustainable finance: report on climate-related disclosures, European Commission (Brussels) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 13 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/190110-sustainable-finance-teg-report-climate-related-disclosures\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/190110-sustainable-finance-teg-report-climate-related-disclosures_en).

<sup>2986</sup> COP-24 side event: European strategic vision for long-term greenhouse gas emissions reduction, the European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/cop24-side-event-european-strategic-vision-long-term-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reduction\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/cop24-side-event-european-strategic-vision-long-term-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reduction_en).

<sup>2987</sup> COP-24 side event: European strategic vision for long-term greenhouse gas emissions reduction, the European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/cop24-side-event-european-strategic-vision-long-term-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reduction\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/cop24-side-event-european-strategic-vision-long-term-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reduction_en).

<sup>2988</sup> COP-24 side event: European strategic vision for long-term greenhouse gas emissions reduction, the European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/cop24-side-event-european-strategic-vision-long-term-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reduction\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/cop24-side-event-european-strategic-vision-long-term-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reduction_en).

<sup>2989</sup> EU phasedown of HFCs fully on track, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-phasedown-hfcs-fully-track\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-phasedown-hfcs-fully-track_en).

<sup>2990</sup> EU phasedown of HFCs fully on track, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-phasedown-hfcs-fully-track\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-phasedown-hfcs-fully-track_en).

<sup>2991</sup> EU phasedown of HFCs fully on track, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-phasedown-hfcs-fully-track\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-phasedown-hfcs-fully-track_en).

<sup>2992</sup> Addressing climate change adaptation in transnational regions in Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/02/02-06-2019-addressing-climate-change-adaptation-in-transnational-regions-in-europe](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/02/02-06-2019-addressing-climate-change-adaptation-in-transnational-regions-in-europe).

<sup>2993</sup> Addressing climate change adaptation in transnational regions in Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/02/02-06-2019-addressing-climate-change-adaptation-in-transnational-regions-in-europe](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/02/02-06-2019-addressing-climate-change-adaptation-in-transnational-regions-in-europe).

(web-based adaptation platforms, knowledge centers and networks), as well as strategies and international conventions endorsed by the Interreg programmes and macro-regional strategies.<sup>2994</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU reached provisional agreement on a Regulation setting, for the first time in the EU, strict CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards for trucks.<sup>2995</sup> The decision followed the agreement reached in December 2018 on new CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards for cars and light vans in the EU for the period after 2020. Under the agreement, emissions from new trucks would have to be 30 per cent lower in 2030 compared to the 2019 emissions.<sup>2996</sup> The new legislation would help Member States' emission targets, incentivize innovation, promote clean mobility solutions, strengthen the competitiveness of EU industry and stimulate employment, while reducing fuel consumption costs for transport operators and contributing to better air quality.<sup>2997</sup> Tackling emissions from road transport is a key building block of the EU's efforts to achieve its target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40 per cent by 2030 compared to 1990 levels. The CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards for trucks completed the EU's economy-wide legislative framework for achieving this target.<sup>2998</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the European Commission published a report on enhancing resilience of urban ecosystems through green infrastructure (EnRoute). Urban Green Infrastructure (UGI) referred to the strategically managed network of urban green spaces and natural and semi-natural ecosystems situated within the boundary of an urban ecosystem. These high-quality, biodiversity-rich areas could help make cities more sustainable and contribute to solve many challenges, such as air pollution, noise, climate change impacts, heat waves, floods and public health concerns. This report summarized the main outcomes of the EnRoute project. This science-policy project, managed by the European Commission and funded by the European Parliament, involved 18 'city labs' across Europe. The project provided knowledge on how UGI could support urban policy-objectives at different stages of the planning process and at a variety of spatial scales.<sup>2999</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the European Commission welcomed the provisional agreement reached by the European Parliament and Council on the LIFE programme for the Environment and Climate Action, as part of the next long-term EU budget 2021-2027. The funding would focus on protecting the environment and mitigating climate change, supporting a clean energy transition with increased

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<sup>2994</sup> Addressing climate change adaptation in transnational regions in Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/02/02-06-2019-addressing-climate-change-adaptation-in-transnational-regions-in-europe](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/02/02-06-2019-addressing-climate-change-adaptation-in-transnational-regions-in-europe).

<sup>2995</sup> Clean mobility: Putting an end to polluting trucks. Commission welcomes first-ever EU standards to reduce pollution from trucks, European Commission (Brussels) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-putting-end-polluting-trucks-commission-welcomes-first-ever-eu-standards-reduce\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-putting-end-polluting-trucks-commission-welcomes-first-ever-eu-standards-reduce_en).

<sup>2996</sup> Clean mobility: Putting an end to polluting trucks. Commission welcomes first-ever EU standards to reduce pollution from trucks, European Commission (Brussels) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-putting-end-polluting-trucks-commission-welcomes-first-ever-eu-standards-reduce\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-putting-end-polluting-trucks-commission-welcomes-first-ever-eu-standards-reduce_en).

<sup>2997</sup> Clean mobility: Putting an end to polluting trucks. Commission welcomes first-ever EU standards to reduce pollution from trucks, European Commission (Brussels) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-putting-end-polluting-trucks-commission-welcomes-first-ever-eu-standards-reduce\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-putting-end-polluting-trucks-commission-welcomes-first-ever-eu-standards-reduce_en).

<sup>2998</sup> Clean mobility: Putting an end to polluting trucks. Commission welcomes first-ever EU standards to reduce pollution from trucks, European Commission (Brussels) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-putting-end-polluting-trucks-commission-welcomes-first-ever-eu-standards-reduce\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-putting-end-polluting-trucks-commission-welcomes-first-ever-eu-standards-reduce_en).

<sup>2999</sup> Enhancing resilience of urban ecosystems through green infrastructure (EnRoute), European Commission (Brussels) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 23 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/publication/enhancing-resilience-urban-ecosystems-through-green-infrastructure-enroute>.

energy efficiency and a higher share of renewables in the energy mix. This would be one of the tools enabling the EU to meet its climate goals and seek to become climate-neutral by 2050.<sup>3000</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the European Commission organised its second high-level conference on sustainable finance with the objective of encouraging a global approach to sustainable finance. It provided the opportunity to embrace a common vision and a strong commitment towards a coherent international financial system that supports channeling private capital towards sustainable projects. The EU acknowledged that the financial sector had a critical role to play to close the investment gap in delivering on the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. Mobilising private investors to finance sustainable projects on a global scale was therefore said to be indispensable for reaching tangible results in the fight against climate change, environmental degradation and social inequalities.<sup>3001</sup>

On 22 March 2019, the European Commission organized an international Carbon Market Workshop in Florence, Italy. The Carbon Market Workshop brought together policymakers from carbon markets worldwide – California, Canada, China, EU and New Zealand – as well as academics, market practitioners and NGO representatives.<sup>3002</sup> Representatives from Chile and Japan also attended. Interactive panel discussions were dedicated to topics such as market stability mechanisms and auction revenue use. Furthermore, the participants provided an update on relevant recent developments in their respective carbon markets.<sup>3003</sup> The main objectives of the Florence Process were to collect and disseminate empirical knowledge and information on the functioning of emissions trading systems (ETS) as a way to reduce carbon emissions worldwide, establish a network bringing together ETS experts, and create a forum enabling interaction amongst policy makers and ETS experts.<sup>3004</sup>

On 27 March 2019, the European Parliament agreed on CO2 emission standards for new cars and vans in the EU for the period after 2020 – a significant step towards decarbonising and modernising the European mobility sector and putting the EU on track to become climate neutral.<sup>3005</sup> As a result of the new rules, in 2030, emissions from new cars would have to be 37.5 per cent lower and emissions from new vans 31 per cent lower, compared to 2021.<sup>3006</sup> The new CO2 standards were part of the clean mobility package and a stepping stone towards a modernised, and more competitive

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<sup>3000</sup> EU budget for 2021-2027: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement on funding for the environment and climate action (Brussels) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 23 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-budget-2021-2027-commission-welcomes-provisional-agreement-funding-environment-and-climate\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-budget-2021-2027-commission-welcomes-provisional-agreement-funding-environment-and-climate_en).

<sup>3001</sup> High-level conference: A global approach to sustainable finance, European Commission (Brussels) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 23 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/events/finance-190321-sustainable-finance\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/events/finance-190321-sustainable-finance_en).

<sup>3002</sup> Commission organises international Carbon Market Workshop in Florence, Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 26 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/commission-organises-international-carbon-market-workshop-florence-italy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/commission-organises-international-carbon-market-workshop-florence-italy_en).

<sup>3003</sup> Commission organises international Carbon Market Workshop in Florence, Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 26 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/commission-organises-international-carbon-market-workshop-florence-italy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/commission-organises-international-carbon-market-workshop-florence-italy_en).

<sup>3004</sup> Commission organises international Carbon Market Workshop in Florence, Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 26 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/commission-organises-international-carbon-market-workshop-florence-italy\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/commission-organises-international-carbon-market-workshop-florence-italy_en).

<sup>3005</sup> Clean mobility: Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of new CO2 emission standards for cars and vans to reduce pollution and improve air quality, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access date: 29 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-commission-welcomes-european-parliament-adoption-new-co2-emission-standards-cars\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-commission-welcomes-european-parliament-adoption-new-co2-emission-standards-cars_en).

<sup>3006</sup> Clean mobility: Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of new CO2 emission standards for cars and vans to reduce pollution and improve air quality, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access date: 29 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-commission-welcomes-european-parliament-adoption-new-co2-emission-standards-cars\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-commission-welcomes-european-parliament-adoption-new-co2-emission-standards-cars_en).

European transport sector, and the road towards a climate-neutral economy in line with the EU's commitments under the Paris Agreement.<sup>3007</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the European Council of Ministers agreed on CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards for new cars and vans in the EU for the period after 2020.<sup>3008</sup> In 2030, emissions from new cars would have to be 37.5 per cent lower and emissions from new vans 31 per cent lower, compared to 2021. This agreement confirmed the European Parliament vote of 27 March and finalised the formal adoption of new rules which would contribute to decarbonising and modernising Europe's mobility sector.<sup>3009</sup> The new CO<sub>2</sub> standards were a stepping stone towards a climate-neutral economy in line with the EU's commitments under the Paris Agreement and as part of the implementation of the Energy Union.<sup>3010</sup>

On 25 April 2019, the European Committee of the Regions held an event on urban adaptation to climate change during the Green Week in Europe.<sup>3011</sup> The EU addressed the fact, that European urban context faced new issues related to Climate change such as record-breaking heatwaves, pollution peaks, erosion of natural resources, etc.<sup>3012</sup> The Urban Adaptation to Climate Change Conference highlighted initiative to address a number of issues: the concrete schemes to make cities and urban areas more resilient, ensuring tomorrow's climate stabilisation in the field, the ways, in which Europe supports cities to face these major issues in the best conditions, etc.<sup>3013</sup>

European Union has taken actions to implement the Paris Agreement and addressed all three issue areas outlined in it.

Thus, it is awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

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<sup>3007</sup> Clean mobility: Commission welcomes European Parliament adoption of new CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards for cars and vans to reduce pollution and improve air quality, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 29 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-commission-welcomes-european-parliament-adoption-new-co2-emission-standards-cars\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-commission-welcomes-european-parliament-adoption-new-co2-emission-standards-cars_en).

<sup>3008</sup> Clean Mobility: New CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Standards for Cars and Vans Adopted, European Commission (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-new-co2-emission-standards-cars-and-vans-adopted\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-new-co2-emission-standards-cars-and-vans-adopted_en).

<sup>3009</sup> Clean Mobility: New CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Standards for Cars and Vans Adopted, European Commission (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-new-co2-emission-standards-cars-and-vans-adopted\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-new-co2-emission-standards-cars-and-vans-adopted_en).

<sup>3010</sup> Clean Mobility: New CO<sub>2</sub> Emission Standards for Cars and Vans Adopted, European Commission (Brussels) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-new-co2-emission-standards-cars-and-vans-adopted\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/clean-mobility-new-co2-emission-standards-cars-and-vans-adopted_en).

<sup>3011</sup> Urban Adaptation to Climate Change, European Commission (Brussels) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/climate-adaptation/urban-adaptation-climate-change>.

<sup>3012</sup> Urban Adaptation to Climate Change, European Commission (Brussels) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/climate-adaptation/urban-adaptation-climate-change>.

<sup>3013</sup> Urban Adaptation to Climate Change, European Commission (Brussels) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/climate-adaptation/urban-adaptation-climate-change>.

## 12. Digital Economy: Digital Infrastructure

*“[To maximize the benefits of digitalization and emerging technologies for innovative growth and productivity], we will promote measures to ... improve ... digital infrastructure.”*

*G20 Leaders Buenos Aires Declaration*

### Assessment

Country	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.85	

### Background

Since 2015, the G20 adopted several commitments aimed at support for the development of information and communication technologies (ICT).

In 2015 during the summit in Antalya, the G20 members acknowledged that “threats to the security of and in the use of ICTs, risk undermining our collective ability to use the Internet to bolster economic growth and development around the world” and also committed to “bridge the digital divide” and “promote security, stability, and economic ties with other nations.”<sup>3014</sup> In 2015 the G20 adopted Adjusted Growth Strategies embracing development of ICT among other pillars of future growth.

In 2016 in Hangzhou the G20 leaders endorsed the G20 Blueprint on Innovative Growth focusing on “policies and measures in and across the areas of innovation, the new industrial revolution and

<sup>3014</sup> G20 Leaders Communique Antalya Summit (Moscow) 15-16 November 2015. Access Date: 18 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2015Antalya/000111117.pdf>.

the digital economy.”<sup>3015</sup> That same year, the G20 addressed the issue of opportunities of the new industrial revolution (NIR) in the G20 New Industrial Revolution Action Plan.<sup>3016</sup>

In 2017 at the Hamburg Summit, the G20 leaders addressed the issues related to digitalization in the final declaration. The transformations of the global economy harnessed by steady progress of the ICT was acknowledged as a driving force of global, innovative, inclusive and sustainable growth.”<sup>3017</sup> The G20 members agreed to create favourable conditions for digital transformation, promote digital literacy and digital skills, to foster investments and innovation, promote effective cooperation of all stakeholders and support the free flow of information.<sup>3018</sup>

In 2018, the G20 ministers responsible for the digital economy signed a joint ministerial declaration addressing several digital-related issues namely government principles, measurement of digital economy, digital divide, digital infrastructure, etc.<sup>3019</sup> At the Buenos Aires Summit, the G20 leaders agreed on the necessity of the promotion of digital infrastructure, digital inclusion, adoption of innovative digital economy business platforms.<sup>3020</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The commitment requires the G20 members to actively support improvement of digital infrastructure.

The digital infrastructure itself includes such “backbone facilities” as fixed-line and wireless networks as defined by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in its topic-related papers.<sup>3021</sup> Following the OECD definition, the possible actions by the G20 members might include but are not limited to providing better access to the Internet in remote areas (fixed and wireless), overall increase of average Internet connection speed (fixed and wireless), increase of the total number of Internet users and mobile devices owners, etc.

The G20 digital ministers highlighted the need for “national, regional and international initiatives” in the digital infrastructure sphere.<sup>3022</sup> In this case, to achieve full compliance a G20 member should take actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure not only within its territory, but on international fora as well. This means that a G20 member should support international initiatives in this sphere (bilateral or multilateral).

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<sup>3015</sup> G20 Blueprint on Innovative Growth (Moscow) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 18 May 2019.

<https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2016Hangzhou/G20%20Blueprint%20on%20Innovative%20Growth.pdf>

<sup>3016</sup> G20 New Industrial Revolution Action Plan (Moscow) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 18 May 2019.

<https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2016Hangzhou/G20%20New%20Industrial%20Revolution%20Action%20Plan.pdf>

<sup>3017</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Shaping an Interconnected World (Moscow) 7/8 July 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2019.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders\\_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf)

<sup>3018</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Shaping an Interconnected World (Moscow) 7/8 July 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2019.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders\\_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf)

<sup>3019</sup> G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Declaration (Moscow) 24 August 2018. Access Date: 18 May 2019.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/g20\\_detf\\_ministerial\\_declaration\\_salta.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/g20_detf_ministerial_declaration_salta.pdf)

<sup>3020</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development (Moscow) 1 December 2018.

Access Date: 18 May 2019.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos\\_aires\\_leaders\\_declaration.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf)

<sup>3021</sup> OECD Digital Economy Outlook 2017 (Paris) 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2019. [https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/science-and-technology/oecd-digital-economy-outlook-2017\\_9789264276284-en#page118](https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/science-and-technology/oecd-digital-economy-outlook-2017_9789264276284-en#page118).

<sup>3022</sup> G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Declaration (Moscow) 24 August 2018. Access Date: 17 May 2019. 2018.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/g20\\_detf\\_ministerial\\_declaration\\_salta.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/g20_detf_ministerial_declaration_salta.pdf)

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G20 member has not taken any action aimed at the improvement of digital infrastructure.
0	The G20 member has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory OR at international fora.
+1	The G20 member has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory AND at international fora.

**Argentina: +1**

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 14 December 2018, the Central Bank of Argentina announced that it would finance, together with the Secretariat for Modernization and National Communications Agency, a number of projects aimed at improving connectivity, firstly in small towns to be implemented by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).<sup>3023</sup> A specific line of credit will be launched for investments and working capital, up to seven years and with a grace period of 24 months from the first disbursement, and whose interest rate will be subsidized by the ENACOM. For this purpose, USD500 million will be allocated, USD20 million per project. This measure aims to promote investments in equipment, software and associated elements as well as telecommunications infrastructure to expand networks for the provision of services for information and communications technologies, in particular 5G, around the country.<sup>3024</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the Secretariat for Modernization of Argentina held the second federal meeting for the digital country with an awarding ceremony for the most outstanding municipalities in terms of modernization. One of the criteria was municipal digital services. At the meeting, the Platform for Municipal Solutions was launched, a portal to facilitate a modernization process of the governorates and municipalities throughout the country. The Platform will allow local governments to access more than 20 digital country products such as web-pages, project tracking system, employment portal, among others.<sup>3025</sup>

On 4 January 2019, the Secretariat for Modernization of Argentina announced an installation of mobile telephony infrastructure of 79 new booster radios to guarantee a correct functioning of communications, including good 4G signal, in the tourist centers of the Atlantic Coast of Buenos Aires.<sup>3026</sup> The initiative reaches the parties of the Coast (San Clemente del Tuyu, Santa Teresita, San Bernardo, Mar de Ajo, among others) Villa Gesell, Pinamar and General Pueyrredón (Mar del Plata) where new antennas were installed. In the case of Mar del Plata, six antennas now provide public and

<sup>3023</sup> Financiarán inversiones para la mejora de la conectividad, Jefatura de Gabinete de Ministros (Buenos Aires) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/financiaran-inversiones-para-la-mejora-de-la-conectividad>.

<sup>3024</sup> Financiarán inversiones para la mejora de la conectividad, Jefatura de Gabinete de Ministros (Buenos Aires) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/financiaran-inversiones-para-la-mejora-de-la-conectividad>.

<sup>3025</sup> Premian municipios por sus avances en materia de modernización, Jefatura de Gabinete de Ministros (Buenos Aires) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/premian-municipios-por-sus-avances-en-materia-de-modernizacion>.

<sup>3026</sup> El gobierno mejora la conectividad en los principales puntos de la costa atlántica, Jefatura de Gabinete de Ministros (Buenos Aires) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-mejora-la-conectividad-en-los-principales-puntos-de-la-costa-atlantica>.

free Wi-Fi used by more than 50,000 people.<sup>3027</sup> The objective of the National Communications Plan is to reach 93 per cent of the population with quality mobile internet by the end of 2019.<sup>3028</sup>

On 18 February 2019, Argentinian Deputy Chief of Cabinet and Secretary for Modernization Andrés Ibarra and Minister of Transportation Guillermo Dietrich announced the launch of the National Digital Driving License (LNCD).<sup>3029</sup> The LNCD can be obtained through “My Argentina” application. It has the same validity as the physical card. The LNCD aims to reduce possible falsifications and improve driver license control as well as make life easier for Argentinian citizens. The LNCD can be used to travel throughout Argentina.

On 12 March 2019, the first workshop “Internet of things in the Agroindustrial Sector” was organized in the framework of Expoagro 2019.<sup>3030</sup> The event was attended by representatives of public and private sector as well as academia. The participants discussed the problems related to the implementation of Internet of things solutions in the agro-industrial sector, identifying regions and needs of different sectors.<sup>3031</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Argentina signed the Resolution adopted by the International Conference of Commissioners of Information (ICIC) in Johannesburg.<sup>3032</sup> The ICIC is an international forum promoting universal right of access to public information worldwide. At the event, the ICIC not only adopted its charter of principles but also launched a new logo, a website and the official twitter account with the purpose to share good practices and promote international cooperation of the authorities of access to public information.<sup>3033</sup>

On 14 March 2019, Argentinian President Mauricio Macri and Deputy Chief of Staff Andrés Ibarra launched a new band of 450Mhz aimed to improve the internet in rural areas in more than 1,500 municipalities with a population of 100,000 citizens in provinces of Buenos Aires, Neuquén, Santa Fe, Mendoza, Cordoba and Santa Cruz.<sup>3034</sup> A total of 70 SMEs and telecommunications cooperatives will use the new band. The band will also allow the connectivity of equipment and rural machinery for agriculture.<sup>3035</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Government of Argentina announced that a number of technological solutions provided by País Digital had been implemented in the southernmost province of Esteros

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<sup>3027</sup> El gobierno mejora la conectividad en los principales puntos de la costa atlántica, Jefatura de Gabinete de Ministros (Buenos Aires) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-mejora-la-conectividad-en-los-principales-puntos-de-la-costa-atlantica>.

<sup>3028</sup> El gobierno mejora la conectividad en los principales puntos de la costa atlántica, Jefatura de Gabinete de Ministros (Buenos Aires) 4 January 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-mejora-la-conectividad-en-los-principales-puntos-de-la-costa-atlantica>.

<sup>3029</sup> Se presentó la Licencia Nacional de Conducir digital, Jefatura de Gabinete de Ministros: Modernización (Buenos Aires) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-presento-la-licencia-nacional-de-conducir-digital>.

<sup>3030</sup> Realizamos el 1er Taller “IoT en el Sector Agroindustrial” (Buenos Aires) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/realizamos-el-1er-taller-iot-en-el-sector-agroindustrial>.

<sup>3031</sup> Realizamos el 1er Taller “IoT en el Sector Agroindustrial” (Buenos Aires) 15 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/realizamos-el-1er-taller-iot-en-el-sector-agroindustrial>.

<sup>3032</sup> Una voz global para promover el acceso a la información (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/una-voz-global-para-promover-el-acceso-la-informacion>.

<sup>3033</sup> Una voz global para promover el acceso a la información (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/una-voz-global-para-promover-el-acceso-la-informacion>.

<sup>3034</sup> Adjudican una nueva banda que mejorará el internet en zonas rurales 14 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/adjudican-una-nueva-banda-que-mejorara-el-internet-en-zonas-rurales>.

<sup>3035</sup> Adjudican una nueva banda que mejorará el internet en zonas rurales 14 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/adjudican-una-nueva-banda-que-mejorara-el-internet-en-zonas-rurales>.

del Iberá.<sup>3036</sup> For example, the province received eight satellite connectivity antennas that provide free public Internet through Wi-Fi Points, in particular in remote areas. In many places an access to Internet was provided for the first time. In Tolhuin Municipal Culture House a Digital Point was installed with digital literacy courses and trainings, a movie theater and a video game room. Among the solutions implemented, one of the most used is the Citizen Management, which allows citizens to make a request to the Municipality through a mobile application or the Municipal Web Page.<sup>3037</sup>

On 20 March 2019, the Ministry of Transport of Argentina launched a digital license for professional drivers (LiNTI) applied throughout the country.<sup>3038</sup> The new scheme aims to increase security standards through raises the criteria for training and evaluation and simplify drivers` daily life because they will be able to carry it on the cell phone. The LiNTI has a QR code for a more rapid inspection. At the same time, it will provide greater transparency to verify the validity of the license and avoid falsifications.<sup>3039</sup> To obtain the new credential, drivers must be over 21 years old, be able to read and write in the national language and have a driver`s license according to the vehicle with which interjurisdictional transportation will be developed.<sup>3040</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the Argentine authorities announced that in the last year, more than 3 million people attended the different activities organized in more than 400 digital points installed throughout the country.<sup>3041</sup> The points were installed with the aim of reducing the digital divide. The points provide training and ensure access to the Internet.

On 29 March 2019, it was announced that six Argentine students from the universities of Córdoba, Tucumán, Santa Fe and Buenos Aires would travel to Mexico under the program “ICT Talent Contest” carried out by Huawei.<sup>3042</sup> The Contest is supported by the Secretariat for Modernization and Ministry of Education of Argentina. The initiative aims to provide the students from Argentina and other countries with knowledge in information and communication technologies as well as to develop their professional skills in new technologies, with exams and international certifications.<sup>3043</sup> The six young people selected at the national level will compete in Mexico along with other Latin

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<sup>3036</sup> De Tierra del Fuego al Norte de la Argentina (Buenos Aires) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/de-tierra-del-fuego-al-norte-de-la-argentina>.

<sup>3037</sup> De Tierra del Fuego al Norte de la Argentina (Buenos Aires) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/de-tierra-del-fuego-al-norte-de-la-argentina>.

<sup>3038</sup> Comienza a regir en todo el país la licencia digital para los conductores profesionales (Buenos Aires) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comienza-regir-en-todo-el-pais-la-licencia-digital-para-los-conductores-profesionales>.

<sup>3039</sup> Comienza a regir en todo el país la licencia digital para los conductores profesionales (Buenos Aires) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comienza-regir-en-todo-el-pais-la-licencia-digital-para-los-conductores-profesionales>.

<sup>3040</sup> Comienza a regir en todo el país la licencia digital para los conductores profesionales (Buenos Aires) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comienza-regir-en-todo-el-pais-la-licencia-digital-para-los-conductores-profesionales>.

<sup>3041</sup> Más de 3 millones de personas asistieron a los Puntos Digitales el último año (Buenos Aires) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/mas-de-3-millones-de-personas-asistieron-los-puntos-digitales-el-ultimo-ano>.

<sup>3042</sup> Seis estudiantes argentinos viajarán a México para competir en telecomunicaciones (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/seis-estudiantes-argentinos-viajaran-mexico-para-competir-en-telecomunicaciones>.

<sup>3043</sup> Seis estudiantes argentinos viajarán a México para competir en telecomunicaciones (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/seis-estudiantes-argentinos-viajaran-mexico-para-competir-en-telecomunicaciones>.

American students. Those who pass this stage will be able to participate in the Global Final to be held in China in May 2019.<sup>3044</sup>

On 3 April 2019, the new Platform for Municipal Solutions was launched.<sup>3045</sup> The Platform will support Argentinian municipalities in getting technological solutions developed by País Digital to improve public management and facilitate access to information. In addition, interested municipalities can share their projects with the rest of the country through the Platform.

Argentina has taken actions aimed at the improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 19 December 2018, the federal government released its revamp of Australia's national digital economy strategy to seize the potential economic benefits presented by new technology. The strategy has been developed over the last 15 months in collaboration with businesses, academia and the community to help develop digital skills and deliver better services.<sup>3046</sup> Minister for Industry, Science and Technology Karen Andrews said the strategy identifies where Australia's efforts should be focused in the years ahead to amplify the digital economy. Those four areas are people, services, digital assets and the enabling environment, each of which is accompanied by opportunities and areas for further improvement.<sup>3047</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the European Union and Australia agreed to strengthen support for sustainable infrastructure and development in the Pacific. The parties noted that Australia and the EU share a strong commitment to the United Nations' 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and recognize the need to support Pacific Small Island Developing States in order to meet the SDGs.<sup>3048</sup> They also emphasized the importance of digital infrastructure and connectivity for economic development and lifting productivity in the region. Australia's Pacific Step-Up initiative will also deliver better economic infrastructure in the region through the AUD2 billion Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific, along with the AUD1 billion increase in callable capital to the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation.<sup>3049</sup>

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<sup>3044</sup> Seis estudiantes argentinos viajarán a México para competir en telecomunicaciones (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/seis-estudiantes-argentinos-viajaran-mexico-para-competir-en-telecomunicaciones>.

<sup>3045</sup> País Digital presenta la nueva Plataforma de Soluciones Municipales (Buenos Aires) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/pais-digital-presenta-la-nueva-plataforma-de-soluciones-municipales>.

<sup>3046</sup> Australia finally gets a new digital economy strategy, Itnews (Sydney) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.itnews.com.au/news/australia-finally-gets-a-new-digital-economy-strategy-517102>.

<sup>3047</sup> Australia finally gets a new digital economy strategy, Itnews (Sydney) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.itnews.com.au/news/australia-finally-gets-a-new-digital-economy-strategy-517102>.

<sup>3048</sup> European Union and Australian Government - Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 7 May 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement_en).

<sup>3049</sup> European Union and Australian Government - Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 7 May 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement_en).

On 29 March 2019 the federal government released a strategy on how to best to host data within the Commonwealth, launching a new certification program for data center providers. The Hosting Certification Framework will be the responsibility of a new Digital Infrastructure Service set up within the Digital Transformation Agency.<sup>3050</sup> It will be responsible for assessing and measuring supply chain risks presented by hosting providers and for determining standards, measures, and timelines to achieve the government's desired hosting standards.<sup>3051</sup>

Australia has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 3 December 2018, the President of the National Telecommunications Agency (ANATEL) Leonardo Euler de Moraes and the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communication's telecommunications secretary André Borges participated in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Permanent Advisory Committee II of Radiocommunications.<sup>3052</sup> Borges highlighted the ministry's efforts to expand Internet access in Brazil and announced the launch of the Geostationary Satellite of Defense and Strategic Communications as an important action to connect more remote regions of the country; the national connectivity plan to expand investments in broadband infrastructure; and the updating of the laws that regulate the telecommunications sector.<sup>3053</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the Ministry of Modernization of Argentina accepted the Brazilian proposal for the inclusion of new frequency bands in the bilateral agreement for the Provision of Space Capacity.<sup>3054</sup> With the approval of the amendment to the agreement, Brazilian satellite companies are able to invest in the Argentine market with the title of foreign satellite and, thus, can increase the bilateral trade volume and the telecommunications services provided to the consumers of the two countries.<sup>3055</sup>

On 1 February 2019, it was announced that the ANATEL held public hearings on the Regulation of Regulatory Oversight. It has the following purposes: to subsidize ANATEL with information relevant to its decision-making processes; analyze the performance of telecommunication service

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<sup>3050</sup> Australia brings in data centre certification with new government Hosting Strategy, Zdnet (Sydney) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/australia-brings-in-data-centre-certification-with-new-government-hosting-strategy/>.

<sup>3051</sup> Australia brings in data centre certification with new government Hosting Strategy, Zdnet (Sydney) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.zdnet.com/article/australia-brings-in-data-centre-certification-with-new-government-hosting-strategy/>.

<sup>3052</sup> Anatel e Citel realizam evento sobre Radiocomunicações, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2139-anatel-e-citel-realizam-evento-internacional-sobre-radiocomunicacoes>

<sup>3053</sup> Anatel e Citel realizam evento sobre Radiocomunicações, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2139-anatel-e-citel-realizam-evento-internacional-sobre-radiocomunicacoes>

<sup>3054</sup> Acordo Brasil-Argentina amplia o uso de satélites entre os dois países, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2161-acordo-brasil-argentina-amplia-o-uso-de-satelites-entre-os-dois-paises-3>.

<sup>3055</sup> Acordo Brasil-Argentina amplia o uso de satélites entre os dois países, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2161-acordo-brasil-argentina-amplia-o-uso-de-satelites-entre-os-dois-paises-3>.

providers; to stimulate the continuous improvement of the provision of telecommunication services aiming at solutions to detected nonconformities and to act in the search for the repair or minimization of eventual damages to the provision of telecommunications services or to its users.<sup>3056</sup>

On 7 February 2019, ANATEL's Board of Directors approved the proposal to set up an ANATEL Comparator Application monitoring group, which will coordinate and monitor activity, bring greater transparency to the telecommunications market's offerings and will make it easier for consumers to access information.<sup>3057</sup>

On 8 February 2019, the ANATEL published the results of the survey conducted in December 2018, according to which in relation to the previous month (November 2018), the mobile service lost 2,617,069 lines, which is equivalent to minus 1.13 per cent.<sup>3058</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the President Jair Bolsonaro opened the telecommunications services of the new the Comandante Ferraz Antarctic Station. The new facilities provided the videoconference of the President of the Republic with the Brazilian officials in the Antarctic.<sup>3059</sup> With the new facilities, developments are expected in high-speed fixed internet services which are provided for data transmission, videoconferencing and calls; mobile network with 4G connection; wi-fi access distributed throughout the naval base; and TV signal reception system.<sup>3060</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the Board of Directors of the ANATEL approved the Regulatory Agenda 2019-2020. One of the most important items of the Agenda is studies of frequency bands for introduction of the 5G within country.<sup>3061</sup>

On 25 March 2019, the ANATEL issued the report on the Brazilian broadband market which demonstrates that the Brazilian broadband market is ranked 6th among the ten largest in the world, shows the significant growth of the market in recent years, however with a reduction in the rate of increase, 1 per cent in the quarter for a few years. The average annual growth of fixed broadband accesses in Brazil (12.8 per cent) is almost the same as the rest of the world (13 per cent).<sup>3062</sup>

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<sup>3056</sup> Anatel realiza audiências sobre Regulamento de Fiscalização Regulatória em 5 capitais, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2185-anatel-realiza-audiencias-sobre-regulamento-de-fiscalizacao-regulatoria>.

<sup>3057</sup> Anatel lançará aplicativo de comparação de ofertas, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2193-anatel-lancara-aplicativo-de-comparacao-de-ofertas>.

<sup>3058</sup> Brasil perde 7,2 milhões de linhas móveis em 2018, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 8 March 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2196-brasil-perde-7-2-milhoes-de-linhas-moveis-em-dezembro>.

<sup>3059</sup> Base brasileira na Antártica tem novas instalações para modernização do sistema de telecomunicações, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2217-base-brasileira-na-antartica-tem-novas-instalacoes-para-modernizacao-do-sistema-de-telecomunicacoes>.

<sup>3060</sup> Base brasileira na Antártica tem novas instalações para modernização do sistema de telecomunicações, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2217-base-brasileira-na-antartica-tem-novas-instalacoes-para-modernizacao-do-sistema-de-telecomunicacoes>.

<sup>3061</sup> Anatel aprova Agenda Regulatória 2019-2020, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2228-anatel-aprova-agenda-regulatoria-2019-2020>.

<sup>3062</sup> Anatel divulga relatório sobre o mercado de banda larga brasileiro, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Buenos Aires) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2230-anatel-divulga-relatorio-sobre-o-mercado-de-banda-larga-brasileiro>.

On 25 March 2019, the President of the ANATEL Leonardo de Morais met with the President of the City Council of São Paulo Eduardo Tuma to discuss measures for the improvement of the telecommunications infrastructure in São Paulo and a draft of Law n° 751/2013 (“Law of Antennas”) regarding perspective of the alignment between the various political entities for the expansion of infrastructure, with the consequent improvement in the quality and coverage of telecommunications services.<sup>3063</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the ANATEL announced the comparative classification of telecommunication services providers, according to the accessibility actions promoted by them, aimed at improving the service to people with disabilities. At the awarding of the winning company there will be discussion on services more accessible to people with disabilities.<sup>3064</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the ANATEL and the National Electricity Regulatory Agency held a meeting with the objective of aligning for the revision of the joint regulation of knowledge-sharing and infrastructure sharing which will be critical to the deployment of the 5G mobile telephony.<sup>3065</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the meeting of the Board of Directors of ANATEL took place. Monitoring and control of the modernization and expansion of the national fiber optic network was among discussed issues.<sup>3066</sup>

On 8 and 11 April 2019, the President of the ANATEL met with the president of the National Congress and the Senate, Senator Davi Alcolumbre. The meetings included discussion of a draft law of Senate 349/2018 and a draft law 7.656 / 2017, pursuing an objective of expanding the offer of access to broadband by satellite and altering the tax treatment necessary for the full consolidation of the ecosystem of the so-called Internet of Things.<sup>3067</sup>

On 26 April 2016, the ANATEL opened a public consultation for introduction of 5G.<sup>3068</sup>

Brazil has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

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<sup>3063</sup> Presidente da Anatel se reúne com o presidente e vereadores da Câmara Municipal de São Paulo sobre a ampliação de infraestrutura de telecomunicações, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Sao Paulo) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2233-presidente-da-anatel-se-reune-com-o-presidente-e-vereadores-da-camara-municipal-de-sao-paulo-sobre-a-ampliacao-de-infraestrutura-de-telecomunicacoes>.

<sup>3064</sup> Anatel premia empresa mais acessível às pessoas com deficiência, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2237-anatel-premia-empresa-mais-acessivel-as-pessoas-com-deficiencia>.

<sup>3065</sup> Anatel e ANEEL debatem uso compartilhado de postes, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2240-anatel-e-aneel-debatem-uso-compartilhado-de-postes>.

<sup>3066</sup> Conselho Diretor da Anatel reúne-se às 10h de quinta-feira (4/4), Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2239-conselho-diretor-da-anatel-reune-se-as-10h-de-quinta-feira-4-4>.

<sup>3067</sup> Mensagem da Presidência da Anatel é entregue ao presidente do Congresso Nacional, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2244-mensagem-da-presidencia-da-anatel-e-entregue-ao-presidente-do-congresso-nacional>.

<sup>3068</sup> Anatel abre consulta pública para evolução de antenas com vistas ao 5G, Agência Nacional de Telecomunicações (Brasília) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.anatel.gov.br/institucional/ultimas-noticiass/2248-anatel-abre-consulta-publica-para-evolucao-de-antenas-com-vistas-ao-5g>.

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 4 February 2019, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) launched a series of national workshops aimed at directly supporting businesses conducting research and development (R&D) in the ICT sector. During these workshops, businesses gained insights into how to best relate their innovation to Scientific Research and Experimental Development (SR&ED).<sup>3069</sup> Useful tips and best practices also provide help to businesses to receive their full entitlements under the SR&ED program. Businesses also engaged directly with the CRA. The Scientific SR&ED tax incentive program supports R&D investments in Canada towards risks associated with attempting to advance technology.<sup>3070</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the National Research Council's Security and Disruptive Technologies and Digital Technologies research centres hosted a workshop led by D-Wave Systems.<sup>3071</sup> The workshop brought together leading Canadian researchers with government problem owners and high-tech industry to disseminate the latest scientific knowledge, develop solutions and new capabilities for government, and support Canadian innovative business. It provided an opportunity to educate data scientists on the state of the art in quantum computing, its strengths and limitations, and how it can help solve complex issues.<sup>3072</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the governments of Canada and Quebec granted a total of CAD465,000 in financial assistance to two innovative Sherbrooke businesses: CIBLE Solutions d'affaires and Samson Odours Specialty.<sup>3073</sup> With this funding, CIBLE will carry out marketing activities in Canada and abroad for its new online donation management tool. SOS Odours intends to purchase new production equipment, complete leasehold improvements and hire chemistry, engineering and information technology experts. The investment generated by these projects is estimated at CAD1,601,461.<sup>3074</sup>

On 12-16 April 2019, Alberta Government, in partnership with the Canadian Consulate in Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council held the International ICT Expo.<sup>3075</sup>

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<sup>3069</sup> SR&ED national industry engagement technical workshops for the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector, Government of Canada (Ottawa) n.d. Access Date: 16 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/scientific-research-experimental-development-tax-incentive-program/information-seminars-webinars/sector-specific-seminars/ict-industry.html>.

<sup>3070</sup> SR&ED national industry engagement technical workshops for the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector, Government of Canada (Ottawa) n.d. Access Date: 16 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/scientific-research-experimental-development-tax-incentive-program/information-seminars-webinars/sector-specific-seminars/ict-industry.html>.

<sup>3071</sup> SR&ED national industry engagement technical workshops for the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector, Government of Canada (Ottawa) n.d. Access Date: 16 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/scientific-research-experimental-development-tax-incentive-program/information-seminars-webinars/sector-specific-seminars/ict-industry.html>.

<sup>3072</sup> Quantum computing at the temple of science, National Research Council Canada (Ottawa) n.d. Access Date: 16 February 2019. [https://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/stories/2019/quantum\\_computing.html](https://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/stories/2019/quantum_computing.html).

<sup>3073</sup> SR&ED national industry engagement technical workshops for the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector, Government of Canada (Ottawa) n.d. Access Date: 16 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/scientific-research-experimental-development-tax-incentive-program/information-seminars-webinars/sector-specific-seminars/ict-industry.html>.

<sup>3074</sup> Ottawa and Quebec award \$465,000 to CIBLE Solutions d'affaires and SOS Odours, Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions (Ottawa) n.d. Access Date: 19 February 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-quebec-regions/news/2019/02/ottawa-and-quebec-award-465000-to-cible-solutions-daffaires-and-sos-odours.html>

<sup>3075</sup> SR&ED national industry engagement technical workshops for the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector, Government of Canada (Ottawa) n.d. Access Date: 16 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/scientific-research-experimental-development-tax-incentive-program/information-seminars-webinars/sector-specific-seminars/ict-industry.html>.

Organizers invited Albertan ICT companies with innovative solutions in the areas of Smart City, Communications Technologies and Financial Services to join in the Canadian ICT Partnering Mission to Hong Kong and to participate in the Expo.<sup>3076</sup>

Canada has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Uliana Koptukh*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 17 December 2018, the “4<sup>th</sup> Mekong-Lancang Cooperation (LMC) (this cooperation initiative includes China, Cambodia, Lao, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam) Foreign Ministers’ Meeting” saw ministers from the six LMC countries agreed to launch the implementation plan for building the economic development belt. One of the directions of the plan includes making efforts to strengthen digital infrastructure and innovation capacity building.<sup>3077</sup>

On 22 December 2018, China launched a technology experiment satellite as part of its Hongyun Project, a low-orbit broadband communication satellite system. The project is planned to provide Internet access to remote areas in China.<sup>3078</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Sino-Indian Digital Collaboration Plaza, an initiative to bring Indian information technology companies and Chinese enterprises closer to each other on a single artificial intelligence enabled platform was launched. This is a partnership by National Association of Software and Services Companies with Municipal Governments of Guiyang and Dalian. A Joint Venture comprising of one Indian and Chinese company was tasked with the running of the platform.<sup>3079</sup>

China has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with the commitment on information and communications technologies (ICT) and digital economy.

On 27 December 2018, President Emmanuel Macron announced the allocation of financing to broaden the broadband coverage (fixed and mobile). The funding, EUR20 million, is intended to

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<sup>3076</sup> International ICT Expo 2019, Invest Alberta (Edmonton) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 6 May 2019. <https://investalberta.ca/event-items/approved-events/2019/international-ict-expo-2019/>

<sup>3077</sup> LMC economic development belt to boost sub-region's common development: Chinese FM, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 25 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/17/c\\_137680511.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/17/c_137680511.htm).

<sup>3078</sup> China launches tech experimental satellite for wider-reaching broadband connection, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 22 December 2018. Access Date: 25 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/22/c\\_137692006.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/22/c_137692006.htm).

<sup>3079</sup> Launch of Sino-Indian Digital Collaboration Plaza, Government of India (New Delhi) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 10 January 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1559382>.

accelerate the deployment of high-speed broadband in 17 territories, which together represent more than a quarter of the French population.<sup>3080</sup>

On 29 January 2019, Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Amr Talaat of Egypt and Secretary of State at the French Ministry of Economy and Finance Agnès Pannier-Runacher, signed a declaration on the promotion of entrepreneurship and growth of emerging companies in the field of Information Technology.<sup>3081</sup> The minister stressed the importance of enhancing joint cooperation between Egypt and France in the field of communications and information technology through exchanging of experiences and increasing the volume of investments of French companies operating in the ICT sector in Egypt.<sup>3082</sup>

On 31 January 2019, Secretary of State to the Minister of Economy and Finance Agnès Pannier-Runacher and Secretary of State for Digital Mounir Mahjoubi launched a call for the creation of 5G experimental platforms in the 26 GHz frequency band.<sup>3083</sup>

On 25 February 2019, it was announced that French President Emmanuel Macron advocated the use of blockchain to innovate supply chain management in the European agriculture industry.<sup>3084</sup>

On 25 April 2019, it was announced that France implemented a tax break for data centres in a bid to make it a more attractive investment destination, which arose off the back of Brexit.<sup>3085</sup>

France has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Daria Myasnikova*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 6 February 2019, German Agency for International Cooperation launched its Global Project Africa Cloud. The three-year project worth EUR10 million is aimed at providing educational offers in

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<sup>3080</sup> Très haut débit: 620 million d'euros pour accélérer la couverture territoriale, Gouvernement de la République française (Paris) 27 December 2018. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/tres-haut-debit-620-millions-d-euros-pour-accelerer-la-couverture-territoriale>.

<sup>3081</sup> Egypt, France sign 4 agreements in ICT field, Egypt Today (Cairo) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 7 May 2019. <https://www.egypttoday.com/Article/3/64038/Egypt-France-sign-4-agreements-in-ICT-field>

<sup>3082</sup> Egypt, France sign 4 agreements in ICT field, Egypt Today (Cairo) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 7 May 2019. <https://www.egypttoday.com/Article/3/64038/Egypt-France-sign-4-agreements-in-ICT-field>

<sup>3083</sup> Le Gouvernement et l'Arcep lancent un appel à la création de plateformes d'expérimentation 5G dans la bande 26 GHz, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=6829CD8D-0087-4D96-A232-5E061581AA60&filename=999%20-%20CP%20plateforme%205%20G-%20Arcep.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=6829CD8D-0087-4D96-A232-5E061581AA60&filename=999%20-%20CP%20plateforme%205%20G-%20Arcep.pdf).

<sup>3084</sup> French President Calls on Europe to Use Blockchain to Innovate the Agriculture Industry, Cointelegraph (Paris) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/french-president-calls-on-europe-to-use-blockchain-to-innovate-the-agriculture-industry>.

<sup>3085</sup> France Aims to Increase Data Centre Investment Via Tax Breaks After Brexit (London) 25 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://data-economy.com/france-aims-to-increase-data-centre-investment-via-tax-breaks-after-brexit/>.

selected partner countries of Africa with support of digital learning content and the use of innovative data systems.<sup>3086</sup>

On 21 February 2019, the German Bundestag approved an amendment to the Basic Law or constitution providing for the investment of EUR5 billion in digitalizing schools.<sup>3087</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the German government launched a spectrum auction as the first important element in the launch of 5G technology in the country. The auction was conducted by the Bundesnetzagentur (Federal Network Agency for Electricity, Gas, Telecommunications, Post and Railway).<sup>3088</sup> All revenue generated from the auction of 5G licenses was expected to go to the special fund for digital infrastructure. A total of 70 per cent of revenues will be channelled into the development of the gigabit network and 30 per cent will be earmarked for the digital compact for schools. Earlier the Federal Network Agency for Electricity, Gas, Telecommunications, Post and Railway announced that by the end of 2022 a minimum of 98 per cent of households, all motorways and major trunk roads and railway lines will be served by a 100 megabit per second system.<sup>3089</sup>

Germany has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepov*

#### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 18 December 2018, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare announced that it developed Kisan Suvidha mobile application to facilitate dissemination of information to farmers on the critical parameters. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) also compiled more than 100 mobile apps, which offer valuable information to the farmers, including package of practices, market prices of various commodities, weather related information, advisory services, etc.<sup>3090</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Sino-Indian Digital Collaboration Plaza, an initiative to bring Indian information technologies companies and Chinese enterprises closer to each other on a single artificial intelligence enabled platform was launched. This is a partnership by National Association of Software and Services Companies with Municipal Governments of Guiyang and Dalian. A Joint

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<sup>3086</sup> Africa Cloud - innovative e-Learning-Angebote für afrikanische Entwicklungssprünge Global Project Africa Cloud, German Agency for International Cooperation. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmz.de/de/mediathek/publikationen/reihen/strategiepapiere/Toolkit-Digitalisierung-Entwicklungszusammenarbeit-Bildung-Kultur-Medien.pdf>

<sup>3087</sup> Green light for the "digital compact for schools", German Federal Government (Berlin) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/green-light-for-the-digital-compact-for-schools-1583250>.

<sup>3088</sup> FAQs on the new generation mobile phone technology, German Federal Government (Berlin) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/faqs-on-the-new-generation-mobile-phone-technology-1592338>.

<sup>3089</sup> FAQs on the new generation mobile phone technology, German Federal Government (Berlin) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/faqs-on-the-new-generation-mobile-phone-technology-1592338>.

<sup>3090</sup> Mobile application for farmers, Government of India (New Delhi) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 18 December 2018. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1556465>.

Venture comprising one Indian and Chinese company was tasked with the running of the platform.<sup>3091</sup>

On 4 February 2019, the central government launched an integrated scheme for school education. Under the centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha, information and communications technologies component envisages covering all Government and Government Aided schools from classes VI to XII, subject to the availability of budgetary provision.<sup>3092</sup>

India has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Sbtanko*

### **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 19 December 2018, Indonesia's Ministry of Communications and Informatics announced new statistics of broadband coverage, which is assessed at 9.38 per cent for fixed broadband and 96 per cent for mobile broadband.<sup>3093</sup> The government was trying to accelerate the development of fixed broadband infrastructure to facilitate the use of fixed broadband and conducted a free trial for rental internet access to local business communities for five months to encourage small business players to use the internet.<sup>3094</sup>

On 28 January 2019, the Palapa Ring project had reached completion of 96.3 per cent; it is expected to become operational by mid-2019, improving internet access in rural areas throughout Indonesia and supporting the country's digital economy, which is targeted to achieve the volume of USD100 billion by 2025.<sup>3095</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Indonesian Nusantara Satu communications satellite was successfully launched, which will become an integral part of Indonesia's digital infrastructure, and provide the most remote islands and villages with reliable, broad-based and affordable broadband to fuel economic growth and opportunity in the region, as well as ensure voice and data communications and video distribution throughout the Indonesian archipelago.<sup>3096</sup>

Indonesia has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory.

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<sup>3091</sup> Launch of Sino-Indian Digital Collaboration Plaza, Government of India (New Delhi) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 10 January 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1559382>.

<sup>3092</sup> Digitalisation of Schools across the country, Government of India (New Delhi) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1562596>.

<sup>3093</sup> Indonesia struggling to achieve fixed broadband target, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2018/12/19/indonesia-struggling-to-achieve-fixed-broadband-target.html>.

<sup>3094</sup> Indonesia struggling to achieve fixed broadband target, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2018/12/19/indonesia-struggling-to-achieve-fixed-broadband-target.html>.

<sup>3095</sup> Nearly complete Palapa Ring key to boosting digital economy, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/01/28/nearly-complete-palapa-ring-key-boosting-digital-economy.html>.

<sup>3096</sup> Indonesia's Nusantara Satu Communications Satellite Successfully Launched By SpaceX, Spacewatch (Bern) February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://spacewatch.global/2019/02/indonesias-nusantara-satu-communications-satellite-successfully-launched-by-spacex/>.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

**Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 10 December 2018, at the Ministry of Economic Development the General Manager for Electronic Communications, Broadcasting and Postal Services Antonio Lirosi and the CEO of Infratel Italia Domenico Tudini signed the operating agreement for the realization of the WiFi project.<sup>3097</sup> The Ministry of Economic Development has entrusted Infratel Italia with the implementation of the Wi-Fi access point installation activities, the provision of maintenance services and the strengthening of any existing physical and technological infrastructures, primarily in the areas affected by the 2016 seismic events and in the territories of municipalities with a population of less than 2000 inhabitants.<sup>3098</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the Minister of Economic Development and Labor Luigi Di Maio and the President of the Lazio Region Nicola Zingaretti signed the Memorandum of Understanding at the Ministry of Economic Development for the dissemination of Wi-Fi connectivity in the municipalities of Lazio affected by the earthquake of 24 August 2016. The objective of the protocol is to allow citizens to access the Internet (5G) for free in public places and to encourage entrepreneurial initiative, enhancing research, tourism and culture.<sup>3099</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the Ministry of Agricultural, Food, Forestry and Tourism Policies and Google signed the Memorandum of Understanding to offer, through the free My Business page, greater visibility on the web to about 21,000 structures in Italy.<sup>3100</sup>

On 19 December 2018, Digital Italy Agency (AgID – technical agency of Presidency of Council of Ministers) extended the terms for the qualification of the cloud services provider and software as a service, necessary for the acquisition of the same by the administrations. It aims at protecting the needs of public administrations to proceed with the acquisition of cloud services in the process of qualification by Cloud service providers, also accepting the numerous requests received from the same service providers.<sup>3101</sup>

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<sup>3097</sup> Wi-Fi Italia: firmata la convenzione operativa per la realizzazione del Progetto tra Mise e Infratel, Agenzia per l'Italia digitale 10 December 2018. Access Date: 25 January 2019. <http://wifi.italia.it/it/wi-fi-italia-firmata-la-convenzione-operativa-la-realizzazione-del-progetto-mise-infratel/>

<sup>3098</sup> Wi-Fi Italia: firmata la convenzione operativa per la realizzazione del Progetto tra Mise e Infratel, Agenzia per l'Italia digitale 10 December 2018. Access Date: 25 January 2019. <http://wifi.italia.it/it/wi-fi-italia-firmata-la-convenzione-operativa-la-realizzazione-del-progetto-mise-infratel/>

<sup>3099</sup> Firmato Protocollo d'intesa tra il MiSE e la Regione Lazio per il Wi-Fi nelle zone terremotate, Agenzia per l'Italia digitale, Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico (Rome) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 25 January 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/it/198-notizie-stampa/2038926-firmato-protocollo-d-intesa-tra-il-mise-e-la-regione-lazio-per-il-wi-fi-nelle-zone-terremotate>.

<sup>3100</sup> Agriturismo, il ministero si allea con Google per la promozione online, Italia Digitale (Milan) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.corrierecomunicazioni.it/digital-economy/agriturismo-il-ministero-si-allea-con-google-per-la-promozione-online/>.

<sup>3101</sup> Cloud della PA: dopo il 31 marzo 2019 le amministrazioni possono acquisire solo servizi cloud qualificati, Agenzia per l'Italia digitale (Rome) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 3 January 2019. <https://www.agid.gov.it/it/agenzia/stampa-e-comunicazione/notizie/2018/12/20/cloud-pa-il-31-marzo-2019-amministrazioni-possono-acquisire-solo-servizi-cloud>.

On 23 January 2019, Lazio, Puglia and Sardinia signed territorial agreements with Ministry of Agriculture and the Agency for Territorial Cohesion to speed up the digital transformation of public services in their territories.<sup>3102</sup>

On 30-31 January 2019, the Italian delegation conducted a series of bilateral meetings with government and research organizations operating in the Artificial Intelligence field in the UK.<sup>3103</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the third meeting of the new Steering and Monitoring Committee set up by the Ministry of Economic Development on the activities of strengthening the public infrastructure network for ultra-broadband took place in order to discussing the Ultra-wide band construction with particular attention to local development and problems relating to site permits. Open Fiber announced that around 1,300 construction sites have been started and that by 2019 the opening of a further 2,000 construction sites is planned for the coverage of approximately 1.3 million users.<sup>3104</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Ministry of Economic Development launched the Global Start Up Program initiative, which supports 120 start-ups holding patents that intend to strengthen their technical, organizational and financial capabilities to face new markets. The project is aimed at Italian companies not yet present on international markets, engaged in the development of new high-tech ideas.<sup>3105</sup>

On 16 April 2019, the Embassy of Italy in Hanoi organized a seminar dedicated to the blockchain technology, the related aspects of security and traceability of data and applications for smart cities. The seminar also included discussions on the challenges and opportunities for cooperation between Italy and Vietnam in the scientific and technological field.<sup>3106</sup>

On 30 April 2019, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Development, Labour and Social Policies Luigi Di Maio and the Minister of Industry and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises of Tunisia Slim Feriani, signed the agreement for the electricity interconnection project between the two countries.<sup>3107</sup>

Italy has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova*

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<sup>3102</sup> Piano Triennale: Lazio, Puglia e Sardegna firmano gli accordi per velocizzare l'attuazione delle agende digitali, Agenzia per l'Italia digitale (Rome) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 25 January 2019. <https://www.agid.gov.it/it/agenzia/stampa-e-comunicazione/notizie/2019/01/23/piano-triennale-lazio-puglia-sardegna-firmano-accordi-velocizzare-lattuazione>.

<sup>3103</sup> L'Italia presenta l'iniziativa sull'Intelligenza Artificiale nel Regno Unito, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039157-l-italia-presenta-l-iniziativa-sull-intelligenza-artificiale-nel-regno-unito>.

<sup>3104</sup> Nel 2019 in avvio oltre 2mila cantieri per la banda ultra larga, Agenzia per l'Italia digitale 6 February 2019 (Rome) Access Date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039189-nel-2019-in-avvio-oltre-2mila-cantieri-per-la-banda-ultra-larga>.

<sup>3105</sup> Nuove imprese e mercati internazionali, al via il Global Start Up Program, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039401-nuove-imprese-e-mercati-internazionali-al-via-il-global-start-up-program>.

<sup>3106</sup> Hanoi: seminario su tecnologia blockchain, Ministero degli Affari Esteri (Rome) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. [https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2019/04/hanoi-seminario-su-tecnologia-blockchain.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2019/04/hanoi-seminario-su-tecnologia-blockchain.html).

<sup>3107</sup> Di Maio al Vertice Italo – Tunisino, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039662-di-maio-al-vertice-italo-tunisino>.

**Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 8 January 2019, Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications made a public appeal for proposals on subsidies for a project on the development of terrestrial basic broadcasting stations as part of a project to support the development of broadcasting networks.<sup>3108</sup>

On 22 January 2019, Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications held a promotion meeting for development and utilization of Wi-Fi towards the upcoming 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo.<sup>3109</sup>

On 1 December 2018, the 13<sup>th</sup> Japan-ASEAN Information and Communications Ministerial Level Meeting was held in Denpasar, Indonesia, having been focused on "the formulation of Japan-ASEAN ICT Work Plan 2019, a set of actions on cooperation and collaboration measures in the field of information and communications technologies (ICT), including disaster prevention, smart city, and cybersecurity plans."<sup>3110</sup>

On 17 December 2018, the Japan-Viet Nam joint working group on communications was held in Tokyo, having discussed the issues of "further cooperation of Japan and Viet Nam in the fields of cybersecurity, radio wave surveillance, and smart cities, and 5G for the future."<sup>3111</sup>

On 12 February 2019, it was reported that a number of ICT infrastructure development projects with Japan's investment and technologies involved were expected to be launched in 2019 in Zimbabwe.<sup>3112</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Japan's Toyota Tsusho and NEC corporations announced the conclusion of a contract with Uzbektelecom JSC, the Uzbek state-owned communication carrier, to expand and improve their nationwide network infrastructure as part of strengthening the communication environment of Uzbekistan and facilitating the enhanced use of mobile phones, the Internet and cloud-based services.<sup>3113</sup>

Japan has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

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<sup>3108</sup> Public Appeal (2nd Time) for Proposals on Subsidies for Development of Terrestrial Basic Broadcasting Stations as Part of Project to Support Development of Broadcasting Networks, Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Tokyo) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<sup>3109</sup> Holding Wi-Fi Development and Utilization Promotion Meeting for 2020 in Tokyo s, Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Tokyo) 2 January 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<sup>3110</sup> Results of the 13th Japan-ASEAN Information and Communications Ministerial Level Meeting, Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Tokyo) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<sup>3111</sup> Results of Second Meeting of Japan-Viet Nam Joint Working Group, Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (Tokyo) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<sup>3112</sup> Japan Promotes Ministry of ICT Infrastructure Developments, TECHNOMAG (Harare) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.technomag.co.zw/2019/02/12/japan-promotes-ministry-of-ict-infrastructure-developments/>.

<sup>3113</sup> Toyota Tsusho and NEC Conclude Contract with Uzbektelecom on Nationwide Data Communication System, Marketwatch (Tokyo) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.marketwatch.com/press-release/toyota-tsusho-and-nec-conclude-contract-with-uzbektelecom-on-nationwide-data-communication-system-2019-03-13>.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

**Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 4 December 2018, the leaders of Korea and New Zealand held a meeting in Auckland, New Zealand. The President of Korea Moon Jae-in and the Prime Minister of New Zealand Jacinda Ardern agreed to boost cooperation between the two countries in various spheres including information and communications technologies (ICT), healthcare, defense and biotechnologies.<sup>3114</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of Korea introduced measures to promote innovations in key industrial sectors including semiconductors, displays and rechargeable batteries. The ministry plans to work with industry leaders to enhance R&D of the next generation memory chips, semiconductor components, new materials for batteries as well as prevent technology leakages to foreign countries by means of designation of “key national technologies.”<sup>3115</sup>

On 26 December 2018, the Government of Korea announced its intention to establish a two-year innovative academy to nurture the national pool of software development professionals and boost industry. The government plans to allocate USD160.6 million for the project’s needs.<sup>3116</sup>

On 27 December 2018, the Korean Ministry of Science and ICT signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration with a goal to promote cooperation in the field of ICT and joint investment. The vice-minister of science and ICT of Korea said that the agreement will facilitate spread of the Korean ICT development model to Central America with a purpose to expand broadband Internet and ICT development.<sup>3117</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Government of Korea announced the blueprint of a project aimed at improvement of business regulation framework in ICT sphere. The concept of a so-called regulatory sandbox is designed to encourage ICT companies and startups to operate freely from excessive regulations to foster new growth engines.<sup>3118</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Korea and Croatia signed a MoU on Science and Technology cooperation. The parties agreed to expand cooperation in joint research and talent exchanges in various spheres including ICT, energy, life sciences, etc.<sup>3119</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ministerial meeting on promotion of innovations in industries took place. The government presented a list of measures aimed at integration of 5G Services into business

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<sup>3114</sup> Leaders of Korea, New Zealand agree to boost cooperation, economic ties, Korea Herald (Seoul) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181204000074&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181204000074&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>3115</sup> Korea vows to upgrade key industrial sectors, Korea Herald (Seoul) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181218000621&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181218000621&ACE_SEARCH=1)

<sup>3116</sup> Korea to found innovation academy to nurture software experts, Korea Herald (Seoul) 26 December 2018. Access Date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181226000519&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181226000519&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>3117</sup> Korea to Strengthen ICT Cooperation with Central America, Government of Korea (Seoul) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 2 April 2019.

<http://english.msip.go.kr/english/msipContents/contentsView.do?catId=msse42&artId=1502251>.

<sup>3118</sup> Korea announces blueprints of regulatory sandbox program, Korea Herald (Seoul) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190110000327&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190110000327&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>3119</sup> Korea – Croatia MoU on Science and Technology Cooperation Signed, Ministry of Science and ICT (Seoul) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. <http://english.msip.go.kr/english/msipContents/contentsView.do?catId=msse42&artId=1703799>.

practices supported with 3 per cent tax reduction for companies building 5G networks and promotion of promising services with KRW3.9 trillion of allocated funds.<sup>3120</sup>

On 25 February 2019, the Financial Services Commission of Korea announced its plans to establish an open financial payment system to foster development of the fintech business sector. The main purpose of the operation of a new system is to allow nonbank players to access the network facilitating money payments and transfers and thus decreases required time for consuming process and usage fees.<sup>3121</sup> The backbone of the system is a proposed single-window mobile app designed to grant access to diverse bank accounts and make cross platform transfers or payments.<sup>3122</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the Financial Services Commission of Korea announced package of measures aimed at fostering digital start-ups and innovative small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The package implies easing listing rules for targeted companies to help them list on the KOSDAQ (Korean stock Exchange) next year, and also includes proposals to cut tax rates. The program is supported with offered loans for innovative SMEs worth KRW100 trillion allocated for next three years.<sup>3123</sup>

Korea has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

#### **Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 24 December 2018, Mexican Institute of Transportation announced update of the existing Cartographic representation in digital and georeferenced format of the national road network.<sup>3124</sup> This measure allows updates to information on new road infrastructure works, which contributes to improving digital infrastructure.

Mexico has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure only within its territory.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich*

#### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 22 January 2019, the State Program “Development of Education” was supplemented by the rules for granting subsidies for the Digital Economy project implementation. As part of the Digital Economy project, the federal project Digital Education Environment provides for the establishment

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<sup>3120</sup> Government to Promote 5G Services and Fintech, Government of Korea (Seoul) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4629>.

<sup>3121</sup> Korea to form open financial payment network to boost fintech, Korea Herald (Seoul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190225000708&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190225000708&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>3122</sup> Korea to form open financial payment network to boost fintech, Korea Herald (Seoul) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190225000708&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190225000708&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>3123</sup> S. Korea to provide loans worth 100 tln won to innovative firms, SMEs, Korea Herald (Seoul) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190321000491&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190321000491&ACE_SEARCH=1).

<sup>3124</sup> Red Nacional de Caminos, Gob.mx (Moscow) 24 December 2018. Access Date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/imt/acciones-y-programas/red-nacional-de-caminos>.

of centers of digital education for children; for introducing the target model of the digital educational environment in general educational organizations and professional educational organizations.<sup>3125</sup>

On 4 February 2019, the Deputy Chairman of the Government held a meeting of the Presidium of the Government Commission on Digital Development. At the meeting, the requirements for the development of roadmaps in the areas of development of pass-through digital technologies, as well as the requirements for the operators of such development were approved.<sup>3126</sup> In addition, at the Presidium meeting, a list of 25 priority life situations for digital transformation of public services (development of super-services) were also discussed. To implement each of the 25 special services, a separate digital transformation team will be formed, the main tasks of which would be to develop the target state of the service from the point of view of the best user experience, optimize business processes, analyze existing state information systems and develop requirements for their modernization, taking into account common architectural requirements and best world practices.<sup>3127</sup>

On 20 February 2019, it was announced that the Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Communications of the Russian Federation will act as a coordinator for the creation of an innovation hub in Vietnam. The decision was made during the visit of the Russian delegation headed by the deputy head of the Ministry of Communications and Mass Media, Mikhail Mamonov, to Vietnam.<sup>3128</sup>

On 2 March 2019, the Government of the Russian Federation issued decree number 234. The government approved the regulations on the management system of the implementation of the national program "Digital Economy of the Russian Federation."<sup>3129</sup> The functional structure of the management system for the implementation of the national program, the procedure for the development, monitoring and control of the implementation of federal projects within its structure have been determined.<sup>3130</sup>

On 18 March 2019, Russian President V.V. Putin signed the Federal Law No. 34 on the legal regulation of digital rights. Federal law amended the Civil Code regarding the regulation of digital rights. At the same time, the rights of obligation and other rights named as such in the law are recognized as digital rights, the content and conditions for the implementation of which are determined in accordance with the rules of the information system that meets the criteria established by law.<sup>3131</sup> Implementation, disposal, including transfer, pledge, encumbrance of a digital right by

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<sup>3125</sup> . On the procedure for co-financing the implementation of national projects in the field of education, Government of Russia (Moscow) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019.

<http://static.government.ru/media/files/hNoFhA7vc9MijMUMDaZax0IUaM2cO587.pdf>.

<sup>3126</sup> Maxim Akimov chaired a meeting of the presidium of the government commission on digital development, Government of Russia (Moscow) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <http://government.ru/news/35622/>.

<sup>3127</sup> Maxim Akimov chaired a meeting of the presidium of the government commission on digital development, Government of Russia (Moscow) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 12 February 2019. <http://government.ru/news/35622/>.

<sup>3128</sup> The Ministry of Communications and Mass Media of Russia will coordinate the creation of an IT hub in Vietnam, The Ministry of Communications and Mass Media of Russia (Moscow) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 7 May 2019. <https://digital.gov.ru/ru/events/38790/>.

<sup>3129</sup> On the management system of the implementation of the national program "Digital Economy of the Russian Federation," Government of Russia (Moscow) 2 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019.

<http://static.government.ru/media/files/AaAVznPIXIM9VBt9B4UWuE9EnRLxK1AW.pdf>.

<sup>3130</sup> On the management system of the implementation of the national program "Digital Economy of the Russian Federation," Government of Russia (Moscow) 2 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019.

<http://static.government.ru/media/files/AaAVznPIXIM9VBt9B4UWuE9EnRLxK1AW.pdf>.

<sup>3131</sup> The President of Russia signed the Federal Law on the Legal Regulation of Digital Rights, Government of Russia (Moscow) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://government.ru/activities/selection/525/36098/>.

other means or restriction of disposal of digital law are possible only in the information system without recourse to a third party.<sup>3132</sup>

On 29 March 2019, Prime Minister of Russian Federation D.A. Medvedev signed the Order No 377-p. The Prime Minister approved the state program “Scientific and technological development of the Russian Federation,” The state program was developed taking into account the targets of the national projects “Science,” “Education” and “Digital Economy.” The state program provides for the consolidation of federal budget allocations for research and development of civilian use, mentioned in other state programs.<sup>3133</sup>

On 30 March 2019, Prime Minister of Russian Federation D.A. Medvedev signed the Order No 597-p. The signed order approved the allocation of interbudgetary transfers in the amount of 200 million rubles from the federal budget among 33 regions of the Russian Federation for the creation of virtual concert halls.<sup>3134</sup> According to this order, virtual concert halls will allow people living in places which are far from cultural centers in real time and in high quality watch concerts of leading Russian musical groups. As part of the implementation of the federal project “Digital Culture” of the national project “Culture,” it is planned to create 500 virtual concert halls by the end of 2024.<sup>3135</sup>

Russia has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Piekalnits*

#### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 18 December 2018, Dr. Abdul Aziz bin Salem Al Ruwais, Governor of the Communications and Information Technology Commission (CITC), inaugurated a workshop to promote the development of international mobile communications, policies, spectrum assessment and auctions, in the presence of more than 20 experts from several organizations and research organizations including the University of Massachusetts (MIT), in collaboration with the United Nations Telecommunications Organization.<sup>3136</sup>

On 19 December 2018, Saudi Aramco and the Saudi Information Technology Company signed an agreement aimed at the development of a new investment platform to facilitate growth of information technology companies. According to the statement, the focus of the new joint venture will be on opportunities with significant potential for local value creation, with the target market

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<sup>3132</sup> The President of Russia signed the Federal Law on the Legal Regulation of Digital Rights, Government of Russia (Moscow) 18 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://government.ru/activities/selection/525/36098/>.

<sup>3133</sup> Order on March 29, 2019, Government of Russia (Moscow) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <http://static.government.ru/media/files/AAVpU2sDAVMQkIHV20ZJZc3MDqcTxt8x.pdf>.

<sup>3134</sup> Order on March 30, 2019, Government of Russia (Moscow) 30 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <http://static.government.ru/media/files/x5YVaX6GGZvFZdKx2y3RFKISbj7t36Ng.pdf>.

<sup>3135</sup> Order on March 30, 2019, Government of Russia (Moscow) 30 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <http://static.government.ru/media/files/x5YVaX6GGZvFZdKx2y3RFKISbj7t36Ng.pdf>.

<sup>3136</sup> HE The Governor of the Telecommunications Authority inaugurates a workshop on the development of international mobile communications and related policies, frequency assessment and auctions, Communications and Information Technologies Commission (Riyadh) 18 December 2018. Access date: 25 June 2019. <https://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/mediacenter/pressreleases/Pages/2018121801.aspx>

being Saudi Arabia and the countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council, said a statement from Saudi Aramco.<sup>3137</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the Governor of the Communications and Information Technology Commission Dr. Abdulaziz bin Salem Al Ruwais signed the Agreement "Strengthening Cooperation and Partnerships in the Field of Communications and Information Technology" with the Director of International Telecommunication Union Telecommunication Development Sector during her first visit to Riyadh. The agreement will contribute to strengthening cooperation in supporting the work of ICT regulators around the world, especially in developing countries.<sup>3138</sup>

On 17 March 2019, the Saudi Ports Authority announced plans to increase the productivity and competitiveness of the Kingdom's ports as it seeks a 'qualitative leap' in its management methods and operational performance by means of integration of digital solutions into working routine in line with the Saudi Vision 2030.<sup>3139</sup>

On 28 April 2019, Saudi Arabia presented an ambitious initiative aimed at creation of more than 500.000 jobs in digital-related industries by 2023 in line with Vision 2030. The Ministry of Labor and Social Development of Saudi Arabia also announced launch of the Qiwa online platform to combine all the country's employment services in one-window system.<sup>3140</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 23-24 of January 2019, Deputy Minister of Communications Pinky Sharon Kekana launched various digital services at four public facilities in Vhembe District in Limpopo. The Digital services include, the rolling out of broadband services at four sites and the donation of equipment for information and communications technologies (ICT) to three schools as well as a comprehensive cyber-security outreach program.<sup>3141</sup>

On 5 of March 2019, South Africa and the UK announced their agreement to co-lead the Commonwealth Digital Connectivity Agenda. This was one of five clusters of activity promoted by the Commonwealth Connectivity Agenda on Trade and Investment, which was agreed at the 2018

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<sup>3137</sup> Saudi Arabia to set up new platform to drive digital transformation, Tahawultech (Dubai) Access Date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.tahawultech.com/region/saudi-arabia/saudi-aramco-sitc-jv-digital-transformation/>.

<sup>3138</sup> ITU signs agreement to strengthen cooperation and partnerships in the field of communication and information, Communications and Information Technologies Commission (Riyadh) 17 January 2019. Access date: 25 June 2019. <https://www.citc.gov.sa/ar/mediacenter/pressreleases/Pages/2019011701.aspx>

<sup>3139</sup> Saudi Ports Authority outlines plans to boost productivity and competitiveness, Logistics Middle East (Dubai) 17 March 2019. Access Date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.logisticsmiddleeast.com/transport/maritime/32307-saudi-ports-authority-outlines-plans-to-boost-productivity-and-competitiveness>.

<sup>3140</sup> Saudi Arabia plans to create 561.000 jobs under new digital employment initiative, Arab News (Riyadh) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 06 May 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1487711/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>3141</sup> Deputy Minister Kekana unveils digital services in Vhembe District, The Department of Communications (Cape Town) 21 January 2019. Access Date: 25 March 2019, <https://www.doc.gov.za/newsroom/media-releases/deputy-minister-kekana-unveils-digital-services-vhembe-district-23-24-jan>.

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London.<sup>3142</sup> The Digital Connectivity Agenda would facilitate an exchange of experiences, views and best practices on digital connectivity to support inclusive growth and sustainable development in the Commonwealth. Member states would cooperate across a range of areas for the development of national digital economies, including ICT capability; regulatory frameworks; digital infrastructure; the disruptive effects of digital trade; and the participation of women in the digital economy.<sup>3143</sup>

On 1 April 2019, Chief Electoral Officer Sy Mamabolo launched an innovative online reporting platform for citizens to report instances of alleged digital disinformation. The new platform is developed in partnership with Media Monitoring South Africa. It serves to facilitate for the online submission and tracking of complaints relating to disinformation encountered on social media platforms.<sup>3144</sup>

South Africa has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

### **Turkey: +1**

Turkey has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 21 December 2018, Turkey's National Broadband Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2020 was published.<sup>3145</sup> A primary target includes increasing investments in broadband services in order to spread related infrastructure across Turkey, and as specific aims at:

Improving access to fiber technologies across Turkey;

- Improving capacity and speed of internet connections;
- Progressing in line with market competition principles and market requirements;
- Expanding the scope of inter-machine communications;
- Developing smart city and transportation operations;
- Execution of 5G research development activities;
- Making broadband common and increasing the demand for internet services;
- Making internet services and applications widespread and common.<sup>3146</sup>

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<sup>3142</sup> Trade and Industry on UK and South Africa agreement to co-lead Commonwealth Digital Connectivity Agenda, South African Government (Cape Town) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/uk-south-africa-joint-announcement---commonwealth-digital-connectivity-agenda-5-mar-2019>.

<sup>3143</sup> Trade and Industry on UK and South Africa agreement to co-lead Commonwealth Digital Connectivity Agenda, South African Government (Cape Town) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/uk-south-africa-joint-announcement---commonwealth-digital-connectivity-agenda-5-mar-2019>.

<sup>3144</sup> Electoral Commission launches online reporting platform for digital disinformation, 1 Apr, South African Government (Cape Town) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 26 March 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/electoral-commission-launches-online-reporting-platform-digital-disinformation-1-apr-29-mar>.

<sup>3145</sup> Turkey: Turkey Announces National Broadband Strategy And Action Plan For 2017 To 2020, Mondaq 23 January 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.mondaq.com/turkey/x/666528/Telecommunications+Mobile+Cable+Communications/Turkey+Announces+National+Broadband+Strategy+And+Action+Plan+For+2017+To+2020>.

On 31 January 2019, the 3rd meeting of the Ministers of Information and Communication Technologies of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, having discussed the issues of expanding cooperation on cybersecurity, e-government, satellite services and the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway (TASIM) project, which is aimed to establish a transnational fiber optic line from Western Europe to East Asia (“Frankfurt to Hong Kong”) to eliminate “digital distinction” and open new economic opportunities.<sup>3147</sup>

On 12 February 2019, Turkey’s Information and Communication Technologies Authority approved bids from Turkcell, Vodafone Turkey and TTMobil to conduct 5G trials in different frequency bandwidths in Istanbul, Izmir and Ankara, the three largest cities of the country. Turkey’s Transport and Infrastructure Minister Cahit Turhan further stated that the country aimed to achieve the goal of shifting to 5G technologies in 2020.<sup>3148</sup>

Turkey has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 15 February 2019, the government set out its new strategic priorities for telecoms regulator Ofcom to support improved mobile coverage, broadband investment, and a better deal for consumers. The measures will be instrumental in helping to deliver the Government’s commitment to nationwide full fibre broadband coverage by 2033 and increasing geographic mobile coverage to 95 per cent of the UK by 2022.<sup>3149</sup>

On 5 February 2019, Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund invested GBP18 million in research and innovation projects. A total of GBP 13.3 million awarded to 24 projects, which saw industry collaborate with the research base to innovate. For all projects, the ultimate aim is to:

- Develop digitally-enabled simulations that support the design and management of buildings;
- Adopt offsite manufacturing approaches that improve the quality of buildings;
- Create active power generation and storage within buildings.<sup>3150</sup>

On 5 of March 2019, South Africa and the UK announced their agreement to co-lead the Commonwealth Digital Connectivity Agenda. This was one of five clusters of activity promoted by the Commonwealth Connectivity Agenda on Trade and Investment, had been agreed at the 2018

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<sup>3146</sup> Turkey: Turkey Announces National Broadband Strategy And Action Plan For 2017 To 2020, Mondaq 23 January 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<http://www.mondaq.com/turkey/x/666528/Telecommunications+Mobile+Cable+Communications/Turkey+Announces+National+Broadband+Strategy+And+Action+Plan+For+2017+To+2020>.

<sup>3147</sup> ICT ministers of Turkic Speaking States gather in Kazakhstan to mull TASIM project, Azernews (Ankara) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.azernews.az/region/145086.html>.

<sup>3148</sup> Turkey goes full throttle in 5G technology tests, Hurriyet (Ankara) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-goes-full-throttle-in-5g-technology-tests-141181>.

<sup>3149</sup> Mobile and Broadband Boost for UK Consumers, GOV.UK (London) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mobile-and-broadband-boost-for-uk-consumers>.

<sup>3150</sup> AI and digital design to transform future of UK construction, GOV.UK (London) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ai-and-digital-design-to-transform-future-of-uk-construction>.

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London.<sup>3151</sup> The Digital Connectivity Agenda would facilitate an exchange of experiences, views and best practices on digital connectivity to support inclusive growth and sustainable development in the Commonwealth. Member states would cooperate across a range of areas for the development of national digital economies, including capability for information and communications technologies; regulatory frameworks; digital infrastructure; the disruptive effects of digital trade; and the participation of women in the digital economy.<sup>3152</sup>

The United Kingdom has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mariya Kalugina*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 12 December 2018, the Federal Communications Commission announced additional funding to its Connect America Fund dedicated to expanding broadband internet service to rural communities. The agency will make available USD67 million more per year than originally earmarked for the project. The funds could bring high-speed internet connections to more than 100,000 additional households and businesses.<sup>3153</sup>

On 13 December 2018, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is offering up to USD600 million in loans and grants to help build broadband infrastructure in rural America.<sup>3154</sup>

On 6 February 2019, Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Anne Hazlett announced the USDA had launched a new toolkit to help support the deployment of high-speed broadband e-Connectivity in rural communities. This user-friendly tool will help rural customers find USDA resources to support the expansion and use of e-Connectivity in rural America.<sup>3155</sup>

On 23 April 2019, Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue announced that USDA is accepting online applications for funding through the new ReConnect Rural Broadband Pilot Program. These funds

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<sup>3151</sup> Trade and Industry on UK and South Africa agreement to co-lead Commonwealth Digital Connectivity Agenda, South African Government (Cape Town) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/uk-south-africa-joint-announcement---commonwealth-digital-connectivity-agenda-5-mar-2019>.

<sup>3152</sup> Trade and Industry on UK and South Africa agreement to co-lead Commonwealth Digital Connectivity Agenda, South African Government (Cape Town) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/uk-south-africa-joint-announcement---commonwealth-digital-connectivity-agenda-5-mar-2019>.

<sup>3153</sup> FCC offers \$67 million more per year for rural broadband programs, Engadget (London) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.engadget.com/2018/12/12/fcc-67-million-rural-broadband-connect-america-fund/>.

<sup>3154</sup> United States Department of Agriculture offers \$600 million in loans for expanding rural broadband infrastructure, US Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2018/12/13/usda-launches-new-program-create-high-speed-internet-e-connectivity>.

<sup>3155</sup> USDA Launches High-Speed Broadband e-Connectivity Resource Guide, US Department of Agriculture (Washington, D.C.) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2019/02/06/usda-launches-high-speed-broadband-e-connectivity-resource-guide>.

will enable the federal government to partner with the private sector and rural communities to build modern broadband infrastructure in areas with insufficient internet service.<sup>3156</sup>

United States has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure only within its territory.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Dmitriy Lukanin*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment to improve digital infrastructure.

On 11 December 2018, the government adopted the new European Electronic Communications code, which would boost investments in high capacity networks across the EU, including in remote and rural areas.<sup>3157</sup> In the Directive that issued this decision the Commission and the Member States commit to pursuing the following general objectives: promoting connectivity and access to, and take-up of, very high capacity networks, including fixed, mobile and wireless networks, by all citizens and businesses of the Union; promoting competition in the provision of electronic communications networks and associated facilities, including efficient infrastructure-based competition, and in the provision of electronic communications services and associated services, etc.<sup>3158</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the European Commission announced that it set out its ambitions for a comprehensive and innovative partnership between Africa and the EU called the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investments and Jobs.<sup>3159</sup> The objectives of this initiative includes providing recommendations on policies and measures that can support pan-African digital integration; providing recommendations on development assistance interventions based on the conclusions of the Abidjan Business Forum on how to mainstream digital services and technologies across different sectors of the economy and society (the focus was on the topics such as affordable broadband connectivity, boosting the uptake of digital skills, support to digital entrepreneurship and the deployment of e-Services.<sup>3160</sup>

On 8 January 2019, the European Union finalized the contract with Latin America to construct a fibre optic cable running under the Atlantic Ocean that will connect Latin America and Europe

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<sup>3156</sup> USDA Opens Application Portal for New ReConnect Rural Broadband Infrastructure Program, US Department of Agriculture. 23 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2019/04/23/usda-opens-application-portal-new-reconnect-rural-broadband>.

<sup>3157</sup> Directive (EU) 2018/1972 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 establishing the European Electronic Communications Code, Official Journal of the European Union (Brussels) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2018. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018L1972&from=EN>.

<sup>3158</sup> Directive (EU) 2018/1972 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 establishing the European Electronic Communications Code, Official Journal of the European Union (Brussels) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 10 February 2018. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018L1972&from=EN>.

<sup>3159</sup> The European Union-African Union Digital Economy Task Force, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-african-union-digital-economy-task-force\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-african-union-digital-economy-task-force_en).

<sup>3160</sup> The European Union-African Union Digital Economy Task Force, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 15 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-african-union-digital-economy-task-force\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-african-union-digital-economy-task-force_en).

(from Portugal to Brazil).<sup>3161</sup> By 2020, the cable would provide high broadband connectivity and boost business, scientific and cultural exchanges between the two continents. The cable would boost business exchanges and enable companies in Europe and Latin America to further develop a data economy, building on existing cooperation, for example in the fields of the Internet of Things and High-Performance Computing.<sup>3162</sup>

On 24 January 2019, the European Commission adopted an amending Implementing Decision to harmonize the radio spectrum in the 3.4-3.8 GHz (or 3.6 GHz) band for the future use with 5G.<sup>3163</sup> This was necessary to enable Member States to reorganize and allow the use of that band for 5G systems by 31 December 2020 in line with the European Electronic Communications Code. This decision would enable the take-up of 5G services in the Union. This band has been harmonized for wireless broadband services in the EU since 2008.<sup>3164</sup> However, its use has been low and only a limited number of licenses has been issued. This amendment of the Decision updated the technical conditions to make them 5G-ready as the 3.6 GHz band was identified as the primary pioneer band for 5G in the Union.<sup>3165</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the European Commission issued an annex to the Commission implementing decision on establishing a Multi-Annual Work Programme 2019 and 2020 for financial assistance in the field of Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Telecommunications sector.<sup>3166</sup> This document set out the 2019 work programme (WP2019) for CEF Telecommunications (CEF Telecom) Digital Single Infrastructures (DSIs) and wireless internet connectivity in local communities. It outlined the general objectives and priorities for actions to be launched in 2019 and explained how these can be tangibly achieved through the selected digital service infrastructure.<sup>3167</sup> It defined the scope of the programme as well as the envisaged level of funding, which would take the form of procurement, calls for proposals and other supporting actions.<sup>3168</sup>

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<sup>3161</sup> New data highway will bring Europe and Latin America closer, European Commission (Brussels) 8 January 2019. Access Date: <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/new-data-highway-will-bring-europe-and-latin-america-closer>.

<sup>3162</sup> New data highway will bring Europe and Latin America closer, European Commission (Brussels) 8 January 2019. Access Date: <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/new-data-highway-will-bring-europe-and-latin-america-closer>.

<sup>3163</sup> Commission decides to harmonise radio spectrum for the future 5G, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 14 February 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/commission-decides-harmonise-radio-spectrum-future-5g>.

<sup>3164</sup> Commission decides to harmonise radio spectrum for the future 5G, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 14 February 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/commission-decides-harmonise-radio-spectrum-future-5g>.

<sup>3165</sup> Commission decides to harmonise radio spectrum for the future 5G, European Commission (Brussels) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 14 February 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/commission-decides-harmonise-radio-spectrum-future-5g>.

<sup>3166</sup> Annex to the Commission Implementing Decision on establishing a Multi-Annual Work Programme 2019 and 2020 for financial assistance in the field of Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Telecommunications sector, European Commission (Brussels) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/sites/digital-agenda/files/c\\_2019\\_1021\\_f1\\_annex\\_en\\_v2\\_p1\\_1010998.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/sites/digital-agenda/files/c_2019_1021_f1_annex_en_v2_p1_1010998.pdf).

<sup>3167</sup> Annex to the Commission Implementing Decision on establishing a Multi-Annual Work Programme 2019 and 2020 for financial assistance in the field of Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Telecommunications sector, European Commission (Brussels) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/sites/digital-agenda/files/c\\_2019\\_1021\\_f1\\_annex\\_en\\_v2\\_p1\\_1010998.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/sites/digital-agenda/files/c_2019_1021_f1_annex_en_v2_p1_1010998.pdf).

<sup>3168</sup> Annex to the Commission Implementing Decision on establishing a Multi-Annual Work Programme 2019 and 2020 for financial assistance in the field of Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Telecommunications sector, European Commission (Brussels) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/sites/digital-agenda/files/c\\_2019\\_1021\\_f1\\_annex\\_en\\_v2\\_p1\\_1010998.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/sites/digital-agenda/files/c_2019_1021_f1_annex_en_v2_p1_1010998.pdf).

On 14 February 2019, the European Commission launched the CEF Telecom 2019–1 call, making EUR19.2 million available to stimulate and sustain the deployment of European DSIs in the areas of Automated Translation, eIdentification and eSignature, eDelivery, eInvoicing, Europeana and the EU Student eCard. This call was the first under the current CEF Telecom Work Programme. In 2019, CEF Telecom aimed to provide up to EUR88 million in total funding for 18 DSIs.<sup>3169</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the European Union and Australia agreed to strengthen support for sustainable infrastructure and development in the Pacific.<sup>3170</sup> The parties noted that Australia and the EU share a strong commitment to the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and recognize the need to support Pacific Small Island Developing States in order to meet the SDGs. They also emphasized the importance of digital infrastructure and connectivity for economic development and lifting productivity in the region.<sup>3171</sup> Australia’s Pacific Step-Up initiative will also deliver better economic infrastructure in the region through the AUD 2 billion Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific, along with the AUD1 billion increase in callable capital to the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation.<sup>3172</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the European Commission adopted a Cohesion Policy project worth more than EUR573 million of EU funds to support the deployment of fast broadband in Italy.<sup>3173</sup> The EU funding, covering 60 per cent of the project’s eligible costs, would help bring fast internet access to areas where it is currently not available. More than Italian 7,000 municipalities would be covered, totaling 12.5 million inhabitants and almost 1 million companies. The project was part of the “Italian Digital Plan – Ultra-broadband,” the national strategy for Next Generation Access network. It aimed to ensure connection speeds of at least 100 megabits per second (Mbps) for 85 per cent of Italian households and all public buildings – in particular schools and hospitals – and of at least 30 Mbps for all by 2020.<sup>3174</sup> The project would in particular cover so-called “white areas,” where market forces could not deliver the necessary infrastructure upgrade, in all 20 Italian regions. The project should be completed end of 2020.<sup>3175</sup>

On 12 April 2019, the EU announced that from this date forward European public administrations of the Member States would be able to process e-Invoices in the European Standard. This marked the implementation of the Directive 2014/55/EU on electronic invoices for public procurement that

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<sup>3169</sup> Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Telecom: Further €19.2 million to support cross-border services for citizens, businesses and public administrations, European Commission (Brussels) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/connecting-europe-facility-cef-telecom-further-eu192-million-support-cross-border-services>.

<sup>3170</sup> European Union and Australian Government - Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 7 May 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement_en).

<sup>3171</sup> European Union and Australian Government - Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 7 May 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement_en).

<sup>3172</sup> European Union and Australian Government - Joint Statement, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 7 May 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-and-australian-government-joint-statement_en).

<sup>3173</sup> The EU Invests In Fast Broadband for All in Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/04/04-04-2019-the-eu-invests-in-fast-broadband-for-all-in-italy](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/04/04-04-2019-the-eu-invests-in-fast-broadband-for-all-in-italy).

<sup>3174</sup> The EU Invests In Fast Broadband for All in Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/04/04-04-2019-the-eu-invests-in-fast-broadband-for-all-in-italy](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/04/04-04-2019-the-eu-invests-in-fast-broadband-for-all-in-italy).

<sup>3175</sup> The EU Invests In Fast Broadband for All in Italy, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/04/04-04-2019-the-eu-invests-in-fast-broadband-for-all-in-italy](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2019/04/04-04-2019-the-eu-invests-in-fast-broadband-for-all-in-italy).

was adopted in April 2014.<sup>3176</sup> The European Standard became available in October 2017. Ever since 2017 individual e-Invoicing country factsheets were prepared to monitor the state of e-Invoicing development in each Member State.<sup>3177</sup>

On 7 March 2019, the European Commission published the report on Africa-Europe Agenda for Rural Transformation prepared by the Task Force Rural Africa, which stated that the Task Force put particular emphasis on supporting access to internet among other things as critical tools for economic development.<sup>3178</sup> It was also reported that the EU invested in digitalization for agriculture in Africa. The EU also supported projects through research and connectivity: for example, European Development Fund provided funding for the Africa connect2 project where high speed internet in Zambia addressed soil degradation and input to sustainable land policies<sup>3179</sup>

The European Union has taken actions aimed at improvement of digital infrastructure within its territory and in other countries on a bilateral basis.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

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<sup>3176</sup> E-Invoicing Is Connecting Europe, CEF Digital (Brussels) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/wiki/display/CEFDIGITAL/2019/04/12/eInvoicing+is+Connecting+Europe>.

<sup>3177</sup> E-Invoicing Is Connecting Europe, CEF Digital (Brussels) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/wiki/display/CEFDIGITAL/2019/04/12/eInvoicing+is+Connecting+Europe>.

<sup>3178</sup> An Africa-Europe Agenda for Rural Transformation, European Commission (Brussels) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/food-farming-fisheries/farming/documents/report-tfra\\_mar2019\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/food-farming-fisheries/farming/documents/report-tfra_mar2019_en.pdf).

<sup>3179</sup> An Africa-Europe Agenda for Rural Transformation, European Commission (Brussels) 7 March 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/food-farming-fisheries/farming/documents/report-tfra\\_mar2019\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/food-farming-fisheries/farming/documents/report-tfra_mar2019_en.pdf).

### 13. Employment: Future of Work

“We endorse the Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work which we will draw on, considering individual country circumstances, to: harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.”

*Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration*

#### Assessment

Country	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada		0	
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.65	

#### Background

Issue of employment is one of the key priorities of G20 since London Summit in 2009. Already in the second summit leaders committed to support those affected by the crisis by creating employment opportunities and through income support measures and support employment by stimulating growth, investing in education and training, and through active labour market policies, focusing on the most vulnerable.<sup>3180</sup> In Pittsburgh G20 leaders pledged to implement recovery plans that support decent work, help preserve employment, and prioritize job growth. They also promised to continue to provide income, social protection, and training support for the unemployed and those most at risk of unemployment.<sup>3181</sup>

In Seoul in 2010 G20 focused on implementation of structural reforms to boost and sustain global demand, foster job creation, contribute to global rebalancing, and increase growth potential, and where needed undertake, including through education and training to increase employment in quality jobs, boost productivity and thereby enhance potential growth. The leaders pledged to improve the

<sup>3180</sup> London Summit – Leaders’ Statement, Center for International Institutions Research RANEP (London). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2009london/2009communiqu0402.pdf>

<sup>3181</sup> G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, Center for International Institutions Research RANEP (Pittsburgh). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2009pittsburgh/G20%20Leaders%20Statement.pdf>

development of employable skills matched to employer and labor market needs in order to enhance the ability to attract investment, create decent jobs and increase productivity.<sup>3182</sup>

The 2011 Cannes Summit paid a lot of attention to employment issues as well. Decisions were made in spheres of taxation to make it more employment-friendly, promoting youth employment, promotion of full respect of the fundamental principles and rights at work, strengthening the social dimension of globalization.<sup>3183</sup>

Employment became the central issue for the Mexican presidency in 2012. In Los Cabos G20 leaders committed to intensify our efforts to strengthen cooperation in education, skills development and training policies, including internship and on-the-job training, which support a successful school-to-work transition. They also pledged to work towards developing travel facilitation initiatives in support of job creation, quality work, poverty reduction and global growth.<sup>3184</sup>

In St. Petersburg in 2013 employment remained in the focus of G20 leaders. They committed to continue their efforts to support inclusive labour markets, with the exchange of country-specific plans or sets of actions, developed as appropriate according to our different constitutional circumstances. The leaders also expressed their intention to stimulate the creation of formal jobs through pro-growth structural reforms in product and labour markets, including by promoting labour market adaptability and efficiency, ensuring adequate labour protection, as well as appropriate tax regimes and other government initiatives that may be required according to national circumstances. Skills development, life-long learning, employment of vulnerable groups and especially young people, vocational training and other issues were also given attention in St. Petersburg final documents.<sup>3185</sup>

In 2014 in Brisbane G20 leaders set the goal of reducing the gap in participation rates between men and women in G20 countries by 25 per cent by 2025, taking into account national circumstances, to bring more than 100 million women into the labour force significantly increase global growth. They also reaffirmed their commitment to reducing unemployment among the youth. Also, employment plans were adopted for the first time.<sup>3186</sup>

In Antalya leaders set the goal of reducing the share of young people who are most at risk of being permanently left behind in the labour market by 15 per cent by 2025 in G20 countries. They also reaffirmed the need to implement Employment plans adopted in Brisbane.<sup>3187</sup>

In Hangzhou and Hamburg, the focus of employment agenda shifted towards matching the work force skills with the demands of digital economy. These issues became the center of attention during the Argentinian presidency in 2018. G20 leaders adopted the Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work. In these Menu leaders pledged to harness technology to strengthen growth and

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<sup>3182</sup> The G20 Seoul Summit Leaders' Declaration, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Seoul). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2010%20Korea/g20seoul.pdf>

<sup>3183</sup> Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Cannes). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2011cannes/Cannes%20Summit%20Final%20Declaration.pdf>

<sup>3184</sup> G20 Leaders Declaration Los-Cabos, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Los Cabos). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2012loscabos/G20%20Leaders%20Declaration%20-%20Los%20Cabos%2018-19%20June%202012.pdf>

<sup>3185</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration St.-Petersburg 2013, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (St.-Petersburg). Access date: 14 May 2019. <http://en.g20russia.ru/load/782795034>

<sup>3186</sup> G20 Leaders' Communiqué Brisbane Summit, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Brisbane). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2014brisbane/G20%20Leaders%E2%80%99%20Communiqu%C3%A9%20Brisbane%20Summit,%2015-16%20November%202014.pdf>

<sup>3187</sup> G20 Leaders' Communiqué Antalya Summit, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Antalya). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2015Antalya/000111117.pdf>

productivity; support people during transitions and address distributional challenges; secure sustainable tax systems; and ensure that the best possible evidence informs our decision-making. They also reaffirmed their commitment to building an inclusive, fair and sustainable Future of Work by promoting decent work, vocational training and skills development, including reskilling workers and improving labour conditions in all forms of employment, recognizing the importance of social dialogue in this area, including work delivered through digital platforms, with a focus on promoting labour formalization and making social protection systems strong and portable, subject to national law and circumstances. They also promised to continue fostering cognitive, digital and entrepreneurship skills, and encourage the collection and exchange of good practices. The G20 leaders also pledged to promote increasing labour force participation of underrepresented as well as vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities and implement policies to improve the employment situation of young people, consistent with the G20 Antalya Youth Goal.<sup>3188</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The commitment implies actions aimed at harnessing technology to strengthen growth and productivity in line with the Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work. New technologies present the greatest challenge for the future of employment, creating both opportunities and threats. That is why G20 leaders committed to harness technology to provide the most advantageous conditions for the future of work. Technology is the key to productivity growth and rising living standards. However, innovation as well as technology diffusion and adoption are uneven.

Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work contains several key spheres of actions to ensure high employment levels. One of them is harnessing the benefits of technology for growth and productivity.

This line of actions consists of three aspects.<sup>3189</sup>

- Bridge the productivity gap between frontier and lagging firms.

To ensure that more firms benefit from technological change, countries could foster a more competitive environment where new entrants can enter, innovate, grow and gain market share, limiting the “winner-takes-all” effect where appropriate. Countries could also consider tax and public expenditure as well as nonfinancial measures to help improve the productivity of lagging firms, particularly of small and medium-sized enterprises, through measures aimed at facilitating technology diffusion. Access to private funding is also key.

- Close the technological divide between advanced and emerging market economies.

To realise the benefits of innovation, emerging economies could develop comprehensive strategies to increase R&D investment while supporting the enhancement of other elements needed for the innovation process such as infrastructure, firms’ capabilities, human capital, and physical capital. International trade and investment also have an important role in technology adoption and knowledge diffusion.

- Expand the technological frontier.

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<sup>3188</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communique Hangzhou Summit, Center for International Institutions Research RANEPa (Hangzhou). Access date: 14 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2016Hangzhou/G20%20Leaders%E2%80%99%20Communique%20Hangzhou%20Summit.pdf>

<sup>3189</sup> G20 Menu of Policy Options for the Future of Work, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Buenos Aires). Access date: 14 May 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20\\_menu\\_of\\_policy\\_options\\_for\\_the\\_future\\_of\\_work\\_0.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/g20_menu_of_policy_options_for_the_future_of_work_0.pdf)

To raise growth, productivity, and living standards, countries could consider public investment in priority areas where the private sector is unlikely to invest and consider ways to crowd-in private investment. Countries could also consider policies that simplify their regulatory frameworks and reduce regulatory barriers so that businesses can test innovative products, services and business models.

The commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity thus implies actions inside the country aimed at bridging the productivity gap between frontier and lagging firms and promoting new technologies in general and actions outside the country aimed at closing the technological divide between advanced and emerging market economies.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G20 member does not take actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity domestically or help other countries.
0	The G20 member takes actions EITHER to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity domestically OR helps other countries
+1	The G20 member BOTH takes actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity domestically AND help other countries

### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment on employment.

On 21 December 2018, the Memorandum of Understanding between the Korean Agency for International Cooperation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of the Argentine Republic on the Triangular Cooperation Project for the Development of Agricultural Capacities in Paraguay was signed.<sup>3190</sup> The MoU aims to develop human resources in the spheres of agro-industry, health and justice.

On 23 January 2019, a platform for women aspiring to be bus drivers was launched by the Argentinian Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security.<sup>3191</sup> This measure is in line with the Argentinian court's resolution for public transport companies to hire at least 30% of drivers from women.

On 14 February 2019, the Agreement for the Competitiveness and Employment of Tierra del Fuego was renewed.<sup>3192</sup> In the document the national and provincial governments, companies and unions committed to make their contribution to improve the productivity and competitiveness of the electric industry to safeguard quality employment.

On 28-29 March 2019, the 14<sup>th</sup> edition of the Fair of the Future (Feria Futuro) took place in the Cultural Warehouse of the city of Mendoza.<sup>3193</sup> The event was organized by the Ministry of

<sup>3190</sup> Cooperación Sur-Sur y Triangular entre la Argentina, Corea y Paraguay, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto (Buenos Aires) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/es/actualidad/noticias/cooperacion-sur-sur-y-triangular-entre-la-argentina-corea-y-paraguay>.

<sup>3191</sup> Se creó el Listado de Mujeres Aspirantes a Choferes de Colectivo, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 23 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-creo-el-listado-de-mujeres-aspirantes-choferes-de-colectivo>.

<sup>3192</sup> Se renovó el Acuerdo por la Competitividad y el Empleo de Tierra del Fuego, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-renovo-el-acuerdo-por-la-competitividad-y-el-empleo-de-tierra-del-fuego>.

<sup>3193</sup> Más de 7500 jóvenes visitaron la Feria Futuro en Mendoza, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/mas-de-7500-jovenes-visitaron-la-feria-futuro-en-mendoza>.

Production and Labor of Argentina and National Institute of Youth and brought together more than 7500 young people who had the opportunity to communicate with companies' representatives, attend trainings and receive advice how to develop their ventures.

Argentina has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 14 February 2019, the Productivity Commission released a report "Growing the Digital Economy in Australia and New Zealand: Maximising Opportunities for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs)."<sup>3194</sup> The Productivity Commission is the Australian Government's independent research and advisory body. The report looks at the broad challenges and opportunities created by the digital economy and at what institutional and regulatory settings by the Australian and New Zealand Governments would be most effective. It identifies new opportunities for trans-Tasman collaboration in the delivery of trans-Tasman financial services, digital identity frameworks, streamlined digital trade processes and other areas.<sup>3195</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the federal government announced an inquiry into the "integration, employment and resettlement" of refugees and humanitarian migrants in Australia. Peter Shergold, the coordinator general of refugee resettlement in New South Wales, said: "It's generally seen that refugees come with many skills and experiences, and refugees tend to be risk takers, entrepreneurial. They are the group of Australians most likely to derive income from setting up family businesses."<sup>3196</sup> "I think it's important that almost from the day refugees arrive, we start to talk to them from day one, about what are their aspirations for employment ... and provide them with the advice they need," he said.<sup>3197</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the Australian Government asked the Productivity Commission to develop a whole-of-government evaluation strategy for policies and programs affecting Indigenous Australians, to be used by all Australian Government agencies. The productivity is expected to rise as the Productivity Commission will consult widely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and organisations, and with all levels of government. They will also consult with non-Indigenous organisations and individuals responsible for administering and delivering relevant policies and programs.<sup>3198</sup>

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<sup>3194</sup> Growing the Digital Economy in Australia and New Zealand: Maximising Opportunities for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Productivity Commission (Canberra) 14 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.pc.gov.au/research/completed/growing-digital-economy>.

<sup>3195</sup> Growing the Digital Economy in Australia and New Zealand: Maximising Opportunities for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Productivity Commission (Canberra) 14 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.pc.gov.au/research/completed/growing-digital-economy>.

<sup>3196</sup> Coalition plans inquiry into integration and employment of refugees, The Guardian (Sydney) 13 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/dec/14/coalition-plans-inquiry-into-integration-and-employment-of-refugees>.

<sup>3197</sup> Coalition plans inquiry into integration and employment of refugees, The Guardian (Sydney) 13 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/dec/14/coalition-plans-inquiry-into-integration-and-employment-of-refugees>.

<sup>3198</sup> Indigenous Evaluation Strategy, Productivity Commission (Canberra) 15 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/current/indigenous-evaluation>

Australia has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

**Brazil: 0**

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 14 December 2018, the Manaus Free Trade Zone's Board of Directors approved 15 industrial and service projects totalling USD77, 8 million. Six projects were approved for implementation and 9 for expansion, diversification and updating. Together, they are expected to generate 936 new jobs and BRL98,2 million in research and development investments in three years.<sup>3199</sup>

On 21 December 2018, the Secretariat of Commerce and Services issued new employment booklet covering work on Sundays and holidays, licenses, occupational safety, and health and guarantee fund on duty.<sup>3200</sup>

On 20 December 2019, the Executive Secretariat of the Foreign Trade Chamber represented the products developed throughout the year for an investment advisory (the website of the Ombudsman for Direct Investments; Investment Newsletter; Camex Indicator of Foreign Direct Investments; and the Technical Group of Support to the Direct Investor, created by Resolution Camex n° 80, within the scope of the National Investment Committee.<sup>3201</sup>

On 7 January 2019, Financier of Studies and Projects, the institute promoting Brazil's economic and social development through public funding, opened the second round of the program of investments in innovative startups. The initiative was aimed at both technology-based companies in the final stages of product development, and those that need to gain scale of production. The proposals submitted should be within the following subject areas: Agritech, Smart and Sustainable Cities, Construtech, Circular Economy, Defense, Creative Economy - Electronic Games, Education, Energy, Fintech, Healthtech, Mining, Oil & Gas, Chemistry.<sup>3202</sup>

On 8 January 2019, the Special Secretary for Productivity, Employment and Competitiveness (Sepec) on the opening ceremony of the body stressed that the relationship with the private sector, in the

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<sup>3199</sup> Conselho de Administração da Suframa aprova 15 projetos de investimentos industriais e de serviços, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 14 December 2018. Access Date : 14 March 2019.

<http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3738-conselho-de-administracao-da-suframa-aprova-15-projetos-de-investimentos-industriais-e-de-servicos>

<sup>3200</sup> Secretaria de Comércio e Serviços lança novos cadernos da série de cartilhas das relações de trabalho, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 21 December 2018. Access Date : 14 March 2019.

<http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3770-secretaria-de-comercio-e-servicos-lanca-novos-cadernos-da-serie-de-cartilhas-das-relacoes-de-trabalho>.

<sup>3201</sup> Secretaria-executiva da Camex apresenta as entregas de 2018 relacionadas ao tema investimento, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 14 March 2019.

<http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3766-secretaria-executiva-da-camex-apresenta-as-entregas-de-2018-relacionadas-ao-tema-investimento>

<sup>3202</sup> Aberta segunda rodada do programa de financiamento de startups, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/educacao-e-ciencia/2019/01/aberta-segunda-rodada-de-programa-de-financiamento-de-startups>.

next four years, will be partnership and much dialogue to increase Brazilian productivity, generate jobs, make economy more competitive, free companies from bonds.<sup>3203</sup>

On 6 February 2019, a representative of the Sepec attended the headquarters of Sebrae in Brasília and reaffirmed the Government's commitment to work in partnership with micro and small enterprises, improve the business environment and implement fiscal reforms in order to boost the productive sector and thus increase competitiveness, competition and the generation of employment, and income for families.<sup>3204</sup>

On 15 February 2019, the Sepec held a panel discussion with businessmen. There were discussed investments in infrastructure, professional training and partnerships with the private sector, and the reduction of a viable level of the tax burden.<sup>3205</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Federal Government, State Government of São Paulo and São Paulo City Hall gathered entrepreneurs in this year's edition of Doing Business Brasil to discuss credit supply, flexibility in opening and closing companies, updates on legislation and opening of markets.<sup>3206</sup>

On 27 February 2019, the Sepec of the Ministry of Economy presented the New SINE (the National Employment System), including the provision of the data for the System for companies and serving one more channel in the search for employment. Another planned step for the coming months in the New SINE was the standardization of data throughout the country.<sup>3207</sup>

Brazil has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions to help other countries were registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

## **Canada: 0**

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 7 December 2018, Member of Parliament for Yukon Larry Bagnell on behalf of the Canada's Minister of Natural Resource Amarjeet Sohi announced a CAD645,000 investment in two Indigenous forestry projects in Yukon that will create jobs and boost the local economy.<sup>3208</sup> The first investment of CAD595,000 helped the Teslin Tlingit Council purchase biomass wood chip boilers

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<sup>3203</sup> Carlos Da Costa apresenta equipe ao setor produtivo, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 9 January 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3784-carlos-da-costa-apresenta-equipe-ao-setor-produtivo>.

<sup>3204</sup> "É preciso impulsionar a produtividade e melhorar o ambiente de negócios", Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3805-e-preciso-impulsionar-a-produtividade-e-melhorar-o-ambiente-de-negocios>.

<sup>3205</sup> "Nós estamos de portas abertas para dialogar com o setor privado", Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3812-nos-estamos-de-portas-abertas-para-dialogar-com-o-setor-privado>.

<sup>3206</sup> Evento em São Paulo debate melhorias no ambiente de negócios, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3821-evento-em-sao-paulo-debate-melhorias-no-ambiente-de-negocios>.

<sup>3207</sup> Governo apresenta medidas para acelerar recolocação profissional, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.mdic.gov.br/index.php/noticias/3823-governo-apresenta-medidas-para-acelerar-recolocacao-profissional>.

<sup>3208</sup> Canada Invests in Indigenous Participation in the Forestry Sector in Yukon, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 7 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/canada-invests-in-indigenous-participation-in-the-forestry-sector-in-yukon.html>

for the community. The project is part of a larger initiative, supported by the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor), which reduces reliance on expensive non-renewable heating fuels and helps create jobs by installing direct heating systems.<sup>3209</sup>

On 18 December 2018, Member of Parliament for Tobique–Mactaquac, T.J. Harvey on behalf of Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, announced CAD295,000 in funding for two Indigenous forest sector projects in New Brunswick that will create jobs and boost the local economy.<sup>3210</sup> The first project is a multi-year investment of CAD255,000 to the Tobique First Nation that will establish a forest-based community business to create long-term employment opportunities and increase revenues in the community.<sup>3211</sup> Part of this funding has so far supported a detailed analysis of Tobique’s manufacturing options, which led to the purchase of a sawmill in Perth-Andover. The next phase of this funding will create standard operating procedures, training in grading and stamping lumber and management succession planning for the mill that will lead to more local jobs.<sup>3212</sup>

On 18 December 2018, Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources Amarjeet Sohi together with Canada’s Minister of International Trade Diversification Jim Carr announced more than CAD1.6 billion to support jobs and workers in Canada’s oil and gas sector as Canada seeks to diversify export markets for its resources beyond the United States. These measures will support workers and their families, foster competitiveness and improve the long-term environmental performance of the industry.<sup>3213</sup>

On 30 January 2019, Parliamentary Secretary to Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources Paul Lefebvre announced an investment of CAD4.5-million towards the CAD161-million project for Louisiana-Pacific’s Dawson Creek sawmill, which will boost the aging facility’s economic competitiveness and support local forest sector jobs.<sup>3214</sup> The funding, which is provided through Natural Resources Canada’s Investments in Forest Industry Transformation program, will support everything from engineering and design work to procurement, construction and start-up of Louisiana-Pacific’s mill conversion.<sup>3215</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Member of Parliament for the Northwest Territories Michael McLeod, on behalf of Canada’s Minister of Natural Resources Amarjeet Sohi, announced an investment of more than

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<sup>3209</sup> Canada Invests in Indigenous Participation in the Forestry Sector in Yukon, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 7 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/canada-invests-in-indigenous-participation-in-the-forestry-sector-in-yukon.html>

<sup>3210</sup> Canada Invests in New Brunswick’s Indigenous Forestry Initiative, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/canada-invests-in-new-brunswicks-indigenous-forestry-initiative.html>

<sup>3211</sup> Canada Invests in New Brunswick’s Indigenous Forestry Initiative, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/canada-invests-in-new-brunswicks-indigenous-forestry-initiative.html>

<sup>3212</sup> Canada Invests in New Brunswick’s Indigenous Forestry Initiative, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/canada-invests-in-new-brunswicks-indigenous-forestry-initiative.html>

<sup>3213</sup> Government of Canada Announces Support for Workers in Canada’s Oil and Gas Sector, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2018/12/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-workers-in-canadas-oil-and-gas-sector.html>

<sup>3214</sup> Government of Canada Supports Innovation and Jobs in British Columbia’s Forest Industry, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 30 January 2019. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-supports-innovation-and-jobs-in-british-columbias-forest-industry.html>

<sup>3215</sup> Government of Canada Supports Innovation and Jobs in British Columbia’s Forest Industry, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 30 January 2019. Access date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/01/government-of-canada-supports-innovation-and-jobs-in-british-columbias-forest-industry.html>

CAD3.5 million in two Indigenous-owned Nihtat Corporation projects that will create jobs, cut energy costs and reduce fossil fuel consumption in the North.<sup>3216</sup>

Canada has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions to help other countries were registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Uliana Kopyukh*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with the commitment on employment.

On 5 December 2018, the Chinese government introduced a new set of reform policies and measures to boost innovation. More efforts planned to be made for the commercialization of research and development findings; new fin-tech services will be introduced to explore more financing channels for small- and medium-sized tech companies.<sup>3217</sup>

On 27 December 2018, The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology announced that China would accelerate developing advanced manufacturing, strengthening its innovation and upholding the protection of intellectual property.<sup>3218</sup>

On 2 January 2019, China's Central Bank eased evaluation rules for qualifying financial institutions for supporting small businesses. Financial institutions can enjoy lower reserve requirements ratios if they lend a certain share of their loans to small and micro firms.<sup>3219</sup>

On 6 January 2019, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held a meeting with Senegalese Foreign Minister Sidiki Kaba. During the meeting, Wang Yi reaffirmed Chinese willingness to facilitate the construction of infrastructure projects and expand cooperation in building industrial parks in Senegal.<sup>3220</sup>

On 9 January 2019, Chinese authorities adapted a new policy on tax regulations for small and medium firms. The tax rate of small firms with taxable revenues of less than 1 million yuan will decrease to 5 percent, and firms with revenues above CNY1 million but lower than CNY3 billion will have a tax rate of 10 percent.<sup>3221</sup>

On 14 February 2019, General Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the General Office of the State Council issued a guide on strengthening financial support for small companies. According to the document, differentiated monetary and credit policies should be

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<sup>3216</sup> Canada Invests in Clean Energy for Indigenous Communities in the North, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/03/canada-invests-in-clean-energy-for-indigenous-communities-in-the-north.html>.

<sup>3217</sup> China to implement new set of policies to boost innovation, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 6 December 2018. Access date: 20 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/06/c\\_137653447.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/06/c_137653447.htm).

<sup>3218</sup> China to speed up development of advanced manufacturing, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 12 December 2018. Access date: 10 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/27/c\\_137702617.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/27/c_137702617.htm)

<sup>3219</sup> China's central bank adjusts targeted RRR policies to support small firms, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 3 January 2019. Access date: 10 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/03/c\\_137715434.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/03/c_137715434.htm)

<sup>3220</sup> China, Senegal to strengthen ties, promote China-Africa cooperation, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 7 January 2019. Access date: 9 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/07/c\\_137726018.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/07/c_137726018.htm)

<sup>3221</sup> China gives more tax breaks to small firms, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 9 January 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/09/c\\_137731754.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/09/c_137731754.htm)

adopted, and financial institutions are encouraged to lend more loans to private enterprises and small and micro businesses.<sup>3222</sup>

China has taken actions both to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score +1.

*Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 28 January 2019, Minister of State, Minister for Ecological and Solidarity Transition François de Rugy, Minister of Economy and Finance Bruno Le Maire, and Chairman of the Strategic Committee for nuclear sector Dominique Minière signed the strategic contract of the nuclear industry to provide employment, skills and training, to develop digital transformation of the nuclear industry, R&D and ecological transformation of the nuclear industry and international development and cooperation.<sup>3223</sup>

On 15 March 2019, Bruno Le Maire signed the contract of Strategic Committee of the Electronic Industries Sector and announced the launch of the development and industrial deployment Nano 2022.<sup>3224</sup> This contract will help to maintain French excellence in key digital technologies by boosting the research, development and innovation effort for the electronic components and by developing strategic partnerships across Europe and to develop the alternating training offer with the aim of doubling the number of alternates in the sector and to promote a competitive 'Made in France' electronic manufacturing by accelerating the transformation of the sector towards the sustainable electronic industry of the future.<sup>3225</sup>

On 19 February, Bruno Le Maire signed Franco-German Manifesto for a European Industrial Policy adapted to the 21st century (measures to increase investment in innovation).<sup>3226</sup>

On 28 March 2019, Bruno Le Maire and Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation Frédérique Vidal, Secretary of State to the Minister of Economy and Finance Agnès Pannier Runacher decided to continue financing the 9 companies in the amount of EUR147.5 million to

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<sup>3222</sup> China issues guideline on reinforced financial support to private enterprises, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 14 February 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/14/c\\_137822103.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/14/c_137822103.htm)

<sup>3223</sup> Signature du contrat stratégique de la filière nucléaire, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 28 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019.

[https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=E02EEB78-662E-4F7D-A197-D1EA4F9DDF5F&filename=991%20-%20Signature%20du%20contrat%20de%20fil%C3%A8re%20Nucl%C3%A9aire.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=E02EEB78-662E-4F7D-A197-D1EA4F9DDF5F&filename=991%20-%20Signature%20du%20contrat%20de%20fil%C3%A8re%20Nucl%C3%A9aire.pdf)

<sup>3224</sup> Signature du contrat du comité stratégique de filière de l'industrie électronique et présentation du plan Nano 2022, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 15 March 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=5829DDFB-3F26-44F7-A826-F46C47F333C7&filename=1097%20-%20CP%20Grenoble.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=5829DDFB-3F26-44F7-A826-F46C47F333C7&filename=1097%20-%20CP%20Grenoble.pdf)

<sup>3225</sup> Signature du contrat du comité stratégique de filière de l'industrie électronique et présentation du plan Nano 2022, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 15 March 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=5829DDFB-3F26-44F7-A826-F46C47F333C7&filename=1097%20-%20CP%20Grenoble.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=5829DDFB-3F26-44F7-A826-F46C47F333C7&filename=1097%20-%20CP%20Grenoble.pdf)

<sup>3226</sup> Manifeste franco-allemand pour une politique industrielle européenne adaptée au XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 19 February 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/1043-manifeste-franco-allemand-pour-politique-industrielle-europeenne-adaptee-au-xxie-siecle>

accelerate the transfer of Technology (SATT) created in 2012 as part of the Programmes d'Investissements d'Avenir.<sup>3227</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the Business Growth and Transformation Action Plan which aims to empower businesses to innovate, transform, grow and create jobs was adopted in second reading by the National Assembly.<sup>3228</sup>

On 9 April 2019, Minister to the Minister of State Elisabeth Borne, Minister for Ecological Transition and Solidaire, in charge of Transport Agnès Pannier-Runacher, Secretary of State for Minister of Economy and Finance, Henri Poupart-Lafarge signed the railway sector contract, in the presence of the Regions of France and trade union organizations (forward planning of jobs and skills allowing to develop the skills of employees to support major projects the sector).<sup>3229</sup>

On 7 December 2018, was announced that French Development Agency starts two new programs in Mauritania that will rapidly improve the daily life of people in the southern part of the country by promoting local development and the employment of young people in three vulnerable regions in south Mauritania.<sup>3230</sup>

France has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dariya Myasnikova*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 20 March 2019, the German Government adopted the benchmark figures for the 2020 federal budget. One of the spending priorities identified is strengthening innovations in the private sector, one example being the field of artificial intelligence.<sup>3231</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the German Government adopted the National Reform Programme 2019. It provides for steps Germany will take to attain the economic and financial goals agreed at the European level. Inter alia, Germany will take measures to strengthen innovation and investment, particularly in the fields of infrastructure, digitalization and education, including through increasing

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<sup>3227</sup> Poursuite du financement de 9 sociétés d'accélération du transfert de technologie, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 28 March 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=F6474ACD-5151-46F4-876E-3F078C88838B&filename=1127%20-%20CP%20SATT%20PIA.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=F6474ACD-5151-46F4-876E-3F078C88838B&filename=1127%20-%20CP%20SATT%20PIA.pdf)

<sup>3228</sup> Le projet de loi PACTE adopté en seconde lecture à l'Assemblée nationale, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/plan-entreprises-pacte>

<sup>3229</sup> Signature du contrat stratégique de la filière ferroviaire, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 19 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=4F9DC012-8448-4433-AF90-6C00F4A69D2B&filename=1154%20-%20%20COMMUNIQUE%20DE%20PRESSE%20-%20Signature%20du%20contrat%20strat%C3%A9gique%20de%20la%20fil%C3%A8re%20ferroviaire.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=4F9DC012-8448-4433-AF90-6C00F4A69D2B&filename=1154%20-%20%20COMMUNIQUE%20DE%20PRESSE%20-%20Signature%20du%20contrat%20strat%C3%A9gique%20de%20la%20fil%C3%A8re%20ferroviaire.pdf)

<sup>3230</sup> Support For The People Of South Mauritania: Emergency Action, Le groupe Agence française de développement (AFD) (Paris) 7 December 2018. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/support-people-south-mauritania-emergency-action>

<sup>3231</sup> For cooperation and innovation, German Federal Government (Berlin) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/for-cooperation-and-innovation-1592412>.

public investment at regional and municipal level. In addition, incentives will be developed to raise employment rates.<sup>3232</sup>

In 2019, Germany has continued the implementation of projects harnessing technology to strengthen growth and productivity in other countries. As part of its initiative ONE WORLD – No Hunger, the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development set up green innovation centers in 14 partner countries. The Ministry will provide funding of EUR277.7 million for these centers until March 2022. The aim of the centers is to use innovation in the agriculture and food sector to increase regional food supplies, boost the income of smallholders, and to create more employment opportunities, particularly in the area of food processing.<sup>3233</sup>

Germany has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepon*

### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 19 December 2018, the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) under the Government of India unveiled its comprehensive national Strategy for New India, which defines clear objectives for 2022-23 with forty-one crucial areas. Regarding the issue of employment, the NITI has pitched for completing labour reforms, increasing participation of women workers to 30 per cent, implementing minimum wage, improving employment data collection, easing industrial relations to encourage formalization, and broadening social security.<sup>3234</sup>

On 31 December 2018, a number of Joint Research Programmes were agreed to be implemented through Memoranda of Understanding and Agreements between the Government of India and the Government of other countries like the United States, United Kingdom, Israel, Norway, New Zealand and Germany. The Programmes are being implemented to provide opportunity to young Indian researchers and teachers of all disciplines to have international collaborative research training in advance techniques and technologies in emerging fields.<sup>3235</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the introduction of National Institutes of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management Bill, 2019. The objective of the bill is to confer the status of Institutions of National Importance to National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management at Kundli, Haryana, and the Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology at Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu. The legislation would provide for functional autonomy to the institutes to design and develop courses, undertake research

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<sup>3232</sup> National Reform Programme 2019, German Federal Government (Berlin) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/national-reform-programme-2019-1599820>.

<sup>3233</sup> Green innovation centres – increase the income of smallholders, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Food/gruene\\_innovationszentren/hintergrund/index.html](https://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Food/gruene_innovationszentren/hintergrund/index.html).

<sup>3234</sup> The Strategy for New India, National Institution for Transforming India (Delhi) 19 December 2018. Access date: 9 December 2018. <http://niti.gov.in/the-strategy-for-new-india>

<sup>3235</sup> Joint Research Programme to promote collaboration of Indian researchers with international techniques and technologies, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 31 December 2018. Access date: 31 December 2018. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1557977>

activities and leverage enhanced status in their academic pursuits, so that they become world class institutes.<sup>3236</sup>

India has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Stanko*

### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 7 February 2019, it was reported that governments of Indonesia and Australia will work jointly to address employment and labor force issues, in particular through a recently launched research platform called the Knowledge Sector Initiative, which will discuss ideas and solutions during the upcoming in July 2019 annual Indonesia Development Forum to be focused on employment and productivity.<sup>3237</sup>

On 22 February 2019, it was reported Indonesia's government pledged to improve the digital economy regulatory framework, which will include issuing or revising regulations on e-commerce, a personal data protection bill and a tax office regulation on the e-commerce tax, e-commerce road map and regulation management of electronic transactions and systems; these reforms are intended to help transform Indonesia into a regional digital economy hub by 2020.<sup>3238</sup>

On 3 March 2019, Otoritas Jasa Keuangan (OJK), Indonesia's financial services authority, held a national seminar entitled "Millennial Collaboration and Fintech Towards 4.0 Industrial Revolution"; during the seminar it was noted, in particular, that OJK intends to contribute to development of Fintech startups with preparing infrastructure such as the Fintech Center that entrepreneurs can consult with prior to launching a startup, as well as regulatory sandbox arrangements.<sup>3239</sup>

On 4 March 2019, it was reported that Indonesia's Minister of Communication and Information encouraged state and private universities in the country to establish a Digital Economy Study Program; to this end, the Ministry pledges to help universities obtain syllabus on digital economy from foreign educational institutions; additionally, the Ministry announced Digital Talent Scholarship 2019 for 25,000 Indonesian nationals who are not yet scholars aimed to develop the knowledge as well as to improve the skills and competencies of the younger generation.<sup>3240</sup>

Indonesia has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

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<sup>3236</sup> Cabinet approves introduction of National Institutes of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management Bill, 2019 in the Parliament, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1562969>

<sup>3237</sup> Government teams up with Australia to improve employment, workforce, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/07/government-teams-up-with-australia-to-improve-employment-workforce.html>

<sup>3238</sup> Indonesia aspires to be regional digital technology hub next year, The Phnom Penh (Phnom Penh) Post 22 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.phnompenhpost.com/business/indonesia-aspires-be-regional-digital-technology-hub-next-year>

<sup>3239</sup> Help Startup, OJK Opens Free Consultation through the Fintech Center, Detikfinance (Jakarta) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://finance.detik.com/moneter/d-4462482/bantu-startup-ojk-buka-konsultasi-gratis-lewat-fintech-center>

<sup>3240</sup> Indonesia's initiatives to meet human resources requirement, OpenGovAsia (Singapore) 4 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.opengovasia.com/indonesias-initiatives-to-meet-human-resources-requirement/>

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

**Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 5 December 2018, during the third session of the joint Italy-Serbia commission in Belgrade Italian Ambassador to Serbia Carlo Lo Cascio and Minister of Education, Science and Technological Development Mladen Šarčević signed the 2019-2021 Executive Protocol that includes the list of bilateral projects aimed at funding in six specific areas: basic sciences; health and wellness; agriculture and food technology; safe, clean and efficient energy: development and environmental protection; information and communication technologies, including technologies applied to cultural heritage; advanced production and treatment, nanotechnologies and biotechnologies.<sup>3241</sup>

On 4-6 December 2018, during Week I of Italy-China of Innovation Minister of Education Marco Bussetti and Minister of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China Wang Zhigang signed nineteen economic and academic cooperation agreements on artificial intelligence, robotics, collaboration for the construction of the new Chinese national synchrotron, construction of clusters on emerging technologies, start of summer schools for Chinese and Italian students in mechatronics, robotics advanced and digital systems.<sup>3242</sup>

On 19 December 2018, Ministry of Economic Development approved projects for the reconversion and industrial redevelopment of the Porto Torres and Portovesme crisis areas that aim to promote the revitalization of the territory through the promotion of new productive investments and the re-employment of personnel who have escaped from the labor market and to orient industrial reconversion towards the sectors considered priority by the work group, thus able to ensure lasting and sustainable economic development.<sup>3243</sup>

On 30 December 2018, the Italian Government approved Budget law that includes introduction of a tax discount for companies that purchase functional (material) functional assets for the technological and digital transformation of activities and a non-repayable contribution for the acquisition of specialist consultancy related to the technological and digital transformation through the technologies envisaged by the Business Plan 4.0.<sup>3244</sup>

On 7 February 2019, the Ministry of Economic Development approved a law “Nuova Sabatini 2019” that includes measures to make micro, small and medium-sized companies invest in capital goods such as plants, machinery, industrial equipment, commercial equipment, hardware, software and digital technologies, big data, cloud computing, cybersecurity, advanced robotics and mechatronics,

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<sup>3241</sup> Italia-Serbia firmato il Protocollo Esecutivo di cooperazione scientifica e tecnologica 2019-2021, Innovitalia 3.0 (Rome) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.innovitalia.net/notizia/italia-serbia-firmato-il-protocollo-esecutivo-di-cooperazione-scientifica-e-tecnologica-2019-2021/>.

<sup>3242</sup> Italia-Cina, al via la Settimana dell'Innovazione Sottoscritti 19 accordi di cooperazione: sistemi di ricerca più vicini, Settimana Italia-Cina della Scienza, della Tecnologia e dell'innovazione (Rome) 6 December 2018. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.cnr.it/it/intervento-presidente/allegato/1558>.

<sup>3243</sup> Al MiSE approvati i progetti di riconversione e riqualificazione industriale delle aree di crisi di Porto Torres e Portovesme, Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico (Rome) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2038991-al-mise-approvati-i-progetti-di-riconversione-e-riqualificazione-industriale-delle-aree-di-crisi-di-porto-torres-e-portovesme>.

<sup>3244</sup> La manovra è legge, ecco le misure in dettaglio, La Stampa (Rome) 30 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.lastampa.it/2018/12/30/economia/la-manovra-legge-ecco-le-misure-in-dettaglio-ngeyXPCU2pZNd750Ui6GsK/pagina.html>.

augmented reality, 4D manufacturing and radio frequency identification.<sup>3245</sup> It provides access to the Guarantee Fund for small and medium-sized enterprises in support of loans provided by banks and financial intermediaries (up to 80 per cent of the investment amount), as well as a contribution from part of the Ministry of Economic Development compared to the whole number of loans.<sup>3246</sup>

On 23 March 2019, Italian President of the Council Giuseppe Conte and the President of the People's Republic of China Xi Jinping signed Memorandum of Understanding between Italy and China on cooperation in the area of the Economic Silk Road and the Initiative for a 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. 29 agreements were signed by different ministries of Italy and China that aim to collaborate in sphere of Innovative and Technological Startups, electricity trade sector, export of fresh citrus fruits, energy.<sup>3247</sup>

On 11 April 2019, the first meeting between the 18 Digital Innovation hubs promoted by Confindustria and the eight competence centers promoted and financed by the Ministry of Economic Development was held at the Ministry of Economic Development. At the end of the meeting the first two decrees for the granting of loans were signed to the START competence centers in Genoa, promoted by the CNR (Italy's national research centre), and by the MADE competence center, promoted by the Milan Polytechnic.<sup>3248</sup>

On 18 April 2019, the Global Entrepreneurship Congress took place in Manama (Bahrain), an event that annually brings together the international community of entrepreneurs, investors and startups and saw the presence of operators from over 150 countries. Marco Bellezza, Councilor for Digital Innovation and Communication of the Minister of Economic Development, Luigi Di Maio, was present for Italy. In a meeting on the sidelines of the work with the CEO of the local organization it was agreed to investigate possible bilateral collaborations in the Fintech area.<sup>3249</sup>

Italy has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

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<sup>3245</sup> Nuova Sabatini 2019, riaperto lo sportello per le PMI, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 7 February 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039198-nuova-sabatini-2019-riaperto-lo-sportello-per-le-pmi>.

<sup>3246</sup> Nuova Sabatini 2019, riaperto lo sportello per le PMI, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 7 February 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039198-nuova-sabatini-2019-riaperto-lo-sportello-per-le-pmi>

<sup>3247</sup> Via della Seta, 29 accordi tra Italia e Cina: agrumi, tasse, spazio, turismo, Affari Italiani (Rome) 23 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. [www.affaritaliani.it/politica/geopolitica/via-della-seta-29-accordi-tra-italia-e-cina-agrumi-tasse-spazio-turismo-595361.html?refresh\\_ce](http://www.affaritaliani.it/politica/geopolitica/via-della-seta-29-accordi-tra-italia-e-cina-agrumi-tasse-spazio-turismo-595361.html?refresh_ce)

<sup>3248</sup> Finanziati i Competence center Start di Genova e Made di Milano, Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico (Rome) 11 April 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039585-mise-primo-incontro-digital-innovation-hub>

<sup>3249</sup> In Bahrein il Global Entrepreneurship Congress 2019, Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico (Rome) 18 April 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039620-in-bahrein-il-global-entrepreneurship-congress-2019>

On 19 December 2018, it was reported that a special website Knowledge Base for Startups was opened to provide useful information for startups such as need-to-know basics concerning intellectual property strategies, support measures and the latest event information.<sup>3250</sup>

On 9 January 2019, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) announced revision of the “promotion standards” under the Act on the Promotion of Subcontracting Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in order to improve the business transaction conditions for SMEs and other subcontractors.<sup>3251</sup>

On 11 January 2019, METI announced launch of a Study Group for Human Resource Management toward Enhanced Competitiveness, which will discuss ideal approaches to human resource management to enhance the competitiveness of Japanese companies, in order to enhance their earning power and create virtuous cycles in the economy amid the dramatic changes in social and economic environments such as globalization, digitalization and an aging society with fewer children.<sup>3252</sup>

On 6 March 2019, METI held a seminar bringing together representatives of mid-ranking Japanese companies successfully engaging in business overseas and overseas companies with significant achievements in global business activities, to discuss the roles of mid-ranking companies and their business opportunities for expanding business into foreign markets, as well as measures to support them.<sup>3253</sup>

On 7 January 2019, it was reported that the International Organization for Standardization, per request from Japan led by METI, approved the establishment of a new technical committee for the development of international standards for the sharing economy to enhance safety and trustworthiness of information exchange in sharing economy; the new committee will be led by Japan.<sup>3254</sup>

On 15 January 2019, METI and the Ministry of Economy and Industry of the State of Israel, signed a memorandum of cooperation in the field of digital health for building collaboration between medical startups and medical institutions of the two countries, as well as hold events concerning healthcare business environments and measures for supporting companies related to digital health.<sup>3255</sup>

On 20-22 January 2019, Japan-Russia summit was held in Moscow; as one of its outcomes, achievements in Japan-Russia cooperation in industry were confirmed, including the project being undertaken to determine the productivity of Russian companies that take advantage of Japan’s

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<sup>3250</sup> Portal Website Titled “IP Knowledge Base for Startups” Opens, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 19 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1219\\_004.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2018/1219_004.html)

<sup>3251</sup> METI Revises “Promotion Standards” under Article 3 (1) of the Act on the Promotion of Subcontracting Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 9 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0109\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0109_002.html)

<sup>3252</sup> METI Launches Study Group for Human Resource Management toward Enhanced Competitiveness, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 11 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0111\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0111_001.html)

<sup>3253</sup> Event Titled “Seminar on Global Top Management: Effort for Encouraging Regional Companies to Enter Global Markets” to be Held, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 23 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0123\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0123_002.html)

<sup>3254</sup> ISO Approved the Establishment of a Technical Committee for International Standardization for the Sharing Economy in Response to Japan’s Proposal, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 7 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0107\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0107_002.html)

<sup>3255</sup> Health is Wealth: METI and the Ministry of Economy and Industry of Israel Sign a Memorandum of Cooperation in the Field of Digital Health, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 17 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0117\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0117_002.html)

knowhow and experience and the project for advancing human resources development in supporting industries; the two countries agreed to continue advancing these efforts.<sup>3256</sup>

Japan has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 4 December 2018, the leaders of Korea and New Zealand held a meeting in Auckland, New Zealand. Moon Jae-in, the President of Korea, and Jacinda Ardern, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, agreed to boost cooperation between the two countries in various spheres including information and communications technologies (ICT), healthcare, defense and biotechnologies.<sup>3257</sup>

On 27 December 2018, the Ministry of Science and ICT signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with CABI (Central American Bank for Economic Integration) with a goal to promote cooperation in the field of ICT and joint investment. The vice-minister of science and ICT of Korea said that the agreement will facilitate spread of the Korean ICT development model to Central America with a purpose to expand broadband Internet and ICT development.<sup>3258</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the Government of Korea presented a roadmap aimed at increase in usage of hydrogen-powered cars. The Government plans to increase domestic production of eco-friendly types of cars, fuel cell production and total number of charging stations. The ambition is driven by ecological concerns as well as economic calculations: expecting revenue from increase in hydrogen-powered vehicles production would reach KRW40 trillion by 2040 with more than 420000 created jobs.<sup>3259</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Korea and Croatia signed a MoU on Science and Technology cooperation. The parties agreed to expand cooperation in joint research and talent exchanges in various spheres including ICT, energy, life sciences, etc.<sup>3260</sup>

Korea has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

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<sup>3256</sup> METI Minister Seko Visits the Russian Federation, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 23 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0123\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0123_003.html)

<sup>3257</sup> Leaders of Korea, New Zealand agree to boost cooperation, economic ties, Korea Herald (Seoul) 4 December 2018. Access date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181204000074&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20181204000074&ACE_SEARCH=1)

<sup>3258</sup> Korea to Strengthen ICT Cooperation with Central America, Ministry of Science and ICT (Seoul) 27 December 2018. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<http://english.msip.go.kr/english/msipContents/contentsView.do?catelid=mse42&artId=1502251>

<sup>3259</sup> Gov't unveils roadmap for hydrogen-powered economy, Korea Times (Seoul) 17 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. [https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2019/01/419\\_262238.html](https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2019/01/419_262238.html)

<sup>3260</sup> Korea – Croatia MoU on Science and Technology Cooperation Signed, Ministry of Science and ICT (Seoul) 14 February 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<http://english.msip.go.kr/english/msipContents/contentsView.do?catelid=mse42&artId=1703799>

**Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 18 December 2018, President López Obrador and Nestlé Mexico announced historic investment of MEX154 million for the installation of a new factory in Veracruz. Construction, installation and operation stages of the new factory will generate more than 10 thousand direct and indirect jobs in the state of Veracruz.<sup>3261</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Ministry of Labor and Social Security published information on the extension of the current Employment Support Program, which allows to ensure providing citizens with jobs.<sup>3262</sup>

Mexico has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions of help to other countries were registered.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich*

**Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 30 December 2018, the Order No. 3025-p approved the Special Program for Vocational Training and Additional Professional Education for Citizens of Pre-retirement Age for the Period up to 2024 and a plan for organizing such training. The program is designed to create economic and social conditions that exclude discrimination of citizens of pre-retirement age due to the changes in pension legislation. They will be able to continue working in both the former and the new jobs according to their professional skills. By the end of 2024 at least 450,000 people will likely be trained.<sup>3263</sup>

On 20-22 January 2019, Japan-Russia summit was held in Moscow; as one of its outcomes, achievements in Japan-Russia cooperation in industry were confirmed, including the project being undertaken to determine the productivity of Russian companies that take advantage of Japan's knowhow and experience and the project for advancing human resources development in supporting industries; the two countries agreed to continue advancing these efforts.<sup>3264</sup>

Russia has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Piekalnits*

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<sup>3261</sup> Presidente López Obrador y Nestlé México anuncian inversión histórica de 154 mdd para instalación de nueva fábrica en Veracruz, Mexican Government (Mexico) 18 December 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/presidente-lopez-obrador-y-nestle-mexico-anuncian-inversion-historica-de-154-mdd-para-instalacion-de-nueva-fabrica-en-veracruz?idiom=es>

<sup>3262</sup> Programa de Apoyo al Empleo, Mexican Government (Mexico) 27 February 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/stps/documentos/programa-de-apoyo-al-empleo>

<sup>3263</sup> On approval of the program of vocational training and additional professional education of citizens of pre-retirement age, Russian Government (Moscow) 31 December 2018. Access date: 16 February 2019. <http://government.ru/docs/35283/>

<sup>3264</sup> METI Minister Seko Visits the Russian Federation, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 23 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0123\\_003.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0123_003.html)

**Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 8 February 2019, the Ministry of Labor and Social Development of Saudi Arabia and the General Authority of Small and Medium Enterprises (Monshaat) presented a number of new services to encourage the development of small and medium enterprises in Saudi Arabia to increase total employment among Saudi nationals.<sup>3265</sup>

On 28 April 2019, Saudi Arabia presented an initiative aimed at creation of more than 500.000 jobs in digital-related industries by 2023 in line with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. The Ministry of Labor and Social Development of Saudi Arabia also announced launch of the Qiwa online platform to combine all the country's employment services in one-window system.<sup>3266</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions of help to other countries were registered.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

**South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 20 March 2019, Provincial Minister for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs Sihle Zikalala announced R18 billion expansion plan for Dube Trade Port the expansion of one of two KwaZulu-Natal Special Economic Zones, Dube TradePort, was set to create hundreds of jobs as the province geared for yet another round of the miracle in its Durban Aerotropolis precinct.<sup>3267</sup>

On 28 March 2019, President Cyril Ramaphosa launched the Business Leadership South Africa Connect. Business Leadership South Africa Connect was an online trading platform which would link registered small, medium and micro enterprises access to supply chain opportunities of large South African corporations that had an integrated global footprint. The online portal would promote supplier diversity and the inclusion of black suppliers in the value chain.<sup>3268</sup>

South Africa has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions of help to other countries were registered.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

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<sup>3265</sup> New "Saudization" labor initiatives aim to encourage startups, Arab News (Jeddah) 8 February 2019. Access date: 06 May 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1448851/saudi-arabia>

<sup>3266</sup> Saudi Arabia plans to create 561.000 jobs under new digital employment initiative, Arab News (Jeddah) 28 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1487711/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>3267</sup> MEC Sihle Zikalala announces R18 billion expansion plan for Dube Trade Port, South African Government (Cape Town) 20 March 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-sihle-zikalala-announces-r-18-billion-expansion-plan-dube-trade-port-20-mar-2019-0000>.

<sup>3268</sup> President Cyril Ramaphosa launches business development platform, 28 Mar, South African Government (Cape Town) 27 March 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-launches-business-development-platform-28-mar-27-mar-2019-0000>.

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 12 February 2019, Istanbul Technical University opened a new technology park ITU Magnet Fab I Tridi, or Turkey's comprehensive digital production center, as a new important element of Turkey's innovation and entrepreneurship support ecosystem.<sup>3269</sup>

On 18-19 February 2019, World Business Angels Investment Forum was held in Istanbul, having hosted policymakers, entrepreneurs, representatives of financial institutions and companies, and hundreds of angel investors from all around the world, with the goal to collaborate globally to empower world economic development by creating innovative financial instruments for innovators, startups, and SMEs; during the forum a number of agreements were signed to support entrepreneurship and innovation in the developing countries, namely, in Kosovo, Ghana and on the African continent more broadly.<sup>3270</sup>

On 26 February 2019, an agreement between Turkey's education ministry and defense body was announced, aimed to build their cooperation on vocational and technical training to raise future experts and enhancing current capacities and facilities in various technology fields, including information technology, electric and electronic technology, industrial automation technology, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and others.<sup>3271</sup>

Turkey has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions of help to other countries were registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 17 December 2018, a "Good work plan" was issued by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. The Good Work Plan sets out the vision for the future of the UK labour market and ways the government will implement the recommendations arising from the Taylor Review of Modern Working Practices.<sup>3272</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Work and Opportunities for Women (WOW) programme was launched by UK's Department for International Development. The objective of WOW is that women have access to improved economic opportunities through business interventions in supply chains and economic development programmes.<sup>3273</sup> After the selection process it was decided that special fund of the programme will allocate financing to following international projects: Innovations in informal land

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<sup>3269</sup> Technoparks at Turkish universities contribute \$4 billion to exports, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 13 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/technology/2019/02/13/technoparks-at-turkish-universities-contribute-4-billion-to-exports>.

<sup>3270</sup> Istanbul hosts international angel investment forum, Hurriyett Daily News (Istanbul) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/istanbul-hosts-international-angel-investment-forum-141316>.

<sup>3271</sup> Turkey's education ministry, defense body to train future tech experts, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/education/2019/02/26/turkeys-education-ministry-defense-body-to-train-future-tech-experts>

<sup>3272</sup> Good work plan, UK Government (London) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 8 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/good-work-plan>

<sup>3273</sup> Work and Opportunities for Women, UK Government (London) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 8 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/work-and-opportunities-for-women>

tenure awareness, rights and security for the economic empowerment of informal women workers in Delhi and Patna, Accelerating national progress toward achieving equality in unpaid care and domestic work and promoting women's economic empowerment in Rwanda, Home-based Workers Organizing for Economic Empowerment in South Asia.<sup>3274</sup>

On 22 March 2019, Women's Progression in the Workplace: actions for employers guidance was issued by Government Equalities Office. Guidance for employers on the evidence based actions they can take to support women to progress, to help to close the gender pay gap and increase gender equality in the workplace.<sup>3275</sup>

United Kingdom has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

### **United States: 0**

United States has partially complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 16 April 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration has announced the availability of up to USD400,000 in funding through its Brookwood-Sago grant program to support education and training to help identify, avoid, and prevent unsafe working conditions in and around the nation's mines.<sup>3276</sup>

On 22 April 2019, the U.S. Department of Labor today announced the availability of approximately USD2 million in funds for the first year of a cooperative agreement for an employer-focused disability policy development and technical assistance center. The solicitation is a re-competition of an existing cooperative agreement.<sup>3277</sup>

United States has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country but no actions of help to other countries were registered.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

### **European Union: +1**

European Union has fully complied with its commitment to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity.

On 7 December 2018, the European Commission announced that companies in the European Union had increased their investment in research and development (R&D) for the eighth consecutive

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<sup>3274</sup> Work and Opportunities for Women, UK Government (London) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 8 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/work-and-opportunities-for-women>

<sup>3275</sup> Women's Progression in the Workplace: actions for employers, UK Government (London) 22 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/womens-progression-in-the-workplace-actions-for-employers>.

<sup>3276</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Announces Availability Of Up To \$400,000 In Brookwood-Sago Grants For Mine Safety Education And Training, US Department of Labor (Washington) 16 April 2019. Access date: 13 May 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/msha/msha20190416>.

<sup>3277</sup> U.S. Department Of Labor Announces Funding Opportunity For New Center For Employer-Focused Disability Policy And Technical Assistance, US Department of Labor (Washington) 22 April 2019. Access date: 13 May 2019. <https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/odep/odep20190422>.

year.<sup>3278</sup> In 2017, they invested 5.5 per cent more in R&D activities than the year before. This growth is driven by the automobile, health and ICT sectors. In a telling sign of an ever more dynamic global technological race, the top 2500 industrial players worldwide increased their R&D investment by 8.3 per cent last year. The EU stated to be committed to continue investing into R&D, because research and innovation are the key drivers of productivity and hence prosperity growth.<sup>3279</sup>

On 7 December 2018, the European Commission announced that the European Investment Fund (EIF) would provide a guarantee to Privredna Banka Zagreb (PBZ) for a EUR 25 million portfolio of new loans to innovative small and medium-sized and small mid-cap businesses.<sup>3280</sup> The EIF guarantee was made possible by the Investment Plan for Europe (the Juncker Plan), under the InnovFin SME Guarantee Facility, set up between the European Investment Fund (EIF), part of the European Investment Bank (EIB) group, and the European Commission. The InnovFin guarantee enabled innovative small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and small mid-cap companies to benefit from more favourable financing terms than those currently available on the banking market in Croatia. Thus, loans included under the InnovFin portfolio would enable SME businesses to expand, innovate and create new jobs.<sup>3281</sup>

On 7 February 2019, the European Commission sponsored a day-long study visit under the Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion Technical Assistance programme to Qredits in Almelo, the Netherlands, which is one of the more mature and sustainable organisations in the European microfinance sector and its business model attracts a lot of interest due to its dynamism and embrace of new technologies to increase efficiency and productivity. The event organizers welcomed participants from 10 MFIs, interested in improving their business model and reaching sustainability by further embracing technology.<sup>3282</sup>

On 22 February 2019, the European Commission announced that on 8-9 April 2019 the Conference on the 15th Anniversary of the 2004 EU Enlargement would be held. One of the events of the conference would be dedicated to increasing investment into physical and human capital in the enlargement countries in order to strengthen economic growth and labour productivity. This was meant to bridge the gap between the developed countries of the European Union and its emerging markets.<sup>3283</sup>

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<sup>3278</sup> 2018 Industrial R&D Scoreboard: EU companies increase research investment amidst a global technological race, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/2018-industrial-rd-scoreboard-eu-companies-increase-research-investment-amidst-global-technological-race-2018-dec-17\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/2018-industrial-rd-scoreboard-eu-companies-increase-research-investment-amidst-global-technological-race-2018-dec-17_en).

<sup>3279</sup> 2018 Industrial R&D Scoreboard: EU companies increase research investment amidst a global technological race, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/2018-industrial-rd-scoreboard-eu-companies-increase-research-investment-amidst-global-technological-race-2018-dec-17\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/2018-industrial-rd-scoreboard-eu-companies-increase-research-investment-amidst-global-technological-race-2018-dec-17_en).

<sup>3280</sup> Investment Plan for Europe: EUR 25 million for innovative Croatian SMEs and small mid-caps, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-25-million-innovative-croatian-smes-and-small-mid-caps-2018-dec-07\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-25-million-innovative-croatian-smes-and-small-mid-caps-2018-dec-07_en).

<sup>3281</sup> Investment Plan for Europe: EUR 25 million for innovative Croatian SMEs and small mid-caps, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-25-million-innovative-croatian-smes-and-small-mid-caps-2018-dec-07\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eur-25-million-innovative-croatian-smes-and-small-mid-caps-2018-dec-07_en).

<sup>3282</sup> EaSI Technical Assistance study visit to Qredits – exploring an IT-driven microfinance business model, European Commission (Brussels) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1081&eventsId=1377&furtherEvents=yes>.

<sup>3283</sup> Conference on the 15th Anniversary of the 2004 EU Enlargement: Looking back, looking forward, European Commission (Brussels) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 27 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/conference-15th-anniversary-2004-eu-enlargement-looking-back-looking-forward\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/conference-15th-anniversary-2004-eu-enlargement-looking-back-looking-forward_en).

On 18 December 2018, the European Union – African Union Digital Economy Task Force was launched. The European Commission set out its ambitions for a comprehensive and innovative partnership between Africa and the EU called the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investments and Jobs.<sup>3284</sup> This included a renewed determination to boost investment for job creation and to strengthen the role of the private sector. The EU-AU Digital Economy Task Force would work on four complementary areas: 1) to provide recommendations on policies and measures that can support pan-African digital integration, ensuring the overcoming of the fragmentation of existing markets; 2) to identify ways to boost both public and private investment in the African digital economy, ensuring growth, effectiveness and productivity; 3) to provide recommendations on development of digital sphere of the economy and digital skill of human capital; and 4) to identify structural reforms to improve the business environment and investment climate, which will also boost growth and productivity.<sup>3285</sup>

On 2-3 April 2019, the European Union together with South and East Mediterranean countries held the 4th Union for the Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour.<sup>3286</sup> The ministers agreed to focus actions on four regional priorities: supporting decent job creation and entrepreneurship, mobilizing public and private stakeholders to create partnerships and synergies, building inclusive labour markets to integrate potentially vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and investing in quality education systems and training, skills and employability in a changing world.<sup>3287</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the European Commission adopted five new programmes and three top-ups of current programmes worth EUR115.5 million under the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa to complement ongoing efforts in the Sahel and Lake Chad region.<sup>3288</sup> Two measures introduced by the Commission aimed specifically at developing economic and development opportunities. In Ghana, new activities worth EUR20 million would improve job prospects and encourage the transition to green and climate resilient economies. In Mali, an additional EUR13 million would support job creation and the provision of public services in fragile security areas around Gao and Timbuktu.<sup>3289</sup>

European Union has taken actions to harness technology to strengthen growth and productivity inside the country and helped other countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

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<sup>3284</sup> The European Union – African Union Digital Economy Task Force, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-african-union-digital-economy-task-force\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-african-union-digital-economy-task-force_en).

<sup>3285</sup> The European Union – African Union Digital Economy Task Force, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-african-union-digital-economy-task-force\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-african-union-digital-economy-task-force_en).

<sup>3286</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Union for the Mediterranean (UFM) Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=88&langId=en&eventsId=1382&furtherEvents=yes>.

<sup>3287</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Union for the Mediterranean (UFM) Ministerial Conference on Employment and Labour, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=88&langId=en&eventsId=1382&furtherEvents=yes>.

<sup>3288</sup> EU Trust Fund for Africa: €115.5 million to enhance security, migrant protection and job creation in the Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu1155-million-enhance-security-migrant-protection-and-job\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu1155-million-enhance-security-migrant-protection-and-job_en).

<sup>3289</sup> EU Trust Fund for Africa: €115.5 million to enhance security, migrant protection and job creation in the Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu1155-million-enhance-security-migrant-protection-and-job\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu1155-million-enhance-security-migrant-protection-and-job_en).

## 14. Energy: Energy Security

“We will promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability, acknowledging that there are varied sources of energy and technological advances to achieve a low emissions future.”

*Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

Country	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.80	

### Background

The G20 leaders made their first commitment to develop energy efficiency and clean energy technologies at the 2009 London Summit.<sup>3290</sup> Since then it has been a constant element of every subsequent summit’s agenda.

At the Pittsburgh Summit, the G20 leaders reiterated their commitment to stimulate investment in clean energy, renewables and energy efficiency, as well as to provide financial and technical support for such projects in developing countries.<sup>3291</sup> This commitment was reiterated at the 2010 Seoul Summit.<sup>3292</sup> At the 2011 Cannes Summit, leaders developed the commitment further by referencing the United Nations Secretary General’s Sustainable Energy for All initiative.<sup>3293</sup> At the 2013 St.

<sup>3290</sup> Global Plan for Recovery and Reform, G20 Information Center 2 April 2009. Date of Access: 14 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0402.html>.

<sup>3291</sup> G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, G20 Information Center 25 September 2009. Date of Access: 14 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0925.html>.

<sup>3292</sup> The G20 Seoul Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Center 12 November 2010. Date of Access: 14 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/g20seoul.html>.

<sup>3293</sup> Cannes Summit Final Declaration: Building Our Common Future, G20 Information Center (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Date of Access: 14 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html>.

Petersburg Summit, the leaders once again reaffirmed their commitment to cleaner and more efficient technologies, but also highlighted the importance of enhancing the efficiency of markets and shifting towards a more sustainable energy future.<sup>3294</sup>

In Brisbane leaders adopted an Action Plan for Voluntary Collaboration on Energy Efficiency, which encompassed such issues as “vehicles performance, networked devices; buildings; industrial processes; and electricity generation; as well as work on financing for energy efficiency.”<sup>3295</sup> At the Antalya Summit in 2015 the G20 committed to increase investments in clean energy technologies and support research in this field.<sup>3296</sup> Under the Chinese presidency in 2016 the leaders adopted an Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development expressing their “vision of a world of sustainable energy for all” and pledging to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services while promoting “investment in innovative energy technologies including clean energy technologies.”<sup>3297</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The commitment requires the G20 countries to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability, with the ultimate goal to “achieve a low emissions future.” In effect, the G20 leaders committed to facilitate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7) “Affordable and Clean Energy.” The SDG 7 contains five specific targets corresponding to the aspects the G20 committed to:

- 7.1 Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services; (affordability, stability)
- 7.2 Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix (sustainability, efficiency, resilience);
- 7.3 Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency (efficiency, sustainability);
- 7.A Enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology (sustainability, stability, security);
- 7.B Expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support (security, affordability, resilience).<sup>3298</sup>

In order to fully comply with the commitment, the G20 members must take action on at least three of the issue areas designated by the SDG7.

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<sup>3294</sup> St.Petersburg Summit Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Center 6 September 2013. Date of Access: 14 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>.

<sup>3295</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communiqué Brisbane, G20 Information Center (Brisbane) 16 November 2014. Access date: 14 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communicue.html>.

<sup>3296</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communiqué Antalya, G20 Information Center (Antalya) 16 November 2015. Access date: 14 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communicue.html>.

<sup>3297</sup> G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20 Information Center (Hangzhou) 8 September 2016. Access date: 14 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/g20-action-plan-on-2030-agenda.pdf>.

<sup>3298</sup> Sustainable Development knowledge Platform, United Nations (New York). Access date: 14 December 2018 <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg7>.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	Member does not take action to promote the achievement of any targets of the SDG7.
0	Member takes action on one to two targets of the SDG7.
+1	Member takes action to promote the achievement of three or more targets of the SDG7.

**Argentina: +1**

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability

On 5 December 2018, the Saujil Solar Park with an installed capacity of 22.5 MW started operating in the Argentinian province of Catamarca.<sup>3299</sup> It will generate electricity for more than 15,000 houses. A total investment to the project was USD29 million. The park has more than 77,000 Jinko Solar brand panels distributed over a total area of almost 70 hectares.<sup>3300</sup>

On 11 December 2018, Argentinian Undersecretary of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Sebastián Kind inaugurated the Puerto Madryn I wind farm (PEM I), located in the province of Chubut.<sup>3301</sup> A total investment to the project was USD122 million. The wind farm will have an installed capacity of 70 MW. It has 20 Vestas wind turbines of 3.6 / 3.3 MW and will generate electricity to supply 100,000 houses.<sup>3302</sup>

On 14 December 2018, the Energy Secretariat of the Ministry of Finance of Argentina announced that eight contracts under the Phase 2 of the RenovAr Program were signed with the selected Argentinian companies operating two solar and six biogas technology projects located in seven Argentine provinces, namely La Pampa, Córdoba, Santiago del Estero, Santa Fe, Buenos Aires, Catamarca and Mendoza.<sup>3303</sup> The projects will supply renewable electric power with a total capacity of 99.5 MW for more than 90,000 Argentinian houses.

On 20 December 2018, three renewable energy parks started operating in Argentina.<sup>3304</sup> In total, they will add 100 MW to the National Interconnected System. The parks include the Ullum I and II solar parks, located in San Juan province, and the Villalonga I wind farm, located in Bahía Blanca of Buenos Aires province. The two solar parks have an installed capacity of 25 MW each. In total, they generate electricity for more than 30,000 houses.<sup>3305</sup> Each park has 79,000 solar panels and required an investment of USD32,5 million respectively. The wind farm Villalonga I which belongs to the company GENNEIA S.A has an installed power of 50 MW and generates electricity for more than

<sup>3299</sup> Comenzó a operar el Parque Solar Saujil en la provincia de Catamarca, Ministerio de Hacienda: Energía (Buenos Aires) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzo-operar-el-parque-solar-saujil-en-la-provincia-de-catamarca>.

<sup>3300</sup> Comenzó a operar el Parque Solar Saujil en la provincia de Catamarca, Ministerio de Hacienda: Energía (Buenos Aires) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzo-operar-el-parque-solar-saujil-en-la-provincia-de-catamarca>.

<sup>3301</sup> Se inauguró el Parque Eólico Puerto Madryn I, Ministerio de Hacienda: Energía (Buenos Aires) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-inauguro-el-parque-eolico-puerto-madryn-i>.

<sup>3302</sup> Se inauguró el Parque Eólico Puerto Madryn I, Ministerio de Hacienda: Energía (Buenos Aires) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-inauguro-el-parque-eolico-puerto-madryn-i>.

<sup>3303</sup> Se firmaron 8 contratos de la Fase 2 de la Ronda 2 del Programa RenovAr, Ministerio de Hacienda: Energía (Buenos Aires) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-firmaron-8-contratos-de-la-fase-2-de-la-ronda-2-del-programa-renovar>.

<sup>3304</sup> Comenzaron a operar tres parques de energías renovables, Ministerio de Hacienda: Energía (Buenos Aires) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzaron-operar-tres-parques-de-energias-renovables>.

<sup>3305</sup> Comenzaron a operar tres parques de energías renovables, Ministerio de Hacienda: Energía (Buenos Aires) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzaron-operar-tres-parques-de-energias-renovables>.

50,000 homes. It has 15 VESTAS wind turbines of 3.45 MW unit power and required an investment of USD80 million.<sup>3306</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the Energy Secretariat of Argentina launched an online platform permitting households and companies register as users of electricity generation, both for self-consumption and supplying energy into the distribution network.<sup>3307</sup> Córdoba, Mendoza, Tucumán, Tierra del Fuego, Catamarca and San Juan provinces joined the initiative. Due to the platform, commercial and industrial users, SME and ordinary citizens will be able to generate their own electric energy from renewable sources, reducing their electricity supply costs, in addition to contributing to the reduction of emissions and mitigation of climate change.<sup>3308</sup> The Argentinian authorities also work on lowering the costs of installing the equipment for registered energy producers.<sup>3309</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the first Provincial Index of Renewable Attractiveness was published in Argentina with the purpose of providing a comprehensive information on the degree of development of renewable energy in every province of the country and its attractiveness for investment.<sup>3310</sup>

On 15 March 2019, Argentina's tax authorities issued General Resolution No. 4,437, which establishes the requirements for renewable energy companies benefiting from the renewable energy promotional regime to request the application of the accelerated tax depreciation benefit.<sup>3311</sup>

On 25 March 2019, the Energy Secretariat of Ministry of Finance of Argentina announced that three new contracts for the supply of renewable electric power were signed between Electricity Wholesale Market Administrator Body and the Argentinian companies awarded the Round 2 of RenovAr.<sup>3312</sup> The contracts include to two solar technology projects and one biogas project for a total of 38 MW of power that will be located in the province of Córdoba and that will supply more than 22,000 homes.

On 6 April 2019, the La Banderita wind farm entered in commercial operation.<sup>3313</sup> It is located 20 km southwest of the town of General Acha, Ultracán and is the first wind project in La Pampa province. It had an investment of USD58.8 million and was awarded in Round 1.5 of RenovAr. It has 36.75

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<sup>3306</sup> Comenzaron a operar tres parques de energías renovables, Ministerio de Hacienda: Energía (Buenos Aires) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzaron-operar-tres-parques-de-energias-renovables>.

<sup>3307</sup> Hogares y empresas podrán generar energía y venderla a la red 1, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/hogares-y-empresas-podran-generar-energia-y-venderla-la-red>.

<sup>3308</sup> Hogares y empresas podrán generar energía y venderla a la red 1, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/hogares-y-empresas-podran-generar-energia-y-venderla-la-red>.

<sup>3309</sup> Hogares y empresas podrán generar energía y venderla a la red 1, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/hogares-y-empresas-podran-generar-energia-y-venderla-la-red>.

<sup>3310</sup> Ya está publicado el primer Índice Provincial de Atractivo Renovable, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ya-esta-publicado-el-primer-indice-provincial-de-atractivo-renovable>.

<sup>3311</sup> Argentina issues procedure for renewable energy companies to request accelerated tax depreciation benefit, Ernst&Young (Buenos Aires) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://taxinsights.ey.com/search/search-results.aspx?searchValue=argentina>.

<sup>3312</sup> Se firmaron tres nuevos contratos de la Ronda 2 de Renovar, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-firmaron-tres-nuevos-contratos-de-la-ronda-2-de-renovar>.

<sup>3313</sup> Ya hay más de 1.000 MW nuevos de energías renovables en operación comercial, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ya-hay-mas-de-1000-mw-nuevos-de-energias-renovables-en-operacion-comercial>.

MW of installed power that generates electricity for more than 40,000 homes. The wind farm is equipped with 11 Vestas V136-3.6 wind turbines with 3.6 MW of unit power.

Argentina has taken actions to promote the achievement in three targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7. Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 20 December 2018, national Minister for Energy Angus Taylor urged Australian state governments to “consider the potential risks” of rapid solar industry growth. His assertion that people’s lives may be at risk is based on interpretation of the national audit of the Renewable Energy Target released by the Australian National Audit Office on December 17.<sup>3314</sup> The audit itself reported that “Between 21.7 and 25.7 per cent of inspected installations were rated as ‘unsafe’ or ‘sub-standard’ each year.” Taylor said “I’ve written to every state and territory minister highlighting the severity of the issue ... we want to make sure safety comes first ... This is a rapidly growing industry and we can’t risk people’s lives.”<sup>3315</sup>

On 1 February 2019, Energy Ministers agreed the Trajectory for Low Energy Buildings, a national plan that sets a trajectory towards zero energy (and carbon) ready buildings for Australia. The Trajectory identifies opportunities for the building sector in the context of a broader trajectory for the sector, and in summary proposes:

- Setting a trajectory towards zero energy (and carbon) ready buildings
- Implementing cost effective increases to the energy efficiency provisions in the National Construction Code for residential and commercial buildings from 2022
- Considering options for improving existing buildings in late 2019.<sup>3316</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the Australian government announced a round of measures to assist businesses, communities and householders to improve their energy-efficiency and reduce power bills.<sup>3317</sup> One of them is The Energy Efficient Communities Program that will deliver AUD50 million of grants to assist businesses and community organizations improve practices and technologies and to better manage their energy consumption. Furthermore, an investment of AUD6.5 million will be made to commence the process to introduce an energy rating label to space heating appliances, which will deliver up to 15 million tonnes in emissions reductions to 2030.<sup>3318</sup> An additional AUD10.5

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<sup>3314</sup> Australia: Federal Energy Minister sends rooftop PV safety warning, Pv Magazine Australia (Canberra) 20 December 2018. date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.pv-magazine.com/2018/12/20/australia-federal-energy-minister-sends-rooftop-pv-safety-warning/>.

<sup>3315</sup> Australia: Federal Energy Minister sends rooftop PV safety warning, Pv Magazine Australia (Canberra) 20 December 2018. date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.pv-magazine.com/2018/12/20/australia-federal-energy-minister-sends-rooftop-pv-safety-warning/>.

<sup>3316</sup> Trajectory for Low Energy Buildings, Australia’s Energy Council (Canberra) 4 February 2019. Access date: 27 May 2019. <http://coenergycouncil.gov.au/publications/trajectory-low-energy-buildings>.

<sup>3317</sup> New energy measures to assist businesses, communities and householders, Department of the Environment and Energy (Canberra) 28 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/news-media/news/new-energy-measures-assist-businesses-communities-and-householders>.

<sup>3318</sup> New energy measures to assist businesses, communities and householders, Department of the Environment and Energy (Canberra) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/news-media/news/new-energy-measures-assist-businesses-communities-and-householders>

million will be delivered in 2019–20 to improve the energy efficiency of Australian buildings. The funding includes AUD3.4 million to improve the energy efficiency of both new and existing homes, and AUD7.1 million to improve the energy efficiency of commercial buildings.<sup>3319</sup>

In March 2019, Australian Renewable Energy Agency launched its “Advancing Renewables Program” to support a broad range of development, demonstration and pre-commercial deployment projects that can deliver affordable and reliable renewable energy for Australian families and businesses.<sup>3320</sup>

On 26 March 2019, on behalf of the Australian government, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency announced AUD490,000 in funding to mining and metals company Element 25 Limited (E25) to examine the viability of using renewable energy in their metal production process. In a first-of-a-kind project, E25 will test the extent to which renewable energy solutions such as wind and solar could be used to power the electrowinning processes in the production of electrolytic manganese metal without reducing the quality of the product.<sup>3321</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the Australian government announced the launch of the Underwriting New Generation Investments program, which is a key part of the Australian Government’s plan to deliver affordable and reliable power.<sup>3322</sup> It is aimed at creating an ongoing mechanism to support targeted investment that will lower prices, increase competition and increase reliability in the system.<sup>3323</sup> The program will provide financial support to firm generation capacity as part of the Australian Government’s commitment to lowering electricity prices and increasing reliability in the system.<sup>3324</sup>

On 3 April 2019, the federal government introduced new regulations which intend to make it easier for consumers to choose the air conditioner that best suits their needs and help them reduce their energy bills. A new determination under the Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act 2012 will change the regulatory requirements for air conditioners.<sup>3325</sup> The regulations have increased the minimum energy performance standards to prevent less efficient air conditioners to be supplied in Australia, reducing both energy consumption and costs. Suppliers seeking to register air conditioners from 1 April 2020 must comply with the new determination.<sup>3326</sup>

Australia has taken actions to promote the achievement in three targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

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<sup>3319</sup> New energy measures to assist businesses, communities and householders, Department of the Environment and Energy (Canberra) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/news-media/news/new-energy-measures-assist-businesses-communities-and-householders>

<sup>3320</sup> Advancing renewables, Australian Renewable Energy Agency (Canberra) March 2019. Access date: 27 May 2019. <https://arena.gov.au/funding/programs/advancing-renewables-program/>

<sup>3321</sup> Element 25 to trial making metal using renewable energy, Australian Renewable Energy Agency (Canberra) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 27 May 2019. <https://arena.gov.au/news/element-25-to-trial-making-metal-using-renewable-energy/>

<sup>3322</sup> Underwriting New Generation Investments program, Department of the Environment and Energy (Canberra) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/government-priorities/energy-supply/underwriting-new-generation-investments-program>

<sup>3323</sup> Underwriting New Generation Investments program, Department of the Environment and Energy (Canberra) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/government-priorities/energy-supply/underwriting-new-generation-investments-program>

<sup>3324</sup> Underwriting New Generation Investments program, Department of the Environment and Energy (Canberra) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.energy.gov.au/government-priorities/energy-supply/underwriting-new-generation-investments-program>

<sup>3325</sup> New regulations to increase energy efficiency, Energy Magazine (Canberra) 3 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.energymagazine.com.au/new-regulations-to-increase-energy-efficiency/>

<sup>3326</sup> New regulations to increase energy efficiency, Energy Magazine (Canberra) 3 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.energymagazine.com.au/new-regulations-to-increase-energy-efficiency/>

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 19 February 2019, the Brazilian Electricity Regulatory Agency approved the result of the auction for the contracting of power transmission projects, carried out in December last year. As the auction was closed with the average discount of 46 per cent on the annual revenue, this reduction in the value of the income of the entrepreneurs to exploit the investments contributed to a lower energy tariff to the users.<sup>3327</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Brazil and Peru signed a Declaration of Cooperation in Energy. The document provided the promotion of exchanges on energy issues and reaffirmed the interest in deepening bilateral cooperation in areas of energy planning, small-scale mining, renewable energy, radioactive materials, and internships and training.<sup>3328</sup>

On 6 March 2019, the Government set electric energy auction schedule until 2021. The dates were officialized through the 151/2019 and 152/2019 regulations. Auctions created an environment of competitiveness among the agents that generate electricity. The strategy complies with principles of security of supply and low tariffs.<sup>3329</sup>

On 25-26 February 2019, the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) hosted the workshop “Long-Term Scenarios for the Transition to Clean Energy in Latin America.” The goal of the campaign is to promote the best use and wider adoption of clean energy. During the workshop, there were covered the best practices for the planning of long-term energy scenarios.<sup>3330</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the MME launched the Brazilian Energy Information System, the SIE Brazil: a computer platform that will structure and systematize all Brazilian energy statistics at national level. It also aims to provide support to the management of the MME in studies of energy expansion and investor decisions.<sup>3331</sup>

On 25 March 2019, the Minister of Mines and Energy Bento Albuquerque was present at the signing ceremony of the concession contracts for the construction of new power transmission lines from

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<sup>3327</sup> Aneel oficializa resultado de leilão de transmissão de energia, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/infraestrutura/2019/02/aneel-oficializa-resultado-de-leilao-de-transmissao-de-energia>

<sup>3328</sup> Brasil e Peru assinam declaração de cooperação em energia, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/infraestrutura/2019/03/brasil-e-peru-assinam-declaracao-de-cooperacao-em-energia>.

<sup>3329</sup> Governo define cronograma de leilões de energia elétrica até 2021, Governo do Brasil (Brasília) 6 March 2019. Access Date: 14 March 2019. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/infraestrutura/2019/03/governo-define-cronograma-de-leiloes-de-energia-eletrica-ate-2021>.

<sup>3330</sup> IRENA: MME sedia workshop sobre cenários de longo prazo, Ministério de Minas e Energia (Brasília) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 15 March 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset\\_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/irena-mme-sedia-workshop-sobre-cenarios-de-longo-prazo?redirect=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mme.gov.br%2Fweb%2Fguest%2Fpagina-inicial%2Foutras-noticias%3Fp\\_p\\_id%3D101\\_INSTANCE\\_32hLrOzMKwWb%26p\\_p\\_lifecycle%3D0%26p\\_p\\_state%3Dnormal%26p\\_p\\_mode%3Dview%26p\\_p\\_col\\_id%3Dcolumn-1%26p\\_p\\_col\\_count%3D3](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/irena-mme-sedia-workshop-sobre-cenarios-de-longo-prazo?redirect=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mme.gov.br%2Fweb%2Fguest%2Fpagina-inicial%2Foutras-noticias%3Fp_p_id%3D101_INSTANCE_32hLrOzMKwWb%26p_p_lifecycle%3D0%26p_p_state%3Dnormal%26p_p_mode%3Dview%26p_p_col_id%3Dcolumn-1%26p_p_col_count%3D3).

<sup>3331</sup> MME lança oficialmente o Sistema de Informações Energéticas (SIE), Ministério de Minas e Energia (Brasília) 21 March 2019. Access Date : 30 March 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset\\_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-lanca-oficialmente-o-sistema-de-informacoes-energeticas-sie](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-lanca-oficialmente-o-sistema-de-informacoes-energeticas-sie)

North to South of Brazil. It will generate 28,000 direct jobs, will allow the construction of 55 transmission lines, with 7,152 km of extension, and about 14,500 MVA of substation power.<sup>3332</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the MME published a dispatch approving the Concession Plan for Transmission of Electric Energy 2018 – Basic Network and Other Transmission Facilities. The document consolidates the results of transmission planning studies, defining transmission equipment and facilities necessary for the National Interconnected System (SIN) in the period 2019-2023.<sup>3333</sup>

There are 239 new reinforcements and 65 extensions to the transmission systems, which should be implemented along with a set of 307 extensions and reinforcements defined in previous planning cycles. In addition, 53 facilities defined in previous editions of the Concession Plan were reanalysed, implying 35 withdrawals and 18 scope changes.<sup>3334</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the Minister of Mines and Energy approved the Development Plan for Energy Expansion 2027. The document consolidates the sectoral planning studies carried out by the technical teams of the MME and of the Energy Research Company. The approved Plan indicates that the Internal Energy Supply (energy needed to move the economy) will grow, on average, 2.3 per cent per year, reaching 367.4 million toe (Mtoe) in 2027. Of this amount, with a 47 per cent share of renewable sources.<sup>3335</sup>

Brazil has taken actions to promote the achievement in four targets of the SDG7.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

#### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 28 January 2019, Parliamentary Secretary to Canada's Minister of Natural Resources Paul Lefebvre announced a combined CAD4.2-million investment for two TUGLIQ Energy Corporation projects in Nunavut and Quebec. An investment of CAD283,000 will enable TUGLIQ to complete a front-end engineering and design study to integrate compressed air energy storage with its operations, enabling increased use of wind energy at a Nunavut mine. This project will demonstrate that such a system can achieve significant reductions in diesel consumption.<sup>3336</sup>

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<sup>3332</sup> MME dá a largada para a construção de mais de 7 mil km de linhas de transmissão de energia, Ministério de Minas e Energia (Brasília) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset\\_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-da-a-largada-para-a-construcao-de-mais-de-7-mil-km-de-linhas-de-transmissao-de-energia](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-da-a-largada-para-a-construcao-de-mais-de-7-mil-km-de-linhas-de-transmissao-de-energia)

<sup>3333</sup> MME publica Plano de Outorgas de Transmissão de Energia Elétrica 2018, Ministério de Minas e Energia (Brasília) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 28 March 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset\\_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-publica-plano-de-outorgas-de-transmissao-de-energia-eletrica-2018](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-publica-plano-de-outorgas-de-transmissao-de-energia-eletrica-2018).

<sup>3334</sup> MME publica Plano de Outorgas de Transmissão de Energia Elétrica 2018, Ministério de Minas e Energia (Brasília) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 28 March 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset\\_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-publica-plano-de-outorgas-de-transmissao-de-energia-eletrica-2018](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-publica-plano-de-outorgas-de-transmissao-de-energia-eletrica-2018).

<sup>3335</sup> Ministro Moreira Franco aprova Plano Decenal de Expansão de Energia 2027, Ministério de Minas e Energia (Brasília) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 28 March 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset\\_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/ministro-moreira-franco-aprova-plano-decenal-de-expansao-de-energia-2027](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/ministro-moreira-franco-aprova-plano-decenal-de-expansao-de-energia-2027).

<sup>3336</sup> Government of Canada Promotes Renewable Energy Innovation in Mining, Cision Canada (Vancouver) 26 January 2019. Access Date: 27 May 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-promotes-renewable-energy-innovation-in-mining-818042004.html>

On 1 February 2019, Minister of Small Business and Export Promotion Mary F.Y. Ng, on behalf of Canada's Minister of Natural Resource announced a CAD40,000 investment for Miller Paving Limited for an ISO 50001 Energy Management Systems Standard that reduced its energy consumption and improved environmental performance.<sup>3337</sup> With funding from Natural Resources Canada and facilitated by the Canadian Industry Partnership for Energy Conservation, the project enabled Miller Paving Limited to improve its energy performance, lower energy and carbon emissions and reduce operating costs.<sup>3338</sup>

On 8 February 2019, Member of Parliament Pamela Goldsmith-Jones announced a CAD300,000 investment to build six electric vehicle fast chargers in Vancouver.<sup>3339</sup> These latest fast chargers, built by the City of Vancouver, were partially funded through the Electric Vehicle and Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Deployment Initiative. The Government of British Columbia also contributed CAD150,000 through its Clean Energy Vehicle Public Fast Charging Program.<sup>3340</sup>

On 11 February 2019, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada Catherine McKenna announced a CAD1.15-million investment to build 23 electric vehicle fast chargers across British Columbia. The stations are being deployed by British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, with partial funding from Natural Resources Canada's Electric Vehicle and Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Deployment Initiative.<sup>3341</sup>

On 12 February 2019, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs and Internal Trade Yvonne Jones announced a CAD40,000 investment for the Iron Ore Company of Canada for a process integration study. With funding from Natural Resources Canada and facilitated by the Canadian Industry Partnership for Energy Conservation, the project identified measures to reduce Iron Ore's total thermal energy consumption, ultimately reducing its energy costs and improving energy performance.<sup>3342</sup>

On 13 March 2019, Member of Parliament Kim Rudd, on behalf of Canada's Minister of Natural Resources announced a CAD164,000 investment to strengthen the reliability of Ontario's electricity grid and cut pollution. Led by Lakefront Utilities, the project involves the installation of a Digital Utility Platform to run the electricity grid more strategically. This tool will automatically identify

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<sup>3337</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency Improvements in Markham, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-improvements-in-markham.html>.

<sup>3338</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency Improvements in Markham, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 1 February 2019 . Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-improvements-in-markham.html>

<sup>3339</sup> Canada Invests in Vancouver's Electric Vehicle Network, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-vancouver-electric-vehicle-network.html>

<sup>3340</sup> Canada Invests in Vancouver's Electric Vehicle Network, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-vancouver-electric-vehicle-network.html>

<sup>3341</sup> Canada Announces Expanded Public EV Network in British Columbia, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-announces-expanded-public-ev-network-in-british-columbia.html>

<sup>3342</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency Improvements in Labrador City, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/02/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-improvements-in-labrador-city.html>.

outages, manage increased demand due to the growing use of electric vehicles and better integrate more renewable energy into the grid.<sup>3343</sup>

On 14 March 2019, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources Amarjeet Sohi announced CAD72.3 million to Alberta companies, Canadian Natural Resources Limited (Canadian Natural) and Titanium Corporation Inc., to fund three clean technology projects in Alberta's oil and gas sector. This funding will leverage more than CAD415 million in investments.<sup>3344</sup>

On 5 April 2019, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna announced support of more than CAD392,000 for three energy efficiency and climate change projects. The Canadian Electricity Association received CAD206,000 through Natural Resources Canada's Climate Change Adaptation Program to help community and utility leaders gain the expertise needed for the development, adoption and implementation of climate change adaptation plans for electrical systems across Canada.<sup>3345</sup>

On 12 April 2019, Member of Parliament for Yukon Larry Bagnell on behalf of Canada's Minister of Natural Resources announced a CAD650,000 investment for Yukon Energy Corporation to cut energy costs, reduce the use of fuel to generate electricity during high-demand peaks and lower greenhouse gas emissions. The Residential Demand Response Program will make the territory's electrical grid more efficient by equipping up to 400 homes with smart devices.<sup>3346</sup>

On 24 April 2019, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Revenue Deb Schulte announced an investment of over CAD340,000 to Windfall Ecology Centre to help with the measurement and sharing of energy and water consumption information. With funding from Natural Resources Canada, the Centre will assist York Region's building owners and property managers in reporting energy and water consumption using the free ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager Benchmarking tool. The project will enable building landlords and managers in York Region to better track and report their annual energy and water consumption and to measure their performance against comparable buildings.<sup>3347</sup>

Canada has taken actions to promote the achievement in three targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Uliana Koptiyukh*

## **China +1**

China has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

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<sup>3343</sup> Canada Invests in Next-Generation Electrical Upgrades in Southern Ontario, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/03/canada-invests-in-next-generation-electrical-upgrades-in-southern-ontario.html>

<sup>3344</sup> Alberta Oil and Gas Sector to Benefit From Over \$72 Million Federal Investment in Clean Technology To Help Reduce Pollution and Create Jobs in Alberta, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/03/alberta-oil-and-gas-sector-to-benefit-from-over-72-million-federal-investment-in-clean-technology-to-help-reduce-pollution-and-create-jobs-in-alberta.html>

<sup>3345</sup> Canada Invests in Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Adaptation, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/04/canada-invests-in-energy-efficiency-and-climate-change-adaptation.html>

<sup>3346</sup> Canada Invests in Smart Grid Technology to Reduce Energy Costs in Yukon, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/04/canada-invests-in-smart-grid-technology-to-reduce-energy-costs-in-yukon.html>

<sup>3347</sup> Canada Improves Energy Efficiency for York Region Buildings, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/04/canada-improves-energy-efficiency-for-york-region-buildings.html>

On 17 March 2019, a group of U.S. and Chinese scholars, experts and entrepreneurs met to discuss opportunities and challenges on developing smart energy cooperation, artificial intelligent technology in power development at a seminar launched by the U.S.-China Green Energy Council in San Jose, California.<sup>3348</sup>

On 22 March 2019, Chinese-built Isimba Hydropower Plant on the Victoria Nile in Uganda was put into power. The 85 per cent of the cost of 183 MW power plant was covered by a concessional loan from the Export-Import Bank of China. The power plant is intended to address a power shortage affecting Uganda's economic development.<sup>3349</sup>

On 10 April 2019, Guizhou Province's provincial energy administration set plans to develop a clean and efficient electricity industry. The administration aims to improve the efficiency of existing coal power facilities, speed up energy conservation and emission reduction, and accelerate the development of both coal and power industries.<sup>3350</sup> The province is also planning to speed up the development of hydropower projects and increase the province's hydropower capacity as well as to develop renewable energy sources, including wind and solar power. The province aims to add more than 500,000 kW of power in 2019 produced by non-hydro renewable energy.<sup>3351</sup>

China has taken actions to promote the achievement in three targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 25 January 2019, the Government published the draft Multiannual Energy Program in its entirety. The Multiannual Energy Program brings the project to a successful transition to a more efficient and sober energy system, more diversified and therefore more resilient.<sup>3352</sup>

On 25 February 2019, it was announced that Agence Française de Développement continues to support responsible funding in Mauritius as it launches the third phase of its SUNREF programme, in partnership with two local banks continuing to encourage "green" investments (photovoltaic power stations, energy recovery from sugar cane residue biomass, improvement of hotel and shopping centre energy performance, solar roofs on private homes, etc.).<sup>3353</sup>

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<sup>3348</sup> Expert says China, U.S. have plenty to gain from cooperation in smart energy, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 17 March 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/17/c\\_137902517.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/17/c_137902517.htm)

<sup>3349</sup> Ugandan president inaugurates Chinese-built hydropower plant, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 22 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/22/c\\_137915117\\_2.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/22/c_137915117_2.htm)

<sup>3350</sup> Guizhou strives to develop clean, efficient electricity industry, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/10/c\\_137966266.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/10/c_137966266.htm).

<sup>3351</sup> Guizhou strives to develop clean, efficient electricity industry, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/10/c\\_137966266.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/10/c_137966266.htm)

<sup>3352</sup> Le Gouvernement publie le projet de Programmation pluriannuelle de l'énergie (PPE) dans son intégralité, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 25 January 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/gouvernement-publie-projet-programmation-pluriannuelle-lenergie-ppe-dans-integralite>.

<sup>3353</sup> Mauritius: From Green Finance To Gender Equality, Le groupe Agence française de développement (AFD) (Paris) 25 February 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/mauritius-green-finance-gender-equality>

On 24 April 2019, Minister of Transport Elisabeth Borne announced the winners of the Autonomous Road Vehicle Experiment call for projects under the Future Investment Program. Two consortia were retained by the State, representing 16 experiments for a total amount of aid of approximately EUR42 million. This call for projects aims to support experimental projects for the use of autonomous vehicles in the field of individual, shared or collective mobility, freight and logistics.<sup>3354</sup>

On 25 April 2019, a draft new “energy transition law” presented to cabinet pledges to reduce carbon emissions by a factor of more than six by 2050 compared to 1990.<sup>3355</sup>

France has taken actions to promote the achievement in three targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dariya Myasnikova*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 12 December 2018, the German Government adopted the draft act to accelerate the power grid expansion (NABEG revision). The aim of the draft Act is to accelerate the authorization procedures for power grids and, in particular, better link various planning stages, shorten deadlines, delete unnecessary procedural steps and strengthen simplified procedures.<sup>3356</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety announced at the Climate Change Conference in Katowice that Germany will provide EUR68 million to the global Partnership for implementing nationally determined contributions (NDCs). The NDC Partnership was established in 2016 by Morocco and Germany and currently includes almost 90 countries and 20 international organizations. The funds will be spent, inter alia, on improving energy efficiency and strengthening renewable energy sectors in developing countries.<sup>3357</sup>

On 21 January 2019, the German Federal Network Agency completed the Federal Sectoral Planning for the first section of the “Ultraset” power line. The goal of the project is to transport wind power produced in northern Germany to southern Germany.

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<sup>3354</sup> Développement des véhicules autonomes : Elisabeth Borne annonce le soutien de l’Etat à 16 nouvelles expérimentations dans les territoires, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 24 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/developpement-des-vehicules-autonomes-elisabeth-borne-annonce-soutien-letat-16-nouvelles>

<sup>3355</sup> New French energy law puts off difficult climate decisions, Reuters (Paris) 30 April 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-energy/new-french-energy-law-puts-off-difficult-climate-decisions-idUSKCN1S61X1>

<sup>3356</sup> Federal Cabinet endorses Act to accelerate the power grid expansion, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2018/20181212-federal-cabinet-endorses-act-to-acce-erate-the-power-grid-expansion.html>.

<sup>3357</sup> Germany helps developing countries and emerging economies implement climate targets, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/deutschland-hilft-entwicklungs-und-schwellenlaendern-bei-umsetzung-ihrer-klimaziele/>.

On 29 January 2019, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and the Federal Office for Information Security published a Standardization Strategy for Cross-sector Digitalization of the Energy Transition. The Strategy contains a working plan for making energy grids ‘smart’. The aim of the document is to “connect up all of the actors involved in supplying electricity within a smart energy grid of the future.”<sup>3358</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the World Bank Group and the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development announced a deeper partnership for economic development in six countries in Africa. The Ministry will provide significant additional financial support through this partnership for several sectors including renewable energy and power grid modernization.<sup>3359</sup>

On 12 March 2019, the German Government announced funding for the Energy and Climate Fund for 2019 totaling EUR4.5 billion. The Fund was established in 2011 with a view to implementing the energy shift and putting the country’s energy supply on a more sustainable footing.<sup>3360</sup> Areas financed through the Fund include: renewable energy; investments in energy efficiency including building modernization; national and international climate change mitigation; environmental projects and research; electric mobility; electricity price compensation for electricity-intensive businesses and expanding the National Action Plan on Energy Efficiency.<sup>3361</sup>

In 2019, Germany continued the implementation of several initiatives on clean and affordable energy in developing countries. Energizing Development project worth EUR332 million will be implemented up to 2021 in 25 developing countries. The project is aimed at improving access of poor households, social institutions and small and medium enterprises to modern energy products and services.<sup>3362</sup> The project “Climate resilient and sustainable energy supply in the Caribbean” worth EUR15 million will be implemented up to 2021 in 9 developing countries and is aimed at effectively implement measures for a sustainable and climate-resilient energy supply.<sup>3363</sup> Another example is “Reform of the Electricity Sector to support Climate Policy in Grenada” project worth EUR1.4 million scheduled to be finished by end-April 2019.<sup>3364</sup>

Germany has taken action to promote the achievement of four relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepon*

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<sup>3358</sup> Roadmap for smart energy grids of the future, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190129-roadmap-for-smart-energy-grids-of-the-future.html>.

<sup>3359</sup> World Bank Group and Germany announce enhanced collaboration on Africa development projects, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/januar/190130\\_pm\\_World-Bank-Group-and-Germany-Announce-Enhanced-Collaboration-on-Africa-Development-Projects/index.html](https://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/januar/190130_pm_World-Bank-Group-and-Germany-Announce-Enhanced-Collaboration-on-Africa-Development-Projects/index.html).

<sup>3360</sup> More money for the energy shift, German Federal Government (Berlin) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/more-money-for-the-energy-shift-1589036>.

<sup>3361</sup> More money for the energy shift, German Federal Government (Berlin) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/more-money-for-the-energy-shift-1589036>.

<sup>3362</sup> Energising Development, German Agency for International Cooperation (Berlin). Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.giz.de/projektdaten/exportDetail.action?documentId=201422757&infotypeSource=projects>.

<sup>3363</sup> Climate resilient and sustainable energy supply in the Caribbean, German Agency for International Cooperation (Berlin). Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.giz.de/projektdaten/exportDetail.action?documentId=201720663&infotypeSource=projects>.

<sup>3364</sup> Reform of the Electricity Sector to support Climate Policy in Grenada, German Agency for International Cooperation (Berlin). Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.giz.de/projektdaten/exportDetail.action?documentId=201390491&infotypeSource=projects>.

### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 10 January 2019, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the Memorandum of Understanding between India and France on technical bilateral cooperation in the field of new and renewable energy. The MoU was signed on 3 October 2018.<sup>3365</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) signed a memorandum of understanding, kick starting cooperation in building energy efficiency. BEE and CPWD will cooperate on promoting designs and construction of Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC) compliant new buildings, star rating of CPWD managed buildings across the country with no registration or renewal fee, awareness on energy efficiency in building sector and support for capacity building of CPWD officials in ECBC.<sup>3366</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, gave its approval for a Cooperation Agreement between Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of India and Ministry for Energy, Utilities and Climate of the Kingdom of Denmark on strategic sector cooperation in the field of renewable energy with a focus on offshore wind energy and a letter of intent to establish an Indo-Danish Centre of Excellence for renewable energy in India. The Agreement was signed in March 2019 in New Delhi.<sup>3367</sup>

India has taken action to promote the achievement of three relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Shtanko*

### **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 20 February 2019, the governments of Indonesia and the United Kingdom signed a memorandum of understanding on a USD 19.5 million worth grant for low carbon energy development in Indonesia, to finance four programs, namely matchmaking between the private sector and the government, capacity building for stakeholders, policy making assistance and pilot projects in rural or remote regions.<sup>3368</sup>

Indonesia has taken action to promote the achievement of one relevant target of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

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<sup>3365</sup> Cabinet approves MoU between India and France on technical bilateral cooperation in the field of new and renewable energy, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 10 January 2019. Access date: 10 January 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1559477>.

<sup>3366</sup> Bureau of Energy Efficiency and CPWD sign MoU on promoting energy efficiency in buildings, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 10 January 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1559343>

<sup>3367</sup> Cabinet approves Cooperation Agreement between India and Denmark in the field of Renewable Energy with focus on Offshore Wind Energy, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 15 April 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1570599>

<sup>3368</sup> UK pledges \$19.5m in grant for clean energy in Indonesia, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/20/uk-pledges-19-5m-in-grant-for-clean-energy-in-indonesia.html>

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 19 December 2018, the Ministry of Economic Development, in collaboration with the Italian Energy Economists Association, organized a Conference dedicated to Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). The objective of the conference was to analyze criticalities and barriers in the use of PPAs, present some good practices of international level and start a comparison between the main players in the sector to build a useful path to the implementation of PPAs, both in the public and in the public sector private.<sup>3369</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the Unified Conference was held in the presence of Undersecretary for Economic Development Davide Crippa. Among the topics on the agenda there were the Plan for sustainable mobility and the opinion on the draft decree of the Ministry of Economic Development for encouraging the production of energy from renewable sources. The new Sustainable Mobility Plan provides 80 per cent incentives for the purchase of new zero-emission buses and urban electric buses with the possibility for the regions to carry out studies for the transformation of transport into electricity.<sup>3370</sup>

On 8 January 2019, Italian government sent to Brussels the national energy climate 2030 proposal that aims to achieve a percentage of energy from renewable energy sources in gross final consumption of energy equal to 30 per cent, in line with the objectives set for our country by the EU; a share of energy from renewable energy sources in gross final energy consumption in transport of 21.6 per cent compared to 14 per cent foreseen by the European Union; a reduction in primary energy consumption compared to the PRIMES 2007 scenario of 43 per cent compared to an EU target of 32.5 per cent, the reduction of “greenhouse gases” compared to 2005, for all non-Emission Trading Scheme sectors of 33 per cent, target 3 per cent higher than that provided by the European Union.<sup>3371</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the first technical meeting between the Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry of the Environment, the Protection of the Territory and the Sea took place in order to prepare the Plan for Sustainable Energy Transition of the Eligible Areas (PiTESAI), envisaged by the Law 11 February 2019, No. 12 for the conversion of the Decree-Law 14 December 2018, n. 35, which will be approved within 18 months. The Plan intends to enhance the environmental and socio-

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<sup>3369</sup> Energia rinnovabile: mercoledì 19 dicembre conferenza su utilizzo dei PPA, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 17 December 2018. Access date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2038960-energia-rinnovabile-mercoledì-19-dicembre-conferenza-su-utilizzo-dei-ppa>.

<sup>3370</sup> Crippa a conferenza unificata pieno accordo sul nuovo piano mobilità sostenibile, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 20 December 2018. Access date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039006-crippa-a-conferenza-unificato-pieno-%20for%20agreement-on-the-new-piano%20-%20mobilita%20->

<sup>3371</sup> La programmazione energetica nel Clean energy package: i Piani nazionali per l'energia ed il clima, Camera dei deputati (Rome) 17 January 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <http://www.camera.it/temiap/documentazione/temi/pdf/1144175.pdf>.

economic sustainability of the various areas, cancel the impacts deriving from upstream activities and accompany the decarbonization process.<sup>3372</sup>

On 20 March 2019, the Ministry of the Environment and the Economic Development Department presented the Integrated National Plan for Energy and Climate 2030. The plan aims to implement a vision of wide transformation of the economy, in which decarbonisation, the circular economy, efficiency and the rational and equitable use of natural resources together represent objectives and tools for an economy that is more respectful of people and the environment.<sup>3373</sup>

On 17 April 2019, the first round-table aimed to plan the activities necessary to guarantee the country the exit from the production of electricity from coal was held at the Ministry of Economic Development. The Ministry of Environment, Terna and the plant operators took part in the meeting, chaired by Undersecretary Davide Crippa, with the participation of Ministry technicians.<sup>3374</sup>

On 18 April 2019, the Decree of the President of the Council, proposed by the Minister of Infrastructure and Transport Danilo Toninelli, was signed at Palazzo Chigi, adopting the EUR3.7 billion National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Mobility. The Plan, in particular, aims at the renewal of the bus fleet used for local public transport with less polluting (electric, methane or hydrogen) and more modern vehicles.<sup>3375</sup>

Italy has taken action to promote the achievement of three relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 14 February 2019, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced the launch of a new subcommittee named the "Subcommittee on Electricity Resilience toward Decarbonized Society" under the Electricity and Gas Industry Committee of the Advisory Committee for Natural Resources and Energy, with the goal to study approaches to enhancing the resilience of electricity infrastructures and establishing sustainable, steady electricity supply systems in which new technologies are incorporated so as to realize a decarbonized society in the future.<sup>3376</sup>

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<sup>3372</sup> Al MiSE il primo tavolo tecnico per la predisposizione del Piano per la Transizione Energetica Sostenibile delle Aree Idonee (PiTESAI), Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 5 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039369-al-mise-il-primo-tavolo-tecnico-per-la-predisposizione-del-piano-per-la-transizione-energetica-sostenibile-delle-aree-idonee-pitesai>

<sup>3373</sup> Piano energia e clima 2030, l'Italia verso la decarbonizzazione, Biblus-net (Rome) 28 March 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <http://biblus.acca.it/piano-energia-e-clima-2030/>

<sup>3374</sup> Energia: Crippa presiede il primo tavolo su chiusura delle centrali a carbone, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 18 Aprile 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039618-energia-crippa-presiede-il-primo-tavolo-su-chiusura-delle-centrali-a-carbone>

<sup>3375</sup> Tpl, governo adotta Piano Nazionale Mobilità Sostenibile, Ministero delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti (Rome) 18 April 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. <http://mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/tpl/tpl-governo-adotta-piano-nazionale-mobilita-sostenibile>

<sup>3376</sup> METI to Launch Subcommittee on Electricity Resilience towards a Decarbonized Society, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 14 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0214\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0214_002.html)

On 15 February 2019, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry within the framework of the Japan-Viet Nam Energy Working Group announced plans to hold a Japan-Viet Nam Government-Private Workshop on Clean Energy Technology in Hanoi to showcase Japan's good practices in the field of clean energy, energy conservation and renewable energy technologies.<sup>3377</sup>

On 22 February 2019, it was reported Japan's government planned to set up unmanned hydrogen charging stations for fuel-cell vehicles before the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympic, to showcase Japan's technologies; by 2026 the government hopes to have around 200 000 hydrogen-fueled cars across Japan.<sup>3378</sup>

Japan has taken action to promote the achievement of two relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 24 December 2018, the Ministry of Environment of Korea presented the national plan of Korea on implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Plan contains a set of specified targets to ensure sustainability of Korea, including sustainable use of energy resources and increase the share of renewable energy.<sup>3379</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the Government of Korea presented a roadmap aimed at increase in usage of hydrogen-powered cars. The Government plans to increase domestic production of eco-friendly types of cars, fuel-cells production and total number of charging stations. The ambition is driven by ecological concerns as well as economic calculations: expecting revenue from increase in hydrogen-powered vehicles production would reach KRW 40 trillion by 2040 with more than 420,000 created jobs.<sup>3380</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) announced formation of a new company named HyNet to facilitate hydrogen charging stations production. The company is a joint venture of 13 companies with total amount of investments about USD 120 million. The company is responsible to build 100 new-type charging stations across the country by 2022.<sup>3381</sup>

On 19 March 2019, MOTIE adopted a revision of the enforcement decree of the Petroleum and Alternative Fuel Business Act. According to the revision, the import fees on electricity-generating liquefied natural gas (LNG) will be reduced from 24.2 won to 3.8 won per kilogram; at the same

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<sup>3377</sup> Japan-Vietnam Government-Private Workshop on Clean Energy Technology to be Held, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 15 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0215\\_002.html](http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0215_002.html)

<sup>3378</sup> Japan aims to build unmanned hydrogen charging stations by 2020, The Mainichi (Tokyo) 22 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20190222/p2g/00m/0bu/006000c>

<sup>3379</sup> A milestone for the sustainable future, establishing K-SDGs, Ministry of Environment of South Korea 24 December 2018. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=934470&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>3380</sup> Gov't unveils roadmap for hydrogen-powered economy, Korea Times (Seoul) 17 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. [https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2019/01/419\\_262238.html](https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2019/01/419_262238.html)

<sup>3381</sup> South Korea forms HyNet for hydrogen charging, Electrive (Berlin) 11 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.electrive.com/2019/03/11/south-korea-forms-hynet-for-hydrogen-charging-infrastructure/>

time, the import fees on bituminous coal will be lifted from 36 won to 46 won. The revision will come into force on 1 April 2019. The Government of Korea seeks to fix distortion in tax regime that had been given full advantage to coal fuel and thus make LNG-powered station more cost efficient and reduce environmental impact generated by power facilities.<sup>3382</sup>

Korea has taken action to promote the achievement of three relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7. Thus it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 30 January 2019, Security, Energy and Environment Agency issued provisions to mitigate the risk to facilities and operations associated with the transfer of hydrocarbons and/or petroleum products. This measure contributes to ensuring energy security and avoiding damage to the environment.<sup>3383</sup>

On 11 February 2019, Security, Energy and Environment Agency announced the new Official Mexican Standard NOM-009-ASEA-2017, referring to specifications and technical criteria for the administration of the integrity of hydrocarbon collection, transport and distribution pipelines, petroleum and petrochemicals, with which it is sought to ensure that the country has adequate facilities in terms of industrial safety, energy security operational safety and protection of the environment.<sup>3384</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the governing body of the Energy Regulatory Commission approved modifications to its Internal Regulations that restructure its organization and operation, in order to continue to effectively perform its functions, which allows to provide better energy control and development of the sphere.<sup>3385</sup>

On 19 December 2019, President López Obrador announced the forthcoming signing of the Mexico-Canada agreement for the modernization of the country's 60 hydroelectric plants. The agreement will lead to acquiring technology to generate clean energy, which in the medium term will reduce electricity costs.<sup>3386</sup>

Mexico has taken action to promote the achievement of three relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

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<sup>3382</sup> South Korean government to increase tax on bituminous coal to reduce fine dust pollution, Hankyoreh (Seoul) 19 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. [http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english\\_edition/e\\_business/886687.html](http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/e_business/886687.html)

<sup>3383</sup> ASEA emite disposiciones para mitigar el riesgo a instalaciones y operaciones asociadas al trasvase de hidrocarburos y/o petrolíferos, Mexican Government (Mexico) 30 January 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/asea/prensa/asea-emite-disposiciones-para-mitigar-el-riesgo-inherente-a-instalaciones-y-operaciones-asociadas-al-trasvase-de-hidrocarburos-y-o-petroliferos>.

<sup>3384</sup> ASEA presenta NOM para la administración de la integridad de ductos de recolección, transporte y distribución, Mexican Government (Mexico) 11 February 2019. Access Date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/asea/prensa/asea-presenta-nom-para-la-administracion-de-la-integridad-de-ductos-de-recoleccion-transporte-y-distribucion>

<sup>3385</sup> La CRE informa sobre la reestructura a su organización interna, Mexican Government (Mexico) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/cre/prensa/la-cre-informa-sobre-la-reestructura-a-su-organizacion-interna?idiom=es>

<sup>3386</sup> Presidente López Obrador anuncia próxima firma de acuerdo México-Canadá para modernización de las 60 hidroeléctricas del país, Mexican Government (Mexico) 19 December 2018. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/presidente-lopez-obrador-anuncia-proxima-firma-de-acuerdo-mexico-canada-para-modernizacion-de-las-60-hidroelectricas-del-pais?idiom=es>

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 11 December 2018, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev signed a decree that aims to increase the investment attractiveness of alternative energy projects. The document eliminates requirements for the design, construction and operation of generating facilities operating on the basis of renewable energy sources.<sup>3387</sup>

On 27 December 2018, the President of Russia V.V. Putin signed the Federal Law No. 522, developed by the Government, aimed at developing electricity metering systems. The federal law was aimed at regulating the issues of introducing electric energy metering smart systems. The guaranteeing suppliers and network organizations were obliged to provide consumers with electrical energy and electric power industry entities with a minimum set of functions of intelligent electrical energy accounting systems.<sup>3388</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev announced that Russia is preparing a legislative framework for the development of alternative energy. He also said that only in the last year, the amount of energy that has been generated by installations of alternative energy has increased 2.5 times. A full cooperation chain has already been created in the Russian solar power industry (solar energy) – from research laboratories and production of solar modules to the construction and operation of solar power plants.<sup>3389</sup>

Russia has taken action to promote the achievement of three relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Piekalnits*

### **Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 15 January 2019, Saudi Arabia announced its intention to deploy 40 GW of solar power capacity and 20 GW of wind and other renewable sources of energy by 2030 in line Saudi Arabia's KSA Vision 2030 and the National Transformation 2020 Programme.<sup>3390</sup>

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<sup>3387</sup> Renewable energy received additional support from the government, Rossiyskaya Gazeta (Moscow) 11 December 2018. Access date: 11 May 2019. <https://rg.ru/2018/12/11/vozobnovliaemaia-energetika-poluchila-doppodderzhku-pravitelstva.html>

<sup>3388</sup> The President of Russia signed the Federal Law developed by the Government, aimed at the development of electric energy accounting systems, Russian Government (Moscow) 28 December 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <http://government.ru/activities/selection/525/35385/>

<sup>3389</sup> Russia is preparing a legislative framework for the development of alternative energy, RIA (Moscow) 5 March 2019. Access date: 11 May 2019. <https://ria.ru/20190305/1551547986.html>

<sup>3390</sup> Saudi Arabia targets 60 GW of renewables by 2030 – report, Renewables Now (London) 15 January 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://renewablesnow.com/news/saudi-arabia-targets-60-gw-of-renewables-by-2030-report-639430/>

On 2 April 2019, the Saudi Energy Efficiency Center launched the awareness campaign aimed at promotion of energy-efficient habits and consumption patterns. The five-week campaign presents energy and consumption changes over the past decades, and how to maintain them to achieve many of the current and future positive impacts to keep energy available for future generations.<sup>3391</sup>

Saudi Arabia takes actions aimed at fulfilment of one target of the Sustainable Development Goal 7. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives 0.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 18 February 2019, Minister of Water and Sanitation Gugile Nkwinti launched the Mzimvubu Water Project's advanced infrastructure at Esiqhungqwini Village in the Tsolo Magisterial District. This infrastructure would allow easy access to the dam site and water treatment works. The Minister used the launch to introduce the construction unit and plant hire to the community. The construction of the advance infrastructure would take about nine months to complete. The project would cost ZAR113 million.<sup>3392</sup>

South Africa takes actions aimed at fulfilment of one target of the Sustainable Development Goal 7. Thus, South Africa receives 0.

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 13 February 2019, Turkey invested in total USD 650 million in 2018 in wind power plants, having increase wind power installed capacity by 497 megawatts (or 7.2 per cent) to 7369 megawatts.<sup>3393</sup>

On 5 March 2019, it was reported that Turkey's highest administrative court had blocked construction of 1,320-megawatt coal power plant in Bartın province, noting that its environmental assessment was inadequate.<sup>3394</sup>

Turkey takes actions aimed at fulfilment of one target of the Sustainable Development Goal 7. Thus, Turkey receives 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

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<sup>3391</sup> Saudi Energy Efficiency Center Launches His Largest Awareness Campaign of Energy Saving, Saudi Energy Efficiency Center (Riyadh) 2 April 2019. Access date: 06 May 2019. <https://www.seec.gov.sa/en/blog/today-under-hash-tag-%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%A8%D9%82%D9%89-saudi-energy-efficiency-center-launches-his-largest-awareness>.

<sup>3392</sup> Minister Gugile Nkwinti launches Mzimvubu Water Project's advanced infrastructure South African Government (Cape Town) 21 February 2019, Access date: 25 March 2019. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-nkwinti-launches-mzimvubu-water-project-s-advanced-infrastructure-21-feb-2019-0000>

<sup>3393</sup> Turkey invested \$650M in wind power plants last year, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 13 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/energy/2019/02/13/turkey-invested-650m-in-wind-power-plants-last-year>

<sup>3394</sup> Turkish supreme court blocks coal plant, as wave of new projects stalls, Climate Home News (London) 5 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2019/03/05/turkish-supreme-court-blocks-coal-plant-wave-new-projects-stalls/>

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 7 December 2019, UK Research and Innovation through the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund for clean energy funded a GBP102.5 million investment in UK industry and researched to develop systems that support the global move to renewables.<sup>3395</sup>

On 5 February 2019, the British government awarded more than GBP6 million to support ultra-low emission taxis right across the country, furthering its ambition for a zero-emission future. Over 300 chargepoints for ultra-low emission taxis to be created. Ultra-low emission taxis will improve air quality in towns and city centres.<sup>3396</sup>

On 7 March 2019, Energy and Clean Growth Minister Claire Perry announced the launch of the new joint government-industry Offshore Wind Sector Deal. This deal will mean for the first time in UK history there will be more electricity from renewables than fossil fuels, with 70 per cent of British electricity predicted to be from low carbon sources by 2030 and over GBP40 billion of infrastructure investment in the UK.<sup>3397</sup>

On 15 March 2019, it was announced that the UK government is investing USD 2.2 million in the development of 2 solar plants in Kenya to give more people access to affordable, clean energy.<sup>3398</sup>

United Kingdom has taken action to promote the achievement of three relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mariya Kaluginina*

### **United States: +1**

United States has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 7 February 2019, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced USD35 million in awards for 12 projects that find new ways to harness medium-voltage electricity for applications in industry, transportation, on the grid and beyond. The selected projects are part of ARPA-E's Building Reliable Electronics to Achieve Kilovolt Effective Ratings Safely (BREAKERS) program, as well as the latest OPEN+ cohort, Kilovolt Devices.<sup>3399</sup>

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<sup>3395</sup> Energy systems of the future: local communities to benefit sooner, UK Government (London) 7 December 2018. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-systems-of-the-future-local-communities-to-benefit-sooner>

<sup>3396</sup> Thousands of green taxis to benefit from new chargepoints, UK Government (London) 5 February 2019. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-of-green-taxis-to-benefit-from-new-chargepoints>

<sup>3397</sup> Offshore wind energy revolution to provide a third of all UK electricity by 2030, UK Government (London) 7 March 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/offshore-wind-energy-revolution-to-provide-a-third-of-all-uk-electricity-by-2030>

<sup>3398</sup> UK aid to give clean energy boost to Kenya, UK Government (London) 15 March 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-give-clean-energy-boost-to-kenya>

<sup>3399</sup> USDA announces \$35 million awards for projects to support medium-voltage devices for grid, industry and transportation, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-announces-35-million-ultra-efficient-power-management>

On 6 February 2019, the DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) announced their intent to issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled "Clean Energy Manufacturing Innovation Institute: Cybersecurity in Energy Efficient Manufacturing."<sup>3400</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the DOE announced USD100 million to establish an Energy-Water Desalination Hub to address water security issues in the United States. The Hub will focus on early-stage research and development (R&D) for energy-efficient and cost-competitive desalination technologies including manufacturing challenges, and for treating non-traditional water sources for multiple end-use applications.<sup>3401</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the DOE Energy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Daniel Simmons announced up to USD26.1 million in funding to drive innovative industry-led technology solutions to advance the marine and hydrokinetics industry and increase hydropower's ability to serve as a flexible grid resource. The Water Power Technologies Office will select projects that aim to increase affordability of hydropower and marine energy.<sup>3402</sup>

On 23 April 2019, the DOE announced the Buildings Energy Efficiency Frontiers & Innovation Technologies (BENEFIT) 2019 Funding Opportunity (FOA) for up to USD47 million for innovative technologies to make energy more affordable.<sup>3403</sup>

On 30 April 2019, the DOE, Israel's Ministry of Energy, and the Israel Innovation Authority have announced a USD16 million Call for Proposals of the U.S.-Israel Center of Excellence in Energy, Engineering and Water Technology.<sup>3404</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the DOE announced up to USD51.5 million for new and innovative research of technologies for trucks, off-road vehicles, and the fuels that power them. Funded through the EERE, this FOA addresses priorities in gaseous fuels research, including natural gas, biopower, and hydrogen; heavy-duty freight electrification; hydrogen infrastructure and fuel cell technologies for heavy-duty applications; and energy efficient off-road vehicles.<sup>3405</sup>

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<sup>3400</sup> DOE announces notice of intent to issue a funding opportunity establishing a cybersecurity institute for energy efficient manufacturing, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 6 February 2019. Access Date 1 April 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-notice-intent-issue-funding-opportunity-establishing-cybersecurity-institute>

<sup>3401</sup> Department of Energy Announces \$100 Million Energy-Water Desalination Hub to Provide Secure and Affordable Water, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 13 December 2018. Access Date 1 April 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-announces-100-million-energy-water-desalination-hub-provide-secure-and>

<sup>3402</sup> DOE Announces Up to \$26.1 Million to Advance Hydropower and Marine Energy, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-261-million-advance-hydropower-and-marine-energy>.

<sup>3403</sup> DOE Announces \$47 Million for Flexible Building Technologies, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC), and Solid-State Lighting, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 23 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-announces-47-million-flexible-building-technologies-heating-ventilation-and-air>

<sup>3404</sup> DOE, Israel's Ministry of Energy, and Israel Innovation Authority Announce Call for Proposals for the U.S.-Israel Energy Center, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-israel-s-ministry-energy-and-israel-innovation-authority-announce-call-proposals-us>

<sup>3405</sup> Department of Energy Announces \$50 Million for Commercial Truck, Off-road Vehicle, and Gaseous Fuels Research, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 1 March 2019. Access Date 1 May 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-announces-50-million-commercial-truck-road-vehicle-and-gaseous-fuels>

On 28 March 2019, the DOE announced up to USD28.1 million in funding aimed at advancing wind energy nationwide across the land-based, offshore, and distributed wind sectors.<sup>3406</sup>

On 26 March 2019, the DOE announced up to USD130 million for new research to advance early-stage solar technologies. These projects will help to achieve affordable and reliable energy to enhance America's economic growth and energy security.<sup>3407</sup>

On 25 March 2019, the DOE selected up to USD36 million in research projects that will advance solar energy's role in strengthening the resilience of the Nation's electricity grid.<sup>3408</sup>

United States has taken action to promote the achievement of three relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dmitry Lukanin*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment to promote energy security, sustainability, resilience, efficiency, affordability and stability.

On 4 December 2018, the revised Energy Efficiency Directive, the revised Renewable Energy Directive and the new Governance Regulation were formally adopted at the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council, following on from the strong support that all three dossiers got from members of the European Parliament at previous month's plenary session.<sup>3409</sup> The new regulatory framework, in particular via the introduction of the first national energy and climate plans, brought regulatory certainty and enabling conditions for essential investments to take place in this important sector. It empowered European consumers to become fully active players in the energy transition and fixes two new targets for the EU in 2030, among which is an energy efficiency target of at least 32.5 per cent, which would stimulate Europe's industrial competitiveness, boost growth and jobs, reduce energy bills, help tackle energy poverty and improve air quality.<sup>3410</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the European Commission welcomed a new political agreement on conclusion of the Clean Energy for All Europeans package. Negotiators were able to reach political

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<sup>3406</sup> Department of Energy Announces \$28 Million in Funding for Wind Energy Research, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/eere/wind/articles/department-energy-announces-28-million-funding-wind-energy-research>

<sup>3407</sup> Department of Energy Announces \$130 Million for Early-Stage Solar Research Project, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 26 March 2019. Access Date: 1 Mat 2019 <https://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-announces-130-million-early-stage-solar-research-project>

<sup>3408</sup> Department of Energy Selects \$36 Million to Advance Solar Energy Integration, U.S. Department of Energy (Washington) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-selects-36-million-advance-solar-energy-integration>

<sup>3409</sup> Commission welcomes Council adoption of new rules on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Governance, European Commission (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access date: 15 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-welcomes-council-adoption-new-rules-renewable-energy-energy-efficiency-and-governance-2018-dec-04\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-welcomes-council-adoption-new-rules-renewable-energy-energy-efficiency-and-governance-2018-dec-04_en).

<sup>3410</sup> Commission welcomes Council adoption of new rules on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Governance, European Commission (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access date: 15 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-welcomes-council-adoption-new-rules-renewable-energy-energy-efficiency-and-governance-2018-dec-04\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-welcomes-council-adoption-new-rules-renewable-energy-energy-efficiency-and-governance-2018-dec-04_en).

agreement on the new Electricity Regulation and Electricity Directive.<sup>3411</sup> This agreement followed previous agreements on the Governance proposal, the revised Energy Efficiency Directive, the revised Renewable Energy Directive, the Energy Performance in Buildings Directive and the Regulations on Risk Preparedness and the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER).<sup>3412</sup> The new electricity market design proposals, a Directive and a Regulation, aimed to adapt the current market rules to new market realities. They introduced a new limit for powerplants eligible to receive subsidies as capacity mechanisms. Subsidies to generation capacity emitting 550gr CO<sub>2</sub>/kWh or more would be phased out under the new rules.<sup>3413</sup> Furthermore, the consumer was put at the centre of the clean energy transition. Cross-border trade and competition would drive the investments necessary to provide security of supply, whilst decarbonizing the European energy system.<sup>3414</sup>

On 11 December 2018, the 6th EU Energy Day took place in Katowice, Poland, as part of the EU side events programme at the 24th Conference of the Parties to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. As part of the programme, a Joint Declaration between the EU and the International Solar Alliance (ISA) for cooperation on solar energy was signed.<sup>3415</sup> The ISA was launched on 30 November 2015 by India and France to implement the Paris Agreement. It aimed to provide a dedicated platform for cooperation among solar resource-rich countries where the global community, including bilateral and multilateral organizations, corporates, industry, and other stakeholders, could make a positive contribution to assist and help achieve the common goals of increasing the use of solar energy in a safe, convenient, affordable, equitable and sustainable manner. To date, 71 countries signed the ISA framework.<sup>3416</sup>

On 8 January 2019, the European Commission approved, under EU State aid rules, a measure to support the production of electricity from renewable energy sources and a measure to support electro-intensive users in Lithuania. The Commission found that the aid had an incentive effect, as the market price did not fully cover the costs of generating electricity from renewable energy sources and the beneficiaries applied for the aid before the installations started working.<sup>3417</sup> The aid was also proportionate and limited to the minimum necessary, as it only covered the difference between the

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<sup>3411</sup> Commission welcomes political agreement on conclusion on the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access date: 13 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6870\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6870_en.htm).

<sup>3412</sup> Commission welcomes political agreement on conclusion on the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access date: 13 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6870\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6870_en.htm).

<sup>3413</sup> Commission welcomes political agreement on conclusion on the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access date: 13 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6870\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6870_en.htm).

<sup>3414</sup> Commission welcomes political agreement on conclusion on the Clean Energy for All Europeans package, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2018. Access date: 13 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-6870\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-6870_en.htm).

<sup>3415</sup> Signature by the EU and the International Solar Alliance of a Joint Declaration for cooperation on solar energy, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/signature-eu-and-international-solar-alliance-joint-declaration-cooperation-solar-energy-2018-dec-11\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/signature-eu-and-international-solar-alliance-joint-declaration-cooperation-solar-energy-2018-dec-11_en).

<sup>3416</sup> Signature by the EU and the International Solar Alliance of a Joint Declaration for cooperation on solar energy, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/signature-eu-and-international-solar-alliance-joint-declaration-cooperation-solar-energy-2018-dec-11\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/signature-eu-and-international-solar-alliance-joint-declaration-cooperation-solar-energy-2018-dec-11_en).

<sup>3417</sup> State aid: Commission approves support for production of electricity from renewable energy sources and for electro-intensive users in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 8 January 2019. Access date: 10 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-242\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-242_en.htm).

production costs and the market price of electricity.<sup>3418</sup> Therefore, the Commission concluded that the Lithuanian measure was in line with EU State aid rules, as it promoted the generation of electricity from renewable sources, in line with the environmental objectives of the EU, without unduly distorting competition.<sup>3419</sup>

On 23 January 2019, EU Member States voted on a Commission proposal to invest almost EUR800 million in key European energy infrastructure projects with major cross-border benefits.<sup>3420</sup> The EU funding came from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), the European support programme for trans-European infrastructure. Priority was given to projects that increase competitiveness, enhance the EU's security of energy supply through the promotion of safe, secure and efficient network operation, and contribute to sustainable development and environmental protection.<sup>3421</sup> This vote concerned CEF financial aid for studies and works for a total of 14 projects: 7 for electricity, 2 for smart grids, 2 for CO2 cross-border transportation and 3 for gas. The proposed CEF-Energy funding amounted to almost EUR800 million, with electricity and smart grids accounting for EUR504 million, EUR9.3 million to support studies on the development of a CO2 transport infrastructure; and EUR286 allocated to the gas sector.<sup>3422</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the European Commission launched an initiative on kick-starting energy transition process with islands to support them in becoming more self-sufficient, prosperous and sustainable.<sup>3423</sup> 26 European islands officially launched their clean energy transition with the support of the European Commission's Clean Energy for EU Islands Secretariat. In a first phase, 6 islands, the Aran Islands (Ireland) Cres-Lošinj (Croatia), Sifnos (Greece), Culatra (Portugal), Salina (Italy) and La Palma (Spain) were set to develop and publish their clean energy transition agendas by summer 2019.<sup>3424</sup> The other 20 islands would do so by summer 2020. Despite having an abundance of renewable sources of energy, such as wind, solar and wave energy, many of them depended on expensive fossil fuel imports for their energy supply. The clean energy transition could help islands not only become more self-sufficient and prosperous, but also unlock new employment opportunities in their communities.<sup>3425</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council agreed on a new provisional political agreement to ensure that pipelines with third countries comply with EU gas rules. Following the announcement by President Juncker in his 2017 State of the European

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<sup>3418</sup> State aid: Commission approves support for production of electricity from renewable energy sources and for electro-intensive users in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 8 January 2019. Access date: 10 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-242\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-242_en.htm).

<sup>3419</sup> State aid: Commission approves support for production of electricity from renewable energy sources and for electro-intensive users in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 8 January 2019. Access date: 10 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-242\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-242_en.htm).

<sup>3420</sup> Energy Union: EU invests a further €800 million in priority energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access date: 11 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-561\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-561_en.htm).

<sup>3421</sup> Energy Union: EU invests a further €800 million in priority energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access date: 11 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-561\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-561_en.htm).

<sup>3422</sup> Energy Union: EU invests a further €800 million in priority energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 23 January 2019. Access date: 11 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-561\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-561_en.htm).

<sup>3423</sup> 26 European islands launch clean energy transition, European Commission (Brussels) 18 February 2019. Access date: 20 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/26-european-islands-launch-clean-energy-transition-2019-feb-18\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/26-european-islands-launch-clean-energy-transition-2019-feb-18_en).

<sup>3424</sup> 26 European islands launch clean energy transition, European Commission (Brussels) 18 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/26-european-islands-launch-clean-energy-transition-2019-feb-18\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/26-european-islands-launch-clean-energy-transition-2019-feb-18_en).

<sup>3425</sup> 26 European islands launch clean energy transition, European Commission (Brussels) 18 February 2019. Access date: 20 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/26-european-islands-launch-clean-energy-transition-2019-feb-18\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/26-european-islands-launch-clean-energy-transition-2019-feb-18_en).

Union speech, the Commission proposed common rules for gas pipelines entering the European gas market, on 8 November 2017. These rules aimed at increasing security of supply.<sup>3426</sup> The aim of the proposal was to improve the existing Gas Directive (2009/73/EC) and ensure that the principles of EU energy legislation (third-party access, tariff regulation, ownership unbundling and transparency) apply to all gas pipelines to and from third countries.

On 20 February 2019, the European Commission announced that more European funds were available to support energy efficiency in residential buildings. The European Local ENergy Assistance (ELENA) facility would benefit from EUR 97 million of new funding from the European Commission for its envelope dedicated to residential buildings.<sup>3427</sup> This budget would support project development services for energy-efficiency investments in privately and publicly owned housing. The European Investment Bank (EIB), which implements ELENA, would provide assistance and expertise and act as the point of contact. Project development services would mainly be directed towards households and homeowner associations with a view to increasing comfort and reducing energy bills.<sup>3428</sup>

On 11 March 2019, Italy and ElectiFI, the EU flagship initiative to de-risk sustainable energy investments in developing countries signed a EUR5 million support agreement. The Italian support would focus on the Sahel Region and Sub-Saharan countries. This bilateral support added to the EU Member States' contribution through the EU budget. Based on the current pipeline, expected results were set to constitute 1.5 million direct and indirect connections or the equivalent of 7 million persons, with about 470 MW additional generation capacity and 430 GWh of electricity from renewable sources per year.<sup>3429</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the European Commission announced the launch of the first edition of the RESponsible Island Prize, which was dedicated to islands with innovative and sustainable local renewable energy production for use in electricity, heating, cooling and transport.<sup>3430</sup> The three winners would receive a cash prize of €500,000, EUR250,000 and EUR100,000, respectively. The competition was launched by Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, coinciding with the “OCEANS the future of the blue planet” conference on 19 March in Brussels. The prize was funded under Horizon 2020, the EU research and innovation programme (2014-2020). Successful applicants would also need to demonstrate how their energy system engaged the local community as responsible consumers.<sup>3431</sup> Through the prize, the Commission would contribute to fulfilling the objectives of the Political Declaration on Clean Energy on EU Islands and the Smart Islands Initiative. It will also help the EU to advance on one of the eight innovation challenges

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<sup>3426</sup> Energy Union: Commission welcomes tonight's provisional political agreement to ensure that pipelines with third countries comply with EU gas rules, European Commission (Brussels) 12 February 2019. Access date: 14 February. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-1069\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-1069_en.htm).

<sup>3427</sup> More European funds available to support energy efficiency in residential buildings, European Commission (Brussels) 20 February 2019. Access date: 24 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/more-european-funds-available-support-energy-efficiency-residential-buildings-2019-feb-20\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/more-european-funds-available-support-energy-efficiency-residential-buildings-2019-feb-20_en).

<sup>3428</sup> More European funds available to support energy efficiency in residential buildings, European Commission (Brussels) 20 February 2019. Access date: 24 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/more-european-funds-available-support-energy-efficiency-residential-buildings-2019-feb-20\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/more-european-funds-available-support-energy-efficiency-residential-buildings-2019-feb-20_en).

<sup>3429</sup> Italy supports EU initiative to boost investment in sustainable energy in developing countries with €5 million, European Commission (Brussels) 11 March 2019. Access date: 25 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/italy-supports-eu-initiative-boost-investment-sustainable-energy-developing\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/italy-supports-eu-initiative-boost-investment-sustainable-energy-developing_en)

<sup>3430</sup> Competition starts today: new prize to reward islands for local renewable energy production, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2019. Access date: 24 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/competition-starts-today-new-prize-reward-islands-local-renewable-energy-production-2019-mar-19\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/competition-starts-today-new-prize-reward-islands-local-renewable-energy-production-2019-mar-19_en).

<sup>3431</sup> Competition starts today: new prize to reward islands for local renewable energy production, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2019. Access date: 24 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/competition-starts-today-new-prize-reward-islands-local-renewable-energy-production-2019-mar-19\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/competition-starts-today-new-prize-reward-islands-local-renewable-energy-production-2019-mar-19_en).

defined under Mission Innovation, a global initiative working to accelerate the clean energy transition.<sup>3432</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the European Commission published the Renewable Energy Progress Report, which stated that the EU was on track for reaching its renewable energy target for 2020. It claimed that the share of renewable energy in the EU energy mix already reached 17.52 per cent because of the significant cost reductions in renewable energy technologies, the decrease of subsidies through more competitive support schemes the numerous zero or low-cost auction results in several European countries.<sup>3433</sup>

On 12 March 2019, call for proposals for the Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy topics of the Horizon 2020 EU funding programme was launched by the European Commission. The funding is available for proposals submitted under 16 topics addressing 5 main areas: buildings, industry, finance, public authorities and policy support and consumer and services.<sup>3434</sup>

On 16 April 2019, the European Commission's Director-General for International Cooperation and Development, Stefano Manservigi co-chaired the first EU-Cuba Sustainable Development Dialogue. The dialogue took stock of the progress towards meeting the Sustainable Development Goals in Cuba and the EU. This visit to Cuba launched agreements for projects in energy among other areas. This project included allocating EUR4 million to use renewable energy to boost Cuba's energy resilience in extreme weather events and EUR10.5 million to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy use for local development.<sup>3435</sup>

On 16 April 2019, the European Investment Bank provided Aena with EUR86 million to improve the energy efficiency of its airports. This contract was made possible by the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), the main pillar of the Investment Plan for Europe that made it possible for the EIB to provide financing on favourable terms to support investments.<sup>3436</sup> The EIB-financed investments would facilitate the creation of 635 indirect jobs during the project's implementation phase. The credit line would be available for use by Aena for the next two years and would enable it to finance 75 per cent of the investments set to improve energy efficiency and promote the use of renewable energy in Aena's network of 46 airports and two heliports across Spain.<sup>3437</sup> The EIB's Juncker Plan financing would make it possible to replace airport lighting systems with low-energy alternatives, optimise thermal insulation in terminals and renovate ventilation systems and boilers. In addition, the creation of a solar photovoltaic plant for on-site use was planned in Madrid –

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<sup>3432</sup> Competition starts today: new prize to reward islands for local renewable energy production, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2019. Access date: 24 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/competition-starts-today-new-prize-reward-islands-local-renewable-energy-production-2019-mar-19\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/competition-starts-today-new-prize-reward-islands-local-renewable-energy-production-2019-mar-19_en).

<sup>3433</sup> Renewable Energy Progress Report, European Commission (Brussels) 9 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/report-progress-renewable-energy-april2019\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/report-progress-renewable-energy-april2019_en.pdf).

<sup>3434</sup> The new call for energy efficiency is open, European Commission (Brussels) 13 March 2019. Access date: 24 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-call-energy-efficiency-open-2019-mar-13\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/new-call-energy-efficiency-open-2019-mar-13_en).

<sup>3435</sup> Director General Stefano Manservigi in Cuba to discuss boosting cooperation and taking the sustainable development agenda forward, European Commission (Brussels) 16 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/director-general-stefano-manservigi-cuba-discuss-boosting-cooperation-and-taking\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/director-general-stefano-manservigi-cuba-discuss-boosting-cooperation-and-taking_en).

<sup>3436</sup> Investment Plan for Europe: EIB provides Aena with €86m to improve the energy efficiency of its airports, European Commission (Brussels) 16 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-provides-aena-eu86m-improve-energy-efficiency-its-airports-2019-apr-16\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-provides-aena-eu86m-improve-energy-efficiency-its-airports-2019-apr-16_en).

<sup>3437</sup> Investment Plan for Europe: EIB provides Aena with €86m to improve the energy efficiency of its airports, European Commission (Brussels) 16 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-provides-aena-eu86m-improve-energy-efficiency-its-airports-2019-apr-16\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-provides-aena-eu86m-improve-energy-efficiency-its-airports-2019-apr-16_en).

generating 13,600 MWh of clean energy a year and avoiding the emission of 2,980 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> – as is the installation of around 2,700 electric vehicle recharging points in the network’s car parks.<sup>3438</sup>

On 23 April 2019, the European Commission approved EUR385 million support for production of electricity from renewable sources in Lithuania. Lithuania would now introduce a new aid scheme to support installations generating electricity from renewable sources such as wind, solar or hydropower.<sup>3439</sup> This scheme would help Lithuania reach its national target share of renewable energy sources in gross final energy consumption, which was set at 38 per cent by 2025. The renewable energy scheme would be applicable until 1 July 2025 or, alternatively, until the 38 per cent target is reached.<sup>3440</sup> The scheme, with an overall budget of EUR385 million, would be open to all renewable installations. The installations benefitting from the scheme would receive support in the form of a premium, which would be set through a competitive bidding process for all types of installations, irrespective of the size of the installation and the renewable technology used.<sup>3441</sup>

European Union has taken action to promote the achievement of four relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goal 7.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

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<sup>3438</sup> Investment Plan for Europe: EIB provides Aena with €86m to improve the energy efficiency of its airports, European Commission (Brussels) 16 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-provides-aena-eu86m-improve-energy-efficiency-its-airports-2019-apr-16\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-plan-europe-eib-provides-aena-eu86m-improve-energy-efficiency-its-airports-2019-apr-16_en).

<sup>3439</sup> State Aid: Commission Approved approves €385 million support for production of electricity from renewable sources in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 23 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-2230\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2230_en.htm).

<sup>3440</sup> State Aid: Commission Approved approves €385 million support for production of electricity from renewable sources in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 23 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-2230\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2230_en.htm).

<sup>3441</sup> State Aid: Commission Approved approves €385 million support for production of electricity from renewable sources in Lithuania, European Commission (Brussels) 23 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-2230\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-2230_en.htm).

## 15. Financial Regulation: Technology

“We will step up efforts to ensure that the potential benefits of technology in the financial sector can be realized while risks are mitigated.”

*Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

Country	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia		0	
Brazil		0	
Canada		0	
China		0	
France		0	
Germany		0	
India	-1		
Indonesia		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Korea		0	
Mexico	-1		
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.05	

### Background

Technological innovation in the financial sector is developing rapidly. In this regard, the German G20 Presidency, in line with its overall focus on digitalization, asked the Financial Stability Board (FSB) to identify supervisory and regulatory issues of new technologies in the financial sector that merit authorities’ attention from a financial stability perspective. The FSB pointed to several priority areas where international institutions and national authorities should take into account FinTech issues when developing regulatory frameworks, including managing operational risks from third-party service providers, mitigating cyber risks and monitoring macrofinancial risks.<sup>3442</sup> At the Hamburg Summit, G20 leaders supported the FSB’s work and asked it to continue its monitoring exercise in the area of FinTech.<sup>3443</sup> The FSB took “a two-sided approach, considering the potential of FinTech innovations to support financial stability and to engender new systemic risks.”<sup>3444</sup> In Buenos Aires, G20 leaders made a commitment fully in line with the FSB’s approach, deciding to step up “efforts

<sup>3442</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities’ Attention, FSB (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 28 May 2019. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

<sup>3443</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration. Shaping an interconnected world, Hamburg, 7/8 July 2017, CIIR RANEPa (Hamburg) 8 July 2017. Access date: 28 May 2019.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders\\_%20communiqué.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders_%20communiqué.pdf)

<sup>3444</sup> Monitoring of FinTech, FSB (Basel) 2017. Access date: 28 May 2019. <http://www.fsb.org/what-we-do/policy-development/additional-policy-areas/monitoring-of-fintech/>

to ensure that the potential benefits of technology in the financial sector can be realized while risks are mitigated.”<sup>3445</sup>

### Commitment Features

This commitment requires G20 members to implement measures aimed at fully realizing the potential benefits of FinTech, while mitigating risks. The FSB identified several issues related to FinTech as building blocks for ensuring a strong, sustainable and resilient financial system. As FSB was entrusted with the task to assess the potential benefits and risks brought by the technologies in the financial sector and its work was fully supported by G20 members, the scoring for this G20 decision is based on the assessment of the work made by the members on priority areas for international cooperation as identified by the FSB. These guidelines are fully based on the areas of cooperation outlined in the FSB’s report “Financial Stability Implications from FinTech Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities’ Attention” to provide accuracy and full consistency with the FSB’s approach approved by G20 members. According to the FSB, financial authorities should focus on the following action areas:

1. *Managing operational risks from third-party service providers.* Authorities need to establish oversight mechanisms for important third-party service providers to financial institutions, for example, in cloud computing and data services. This may entail increased international coordination between financial authorities and other partners, such as authorities responsible for information technology security.<sup>3446</sup>
2. *Mitigating cyber risks.* Authorities need to lower the probability of cyber events that have adverse effects on financial stability, including through designing contingency plans for cyberattacks, information sharing, monitoring, and strengthening financial and technology literacy.<sup>3447</sup>
3. *Monitoring macrofinancial risks.* Authorities should develop capacities to access existing and new sources of information concerning macrofinancial risks related to FinTech, such as those resulting from the activities of systemically important institutions and unstable financial flows.<sup>3448</sup>
4. *Cross-border legal issues and regulatory arrangements.* Authorities should ensure cross-jurisdictional compatibility of national legal frameworks related to innovative cross-border lending, trading and payment transactions, such as applications of distributed ledger technology (DLT).<sup>3449</sup>
5. *Governance and disclosure frameworks for big data analytics.* Authorities should develop frameworks to assess the robustness of the complex big data analytics models or new unforeseen risks in market behaviour, and to determine whether market participants are fully in control of their systems.<sup>3450</sup>

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<sup>3445</sup> G20 Leaders’ declaration. Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, CIIR RANEPa (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access date: 28 May 2019.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos\\_aires\\_leaders\\_declaration.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf)

<sup>3446</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities’ Attention, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 24 May 2019, p.30. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

<sup>3447</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities’ Attention, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 24 May 2019, p.30. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

<sup>3448</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities’ Attention, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 24 May 2019, p.30. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

<sup>3449</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities’ Attention, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 24 May 2019, p.31. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

6. *Assessing the regulatory perimeter and updating it on a timely basis.* Regulators should be agile when there is a need to respond to fast changes in the FinTech area, and review the regulatory perimeter regularly.<sup>3451</sup>
7. *Shared learning with a diverse set of private sector parties.* Authorities should improve communication channels with the private sector and to share their experiences with regulatory sandboxes, accelerators and innovation hubs, as well as other forms of interaction.<sup>3452</sup>
8. *Further developing open lines of communication across relevant authorities.* Authorities should further improve their mutual communication to ensure preparedness to adverse developments in the FinTech sector.<sup>3453</sup>
9. *Building staff capacity in new areas of required expertise.* Regulators should ensure they have the adequate resources and skilled employees to address the challenges of FinTech.<sup>3454</sup>
10. *Studying alternative configurations of digital currencies.* Authorities should monitor developments in the sector and analyse the potential implications of digital currencies for national monetary policy and financial stability, and the global monetary system.<sup>3455</sup>

Full compliance requires member's actions in line with at least six of the above-mentioned areas. Actions consistent with three to five areas are counted as partial compliance. Otherwise, a G20 member receives a score of -1.

#### Scoring Guidelines

-1	G20 member takes measures related to FinTech in line with 2 or less action areas identified by the FSB.
0	G20 member takes measures related to FinTech in line with 3 to 5 action areas identified by the FSB.
+1	G20 member takes measures related to FinTech in line with 6 to 10 action areas identified by the FSB.

#### Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

<sup>3450</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities' Attention, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 24 May 2019, p.31. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

<sup>3451</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities' Attention, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 24 May 2019, p.31. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

<sup>3452</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities' Attention, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 24 May 2019, p.32. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

<sup>3453</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities' Attention, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 24 May 2019, p.32. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

<sup>3454</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities' Attention, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 24 May 2019, p.32. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

<sup>3455</sup> Financial Stability Implications from FinTech. Supervisory and Regulatory Issues that Merit Authorities' Attention, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 27 June 2017. Access date: 24 May 2019. <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/R270617.pdf>

On 11 December 2018, Governor of the Central Bank of Argentina (BCRA) Guido Sandleris and other BCRA leaders met with the winning teams of the last edition of the Financial Innovation Program (Programa de Innovación Financiera, PIF), an initiative that rewards technology-based projects that promote financial inclusion, for example information platform on credit and investment options offered by banks.<sup>3456</sup>

On 7 January 2019, BCRA Governor Guido Sandleris and Chief of the Supreme Court of Justice Eduardo Pettigiani signed an agreement to facilitate the electronic sharing of information between both institutions.<sup>3457</sup> The purpose of the agreement is to promote the use of technological tools that makes document sharing simpler, faster and more secure.<sup>3458</sup> Under this agreement, written communications issued by courts will be processed electronically by the BCRA through the Supreme Court's System for Electronic Notices and Filings. This agreement is signed in accordance with the BCRA's policy to promote the modernization and digitalization of document management while reducing the use of paper.<sup>3459</sup>

On 5 April 2019, the BCRA introduced changes to a series of regulations in order to enhance users' financial protection<sup>3460</sup> and published Communication A 6667, which will regulate digital channels and make this kind of transactions simple and safe.<sup>3461</sup>

Argentina has taken measures related to FinTech in line with three action areas identified by the FSB. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

## **Australia: 0**

Australia has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 22 January 2019, the Australian Payments Council (APC) invited businesses, nongovernmental organizations, government and consumers to comment on what is needed to support payments in the digital economy of the future.<sup>3462</sup> It launched a consultation paper – “2019 Consultation – Payments in a Global, Digital World” – as it seeks to make this a reality Down Under. According to the APC, this plan will guide industry thinking in areas such as the changing payments mix, open data and digital identity. The current consultation forms part of the plan's first triennial review.<sup>3463</sup>

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<sup>3456</sup> The winners of the Financial Innovation Program organized by the BCRA, Central Bank of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <http://www.bkra.gov.ar/Noticias/El-directorio-y-ganadores-PIF-i.asp>.

<sup>3457</sup> Agreement to digitalize documents for information sharing purposes, Central Bank of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <http://www.bkra.gov.ar/Noticias/Convenio-digitalizar-intercambio-informacion-i.asp>.

<sup>3458</sup> Agreement to digitalize documents for information sharing purposes, Central Bank of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <http://www.bkra.gov.ar/Noticias/Convenio-digitalizar-intercambio-informacion-i.asp>.

<sup>3459</sup> Agreement to digitalize documents for information sharing purposes, Central Bank of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 7 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <http://www.bkra.gov.ar/Noticias/Convenio-digitalizar-intercambio-informacion-i.asp>.

<sup>3460</sup> Financial Services User Protection—Further Amendments, Central Bank of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <http://www.bkra.gov.ar/Noticias/Proteccion-usuario-financiero-i.asp>.

<sup>3461</sup> Online Time Deposits: At any Bank for non-Clients, Central Bank of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <http://www.bkra.gov.ar/Noticias/Plazo-fijo-online-i.asp>.

<sup>3462</sup> Australia prepares payments for digital age, Fintech Futures (London) 22 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.bankingtech.com/2019/01/australia-prepares-payments-for-digital-age/>

<sup>3463</sup> Australia prepares payments for digital age, Fintech Futures (London) 22 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.bankingtech.com/2019/01/australia-prepares-payments-for-digital-age/>

On 4 February 2019, it was announced that Regulators will be subjected to a new oversight body and the financial industry's pay will be overhauled to remove conflicts of interest, according to the recommendations of the so-called Royal Commission.<sup>3464</sup> The recommendations come after the public inquiry heard 11 months of shocking revelations of the financial industry's wrongdoing, including that fees were charged to the accounts of dead people and that cash bribes were paid over the counter to win mortgage business, wiping AUD60 billion from the country's top finance stocks. The government, which was initially opposed to the setting up of the inquiry, promised it would act on all the 76 recommendations.<sup>3465</sup>

On 3 December 2018, Coinzoom Australia said that it was officially registered as a digital currency exchange with financial watchdog Austrac. Austrac, as the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre is a state-run financial intelligence agency that monitors financial transactions. The registration allows the exchange to operate legally according to Australian law. It will also function as a fiat-to-crypto exchange, with support for a variety of digital assets.<sup>3466</sup>

On 26 March 2019, the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) launched a nationwide program of cyber resilience and response activities for the electricity industry and for government agencies that have an energy and cyber security role.<sup>3467</sup> 'The electricity industry provides an essential service for all Australians, and, like other critical infrastructure sectors, is a target for malicious cyber criminals,' said Alastair MacGibbon, Head of the ACSC.<sup>3468</sup> 'We're inviting participation from across the electricity industry – market and power system operators, generators, storage providers, transmission and distribution network service providers, and retailers – as well as government.'<sup>3469</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the ACSC Partnership Program entered its next phase through the network of Joint Cyber Security Centres (JCSCs), located in Perth, Adelaide, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. The partnership program is run by the ACSC as part of the Australian Government Cyber Security Strategy.<sup>3470</sup> The strategy has been implemented to ensure Australian governments – state, territory and federal – and institutions, businesses and organisations can take full advantage of current and future digital technologies. Through the JCSC program, the ACSC is driving collaboration around cyber security risks and issues. 'The JCSCs provide a hub for business to collaborate on cyber security issues – as we mature the program, we will increasingly work with partners to co-design solutions to common challenges,' said David George, Head of ACSC's National Collaboration Program.<sup>3471</sup>

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<sup>3464</sup> Australia vows to clean up financial sector after landmark misconduct inquiry, Reuters (Canberra) 4 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-australia-banks-inquiry/australia-vows-to-clean-up-financial-sector-after-landmark-misconduct-inquiry-idUSKCN1PT099>

<sup>3465</sup> Australia vows to clean up financial sector after landmark misconduct inquiry, Reuters (Canberra) 4 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-australia-banks-inquiry/australia-vows-to-clean-up-financial-sector-after-landmark-misconduct-inquiry-idUSKCN1PT099>

<sup>3466</sup> Australia's Financial Regulator Grants License to Bitcoin Exchange Coinzoom, Bitcoin.com (Seaford) 3 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://news.bitcoin.com/australias-financial-regulator-grants-license-to-bitcoin-exchange-coinzoom/>

<sup>3467</sup> Plug in to ACSC for cyber resilience, Australian government (Canberra) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.cyber.gov.au/news/plug-in-to-the-acsc>

<sup>3468</sup> Plug in to ACSC for cyber resilience, Australian government (Canberra) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.cyber.gov.au/news/plug-in-to-the-acsc>

<sup>3469</sup> Plug in to ACSC for cyber resilience, Australian government (Canberra) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.cyber.gov.au/news/plug-in-to-the-acsc>

<sup>3470</sup> ACSC program enters its next phase through JCSCs, Australian government (Canberra) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.cyber.gov.au/news/acsc-partnership-program>

<sup>3471</sup> ACSC program enters its next phase through JCSCs, Australian government (Canberra) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.cyber.gov.au/news/acsc-partnership-program>

Australia has taken measures related to FinTech in line with three action areas identified by the FSB. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

### **Brazil: 0**

Brazil has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 3 December 2018, the Central Bank of Brazil held the forum of Financial Market Infrastructure. There was established a plan of an evaluation and promotion of the risk management process for third-party service providers.<sup>3472</sup>

On 3 December 2018, the President of the Central Bank of Brazil Ilan Goldfajn held the Brazil Risk Revaluation Seminar organized by Getúlio Vargas Foundation. It discussed regulation of credit fintechs, participation of foreign capital in fintechs to facilitate and stimulate competition, cyber security policy, instant payments.<sup>3473</sup>

On 6 December 2018, the Central Bank of Brazil and the Administrative Council of Economic Defense approved the Joint Normative Act No. 1, which establishes procedures to harmonize and make more efficient the respective actions in acts of concentration and defense of competition within the National Financial System. The Act provides, among other actions, rules for sharing of information between Cade and the Central Bank to carry out activities in the competitive sphere and to hold periodic meetings between the two bodies.<sup>3474</sup>

On 10 December 2018, the Laboratory of Financial and Technological Innovations chose 12 projects that propose technological innovations in the area of finance, aiming at cheapening credit and increasing the efficiency of the National Financial. The proposals include blockchain technologies, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity tools and new application models for technologies already established in the market.<sup>3475</sup>

On 13 February 2019, the Information Security Department held the meetings for the elaboration of the National Information Security Strategy.<sup>3476</sup>

On 22 February 2019, the Central Bank and the National Federation of Central Bank Servers Associations announced an event in which innovations in information technology linked to the National Financial System will be exposed. At the event, the participants will expose the solutions payments, cybersecurity and credit, creation of technological innovation.<sup>3477</sup>

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<sup>3472</sup> Provedores de Serviços Críticos (PSC), Banco do Brasil (Brasília) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. [https://www.bcb.gov.br/content/estabilidadefinanceira/Documents/sistema\\_pagamentos\\_brasileiro/Forum\\_SPB/Provedores\\_de\\_Servicos\\_Criticos.pdf](https://www.bcb.gov.br/content/estabilidadefinanceira/Documents/sistema_pagamentos_brasileiro/Forum_SPB/Provedores_de_Servicos_Criticos.pdf)

<sup>3473</sup> Apresentação do Presidente Ilan Goldfajn no Seminário Reavaliação do Risco Brasil organizado pela FGV/Rio, Banco do Brasil (Brasília) 3 December 2018. Access Date: <https://www.bcb.gov.br/detalhenoticia/16625/nota>

<sup>3474</sup> Banco Central e Cade aprovam Ato Normativo Conjunto, Banco do Brasil (Brasília) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/detalhenoticia/16629/nota>

<sup>3475</sup> Programa desenvolvido pelo BC leva à criação de 12 projetos de inovação para o SFN, Banco do Brasil (Brasília) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/detalhenoticia/16631/nota>

<sup>3476</sup> Recomeçaram as reuniões para elaboração da Estratégia Nacional de Segurança da Informação, módulo Segurança Cibernética, Departamento de Segurança da Informação (Brasília) 13 February 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://dsic.planalto.gov.br/noticias/recomecam-amanha-as-reunioes-para-elaboracao-da-estrategia-nacional-de-seguranca-da-informacao-modulo-seguranca-cibernetica>

<sup>3477</sup> Seminário debate inovações financeiras e tecnológicas no BC, Banco do Brasil (Brasília) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/detalhenoticia/16684/nota>

On 21 December 2018, the Central Bank of Brazil set the fundamental requirements for the Brazilian instant payment system. It set out the institutional policy for the development of this system, which includes governance for rule-making, forms of participation and centralized settlement infrastructure.<sup>3478</sup>

On 7 March 2019, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision released the result of the assessment of the Brazilian regulatory framework regarding the long-term liquidity indicator and the exposure limits per customer. The two indicators received the highest score – “Compliant,” which means “fully compliant.”<sup>3479</sup>

Brazil has taken measures related to FinTech in line with four action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

### **Canada: 0**

Canada has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 15 March 2019, Canadian Securities Administrators and the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada published a consultation paper on Thursday, seeking input from the fintech community on how regulatory requirements can be developed for cryptocurrency platforms.<sup>3480</sup>

On 18 April 2019, it was announced that Government is partnering with groundbreaking digital industries to invest in quantum-related technologies and skills development.<sup>3481</sup> This will mean smarter security systems to better protect Canadians’ homes, more powerful digital security tools to secure their online transactions, and more efficient medicines to improve their health. Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Navdeep Bains and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario announced a total investment of CAD41 million in one Waterloo-based not-for-profit and three start-up companies developing cutting-edge products that integrate quantum, artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies. The total cost of the projects is CAD101.8 million.<sup>3482</sup>

Canada has taken measures related to FinTech in line with three action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Uliana Koptyukh*

### **China: 0**

China has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 11 December 2018, the China- United Kingdom Fintech Bridge Conference was held. The main goal was to increase collaboration between the two sides in promoting financial technologies

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<sup>3478</sup> Agenda BC+: BC define os requisitos fundamentais para o sistema de pagamentos instantâneos brasileiro, Banco do Brasil (Brasília) 21 December 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/detalhenoticia/16646/nota>

<sup>3479</sup> Regulação brasileira recebe nota máxima do Comitê de Basileia para Supervisão Bancária, Banco do Brasil (Brasília) 12 March 2019. Access Date : 2 May 2019. <https://www.bcb.gov.br/detalhenoticia/330/noticia>

<sup>3480</sup> Canada Proposes Regulatory Framework for Cryptocurrency Exchanges, Coindesk (New York) 2 May 2019. Access date: 11 May 2019. <https://www.coindesk.com/canada-proposes-regulatory-framework-for-cryptocurrency-exchanges>

<sup>3481</sup> Government of Canada partners with digital industries to invest in groundbreaking technology and businesses, CISION (Toronto) 18 April 2019. Access date: 11 May 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-partners-with-digital-industries-to-invest-in-groundbreaking-technology-and-businesses-841793402.html>

<sup>3482</sup> Government of Canada partners with digital industries to invest in groundbreaking technology and businesses, CISION (Toronto) 18 April 2019. Access date: 11 May 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-partners-with-digital-industries-to-invest-in-groundbreaking-technology-and-businesses-841793402.html>

innovation and application. As the result of the conference Fintech Bridge Journal was issued providing a guide to enhance Fintech ecosystem and support the Fintech firms and investors working across borders.<sup>3483</sup>

On 16 January 2019, Beijing authorities set plans to build a national-level cybersecurity industrial park to boost the industry and tap into the potential of domestic tech companies.<sup>3484</sup>

On 24 February 2019, China Law Society held lawmaking seminars where law scholars and central government officials discussed the possibility of new cybersecurity laws.<sup>3485</sup>

On 10 March 2019, deputy governor of the People's Bank of China announced that China will boost the role of financial technology in serving the real economy and preventing financial risks. Pilot programs for fintech application were launched in 10 provincial-level regions including Beijing, Shanghai and Guangdong.<sup>3486</sup>

China has taken measures related to FinTech in line with three action areas identified by the FSB. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 4 December 2018, seven European Union members signed declaration to promote blockchain use.<sup>3487</sup>

On 12 December 2018, government officials advocated for a EUR500 million investment in blockchain technology.<sup>3488</sup>

On 13 December 2018, French lawmakers proposed lower electricity rates for cryptocurrency miners.<sup>3489</sup>

On 24 December 2018, a decree adding to the Law Allowing Blockchain Technology to be used to register and transfer unlisted securities was published.<sup>3490</sup>

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<sup>3483</sup> China-UK Fintech Bridge Conference to boost collaboration and opportunity, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 12 December 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/12/c\\_137666956.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/12/c_137666956.htm)

<sup>3484</sup> Beijing builds cybersecurity industrial park, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 16 January 2019. Access date: 23 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/17/c\\_137749552.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/17/c_137749552.htm)

<sup>3485</sup> China Law Society holds seminars to improve legislation, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 24 February 2019. Access date: 23 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/24/c\\_137846482.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-02/24/c_137846482.htm)

<sup>3486</sup> China's central bank eyes greater role for fintech, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 10 March 2019. Access date: 22 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/10/c\\_137883248.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/10/c_137883248.htm)

<sup>3487</sup> Seven EU States Sign Declaration to Promote Blockchain Use, Cointelegraph (New York) 5 December 2018. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/seven-eu-states-sign-declaration-to-promote-blockchain-use>

<sup>3488</sup> Des parlementaires préconisent d'investir 500 millions dans la blockchain en trois ans, Les Echos (Paris) 18 December 2018. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.lesechos.fr/tech-medias/hightech/des-parlementaires-preconisent-dinvestir-500-millions-dans-la-blockchain-en-trois-ans-238269>

<sup>3489</sup> French Lawmakers Propose Lower Electricity Rates for Cryptocurrency Miners, Bitcoin (Paris) 13 December 2018. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://news.bitcoin.com/french-lawmakers-propose-lower-electricity-rates-for-cryptocurrency-miners/>

<sup>3490</sup> France Adds the Missing Piece to the Law Allowing Blockchain Technology to be Used to Register and Transfer Unlisted Securities, Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP (New York) 10 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. [https://www.kramerlevin.com/en/perspectives-search/france-adds-the-missing-piece-to-the-law-allowing-blockchain-technology-to-be-used-to-register-and-transfer-unlisted-securities.html#\\_ftn5](https://www.kramerlevin.com/en/perspectives-search/france-adds-the-missing-piece-to-the-law-allowing-blockchain-technology-to-be-used-to-register-and-transfer-unlisted-securities.html#_ftn5)

On 8 March 2019, French Financial Regulator proposed ban on anonymous cryptocurrencies.<sup>3491</sup>

On April 11, the National Assembly of France adopted a bill that is designed to stimulate local business development, including redirecting savings from individuals to businesses allowing them to invest in crypto and tokens.<sup>3492</sup>

On 15 April 2019, Bruno Le Maire, French Minister of the Economy and Finance stated that France will encourage other EU countries to adopt cryptocurrency regulations similar to those France approved before. The news rules reportedly aim to attract cryptocurrency issuers and traders to France by providing them some official recognition, while taxing their profits in return.<sup>3493</sup>

France has taken measures related to FinTech in line with four action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Dariya Myasnikova*

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

On 21 February 2019, the start of consultations on blockchain strategy was announced by the Federal government. The aim of the online consultation is to get more information about potential, drivers and barriers to using blockchain technology. It also asks for practical examples in order to get a more complete picture of the use of blockchain technologies in Germany.<sup>3494</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin) issued its BaFinPerspectives magazine devoted to the topic of digitalization. The publication is aimed at maintaining consultations with the financial industry, academia, politics and other authorities to constantly reassess the BaFin's digitalization strategy adopted in August 2018.<sup>3495</sup> The strategy provides for measures to handle market changes that digitalization brings in supervisory practice and regulation; ensure that innovative technologies and information technologysystems and the data that supervised undertakings use are secure; adaptBaFin to meet the demands of ongoing digitalization – both internally and in interaction with the market.<sup>3496</sup>

On 14 March 2019, BaFin announced that it will hold the third BaFin-Tech event on 11 September 2019 in Bonn. This year's BaFin-Tech will focus on the issues of digitalization and financial

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<sup>3491</sup> French Financial Regulator Proposes Ban on Anonymous Cryptocurrencies, Coin Telegraph (New York) 8 March 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/french-financial-regulator-proposes-ban-on-anonymous-cryptocurrencies>

<sup>3492</sup> France Passes Bill to Allow Insurance Providers to Invest in Crypto and Tokens, Cointelegraph (New York) 12 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/france-passes-bill-to-allow-insurance-providers-to-invest-in-crypto-and-tokens>

<sup>3493</sup> France to Push EU Member States to Adopt Its Cryptocurrency Regulations, Cointelegraph (New York) 15 April 2015. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/reuters-france-to-push-eu-member-states-to-adopt-its-cryptocurrency-regulations>

<sup>3494</sup> Start of online consultations on blockchain strategy, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 21 February 2019. Access date: 25 June 2019. <https://www.bmw.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190221-start-der-online-konsultation-zur-blockchain-strategie.html>

<sup>3495</sup> BaFinPerspektiven 01/2019. Vorwort des Präsidenten Felix Hufeld, German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (Bonn) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.bafin.de/SharedDocs/Veroeffentlichungen/DE/BaFinPerspektiven/2019\\_01/bp\\_19-1\\_Vorwort\\_P.html](https://www.bafin.de/SharedDocs/Veroeffentlichungen/DE/BaFinPerspektiven/2019_01/bp_19-1_Vorwort_P.html).

<sup>3496</sup> BaFinPerspektiven 01/2019. Vorwort des Präsidenten Felix Hufeld, German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (Bonn) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.bafin.de/SharedDocs/Veroeffentlichungen/DE/BaFinPerspektiven/2019\\_01/bp\\_19-1\\_Vorwort\\_P.html](https://www.bafin.de/SharedDocs/Veroeffentlichungen/DE/BaFinPerspektiven/2019_01/bp_19-1_Vorwort_P.html).

technology innovations and include lectures, workshops and panel discussions. The event is aimed at new and established companies in the financial industry as well as at practitioners and academia.<sup>3497</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the Federal Ministry of Finance and the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection have jointly published a key-issues paper discussing the possible introduction of electronic securities and the regulation of public offers of certain crypto tokens. The paper forms part of efforts to strengthen Germany's role as one of the world's leading digital technology and fintech locations.<sup>3498</sup>

Germany has taken measures related to FinTech in line with three areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepon*

### **India: -1**

India has not complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 6 February 2019, The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved establishment of a unified authority for regulating all financial services in International Financial Services Centres in India through International Financial Services Centres Authority Bill, 2019.<sup>3499</sup>

India has taken measures related to FinTech in line with one action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of -1.

*Analyst: Polina Shtanko*

### **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 28 December 2018, under Otoritas Jasa Keuangan (OJK), Indonesia's financial services authority, new umbrella regulation on finance companies took effect, which among other things, recognized the growing role of Fintech; in particular, the regulation permits a finance company to conduct operations using an internet-based platform, including marketing, credit-application, and repayment functions; according to the regulation, a finance company that wishes to establish an online platform must have a data center located in Indonesia, appropriate procedures and protocols in place, qualified information technology staff, and a reliable and secure IT system.<sup>3500</sup>

On 15 February 2019, it was reported that Indonesia's Commodity Futures Trading Regulatory Agency (Bappebti) approved the regulation that recognizes Bitcoin and other digital currencies as a trading commodity, giving legal certainty to cryptocurrency exchanges that have been already operating in the country; the regulation outlines a set of requirements in regard to any cryptocurrency

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<sup>3497</sup> Veranstaltung: BaFin-Tech 2019 in Bonn, German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (Bonn) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

[https://www.bafin.de/SharedDocs/Veroeffentlichungen/DE/Meldung/2019/meldung\\_190314\\_bafin\\_tech\\_2019.html](https://www.bafin.de/SharedDocs/Veroeffentlichungen/DE/Meldung/2019/meldung_190314_bafin_tech_2019.html).

<sup>3498</sup> Key-issues paper on the regulatory treatment of electronic securities and crypto tokens, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 29 Mrch 2019. Access date: 25 June 2019.

[https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Financial\\_markets/Articles/2019-03-25-electronic-securities-and-crypto-tokens.html](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Financial_markets/Articles/2019-03-25-electronic-securities-and-crypto-tokens.html)

<sup>3499</sup> Cabinet approves establishment of a unified authority for regulating all financial services in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) in India through International Financial Services Centres Authority Bill, 2019, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 6 February 2019. Access date: 6 February 2019.

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=188144>

<sup>3500</sup> Indonesia's OJK Redefines Rules Governing Finance Companies, Lexology (London) 24 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=1e47c68b-b045-4f61-b788-6b55a46e2520>

circulating in Indonesia, in particular – compliance with risk assessment, anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism requirements, while crypto traders must keep transaction histories for at least five years and have a server located inside the country.<sup>3501</sup>

On 18 February 2019, it was reported that Bappebti had also established a legal framework for operating crypto and digital assets futures markets, which requires multiple entities involved in crypto futures trading to seek regulatory approval and apply for registration before legally operating in Indonesia, sets the rules for maintaining by crypto traders abundant closing balances, as well as the requirements for compliance with risk assessment, anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism frameworks.<sup>3502</sup>

On 3 March 2019, OJK held a national seminar entitled “Millennial Collaboration and Fintech Towards 4.0 Industrial Revolution”; during the seminar it was noted, in particular, that OJK intends to contribute to development of Fintech startups with preparing infrastructure such as the Fintech Center that entrepreneurs can consult with prior to launching a startup, as well as regulatory sandbox arrangements.<sup>3503</sup>

Indonesia has taken measures related to FinTech in line with three action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

## **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 27 December 2018, it was announced that the Ministry of Economic Development is selecting representatives for the high-level expert groups together to elaborate the national strategy on artificial intelligence and the national strategy on technologies.<sup>3504</sup>

On 28 December 2018, Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Ministry of Economy and Finance, as well as the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of the Territory and the Sea in collaboration with the Regions and Autonomous Provinces of Trento and of Bolzano promptly identified the Operators of essential services (OSE) for each of the sectors envisaged by the NIS Directive (the European Union instrument that has defined the necessary measures to achieve a higher level of security of networks and information systems in Europe) (energy, transport, banking, financial market infrastructures, health, supply and distribution of drinking water and digital infrastructures): this is a total of 465 realities, between public and private.<sup>3505</sup> At the same time, action was also taken on the measures that

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<sup>3501</sup> Indonesia: New Legislation Recognizes Crypto as Trading Commodity. Cointelegraph (New York) 15 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/indonesia-new-legislation-recognizes-crypto-as-trading-commodity>

<sup>3502</sup> Indonesia’s Commodity Futures Regulator Releases Regulation for Crypto Futures Market, Cointelegraph (New York) 18 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/indonesias-commodity-futures-regulator-releases-regulation-for-crypto-futures-market>

<sup>3503</sup> Help Startup, OJK Opens Free Consultation through the Fintech Center, Detikfinance (Jakarta) 11 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://finance.detik.com/moneter/d-4462482/bantu-startup-ojk-buka-konsultasi-gratis-lewat-fintech-center>

<sup>3504</sup> Intelligenza artificiale e blockchain: selezionati gli esperti, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 27 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039027-intelligenza-artificiale-e-blockchain-selezionati-gli-esperti>

<sup>3505</sup> Cybersecurity: ecco i passi avanti dell’Italia, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 28 December 2018. Access date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039029-cybersecurity-ecco-i-passi-avanti-dell-italia>

the OSEs will have to adopt to manage risks and on the ways in which to assess compliance: one aspect, that of compliance with the rules, which really makes a qualitative leap forward in the culture of cyber security.<sup>3506</sup>

On 30 December 2018, the Italian Government approved Budget law that makes it possible for defrauded savers involved in banking crises apply directly to the Ministry of Economy to obtain reimbursement which increases financial security of population.<sup>3507</sup>

On 25 January 2019, the Director of the Committee for the planning and coordination of financial education activities (in which the Ministry of Economic Development participates) Annamaria Lusardi and Annamaria Lusardi, and the President of Inail, Massimo De Felice, signed a memorandum of understanding for the implementation of initiatives in the field of financial, insurance and social security education. The Memorandum of Understanding contributes to implementing the National Strategy for Financial Education and is aimed at disseminating skills in economics and finance that are useful, both personally and professionally, for a serene approach to managing one's money.<sup>3508</sup>

On 6 February 2019, Italian Government announced the Smarter Italy plan, ready to start by March for EUR 50 million with tenders dedicated to innovation and artificial intelligence to accelerate the digitalization.<sup>3509</sup>

On 8 February 2019, at the Salone degli Arazzi of the Ministry of Economic Development, the second meeting of the groups of experts on Artificial Intelligence was held, on the distributed and Blockchain registers selected to identify with the Ministry of Economic Development the national strategies to be sent to the EU Commission.<sup>3510</sup>

On 11 February 2019, Italian government introduced Simplifications Decree that aims to install ultra-wideband electronic communication networks.<sup>3511</sup>

On 4 March 2019, Italy signed a declaration on the development of the Blockchain within the MED7, the group made up of seven Southern European countries (Italy, Spain, France, Malta, Cyprus, Greece and Portugal). The declaration recognizes itself as the Blockchain and, more generally, technologies based on distributed registers can play a decisive role in the development of these countries. It is therefore necessary to create a technical coordination between countries, to

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<sup>3506</sup> Cybersecurity: ecco i passi avanti dell'Italia, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 28 December 2018. Access date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039029-cybersecurity-ecco-i-passi-avanti-dell-italia>

<sup>3507</sup> LEGGE 30 dicembre 2018, n. 145, GAZZETTA UFFICIALE (Rome) 31 December 2018. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/gu/2018/12/31/302/so/62/sg/pdf>

<sup>3508</sup> Educazione finanziaria sul posto di lavoro: siglato accordo comitato Edufin-Inail, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 25 January 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039124-educazione-finanziaria-sul-posto-di-lavoro-siglato-accordo-comitato-edu-fin-inail>

<sup>3509</sup> PA digitale, sul piatto 50 milioni per il procurement "intelligente", CORCOM (Rome) 6 February 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.corrierecomunicazioni.it/pa-digitale/pa-digitale-sul-piatto-50-milioni-per-il-procurement-intelligente/>

<sup>3510</sup> Seconda riunione dei gruppi di esperti su AI e blockchain, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 8 February 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039210-seconda-riunione-dei-gruppi-di-esperti-su-ai-e-blockchain>

<sup>3511</sup> LEGGE 11 febbraio 2019, n. 12, Gazzetta Ufficiale (Rome) 11 February 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. [https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/atto/serie\\_generale/caricaDettaglioAtto/originario?atto.dataPubblicazioneGazzetta=2019-02-12&atto.codiceRedazionale=19G00017&elenco30gio](https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/atto/serie_generale/caricaDettaglioAtto/originario?atto.dataPubblicazioneGazzetta=2019-02-12&atto.codiceRedazionale=19G00017&elenco30gio)

experiment with the use of these technologies and emerging ones (5G, Internet of Things, artificial intelligence).<sup>3512</sup>

On 13 March 2019, a workshop presenting the first pilot project that promotes the application of Blockchain technology to small and medium-sized enterprises was held at the Ministry of Economic Development. The aim is to identify all the advantages of Blockchain technology in terms of product traceability along the supply chain, certification to the consumer of their origin, contrast to counterfeiting, guarantee of the social and environmental sustainability of Made in Italy productions.<sup>3513</sup>

On 19 March 2019, Consob (the Italian Companies and Exchange Commission) started a sixty-day public consultation to launch a national debate on the initial public offerings of crypto currencies. The initiative aims to involve all stakeholders with the aim of arriving at a shared framework of asset definitions and market architecture to allow the legislator to have all the elements to evaluate the terms of a possible regulatory intervention.<sup>3514</sup>

Italy has taken measures related to FinTech in line with four action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 17 December 2018, it was reported that Financial Services Authority (FSA) had published a draft report which outlined the new framework for addressing cryptocurrencies and Initial Coin Offerings in the country, which is to be further implemented in regulation; the report suggests that restrictions on privacy coin listings, margin trading and transactions in derivatives should be placed, as well as restrictions on the amounts of money individuals will be able to invest in initial coin offerings in order to increase protection; that specific tokens might be subject to regulation, under the purview of the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act, depending on how they are structured; and that customers of crypto dealers cannot expand their portfolio of coins until they get proper registration.<sup>3515</sup>

On 9 January 2019, the FSA was looking into ways to prohibit the activities of unregistered crypto investment firms collecting funds in cryptocurrencies and bring them under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act, which currently regulates only cash-funds.<sup>3516</sup>

On 9 January 2019, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced the second invitation for public comments on the Draft Cyber/Physical Security Framework to ensure

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<sup>3512</sup> L'Italia firma dichiarazione sullo sviluppo della Blockchain con i Paesi del MED7, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 4 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2038896-l-italia-firma-dichiarazione-sullo-sviluppo-della-blockchain-con-i-paesi-del-med7>

<sup>3513</sup> Presentato il primo progetto pilota sulla Blockchain, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 13 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039442-presentato-il-primo-progetto-pilota-sulla-blockchain>

<sup>3514</sup> Criptoasset e Ico, la Consob «preme» per maggiori tutele, il Sole 24 ore (Rome) 19 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.ilsole24ore.com/art/finanza-e-mercati/2019-03-19/criptovalute-e-ico-consob-preme-maggiori-tutele-070259.shtml>

<sup>3515</sup> Japanese Regulators Publish New Draft for Domestic Cryptocurrency Framework, CCN (Asker) 17 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.ccn.com/japanese-regulators-publish-new-cryptocurrency-regulation-draft>

<sup>3516</sup> Japan May Regulate Unregistered Crypto Investments, Bitcoin News (Tokyo) 9 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://bitcoinnews.com/japan-may-regulate-unregistered-crypto-investments/>

cybersecurity for the entire supply chain under “Society 5.0” and “Connected Industries” to be realized through Internet of Things, artificial intelligence and other advanced technologies.<sup>3517</sup>

On 12 January 2019, an additional seven applications for a cryptocurrency exchange license were being considered by FSA (to be approved or rejected within the period of 6 months).<sup>3518</sup>

On 15 January 2019, FSA issued the updated Policy Approaches to Strengthen Cyber Security in the Financial Sector, prioritizing identification and analysis of the impact of the development of digitalization on the financial industry, its cybersecurity-related risks and the countermeasures thereof; encouraging financial institutions to respond to changes and study the monitoring method employed by the competent authority responding to these changes;<sup>3519</sup> contributing and responding to discussions on cybersecurity-related international cooperation; and responses to Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2020 related challenges (building crisis management in closer cooperation with relevant government agencies and related organizations with the aim of improving communication in the financial sector, and conducting threat intelligence from a broader scope, in preparation for an increase in cyber-attacks, and the occurrence of cross-sectoral attacks and large-scale incidents).<sup>3520</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the Japan Association of New Economy requested FSA to reduce the current tax rate for crypto trading income from 55 per cent to 20 per cent (the same rate that is applied to stocks and forex markets), and to impose no tax on crypto-to-crypto transactions.<sup>3521</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the FSA published the report on the development of regulations for financial institutions regarding data utilization, which highlights that (1) rules for data protection should be reviewed from the perspective of protecting personal data, in light of the increasing use of data in society, though in reviewing such rules, striking the right balance between protection and utilization of data is important;<sup>3522</sup> (2) it is appropriate to allow banks, insurance companies, securities companies, and investment management companies to engage in the business of providing data held to a third party in a manner that relates to their core businesses;<sup>3523</sup> (3) it is appropriate to allow banks, insurance companies, securities companies, and investment management companies to hold

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<sup>3517</sup> Invitation for Public Comments on the Draft Cyber/Physical Security Framework, Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 9 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0109\\_001.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0109_001.html)

<sup>3518</sup> Japan: Seven Cryptocurrency Exchanges Could Receive FSA-Issued Licenses in Six Months, Cointelegraph (New York) 13 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/japan-seven-cryptocurrency-exchanges-could-receive-fsa-issued-licenses-in-two-months>

<sup>3519</sup> Update of the Policy Approaches to Strengthen Cyber Security in the Financial Sector, FSA (Tokyo) 15 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/news/2019/20190115.html>

<sup>3520</sup> Update of the Policy Approaches to Strengthen Cyber Security in the Financial Sector, FSA (Tokyo) 15 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/news/2019/20190115.html>

<sup>3521</sup> Japan Economic Alliance Asks Financial Regulator FSA to Reduce Tax on Crypto, Cointelegraph (New York) 15 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://cointelegraph.com/news/japan-economic-alliance-asks-financial-regulator-fsa-to-reduce-tax-on-crypto>

<sup>3522</sup> Publication of the “Report on the development of regulations for financial institutions regarding data utilization” by the “Study Group on the Financial System” under the Financial System Council, FSA (Tokyo) 14 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/refer/councils/singie\\_kinyu/20190214.html](https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/refer/councils/singie_kinyu/20190214.html)

<sup>3523</sup> Publication of the “Report on the development of regulations for financial institutions regarding data utilization” by the “Study Group on the Financial System” under the Financial System Council, FSA (Tokyo) 14 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/refer/councils/singie\\_kinyu/20190214.html](https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/refer/councils/singie_kinyu/20190214.html)

subsidiary companies engaging in a wide range of business relating to data utilization (currently prohibited in Japan to insurance companies).<sup>3524</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Japan's Finance Minister Taro Aso announced the government was planning to allow non-bank companies to be licensed to handle remittances for amounts larger than the current JPY 1 million (USD 9,000) limit, providing that companies meet minimum capital requirements and other conditions to ensure suitability for handling large-sum money transfers.<sup>3525</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Japan's Daiwa Securities Group announced the completion of a proof of concept studying the effectiveness of using distributed ledger technology in trade matching processes, as a potentially good solution to achieve the industry-wide optimization of trade matching processes.<sup>3526</sup>

Japan has taken measures related to FinTech in line with seven action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Korea: 0**

Korea has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 26 February 2019, the Ministry of Science and Information and Communications Technologies of Korea announced launch of a new training project aimed at promoting expertise in Industry 4.0-related areas such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing, big data, blockchain and fintech. The participants will be provided with financial support of total amount almost reaching 8 billion won for next five years. The Ministry plans to involve 10,000 individuals in the framework of the project.<sup>3527</sup>

On 19 March 2019, amendments to the Act on the Promotion of IT Network Use and Information Protection (Networking Act) of Korea came into force. The law requires digital communications providers who deal with Korean data but have no physical presence in the country to establish a domestic representative to deal with data protection issues.<sup>3528</sup>

On 21-22 March 2019, an international conference on finance and financial technologies was held in Ha Noi, Vietnam. Korea's Financial Supervisory Service was among co-organizers of the event; several topics including application of fintech and development of banking sector were discussed.<sup>3529</sup>

Korea has taken measures related to FinTech in line with three action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

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<sup>3524</sup> Publication of the "Report on the development of regulations for financial institutions regarding data utilization" by the "Study Group on the Financial System" under the Financial System Council, FSA (Tokyo) 14 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/refer/councils/singie\\_kinyu/20190214.html](https://www.fsa.go.jp/en/refer/councils/singie_kinyu/20190214.html)

<sup>3525</sup> Japan to Allow Non-Banks to Handle Large Remittances, Regulation Asia (Hong Kong) 21 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.regulationasia.com/japan-to-allow-non-banks-to-handle-large-remittances/>

<sup>3526</sup> Daiwa Securities Completes Trade Matching POC Using DLT, Regulation Asia (Hong Kong) 21 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.regulationasia.com/daiwa-securities-completes-trade-matching-poc-using-dlt/>

<sup>3527</sup> South Korea to Expand Pool of ICT Experts, Business Korea (Seoul) 26 February 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/news/articleView.html?idxno=29519>

<sup>3528</sup> South Korea Privacy Law Changes May Help EU Data Transfer Talks, Bloomberg (London) 19 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/privacy-and-data-security/south-korea-privacy-law-changes-may-help-eu-data-transfer-talks>

<sup>3529</sup> Viet Nam, South Korea to intensify co-operation in finance, Vietnam News (Ha Noi) 22 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. [http://bizhub.vn/news/viet-nam-south-korea-to-intensify-co-operation-in-finance\\_304182.html](http://bizhub.vn/news/viet-nam-south-korea-to-intensify-co-operation-in-finance_304182.html)

**Mexico: -1**

Mexico has not complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 8 January 2019, the President of the Republic presented the program of Promoting the Financial Sector and pointed out that one of its aims is better financial regulation in order to make the financial system more competitive, more resilient and deeper and thus strengthen a fundamental level of development.<sup>3530</sup>

Mexico has taken measures related to FinTech in line with one action area identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of -1.

*Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich*

**Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 6 December 2018, Deputy Finance Minister Alexei Lavrov took part in the IV scientific and practical conference: "Smart control: Digital technologies and platform solutions in control and supervisory activities." The Deputy Minister said that for the first time in the new edition of the Budget Code a special chapter will be devoted to information systems in the sphere of budget legal relations.<sup>3531</sup>

In December 2018, Central Bank of Russian Federation issued the Report on application of cloud technologies in the financial market for public consultations.<sup>3532</sup> This report describes the main approaches to the introduction of cloud technologies and the creation of cloud infrastructure in the financial market, describes the scenarios for the implementation of cloud services by financial organizations in different countries, as well as analyzes the approaches of financial regulators to risk management and regulation in this field.<sup>3533</sup> The purpose of the report is to identify possible areas of application of cloud technologies in the financial sector, as well as to develop measures necessary for the development of cloud services for the financial market and to make recommendations on the appropriate regulation.<sup>3534</sup>

On 8 February 2019, the service, which facilitates remote control of authority over corporate accounts for operations in bank branches, received legal status.<sup>3535</sup> The relevant document was registered by the Ministry of Justice of Russia. The changes will allow this service to be introduced by all credit organizations and will contribute to a significant reduction in banks' costs of servicing

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<sup>3530</sup> Diversas intervenciones durante la Presentación del Programa de Impulso al Sector Financiero, Mexican Government (Mexico) 8 January 2019. Access date 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/diversas-intervenciones-durante-la-presentacion-del-programa-de-impulso-al-sector-financiero>

<sup>3531</sup> Deputy Finance Minister Alexei Lavrov took part in the IV scientific conference: "Smart control: Digital technologies and platform solutions in control and supervisory activities", Russian Ministry of Finance (Moscow) 6 December 2018. Access date: 16 February 2019. [https://www.minfin.ru/ru/search/?q\\_4=%D1%82%D0%B5%D1%85%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%BB%D0%BE%D0%B3&source\\_id\\_4=6](https://www.minfin.ru/ru/search/?q_4=%D1%82%D0%B5%D1%85%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%BB%D0%BE%D0%B3&source_id_4=6)

<sup>3532</sup> Application of cloud technologies in the financial market, Bank of Russia December (Moscow) 2018. Access date: 23 May 2019. [https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/59559/Consultation\\_Paper\\_181218.pdf](https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/59559/Consultation_Paper_181218.pdf)

<sup>3533</sup> Application of cloud technologies in the financial market, Bank of Russia December (Moscow) 2018. Access date: 23 May 2019. [https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/59559/Consultation\\_Paper\\_181218.pdf](https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/59559/Consultation_Paper_181218.pdf)

<sup>3534</sup> Application of cloud technologies in the financial market, Bank of Russia December (Moscow) 2018. Access date: 23 May 2019. [https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/59559/Consultation\\_Paper\\_181218.pdf](https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/59559/Consultation_Paper_181218.pdf)

<sup>3535</sup> The first draft of the regulatory platform of the Bank of Russia received a legal basis, Bank of Russia (Moscow) 8 February 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.cbr.ru/press/event/?id=2404>

corporate clients, as well as speeding up operations in branches.<sup>3536</sup> This service became the first project of Bank of Russia's Regulatory platform, which was launched in 2018. It was created for testing innovative financial services and technologies, the use of which requires a change in regulation.<sup>3537</sup>

On 18 March 2019, the State Duma Committee recommended a draft bill on digital financial assets for second reading. According to the document, legal entities or individual entrepreneurs have the right to issue digital financial assets in cooperation with a special information system operator that maintains a register of users. The concept of digital operational signs is introduced.<sup>3538</sup> This is a set of electronic data (digital code or designation) obtained according to the rules of information systems of digital financial assets and not related to them. The operator of the information system in which the issuance of digital financial assets is carried out must be registered in the Russian Federation - this may be a credit institution, a depository, or a person entitled to carry out the activities of a trade organizer.<sup>3539</sup> Requirements for such operators will be determined by the Central Bank. The draft law provides for the concept of "digital financial asset exchange operator." Through such an operator, it is planned to conclude transactions for the sale and purchase of digital financial assets, the exchange of assets of one type for assets of another type or for digital operational marks. Asset exchange operators may be credit organizations, trade organizers or investment platforms.<sup>3540</sup>

On 8 April 2019, the Roadmap for the implementation of the main directions for the development of the financial market in 2019-2021 was presented. Among major goals for the financial market development Bank of Russia indicated creation and development of digital financial infrastructure.<sup>3541</sup> This will imply development of cyber security standards, creating a friendly environment for technology development including RegTech, determining validation approaches, algorithms and programs, development of a high-tech consumer protection system in financial services.<sup>3542</sup>

On 17 April 2019, the All-Russian Week of Financial Literacy for Children and Youth was opened. Director of the Department of International Financial Relations of the Ministry of Finance of Russia Andrey Bokarev said that this year, special attention is paid to the aspects of digital financial literacy.<sup>3543</sup>

Russia has taken measures related to FinTech in line with three action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anna Piekalnits*

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<sup>3536</sup> The first draft of the regulatory platform of the Bank of Russia received a legal basis, Bank of Russia (Moscow) 8 February 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.cbr.ru/press/event/?id=2404>

<sup>3537</sup> The first draft of the regulatory platform of the Bank of Russia received a legal basis, Bank of Russia (Moscow) 8 February 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.cbr.ru/press/event/?id=2404>

<sup>3538</sup> State Duma Committee recommended a draft bill on digital financial assets for second reading, TASS (Moscow) 18 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://tass.ru/ekonomika/6231060>

<sup>3539</sup> State Duma Committee recommended a draft bill on digital financial assets for second reading, TASS (Moscow) 18 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://tass.ru/ekonomika/6231060>

<sup>3540</sup> State Duma Committee recommended a draft bill on digital financial assets for second reading, TASS (Moscow) 18 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://tass.ru/ekonomika/6231060>

<sup>3541</sup> Main Directions Of Development Of The Financial Market Russian Federation For The Period 2019–2021, Bank of Russia (Moscow) 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. [https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/71220/main\\_directions.pdf](https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/71220/main_directions.pdf)

<sup>3542</sup> Main Directions Of Development Of The Financial Market Russian Federation For The Period 2019–2021, Bank of Russia (Moscow) 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. [https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/71220/main\\_directions.pdf](https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/71220/main_directions.pdf)

<sup>3543</sup> The 5th All-Russian Financial Literacy Week kicked off in Moscow, Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 17 April 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. [https://www.minfin.ru/ru/press-center/?id\\_4=36597&mode\\_4=default&TYPE\\_ID\\_4%5B0%5D=1&area\\_id=4&page\\_id=2119&popup=Y](https://www.minfin.ru/ru/press-center/?id_4=36597&mode_4=default&TYPE_ID_4%5B0%5D=1&area_id=4&page_id=2119&popup=Y)

### **Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 29 January 2019, the Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA) and the United Arab Emirates Central Bank presented a joint statement on the common digital currency project “Aber.” The digital currency is designed for financial settlements between the two countries through blockchain-related instruments and technologies.<sup>3544</sup>

On 11 February 2019, the SAMA begun the designation of a sandbox regulatory environment to assess the impact of new technologies in financial services market of the country and enhance its further development in line with Saudi Arabia’s Vision 2030.<sup>3545</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the SAMA inaugurated “Tanfeith” program to provide direct link between the technological systems of government and banks operating in the Kingdom. SAMA pointed out that the electronic link with “Tanfeeth” program ensures the confidentiality of the information and informs judges thereof within the framework of the procedures of handling cases considered by them including personal status cases (expenses and inheritance).<sup>3546</sup>

On 5 March 2019, the SAMA announced the issuance of the Rules Regarding Agent Banking.<sup>3547</sup> The Rules aim to expand the scope of banking services and products; enhance financial inclusion for the unbanked or underbanked population while maintaining the soundness and stability of the banking sector; encourage banks to contract with agents when offering banking services to reduce the cost of banking services; provide a regulatory and supervisory framework for Agent Banking, which will enable the offering of banking services and products whilst ensuring full compliance with the Banking Control Law and SAMA’s instructions; provide the minimum standards and requirements for Agent Banking; outline the permissible activities that can be carried out by a Banking Agent; and provide a set of minimum standards of data and network security, consumer protection and risk management to be adhered to in the conduct of Agent Banking.<sup>3548</sup>

On 23 April 2019, the SAMA and the Minister of Justice of Saudi Arabia signed an agreement on enhancing cooperation between the two governmental bodies. The purpose of the agreement is to facilitate exchange of banking information to utilize and expand digital services and to improve SAMA system infrastructure and judicial procedures.<sup>3549</sup>

On 25 April 2019, the SAMA, represented by Saudi Payments, has entered into agreement with Vocalink & IBM to develop the new instant payments system planned for launch at the end of 2020. The development of such system is primarily to promote economic development by increasing the

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<sup>3544</sup> A statement on launching “Aber” project, the common digital currency between Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA) and United Arab Emirates Central Bank (UAECEB), Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (Riyadh) 29 January 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.sama.gov.sa/en-US/News/Pages/news29012019.aspx>

<sup>3545</sup> SAMA launches regulatory sandbox for financial institution’s and fintechs, Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (Riyadh) 11 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.sama.gov.sa/en-US/News/Pages/news11022019.aspx>

<sup>3546</sup> SAMA inaugurates “Tanfeeth” (enforcement) program to provide direct link between technological systems of government with banks, Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (Riyadh) 14 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.sama.gov.sa/en-US/News/Pages/news14022019.aspx>

<sup>3547</sup> SAMA issues the rules regulating agent banking, Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (Riyadh) 5 March 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.sama.gov.sa/en-US/News/Pages/news05032019.aspx>

<sup>3548</sup> SAMA issues the rules regulating agent banking, Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (Riyadh) 5 March 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.sama.gov.sa/en-US/News/Pages/news05032019.aspx>

<sup>3549</sup> SAMA governor and the Minister of Justice signed a digital link agreement “Tanfeith-Execution” Programme, Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (Riyadh) 23 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.sama.gov.sa/en-US/News/Pages/news0023042019.aspx>

efficiency of the financial system, and increasing the effectiveness of financial transactions among all parties.<sup>3550</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken measures related to FinTech in line with five action areas identified by the FSB. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 11 December 2018, National Treasury invited public comments on the draft Conduct of Financial Institutions Bill 2018. The bill is the next phase of the legislative reforms aimed at strengthening the regulation of how the financial services industry treats its customers. The Bill follows the Financial Sector Regulation Act No 9 of 2017, which established two new authorities with dedicated mandates. The two new authorities are the Prudential Authority which manages prudential risk (financial health), and the Financial Sector Conduct Authority which manages the market conduct risk across all financial institutions.<sup>3551</sup>

On 16 January 2019, the Financial Intelligence Centre, Financial Sector Conduct Authority, National Treasury, South African Revenue Service and the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) released a consultation paper on crypto assets. The aim of the paper is to develop a common understanding among regulators and policymakers of fintech developments, as well as policy and regulatory implications for the financial sector and economy. The approach to reviewing fintech innovation is a balanced one, considering both its benefits as well as taking cognisance of associated risks.<sup>3552</sup>

In January 2019, the SARB announced the opening admission for the Graduate Development Programme. During the programme, graduates will attend courses at the SARB Academy for approximately 30 days. Courses include monetary policy, macroprudential policy and financial stability, bank supervision and regulation, financial markets and reserves management, currency issuance and management as well as personal and professional skills such as making presentations, impactful reporting, data analysis, teamwork, personal mastery and diplomacy.<sup>3553</sup>

On 2-3 May 2019, the Financial Stability Board (FSB) Regional Consultative Group (RCG) for Sub-Saharan Africa held its meeting. Members considered the FSB's work to address new and emerging vulnerabilities in the financial system including FinTech developments and cyber resilience. RCG members were updated on the FSB's work to evaluate the effects of the post-crisis reforms, in

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<sup>3550</sup> In line with the objectives of financial sector development program to achieve digital transformation in the payments sector, an instant payments system will be developed to facilitate and accelerate financial transactions amongst banks, Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (Riyadh) 25 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.sama.gov.sa/en-US/News/Pages/news25042019.aspx>

<sup>3551</sup> Media Statement Invitation for public comments on the draft Conduct of Financial Institutions Bill 2018, South African National Treasury (Pretoria) 11 December 2018. Access date: 8 May 2019. [http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm\\_media/press/2018/2018121101%20Media%20statement%20-%20COFI%20Bill.pdf](http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2018/2018121101%20Media%20statement%20-%20COFI%20Bill.pdf)

<sup>3552</sup> Statement on crypto assets, South African Reserve Bank (Pretoria) 16 January 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. [https://www.resbank.co.za/Lists/News%20and%20Publications/Attachments/9037/Joint%20media%20statement\\_crypt%20assets%20consultation%20paper.pdf](https://www.resbank.co.za/Lists/News%20and%20Publications/Attachments/9037/Joint%20media%20statement_crypt%20assets%20consultation%20paper.pdf)

<sup>3553</sup> South African Reserve Bank Graduate Development Programme, South African Reserve Bank (Pretoria) January 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://www.resbank.co.za/AboutUs/Departments/SARBCollege/Documents/2019%20Graduate%20Development%20Programme%20Advert.pdf>

particular an ongoing evaluation of the impact on financing of small and medium-sized enterprises. South African representatives took part in the meeting.<sup>3554</sup>

South Africa has taken measures related to FinTech in line with four action areas identified by the FSB. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 25 December 2018, Turkey's Banking Regulatory and Supervisory Authority presented for public consultation the Draft Regulation on Banks' Information Systems and Electronic Banking Services, which will introduce the rules and procedures regarding management of information systems, provision of electronic banking services, and risk management.<sup>3555</sup> According to Draft Regulation:

A Turkish bank may use cloud services if the service is specifically assigned to deliver services to banks, and the cloud deployment model complies with banking regulations in relation to services falling within the scope of primary and secondary systems; and if the Banking Regulatory and Supervisory Authority's approval is obtained to deploy public cloud services for activities such as core banking application, credit and credit card practices and payment services.<sup>3556</sup>

Regarding the transfer of customer data to third parties, Turkish banks will only be able to share data if the scope of the transfer is explicitly specified and the customer's explicit consent is obtained in writing or through a permanent data register for evidentiary purposes.<sup>3557</sup> The customer must be informed of the transfer and must be offered an option regarding the transfer. Consent cannot be made a condition to the provision of banking services.<sup>3558</sup> Further, regardless of customers' explicit consent, the transfer of customer data outside Turkey will be subject to the Banking Regulatory and Supervisory Authority's approval. Banking operations that by nature require interaction with banks, payment or messaging systems located abroad, will be exempt from this condition.<sup>3559</sup>

Turkey has taken measures related to FinTech in line with four action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

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<sup>3554</sup> Sub-Saharan Africa group meets to discuss FSB activities, regulatory developments and financial vulnerabilities, FSB (Basel) 3 May 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <http://www.fsb.org/2019/05/sub-saharan-africa-group-meets-to-discuss-fsb-activities-regulatory-developments-and-financial-vulnerabilities/>

<sup>3555</sup> BRSA Opens Regulation on Banking Information Systems for Public Consultation, Esin Attorney Partnership Legal Alert (Ankara) 1 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://esinexchange.com/rv/ff004544702bca109e5111468841b1189ddbd14c>

<sup>3556</sup> BRSA Opens Regulation on Banking Information Systems for Public Consultation, Esin Attorney Partnership Legal Alert (Ankara) 1 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://esinexchange.com/rv/ff004544702bca109e5111468841b1189ddbd14c>

<sup>3557</sup> BRSA Opens Regulation on Banking Information Systems for Public Consultation, Esin Attorney Partnership Legal Alert (Ankara) 1 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://esinexchange.com/rv/ff004544702bca109e5111468841b1189ddbd14c>

<sup>3558</sup> BRSA Opens Regulation on Banking Information Systems for Public Consultation, Esin Attorney Partnership Legal Alert (Ankara) 1 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://esinexchange.com/rv/ff004544702bca109e5111468841b1189ddbd14c>

<sup>3559</sup> BRSA Opens Regulation on Banking Information Systems for Public Consultation, Esin Attorney Partnership Legal Alert (Ankara) 1 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://esinexchange.com/rv/ff004544702bca109e5111468841b1189ddbd14c>

## United Kingdom: +1

United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 19 December 2018, Policy paper “Tax on cryptoassets” was issued by Her Majesty’s Revenue & Customs (HMRC). This paper sets out HMRC’s view of the appropriate tax treatment of cryptoassets, based on the law as it stands on the date of publication. HMRC has also published guidance for people who hold cryptoassets (or cryptocurrency as they are also known), explaining what taxes they may need to pay, and what records they need to keep. HMRC will publish further information about the tax treatment of cryptoasset transactions involving businesses and companies.<sup>3560</sup>

On 21 December 2018, the Government published an Initial National Cyber Security Skills Strategy. The Initial National Cyber Security Skills Strategy sets out the Government’s understanding of the challenge that evolving cyber threats present to the demand for cyber security skills.<sup>3561</sup>

On 28 January 2019, Business Secretary Greg Clark announced a pack of measures for the United Kingdom to become a world leader in the race against some of the most damaging cyber security threats.<sup>3562</sup> Up to GBP 70 million in government investment will be allocated through the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund. This investment will support research into the design and development of hardware so that they will be more secure and resilient from the outset.<sup>3563</sup> This aims to ‘design out’ many forms of cyber threats by ‘designing in’ security and protection technology/solutions into hardware and chip designs, ultimately helping to eradicate a significant proportion of the current cyber risks for businesses and services in future connected smart products. A further GBP 30 million of government investment will aim to ensure smart systems are safe and secure. Smart internet connected devices can include anything from operating a central heating thermostat via a smart phone, to pressing a button to unlock the front door.<sup>3564</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Bank of England issued Financial Policy Summary and Record of the Financial Policy Committee Meeting that was held on 26 February 2019. The Financial Policy Committee (FPC) aims to ensure the UK financial system is resilient to, and prepared for, the wide range of risks it could face and cyber-risks are among most important issues. The summary says that “the Bank would use regular cyber stress tests to test firms’ ability to meet these ‘impact tolerances’ in severe but plausible scenarios. It would run an exploratory pilot of the approach to stress testing in 2019, focussed on firms’ ability to restore payment services.<sup>3565</sup>”

On 22 March 2019, Bank of England issued a Bulletin “Embracing the promise of fintech”. This bulletin contains information on how Bank of England approaches the development of financial

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<sup>3560</sup> Tax on cryptoassets, UK Government (London) 19 December 2018. Access date: 8 May 2019.

<sup>3561</sup> Cyber Security Skills Strategy, UK Government (London) 21 December 2018. Access date: 8 May 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cyber-security-skills-strategy>

<sup>3562</sup> ‘Designing out’ cyber threats to businesses and personal data, UK Government (London) 28 January 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/designing-out-cyber-threats-to-businesses-and-personal-data>

<sup>3563</sup> ‘Designing out’ cyber threats to businesses and personal data, UK Government (London) 28 January 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/designing-out-cyber-threats-to-businesses-and-personal-data>

<sup>3564</sup> ‘Designing out’ cyber threats to businesses and personal data, UK Government (London) 28 January 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/designing-out-cyber-threats-to-businesses-and-personal-data>

<sup>3565</sup> Financial Policy Summary and Record of the Financial Policy Committee Meeting on 26 February 2019, Bank of England (London) 5 March 2019. Access date: 21 June 2019. <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/financial-policy-summary-and-record/2019/march-2019.pdf?la=en&hash=984FDE1B860F4BCE65B4E93203C30E9E6C5A8673>

technologies. To embrace the potential of fintech the Bank of England is understanding how fintech developments may affect systemic stability, evaluating how fintech developments may affect the safety and soundness of firms and applying fintech, where appropriate, to enhance our capabilities. Bank of England actions are taken in multiple areas of financial technologies development: cryptoassets and financial stability, new Bank Start-up Unit, Distributed Ledger Technology and others.<sup>3566</sup>

On 16 April 2019, National Cyber Security Centre launched an online tool which helps organisations find out how resilient they are to cyber attacks and practise their response in a safe environment. This iteration of Exercise in a Box has been piloted with small and medium enterprises, local government and the emergency services.<sup>3567</sup>

On 29 April 2019, Financial Conduct Authority announced that 29 businesses have been accepted into cohort 5 of the regulatory sandbox to test innovative products, services, business models and delivery mechanisms. Examples of propositions that have been accepted include digital identity solutions, platforms which tokenise issuance of financial instruments, and services aimed at facilitating greater access to financial services for vulnerable consumers.<sup>3568</sup>

On 1 May 2019, it was announced that the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport launched a consultation process on regulatory proposals regarding consumer Internet of Things security. The proposals set out in this consultation seek to better protect consumers' privacy and online security which can be put at risk by insecure devices.<sup>3569</sup>

United Kingdom has taken measures related to FinTech in line with seven action areas identified by the FSB. Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

## **United States: 0**

United States has partially complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 20 December 2018, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) published its Report on Selected Cybersecurity Practices – 2018, a detailed review of effective information-security controls at securities firms. The report represents the newest initiative in FINRA's ongoing effort to help broker-dealers – including small firms – further develop their cybersecurity programs.<sup>3570</sup>

On 30 April 2019, the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency released the inaugural set of National Critical Functions. These are functions used or supported by government and the private sector that are of such vital importance to the United States that their disruption, corruption, or dysfunction would have a debilitating effect on security,

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<sup>3566</sup> Quarterly Bulletin 2019 Q1 © Bank of England 2019 ISSN 2399-4568 Topical article Embracing the promise of fintech, Bank of England (London) 22 March 2019. Access date: 21 June 2019. <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/quarterly-bulletin/2019/embracing-the-promise-of-fintech.pdf?la=en&hash=2445D5B3AF10096FDAA91564BB48F8E5F28486B9>

<sup>3567</sup> Exercise in a Box, National Cyber Security Centre (London) 16 April 2019. Access date: 21 June 2019. <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/information/exercise-in-a-box>

<sup>3568</sup> Regulatory sandbox - cohort 5, Financial Conduct Authority (London) 29 April 2019. Access date: 21 June 2019. <https://www.fca.org.uk/firms/regulatory-sandbox/cohort-5>

<sup>3569</sup> Consultation on regulatory proposals on consumer IoT security, UK Government (London) 1 May 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-regulatory-proposals-on-consumer-iot-security>

<sup>3570</sup> FINRA Publishes Report on Selected Cybersecurity Practices – 2018, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (Washington) 20 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://www.finra.org/newsroom/2018/finra-publishes-report-selected-cybersecurity-practices-2018>

national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination thereof. Financial sector is referred to as one of the critical spheres of national security.<sup>3571</sup>

On 2 May 2019, President Trump signed an Executive Order directing the federal government to take critical steps to strengthen America's cybersecurity workforce. Importantly, the Executive Order will enhance mobility of country's frontline cybersecurity practitioners, support the development of their skills to encourage excellence in the field, and help ensure the United States keeps its competitive edge in cybersecurity. The United States currently has a shortage of 300,000 cybersecurity practitioners.<sup>3572</sup>

United States has taken measures related to FinTech in line with three action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Dmitry Lukanin*

### **European Union: +1**

European Union has fully complied with the commitment on technologies in financial sector.

On 10 April 2019, the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) published a Joint Advice on the need for legislative improvements relating to information and communications technologies (ICT) risk management requirements in the European Union financial sector. Among other things the ESAs suggested that a legislative solution for an appropriate oversight framework to monitor the activities of critical third party service providers should be considered.<sup>3573</sup>

On 11 December 2018, the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission reached a political agreement on the Cybersecurity Act which reinforced the mandate of the European Union Agency for Network and Information and Security (ENISA) so as to better support Member States with tackling cybersecurity threats and attacks.<sup>3574</sup> The Act also established an EU framework for cybersecurity certification, boosting the cybersecurity of online services (financial and others) and consumer devices.<sup>3575</sup> The Cybersecurity Act was proposed in 2017 as part of a wide-ranging set of measures to deal with cyber-attacks and to build strong cybersecurity in the EU. In addition, ENISA would help increase cybersecurity capabilities at EU level and support capacity building and preparedness. Finally, ENISA would be an independent centre of expertise that would help promote high level of awareness of citizens and businesses but also assist EU Institutions and Member States in policy development and implementation.<sup>3576</sup>

On 21 January 2019, a conference on cybersecurity standardization was held in Brussels, Belgium. The draft "EU Cybersecurity Act," proposed one year ago, intended to establish a European

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<sup>3571</sup> CISA Releases National Critical Functions Set, Homeland Security (Washington) 30 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.dhs.gov/cisa/news/2019/04/30/cisa-releases-national-critical-functions-set>

<sup>3572</sup> White House Cybersecurity Workforce Executive Order Bolsters U.S. Frontline Defenses, Aids Job Creation, Homeland Security (Washington) 2 May 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.dhs.gov/cisa/news/2019/05/02/white-house-cybersecurity-workforce-executive-order-bolsters-us-frontline>

<sup>3573</sup> ESAs Publish Joint Advice on Information and Communication Technology Risk Management and Cybersecurity, European Banking Authority (London) 10 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://eba.europa.eu/-/esas-publish-joint-advice-on-information-and-communication-technology-risk-management-and-cybersecurity>.

<sup>3574</sup> Cybersecurity Act, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access date: 15 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/cybersecurity-act-2018-dec-11\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/cybersecurity-act-2018-dec-11_en).

<sup>3575</sup> Cybersecurity Act, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access date: 15 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/cybersecurity-act-2018-dec-11\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/cybersecurity-act-2018-dec-11_en).

<sup>3576</sup> Cybersecurity Act, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2018. Access date: 15 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/cybersecurity-act-2018-dec-11\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/cybersecurity-act-2018-dec-11_en).

cybersecurity certification framework for ICT products, services and processes.<sup>3577</sup> Standardization would play an important role in the new framework ensuring among other things financial stability. It was therefore crucial for all stakeholders (standardizers, policy makers, industry) to check where they stand today, so the conference was organized. It discussed the remaining challenges in the standardization landscape for Cybersecurity in light of the new Act. The consequences for policy makers, industry, citizens, certification bodies, and the European Standardization System were also covered.<sup>3578</sup> The conference aimed to foster the dialogue among policy makers, industry, research, standardization organizations, certification organizations and those involved in the development of the ICT certification framework in Europe, in view of an effective implementation of the Cybersecurity Act upon its adoption.<sup>3579</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) published a Joint Advice on the costs and benefits of a coherent cyber resilience testing framework for significant market participants and infrastructures within the EU financial sector.<sup>3580</sup> The ESAs saw clear benefits of such a framework. However, at present there were determined to be significant differences across and within financial sectors as regards the maturity level of cybersecurity. In the short-term, the ESAs advised to focus on achieving a minimum level of cyber-resilience across the sectors, proportionate to the needs and characteristics of the relevant entities.<sup>3581</sup> Furthermore, the ESAs proposed to establish on a voluntary basis an EU wide coherent testing framework together with other relevant authorities taking into account existing initiatives, and with a focus on Threat Lead Penetration Testing. In the long-term, the ESAs aimed to ensure a sufficient cyber maturity level of identified cross-sector entities.<sup>3582</sup>

On 7 February 2019, a workshop on Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies (DLT) was held in Brussels Belgium. Experts and representatives from Social Economy, EU institutions, companies participated in this workshop, organized in the context of the EU Industry Days 2019.<sup>3583</sup> The workshop presented solutions based on Blockchain or DLTs for social goals. The aim was not only to develop scalable, efficient and high-impact decentralized solutions to social innovation challenges but also to bring social economy enterprises and related stakeholders closer to blockchain technology as possible tools for their developments. The Workshop promoted awareness of the development of legal validity and enforceability of applications of distributed ledger technology.<sup>3584</sup>

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<sup>3577</sup> Cybersecurity Standardization, European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (Heraklion) 21 January 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. [https://www.enisa.europa.eu/events/cybersecurity\\_standardisation/](https://www.enisa.europa.eu/events/cybersecurity_standardisation/).

<sup>3578</sup> Cybersecurity Standardization, European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (Heraklion) 21 January 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. [https://www.enisa.europa.eu/events/cybersecurity\\_standardisation/](https://www.enisa.europa.eu/events/cybersecurity_standardisation/).

<sup>3579</sup> Cybersecurity Standardization, European Union Agency for Network and Information Security (Heraklion) 21 January 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. [https://www.enisa.europa.eu/events/cybersecurity\\_standardisation/](https://www.enisa.europa.eu/events/cybersecurity_standardisation/).

<sup>3580</sup> ESAs Publish Joint Advice on Information and Communication Technology Risk Management and Cybersecurity, European Banking Authority (London) 10 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://eba.europa.eu/-/esas-publish-joint-advice-on-information-and-communication-technology-risk-management-and-cybersecurity>.

<sup>3581</sup> ESAs Publish Joint Advice on Information and Communication Technology Risk Management and Cybersecurity, European Banking Authority (London) 10 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://eba.europa.eu/-/esas-publish-joint-advice-on-information-and-communication-technology-risk-management-and-cybersecurity>.

<sup>3582</sup> ESAs Publish Joint Advice on Information and Communication Technology Risk Management and Cybersecurity, European Banking Authority (London) 10 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://eba.europa.eu/-/esas-publish-joint-advice-on-information-and-communication-technology-risk-management-and-cybersecurity>.

<sup>3583</sup> Workshop on Blockchain, Digital Social Innovation and Social Economy, European Commission (Brussels) 7 February 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/workshop-blockchain-digital-social-innovation-and-social-economy>.

<sup>3584</sup> Workshop on Blockchain, Digital Social Innovation and Social Economy, European Commission (Brussels) 7 February 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/workshop-blockchain-digital-social-innovation-and-social-economy>.

On 2 April 2019, the European Union announced that it was launching a call for proposals on co-creating a European Ecosystem of DLTs for Social and Public Good. This was a new project in the Blockchain space of the EU Policy Lab. It was supported by the European Parliament, and would run in cooperation with The Next Generation Internet Unit of Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content & Technology (DG CNECT).<sup>3585</sup>

On 22 January 2019, negotiators from the European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the Commission reached an agreement on the revised Directive 2003/98/EC on the re-use of public sector information.<sup>3586</sup> This would allow the governments of Member States as long as other stakeholders to obtain data more freely. Once adopted, the newly named Open Data and Public Sector Information Directive would:

- Identify, by way of adoption of an implementing act, a list of high-value datasets such as geospatial or statistics data to be provided free of charge.
- Stimulate the publishing of dynamic data and the uptake of Application Programme Interfaces (APIs).
- Limit the exceptions which currently allow public bodies to charge more than the marginal costs of dissemination for the re-use of their data.
- Enlarge the scope of the Directive to: data held by public undertakings, under a specific set of rules; research data resulting from public funding.<sup>3587</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the ESAs published a Joint Advice on the need for legislative improvements relating to ICT risk management requirements in the EU financial sector.<sup>3588</sup> The ESAs' objective was that every relevant entity should be subject to clear general requirements on governance of ICT, including cybersecurity, to ensure the safe provision of regulated financial services. Guided by this objective, the proposals presented in the Advice aimed at promoting stronger operational resilience and harmonisation in the EU financial sector by applying changes to their respective sectoral legislation.<sup>3589</sup> Incident reporting was said to be highly relevant to ICT risk management and allow relevant entities and authorities to log, monitor, analyse and respond to ICT operational, ICT security and fraud incidents.<sup>3590</sup>

On 3 April 2019, the European Commission Directorate General CNECT organised the sixth Working Group meeting of Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs) on digital tools, platforms and marketplaces, with the aim to explore how the solutions developed by DIH-related European

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<sup>3585</sup> Blockchain4EU, European Commission EU Policy Lab (Brussels) 2 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://blogs.ec.europa.eu/eupolicylab/tag/blockchain4eu/>.

<sup>3586</sup> Building a European data economy, European Commission (Brussels) 22 January 2019. Access date: 16 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/policies/building-european-data-economy>.

<sup>3587</sup> Building a European data economy, European Commission (Brussels) 22 January 2019. Access date: 16 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/policies/building-european-data-economy>.

<sup>3588</sup> ESAs Publish Joint Advice on Information and Communication Technology Risk Management and Cybersecurity, European Banking Authority (London) 10 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://eba.europa.eu/-/esas-publish-joint-advice-on-information-and-communication-technology-risk-management-and-cybersecurity>.

<sup>3589</sup> ESAs Publish Joint Advice on Information and Communication Technology Risk Management and Cybersecurity, European Banking Authority (London) 10 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://eba.europa.eu/-/esas-publish-joint-advice-on-information-and-communication-technology-risk-management-and-cybersecurity>.

<sup>3590</sup> ESAs Publish Joint Advice on Information and Communication Technology Risk Management and Cybersecurity, European Banking Authority (London) 10 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://eba.europa.eu/-/esas-publish-joint-advice-on-information-and-communication-technology-risk-management-and-cybersecurity>.

projects could be re-used by other SMEs and what role regions and DIHs could take in this.<sup>3591</sup> The event welcomed projects that have developed relevant platforms or marketplaces, regions that could re-use these tools for SMEs in their own territories as well as Digital Innovation Hubs themselves to see what additional solutions they may be able to add to their service offerings.<sup>3592</sup>

On 29 April 2019, the European Union held a conference “Regulatory Sandboxes for Effective Financial Inclusion.”<sup>3593</sup> The EU acknowledged that digitalisation presented enormous opportunities for financial inclusion of the 1.7 billion financial excluded adults around the world and that public policy and regulatory environment provided the foundation for such opportunities to materialise at the required scale. The African continent was determined by the EU to be in the centre of this conversation.<sup>3594</sup> For digital disruption and opportunities to work for the poor, many policy and regulatory challenges needed to be addressed. The EU recognized the emergence of regulatory “sandboxes” as a powerful tool that allowed public and private sector to jointly test approaches and solutions and optimise policy making and regulatory frameworks.<sup>3595</sup>

The European Union has taken measures related to FinTech in line with seven action areas identified by the Financial Stability Board. Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

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<sup>3591</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> Digital Innovation Hubs Workshop on Digital Tools and Marketplaces, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/digital-innovation-hubs-workshop-on-digital-tools-and-marketplaces?inheritRedirect=true>.

<sup>3592</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> Digital Innovation Hubs Workshop on Digital Tools and Marketplaces, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/-/digital-innovation-hubs-workshop-on-digital-tools-and-marketplaces?inheritRedirect=true>.

<sup>3593</sup> Regulatory Sandboxes for Effective Financial Inclusion, European Commission (Brussels) 29 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/regulatory-sandboxes-effective-financial-inclusion\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/regulatory-sandboxes-effective-financial-inclusion_en).

<sup>3594</sup> Regulatory Sandboxes for Effective Financial Inclusion, European Commission (Brussels) 29 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/regulatory-sandboxes-effective-financial-inclusion\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/regulatory-sandboxes-effective-financial-inclusion_en).

<sup>3595</sup> Regulatory Sandboxes for Effective Financial Inclusion, European Commission (Brussels) 29 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/regulatory-sandboxes-effective-financial-inclusion\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/regulatory-sandboxes-effective-financial-inclusion_en).

## 16. Financial Regulation: International Taxation

“We will continue our work for a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system based, in particular on tax treaties and transfer pricing rules.”

*Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

Country	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada		0	
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea		0	
Mexico	-1		
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.60	

### Background

On 19 July 2013, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) issued the Action Plan on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS).<sup>3596</sup> On 6 September 2013, at the St. Petersburg Summit, the G20 leaders committed to automatic exchange of information as the new global standard and fully supported the OECD’s work.<sup>3597</sup> Implementation details of the BEPS Action Plan developed thereafter constitute the BEPS package with 15 actions that equip governments with the domestic and international instruments needed to tackle BEPS.<sup>3598</sup> Countries were provided a tool to ensure that profits are taxed where economic activities generating the profits are performed and where value is created. The BEPS package also gives businesses greater certainty by reducing disputes over the application of international tax rules and standardizing compliance requirements. To expand the coverage of measures to tackle BEPS, the inclusive framework was developed, bringing together 124 countries and jurisdictions to collaborate on the implementation of

<sup>3596</sup> Action Plan on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 17 December 2018.

<http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/action-plan-on-base-erosion-and-profit-shifting-9789264202719-en.htm>

<sup>3597</sup> St. Petersburg G20 Leaders’ Declaration. Access Date: 17 December 2018. <http://en.g20russia.ru/load/782795034>

<sup>3598</sup> BEPS Actions, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 17 December 2018. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/beps-actions.htm>

the OECD/G20 BEPS package.<sup>3599</sup> Commitments to address BEPS were reiterated at all subsequent G20 summits.

Apart from BEPS, G20 is constantly focused on other aspects of international taxation. For instance, at the Buenos Aires Summit G20 Leaders mentioned the automatic exchange of financial account information in tax matters, the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters, as well as measures to enhance tax certainty and build tax capacity in developing countries.<sup>3600</sup>

### Commitment Features

This commitment requires G20 members to continue their work for a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system. Examples may include implementation of different measures to address BEPS (including BEPS Actions 8-10 and 13 directly related to transfer pricing, as mentioned in the commitment), expanding financial information exchange relationships (including through tax treaties mentioned in the commitment), maintaining support for developing countries in their tax capacity building efforts, and participation in the multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters.

Due to the possibility of negative spillovers from national actions and the globalized nature of this commitment, cooperation between countries is key. Thus, compliance with this commitment necessitates strong relationships within G20, and between G20 members and the rest of the world. The G20 members must act as international actors through bilateral agreements, as members of international organizations, or as signatories of multilateral treaties. Full compliance requires member's work towards a globally fair, sustainable and modern international tax system both at national and international levels. Actions at only one of the levels are counted as partial compliance. If the G20 member has not taken any actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system, it receives a score of -1.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	G20 member does not take any actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system.
0	G20 member takes actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system EITHER through national initiatives OR as an international actor.
+1	G20 member takes actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system BOTH through national initiatives AND as an international actor.

### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 4 December 2018, Argentinian authorities adopted several laws with tax provisions.<sup>3601</sup> According to the Law, companies engaged in television and radio broadcasting, newspaper editing, and other similar activities can use a portion of social security contributions as VAT credits. Other amendments include a VAT exemption for construction activities related to community housing and a reduction of VAT rate applicable to soy and soy by-products from 21 per cent to 10.5 per cent.

<sup>3599</sup> About the Inclusive Framework on BEPS, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 17 December 2018.

<http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/beps-about.htm>

<sup>3600</sup> G20 Leaders' declaration. Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, CIIR RANEPa (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access date: 27 May 2019.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos\\_aires\\_leaders\\_declaration.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf)

<sup>3601</sup> Argentina enacts several laws with tax provisions, Ernst&Young (Buenos Aires) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/argentina-enacts-several-laws-with-tax-provisions.aspx>.

On 4 January 2019, the Argentine Executive Power enacted the bill with the new Tax Treaty for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital between Argentina and the United Arab Emirates, which is based on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Model Convention.<sup>3602</sup> According to the Treaty, general domestic withholding rates on payments of interest will be reduced from 35 per cent to 12 per cent, royalties from 21 per cent / 28 per cent / 31.5 per cent to 10 per cent, dividends from 13 per cent (when applicable) to 10 per cent and capital gains upon disposal of shares and other participation interests from 15 per cent to 10 per cent on the net gain, if the participation interest is at least 25 per cent.

On 23 January 2019, Argentina's Tax Authority issued General Resolution No. 4,400, which establishes the procedure for paying temporary duties on exported services. The payment can be done through the tax authorities' website application – "Sistema de Cuentas Tributarias."<sup>3603</sup>

On 7 February 2019, Argentina published, in the Official Gazette, General Resolution No. 4419 (GR 4419), which establishes the procedure for registering and processing imports of goods under related-party agreements containing price review clauses. The procedure in GR 4419 only applies when third-party operators mediate the import transactions between the related parties.<sup>3604</sup>

On 3 April 2019, the Argentine Executive Power sent a draft bill on a promotional regime for the knowledge-based economy to Congress. If enacted, the promotional regime would be in force from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2029.<sup>3605</sup> The regime aims to promote knowledge-based and digital activities, such as software development, nanotechnology, artificial intelligence, robotics, internet of things, etc. Eligible companies would receive the following benefits: a 15 per cent income tax rate; the possibility of crediting foreign income taxes against Argentine income taxes due on Argentine-sourced income; an exemption from VAT withholdings and reverse withholdings; tax stability; a reduction in Social Security contributions for each employee that is duly registered and others.<sup>3606</sup>

Argentina has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor.

Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

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<sup>3602</sup> Argentina enacts bill to approve tax treaty with the United Arab Emirates, Ernst&Young (Buenos Aires) 11 January 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/argentina-enacts-bill-to-approve-tax-treaty-with-the-united-arab-emirates.aspx>.

<sup>3603</sup> Argentina establishes procedure to pay temporary duties on exports of services, Ernst&Young (Buenos Aires) 6 February 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/argentina-establishes-procedure-to-pay-temporary-duties.aspx>.

<sup>3604</sup> Argentina issues procedure for registering and processing imports under related-party agreements containing price review clauses, Ernst&Young (Buenos Aires) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/argentina-issues-procedure-for-registering-and-processing-imports.aspx>.

<sup>3605</sup> Argentina's Executive Power proposes bill to promote knowledge-based economy, Ernst&Young (Buenos Aires) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/argentina%E2%80%99s-executive-power-proposes-bill-to-promote.aspx>.

<sup>3606</sup> Argentina's Executive Power proposes bill to promote knowledge-based economy, Ernst&Young (Buenos Aires) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 26 April 2019. <https://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/argentina%E2%80%99s-executive-power-proposes-bill-to-promote.aspx>.

On 17 January 2019 it was announced that most of Australia's Double Taxation Agreements (DTAs) were amended under the Multilateral Instrument. This initiative arose under the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) project and is likely to impact most international groups with activities in Australia. Australia's DTAs have become more aligned with the BEPS-proofing OECD effort. The new rules appear as modifications or addendums to the existing DTA, depending on the content of each DTA.<sup>3607</sup>

On 24 August 2018, the Hybrid Mismatch rules developed by OECD received royal assent as contained in Schedule 1 and 2 of Treasury Laws Amendment (Tax Integrity and Other Measures No. 2) Act 2018. The Hybrid Mismatch rules aim to prevent multinational companies from gaining an unfair competitive advantage by avoiding income tax or obtaining double tax benefits through hybrid mismatch arrangements. The Treasury Laws Amendment Act also contains the following sections: Other effects of foreign income tax deductions, Strengthening the integrity of the film producer offset Income tax and withholding exemptions for the ICC World 20 and Deductible gift recipients.<sup>3608</sup>

On 15 February 2018 Draft practical compliance guideline (PCG) 2018/D9 OECD hybrid mismatch rules – concept of structured arrangement was released. It contains practical guidance to assist taxpayers assessing the risk of the newly legislated hybrid mismatch rules applying to their circumstances, in particular in relation to the concept of “structured arrangement” in section 832-210 of the Income Tax Assessment Act.<sup>3609</sup>

On 28 March 2019, Australia and Israel signed the first ever double tax treaty between the two countries, and concurrently signed an accompanying Protocol.<sup>3610</sup> The Australian Treasurer also indicated that the new treaty includes OECD / G20 BEPS recommendations, demonstrating the Australian Government's commitment to tackling international tax avoidance. The purpose of the Treaty is to eliminate double taxation with respect to taxes on income, without creating opportunities for non-taxation or reduced taxation through tax evasion or avoidance.<sup>3611</sup> Amongst other benefits, the Treaty gives greater certainty to Israeli and Australian individuals and companies alike, who may be working in the other country or have business operations there, as to how to resolve conflicts and inconsistencies between Israeli and Australian rules on important matters including tax residency and taxable presence (permanent establishment).<sup>3612</sup>

Australia has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor.

Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

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<sup>3607</sup> Australian Double Tax Agreement changes 1 January 2019, Accru (Sydney) 17 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.accru.com/2019/01/double-tax-agreement-changes-1-january-2019/>

<sup>3608</sup> Implementation of the OECD hybrid mismatch rules, Australian Taxation Office (Canberra) 24 August 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.ato.gov.au/General/New-legislation/In-detail/Other-topics/International/Implementation-of-the-OECD-hybrid-mismatch-rules/>

<sup>3609</sup> Practical Compliance Guideline, Australian Taxation Office (Canberra) 15 February 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.ato.gov.au/law/view/document?DocID=DPC/PCG2018D9/NAT/ATO>

<sup>3610</sup> Australia and Israel: double tax treaty, Deloitte (Sydney) 11 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/au/Documents/tax/deloitte-au-tax-highlights-110419.pdf>

<sup>3611</sup> Australia and Israel: double tax treaty, Deloitte (Sydney) 11 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/au/Documents/tax/deloitte-au-tax-highlights-110419.pdf>

<sup>3612</sup> Australia and Israel: double tax treaty, Deloitte (Sydney) 11 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/au/Documents/tax/deloitte-au-tax-highlights-110419.pdf>

**Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 11 December 2018, the Special Committee on Tax Reform in Brazil's Lower House approved Congressman Luiz Carlos Hauly's proposed indirect tax reform. This proposal would significantly change the system of indirect taxes in Brazil.<sup>3613</sup> The proposal would: replace the ISS (municipal service tax), ICMS (state VAT), PIS and COFINS (Social Security Contributions on Sales), IPI (federal excise tax) and some other taxes with a single federal VAT with only a few exceptions and special regimes. It would centralize the tax levy; distribute VAT revenues to states and cities based on their contribution to the tax base.<sup>3614</sup>

On 29 January 2019, The Department of Federal Revenue of Brazil (RFB) published Normative Instruction (NI) RFB 1.870/19, clarifying the transfer pricing rules and their application as established by NI RFB 1.312/12. NI RFB 1.870/19 is effective for calendar year 2019 and thereafter.<sup>3615</sup> NI RFB 1.312/12 clarified the analysis regarding the relationship of the parties involved in a transaction to which the PIC method applies using external comparable information. NI RFB 1.870/19 clarified that, when using the PIC method, taxpayers may use as a comparable transaction the purchase and sales transactions with third parties performed by any company of the same group and located in any jurisdiction, as long as the third party is not located in a country considered as a tax haven or privileged tax jurisdiction.<sup>3616</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Brazil published Legislative Decree No. 08, under which the Amendment Protocol to the Brazil-Denmark Double Tax Treaty is approved. The Amendment Protocol replaces Article 23 (Methods for Elimination of Double Taxation) to allow both countries to apply the ordinary tax credit method to eliminate double taxation.<sup>3617</sup> (action 5,6)

On 25 April 2019, the RFB has issued Normative Instruction (NI) 1880/2019, modifying NIs 1415/2013, 1600/2015 and 1781/2017, which cover the special customs regimes applicable to the oil and gas industry (i.e., Repetro, Repetro-Sped and Temporary Admission).<sup>3618</sup>

Brazil has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor.

Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

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<sup>3613</sup> Brazil: Special Committee of Lower House approves proposed indirect tax reform, Ernst & Young (Brasilia) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--brazil---special-committee-of-lower-house-approves-proposed-indirect-tax-reform>

<sup>3614</sup> Brazil: Special Committee of Lower House approves proposed indirect tax reform, Ernst & Young (Brasilia) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--brazil---special-committee-of-lower-house-approves-proposed-indirect-tax-reform>

<sup>3615</sup> Brazil modifies transfer pricing rules, Ernst & Young (Brasilia) 18 February 2019. Access Date : 15 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--brazil-modifies-transfer-pricing-rules>

<sup>3616</sup> Brazil modifies transfer pricing rules, Ernst & Young (Brasilia) 18 February 2019. Access Date : 15 February 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--brazil-modifies-transfer-pricing-rules>

<sup>3617</sup> Brazil publishes decree approving Amendment Protocol to Brazil-Denmark Double Tax Treaty, Ernst & Young (Brasilia) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--brazil-publishes-decree-approving-amendment-protocol-to-brazil-denmark-double-tax-treaty>

<sup>3618</sup> Brazilian Federal Revenue changes procedures applicable to special customs regimes for oil and gas industry, Ernst & Young (Brasilia) 25 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--brazilian-federal-revenue-changes-procedures-applicable-to-special-customs-regimes-for-oil-and-gas-industry>

## Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 28 January 2019, Canada's Revenue Agency confirmed in a recent technical interpretation (2017-071330117) that Canadian withholding tax can apply to the accrued (but unpaid) interest on a debt owed by a Canadian resident to a non-resident when the debt is assumed by another entity and such an assumption constitutes a "novation" of the debt obligation for purposes of the applicable commercial law.<sup>3619</sup> This is because a novation would generally involve the creditor accepting all obligations under the original debt as being satisfied and discharged by the substitution of the assumed debt. Such obligations would include the obligation to pay accrued and unpaid interest under the original debt which could constitute such interest being considered to have been paid or credited by the Canadian resident debtor to the non-resident creditor for purposes of the non-resident withholding tax provisions of the Income Tax Act (Canada).<sup>3620</sup>

Canada has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system through national initiatives, but no action on an international level were registered.

Thus, it is given a score of 0.

*Analyst: Uliana Koptykh*

## China +1

China has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 2 December 2019, the agreement between the People's Republic of China and the Argentine Republic for the elimination of double taxation was signed. The agreement is aimed at the elimination of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital without creating opportunities for non-taxation or reduced taxation through tax evasion or avoidance (including through treaty-shopping arrangements aimed at obtaining reliefs provided in this Agreement for the indirect benefit of residents of third states).<sup>3621</sup>

On 1 April 2019, Wang Jun, commissioner of the State Taxation Administration and Clare Fearnley, New Zealand's Ambassador to China signed a new version of "Agreement between the People's Republic of China and New Zealand for the Elimination of Double Taxation with Respect to Taxes on Income and the Prevention of Tax Evasion and Avoidance." The new agreement is a revised version of the 1986 agreement further reducing the tax burden of taxpayers investing in the either country.<sup>3622</sup>

On 20 April 2019, the Belt and Road Initiative Tax Administration Cooperation Mechanism (BRITACOM) was established on the first Belt and Road Tax Administration Cooperation Forum

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<sup>3619</sup> Canada: Canada confirms withholding tax can apply to the assumption of accrued interest, International Tax Review (London) 28 January 2019. Access date: 4 April 2019.

<https://www.internationaltaxreview.com/Article/3855827/Canada-Country-Briefing/Canada-Canada-confirms-withholding-tax-can-apply-to-the-assumption-of-accrued-interest.html>

<sup>3620</sup> Canada: Canada confirms withholding tax can apply to the assumption of accrued interest, International Tax Review (London) 28 January 2019. Access date: 4 April 2019.

<https://www.internationaltaxreview.com/Article/3855827/Canada-Country-Briefing/Canada-Canada-confirms-withholding-tax-can-apply-to-the-assumption-of-accrued-interest.html>

<sup>3621</sup> Agreement between People's Republic of China and the Argentine Republic for the elimination of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital without creating opportunities for non-taxation or reduced taxation through tax evasion or avoidance, State Taxation Administration (Beijing) 2 December 2018. Access date: 10 April 2019. <http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367756/c3942033/part/3942047.pdf>

<sup>3622</sup> China and New Zealand sign new agreement on tax, State Taxation Administration (Beijing) 1 April 2019. Access date: 10 April 2019. <http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367726/c4198711/content.html>

hosted by the State Taxation Administration.<sup>3623</sup>The mechanism is aimed at eliminating tax barriers, jointly enhancing tax governance capacity and further strengthening tax cooperation. Furthermore, the Belt and Road tax administration cooperation action plan was formulated. The plan set steps to strengthen the rule of law in taxation and create a fair and equitable environment; increase the efficiency of tax dispute resolution; promote capacity-building in tax administration; promote tax compliance through digital tax administration.<sup>3624</sup>

China has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor. Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 17 December 2018, Gérald Darmanin announces the elimination of penalties of EUR 15 minimum in case of payment of taxes by check.<sup>3625</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the French finance law for 2019, which contains measures proposed as part of a global corporate tax reform, was approved by the parliament, and then declared by the Constitutional Court to be in conformity with the French constitution.<sup>3626</sup>

On 14 March 2019, Gérald Darmanin presents seven initiatives for a new relationship of trust between companies and Tax Administration (tax support, tax partnership, verification of compliance with tax laws by a trusted third party).<sup>3627</sup>

On 4 April 2019, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and his French counterpart Jean-Yves Le Drian had a meeting on a digital services tax. Secretary Pompeo urged France not to approve a digital services tax, which would negatively impact large U.S. technology firms and the French citizens who use them.<sup>3628</sup>

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<sup>3623</sup> First Belt and Road tax administration cooperation forum closes, State Taxation Administration (Beijing) 20 April 2019. Access date: 23 April 2019. <http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367726/c4298639/content.html>

<sup>3624</sup> First Belt and Road tax administration cooperation forum closes, State Taxation Administration (Beijing) 20 April 2019. Access date: 23 April 2019. <http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367726/c4298639/content.html>

<sup>3625</sup> Gérald Darmanin annonce la suppression des pénalités de 15 euros minimum en cas de paiement des impôts par chèque, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 7 December 2018. Access date: 1 April 2019. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=E60720DB-31A2-4808-BE93-73FDF1C296C0&filename=511.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=E60720DB-31A2-4808-BE93-73FDF1C296C0&filename=511.pdf)

<sup>3626</sup> Finance law for 2019 implements ATAD 1 measures, changes tax consolidation rules, Deloitte (Paris) 29 December 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.taxathand.com/article/10852/France/2018/Finance-law-for-2019-implements-ATAD-1-measures-changes-tax-consolidation-rules>

<sup>3627</sup> Gérald Darmanin présente sept initiatives pour une nouvelle relation de confiance entre les entreprises et l'administration fiscale, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 14 March 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=EF8FFCC3-93F8-4AA3-9291-DA04A626FFFA&filename=639.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=EF8FFCC3-93F8-4AA3-9291-DA04A626FFFA&filename=639.pdf)

<sup>3628</sup> Pompeo urges France not to approve digital services tax, Reuters (Paris) 4 April 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-france-tax/pompeo-urges-france-not-to-approve-digital-services-tax-idUSKCN1RG1TZ>

On 24 April 2019, the French Ministry of Economy and Finance April 24 issued guidance on income tax declarations for entrepreneurs based on an entrepreneur’s legal status and the chosen tax regime.<sup>3629</sup>

On 24 April 2019, the French General Directorate of Public Finance April 24 updated the administrative doctrine on the tax credit for credit institutions and financial companies that provide zero-rated home loans to first-time buyers.<sup>3630</sup>

France has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor. Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dariya Myasnikova*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 6 December 2018, the German Ministry of Finance issued a circular with an administrative guidance allowing German taxpayers to justify deviations from the arm’s length principle under certain circumstances. The circular helped bring German legislation in line with the European Union’s norms on transfer pricing.<sup>3631</sup>

On 27 March 2019, German finance minister Olaf Scholz and State Secretary for Finance at the Dutch Ministry of Finance Menno Snel signed a joint statement reaffirming the two countries’ commitment to combating tax avoidance by agreeing and implementing the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and EU standards on base erosion and profit shifting.<sup>3632</sup>

In 2019, Germany continued the implementation of projects to support developing countries in their tax capacity building efforts. These include: a ten-years project “Good Financial Governance” worth EUR47 million implemented in several African countries, with one of the objectives to foster effective tax administrations, provide appropriate training for tax officials and establish a dialogue with tax academics;<sup>3633</sup> a project worth EUR12 million to support efforts by the Ukrainian Ministry of Finance and the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine to modernize tax legislation and tax

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<sup>3629</sup> France MOF Issues Guidance on Income Tax Declaration for Entrepreneurs, Bloomberg Tax (London) 29 April 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://news.bloombergtax.com/daily-tax-report-international/france-mof-issues-guidance-on-income-tax-declaration-for-entrepreneurs>

<sup>3630</sup> France Tax Agency Updates Administrative Doctrine on Tax Credit for Providers of Zero-Rated Home Loans, Bloomberg Tax (London) 29 April 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://news.bloombergtax.com/daily-tax-report-international/france-tax-agency-updates-administrative-doctrine-on-tax-credit-for-providers-of-zero-rated-home-loans>

<sup>3631</sup> Commercial justification for a transaction concluded on non-arm’s-length terms – ECJ judgement of 31 May 2018 in Case C-382/16, German Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 6 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Downloads/Commercial-justification-for-a-transaction-concluded-on-non-arms-length-terms.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=1](https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Downloads/Commercial-justification-for-a-transaction-concluded-on-non-arms-length-terms.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=1).

<sup>3632</sup> Germany and Netherlands reaffirm their commitment to combating tax avoidance, German Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 27 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Taxation/Articles/2019-03-27-NLD-GER-statement.html>.

<sup>3633</sup> Good Financial Governance II, German Agency for International Cooperation (Berlin). Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.giz.de/projektdateien/exportDetail.action?documentId=201220292&infotypeSource=projects>.

administration;<sup>3634</sup> and a EUR7 million project to make tax administration in Nepal more transparent, effective and service-oriented.<sup>3635</sup>

Germany has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor.

Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepov*

### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 18 December 2018, the Indian Tax Administration through a notification, prescribed that the due dates for “secondary filing” would be 12 months from the end of the reporting accounting year of the multinational enterprises group. However, for all reporting accounting years up to 28 February 2018, the due date has been extended to 31 March 2019.<sup>3636</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the governments of India and the US finalized an agreement for the automatic exchange of country-by-country reports.<sup>3637</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the Indian Union Cabinet approved India’s signing of the multilateral instrument to implement the tax treaty measures in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development/G20 base erosion profit shifting action plan. A signing ceremony will be held in Paris this June.<sup>3638</sup>

India has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor.

Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Shtanko*

### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 23 January 2019, a new regulation from Indonesia’s tax authority came into effect, having clarified certain inconsistencies between the requirements of various transfer pricing reporting regulations; in particular, the regulation notes that for submission with the annual tax return it is only

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<sup>3634</sup> Support to the reform of public finances II. Good Financial Governance, German Agency for International Cooperation (Berlin). Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<https://www.giz.de/projektdaten/exportDetail.action?documentId=201322965&infotypeSource=projects>.

<sup>3635</sup> Support to the tax administration, German Agency for International Cooperation (Berlin). Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.giz.de/projektdaten/exportDetail.action?documentId=201620434&infotypeSource=projects>.

<sup>3636</sup> Indian Tax Administration announces due date for secondary filing under Country-by-Country Reporting regulations 18 December, Ernst&Young (Delhi). Access date: 9 January 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--indian-tax-administration-announces-due-date-for-secondary-filing-under-country-by-country-reporting-regulations>

<sup>3637</sup> India, US reach agreement on country-by-country reporting for multinational groups, Multinational Tax and Transfer pricing news (Hillsdale) 15 march 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://mnetax.com/india-us-agree-to-withdraw-local-cbc-filing-requirement-for-multinational-groups-32949>

<sup>3638</sup> India: India Confirms Intent To Sign BEPS Multilateral Instrument Curbing Tax Avoidance, Mondaq (New York) 2 April 2019. Access date: 6 may 2019. <http://www.mondaq.com/india/x/793844/tax+authorities/Pledging+Of+Shares+Do+Lenders+Need+To+Rethink+Their+Strategy>

required to provide a summary form confirming the content of the Master file and Local file, as well as the date as at when these files are available, and a receipt of either the country-by-country report notification and/or report itself, as well as the “working papers”; previously it was required to provide a package of transfer pricing documentation consisting of Master file, Local file and Country-by-Country report.<sup>3639</sup>

On 7 February 2019, a Mutual Legal Assistance agreement to carry out investigations of alleged tax fraud between Indonesia and Switzerland was announced; it was also mentioned that from September 2019 Indonesia and Switzerland would start automatic exchange of tax information.<sup>3640</sup>

On 28 February 2019, it was reported that the tax treaty between Indonesia and Belarus, covering the issues of double-taxation and cooperation between the two countries on combating tax evasion, took effect.<sup>3641</sup>

Indonesia has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor. Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 31 January 2019, in light of the European Union proposal, in the Budget Law for 2019 Italy introduced the Italian Digital Services Tax which replaced the previous tax provisions introduced last year. The EU digital services tax proposal aims to address the digital revolution which requires a new approach to tax law principles, the current corporate income tax rules becoming inadequate to address the digital business.<sup>3642</sup>

On 12 March 2019, Italy signed agreements aimed at elimination of double taxation with Jamaica and Colombia.<sup>3643</sup>

On 16 March 2019, the foreign ministers of Uruguay and Italy signed two pacts, aimed at the abolition of double taxation between the two countries and the promotion of investments for small and medium enterprises.<sup>3644</sup>

On 23 March 2019, Economy and Finance Minister Giovanni Tria signed with China’s Foreign Minister Wang Yi the new agreement between Italy and China aimed at elimination double taxation.<sup>3645</sup>

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<sup>3639</sup> New Regulation Issued by Tax Authority in Indonesia, Duff and Phelps (New York) 2 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.duffandphelps.com/insights/publications/transfer-pricing/new-regulation-issued-by-tax-authority-in-indonesia?utm\\_source=Mondaq&utm\\_medium=syndication&utm\\_campaign=View-Original](https://www.duffandphelps.com/insights/publications/transfer-pricing/new-regulation-issued-by-tax-authority-in-indonesia?utm_source=Mondaq&utm_medium=syndication&utm_campaign=View-Original)

<sup>3640</sup> MLA agreement with Switzerland will assist tax fraud investigations: Official, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 7 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/02/07/mla-agreement-with-switzerland-will-assist-tax-fraud-investigations-official.html>

<sup>3641</sup> OPINION: RI-Belarus Tax Treaty & Eastern European Market, Ekonomi (Jakarta) 28 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://ekonomi.bisnis.com/read/20190228/259/894494/opini-tax-treaty-ri-belarus-pasar-eropa-timur>

<sup>3642</sup> INSIGHT: New Italian Web Tax and the EU Directive, Bloomberg (London) 31 January 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.bna.com/insight-new-italian-n57982095814/>

<sup>3643</sup> Scambio libero con Giamaica e Colombia, accordi col cinema bulgaro: la strana politica estera del governo, Tnews (Rome) 12 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. [https://notizie.tiscali.it/politica/articoli/accordi\\_internazionali\\_governo/](https://notizie.tiscali.it/politica/articoli/accordi_internazionali_governo/)

<sup>3644</sup> Uruguay-Italia: due accordi di cooperazione giudiziaria, Ministero della giustizia (Rome) 16 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.gnewsonline.it/due-accordi-di-cooperazione-giudiziaria-tra-uruguay-e-italia/>

Italy has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor. Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 14 December 2018, proposals for tax reform in Japan to be further discussed in 2019 were published, including a number of important items aimed at implementing the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Action Plan, including<sup>3646</sup>:

- With respect to Action 4 (Interest deduction) – to expand the scope of the earnings stripping rules to all loans, including third-party loans, and to lower the earnings stripping threshold from 50 per cent to 20 per cent;
- With respect to transfer pricing rules – (1) to provide a definition of “intangibles” according to the BEPS final reports as “something which is not a physical asset or a financial asset and whose use or transfer would be compensated had it occurred in a transaction between independent parties in comparable circumstances,” (2) to add the discounted cash flow method suggested by the BEPS final report to the list of transfer pricing methods, (3) allow tax authorities to assess and determine the transfer price of “specified intangibles” based on the best method taking into consideration ex-post outcomes derived from the transferred hard-to-value intangibles.

On 13 January 2019, it was reported by Japan’s Ministry of Finance that the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting would operate from 1 April 2019 to amend the existing tax treaty between Japan and Singapore.<sup>3647</sup>

On 11 February 2019, it was reported by Japan’s Ministry of Finance that the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting would operate from 1 May 2019 to amend the existing tax treaty between Japan and Ireland.<sup>3648</sup>

Japan has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor. Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Korea: 0**

Korea has partially complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 24 December 2018, Korea enacted the 2019 tax reform bill. The 2019 Tax Reform Bill includes provisions in line with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Base Erosion

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<sup>3645</sup> Italia-Cina. Firmati accordi per 2,5 miliardi di euro, Avvenire.it (Rome) 23 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.avvenire.it/attualita/pagine/via-della-seta-gli-accordi-firmati-tra-xi-cina-e-l-italia>

<sup>3646</sup> Japan’s 2019 tax reform proposal restricts interest deduction, updates transfer pricing rules, MNE Tax (New York) 19 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://mnetax.com/japans-2019-tax-reform-proposal-restricts-interest-deduction-updates-transfer-pricing-rules-31586>

<sup>3647</sup> MLI amends Japan, Singapore tax treaty, MNE Tax (New York) 13 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://mnetax.com/japan-singapore-tax-treaty-amended-by-mli-31862>

<sup>3648</sup> Japan-Ireland tax treaty to be modified by MLI, MNE Tax 11 (New York) February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://mnetax.com/japan-ireland-tax-treaty-to-be-modified-by-mli-32316>

and Profit Sharing (BEPS) Action 7 (Preventing the artificial avoidance of Permanent Establishment Status) among other measures.<sup>3649</sup>

Korea has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system through national initiatives, but no action on an international level were registered. Thus, it is given a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **Mexico: -1**

Mexico has not complied with the commitment on international taxation.

Mexico has not taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system neither through national initiatives nor as an international actor. Thus, it is given a score of -1.

*Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich*

### **Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 4 December 2018, the Multilateral Agreement authorities on the automatic exchange of information on financial accounts was signed.<sup>3650</sup>

On 4 February 2019, Commission on legislative activity of Russian Government approved a draft law on ratification of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development action plan on base erosion and profit shifting.<sup>3651</sup>

Russia has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through as an international actor. Thus, it is given a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anna Piekalnits*

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 10 December 2018, Saudi Arabia's General Authority of Zakat and Tax (GAZT) published draft transfer pricing bylaws (TP bylaws) for public consultation.<sup>3652</sup> The TP bylaws follow international standards, including the arm's-length principle and documentation standards set out in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Transfer Pricing Guidelines. As per the GAZT website, "the TP bylaws are applicable to persons considered taxpayers in Saudi Arabia under the corporate Income Tax Law.<sup>3653</sup> Generally, this includes – without limitation –

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<sup>3649</sup> Korea enacts 2019 tax reform bill, Ernst&Young (Seoul) 24 December 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--korea-enacts-2019-tax-reform-bill>

<sup>3650</sup> Order of the Federal Tax Service of Russia № MMB-7-17 / 784 @ «On approval of the List of States (territories) with which the automatic exchange of financial information is carried out», Consultant (Moscow) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 15 January 2019. [http://www.consultant.ru/document/cons\\_doc\\_LAW\\_314333/](http://www.consultant.ru/document/cons_doc_LAW_314333/).

<sup>3651</sup> The law drafting commission approved a draft law on ratification of the OECD multilateral Convention in order to counter the erosion of the tax base and withdraw profits from taxation, Russian Government (Moscow) 4 February 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. [http://government.ru/dep\\_news/35644/](http://government.ru/dep_news/35644/)

<sup>3652</sup> KSA introduces Transfer Pricing Regulation, KPMG (Riyadh) 31 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019.

<https://home.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/sa/pdf/2019/KSA%20introduces%20Transfer%20Pricing%20Regulations.pdf>

<sup>3653</sup> KSA introduces Transfer Pricing Regulation, KPMG (Riyadh) 31 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019.

<https://home.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/sa/pdf/2019/KSA%20introduces%20Transfer%20Pricing%20Regulations.pdf>

multinational enterprise groups (MNE Groups), one or many members of which are deemed a taxable person in Saudi Arabia.” The TP bylaws introduce new compliance requirements for fiscal years ending on or after 31 December 2018, including the submission of a Controlled Transaction Disclosure Form – due within 120 days from the end of the fiscal year end and filed as part of the annual income tax declaration.<sup>3654</sup> Additionally, the TP bylaws introduce transfer pricing documentation and country-by-country reporting requirements that are broadly aligned with the OECD’s Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Action 13 Final Report.<sup>3655</sup> On 15 February 2019, the abovementioned bylaws were presented in a final document.<sup>3656</sup>

On 1 March 2019, Saudi Arabia published the Double Tax Treaty with the United Arab Emirates. The treaty covers several tax exemptions and tax reductions namely reduced tax rate on royalty payments, tax exemption on interest and service fees.<sup>3657</sup> The necessary implementation proceedings had been completed by both sides by 07 April 2019 meaning the agreement has come into force.<sup>3658</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor.

Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignator*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 20 February 2019, the South African Minister of Finance presented the Budget for 2019/20 before Parliament.<sup>3659</sup> Among others, the Budget proposes the following: (i) a special interest deduction relating to debt-financed acquisitions of controlling shares in an operating company; (ii) the introduction of additional robust measures in the controlled foreign company rules to address the circumvention of the anti-diversionary rules; and (iii) the review of the definition of permanent establishment in domestic legislation in line with South Africa’s positions under the base erosion and profit shifting multilateral instrument.<sup>3660</sup>

South Africa has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system through national initiatives, but no action on an international level were registered.

Thus, it is given a score of 0.

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

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<sup>3654</sup> KSA introduces Transfer Pricing Regulation, KPMG (Riyadh) 31 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://home.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/sa/pdf/2019/KSA%20introduces%20Transfer%20Pricing%20Regulations.pdf>

<sup>3655</sup> Saudi Arabia’s tax authority releases draft transfer pricing bylaws, Ernst&Young (Riyadh) 10 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019. URL: <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--saudi-arabias-tax-authority-releases-draft-transfer-pricing-bylaws>

<sup>3656</sup> KSA introduces Transfer Pricing Regulation, KPMG (Riyadh) 31 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://home.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/sa/pdf/2019/KSA%20introduces%20Transfer%20Pricing%20Regulations.pdf>

<sup>3657</sup> KSA Cabinet approves Double Tax Treaty with the UAE. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.pwc.com/m1/en/services/tax/me-tax-legal-news/2019/ksa-uae-double-tax-treaty-march-2019.html>

<sup>3658</sup> UAE, Saudi Arabia agreement on avoidance of double taxation comes into effect, Emirates News Agency (Abu Dhabi) 1 March 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <http://wam.ae/en/details/1395302753727>

<sup>3659</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 25 March 2019, Ernst&Young (Riyadh) 25 March 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---25-march-2019>

<sup>3660</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 25 March 2019, Ernst&Young (Riyadh) 25 March 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---25-march-2019>

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 28 December 2018 Turkey's President approved the bilateral agreements on automatic exchange of information between Turkey and Latvia, and Turkey and Norway, which came about as Turkey's first bilateral agreements on automatic exchange of information.<sup>3661</sup>

Turkey has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system through national initiatives, but no action on an international level were registered.

Thus, Turkey is given a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 6 December 2018, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs published the synthesized text of the 2006 UK-Poland Double Taxation Convention, displaying the modifications made to the treaty by the Multilateral instrument (MLI).<sup>3662</sup> The synthesized text reflects the agreement reached between the relevant tax authorities of both UK and Poland on how the treaty should be impacted by the MLI. The provisions of the MLI entered into force for Poland on 1 July 2018 and on 1 October 2018 for the UK.<sup>3663</sup> The provisions of the MLI will have effect with respect to the UK-Poland Double Taxation Convention on 1 January 2019 for taxes withheld at source in both jurisdictions, (ii) 1 April 2019 with respect to all other taxes levied by Poland and for corporation tax in the UK, and (iii) 6 April 2019 for income tax and capital gains tax in the UK.<sup>3664</sup>

On 13 March 2019, new policy paper "No Safe Havens 2019" was issued. It outlines Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs strategy in fighting against tax avoidance. This strategy establishes new objectives, reflecting the UK's substantial progress in tackling offshore non-compliance. Additionally, it says that the UK will continue to champion greater international cooperation to tackle offshore non-compliance.<sup>3665</sup>

On 19 February 2019, New programme of UK support to help improve tax systems in developing countries was announced. The development assistance will help tackle tax evasion and avoidance, build effective tax systems to fund public services and provide British experts.<sup>3666</sup>

The United Kingdom has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor.

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<sup>3661</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 25 March 2019, Ernst&Young (Ankara) 25 March 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---25-march-2019>

<sup>3662</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 17 December 2018, Ernst&Young (London) 17 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---17-december-2018>

<sup>3663</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 17 December 2018, Ernst&Young (London) 17 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---17-december-2018>

<sup>3664</sup> The Latest on BEPS – 17 December 2018, Ernst&Young (London) 17 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---17-december-2018>

<sup>3665</sup> No Safe Havens 2019, UK Government (London) 13 March 2019. Access date: 21 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-safe-havens-2019>

<sup>3666</sup> New UK support to help improve tax systems in developing countries, UK Government (London) 19 February 2019. Access date: 21 June 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-support-to-help-improve-tax-systems-in-developing-countries>

Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mariya Kalugina*

### **United States: 0**

United States has partially complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 11 December 2018, the Internal Revenue Service added Hungary to the list of countries with which the United States has signed a Competent Authority Agreement for the automatic exchange of country-by-country (CbC) reports.<sup>3667</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the Competent Authority of the United States and the Competent Authority of the Federal Republic of Germany signed a new Joint Statement on the implementation of the spontaneous exchange of CbC reports for 2017 fiscal years. The new Joint Statement covers CbC reports with respect to fiscal years of multinational enterprise groups commencing on or after 1 January 2017 and before 1 January 2018. Also, the two countries are currently negotiating a Competent Authority Agreement to allow for the automatic exchange of CbC reports.<sup>3668</sup>

On 15 March 2019, the governments of India and the United States finalized an agreement for the automatic exchange CbC reports.<sup>3669</sup>

The United States has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system through national initiatives, but no action on an international level were registered. Thus, it is given a score of 0.

*Analyst: Dmitriy Lukanin*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment on international taxation.

On 19 December 2016, the European Commission issued a final report on the study on comparable data used for transfer pricing in the EU. The report stated that improving the transfer pricing regulations and practices was a priority for policy makers across the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, G20 and EU countries. The European Commission addressed this issue as part of its overall Action Plan on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) for fair and efficient corporate taxation in the EU. In this context, the European Commission saw a strong need to assess the state of play and improve the knowledge of good practices on terms and conditions under which intra-group prices are set up.<sup>3670</sup>

On 19 December 2016, the European Commission issued a final report on the study on the application of economic valuation techniques for determining transfer prices of cross border transactions between members of multinational enterprise groups in the European Union. This

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<sup>3667</sup> Global Tax Alert, Ernst&Young (New York) 17 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019. [https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/The\\_Latest\\_on\\_BEPS\\_-\\_17\\_December\\_2018/\\$FILE/2018G\\_012417-18Gbl\\_The%20Latest%20on%20BEPS%20-%2017%20December%202018.pdf](https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/The_Latest_on_BEPS_-_17_December_2018/$FILE/2018G_012417-18Gbl_The%20Latest%20on%20BEPS%20-%2017%20December%202018.pdf)

<sup>3668</sup> Global Tax Alert, Ernst&Young (New York) 17 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019. [https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/The\\_Latest\\_on\\_BEPS\\_-\\_17\\_December\\_2018/\\$FILE/2018G\\_012417-18Gbl\\_The%20Latest%20on%20BEPS%20-%2017%20December%202018.pdf](https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/The_Latest_on_BEPS_-_17_December_2018/$FILE/2018G_012417-18Gbl_The%20Latest%20on%20BEPS%20-%2017%20December%202018.pdf)

<sup>3669</sup> India, US reach agreement on country-by-country reporting for multinational groups, Multinational Tax and Transfer pricing rules (New York) 15 March 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://mnetax.com/india-us-agree-to-withdraw-local-cbc-filing-requirement-for-multinational-groups-32949>.

<sup>3670</sup> Study on comparable data used for transfer pricing in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2016. Access date: 12 February 2019. <https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/d16d2635-c685-11e6-a6db-01aa75ed71a1>.

document provided a view on how valuation techniques could practically and most efficiently be used for transfer pricing purposes in the European Union.<sup>3671</sup>

On 19 October 2018, the EU Joint Transfer Pricing Forum issued a report stating its coordinated approach to transfer pricing controls within the EU. In this report the EU Joint Transfer Pricing Forum established the best practices by issuing various recommendations for both taxpayers and tax administrations, and encourages closer cooperation in the field of transfer pricing controls.<sup>3672</sup>

On 7 March 2019, the meeting of the EU Joint Transfer Pricing Forum was held, which adopted a report on the application of the profit split method within the EU. This method was one of the five transfer pricing methods delineated in Chapter II of the OECD Transfer Pricing Guidelines. The report clarified key concepts, under which conditions to use the method and how to split the profit.<sup>3673</sup>

On 17 April 2019, the European Parliament adopted at first reading a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the 'Fiscalis' programme for cooperation in the field of taxation. The Programme had the general objectives of supporting tax authorities and taxation to enhance the functioning of the single market, of fostering Union competitiveness and fair competition in the Union, of protecting the financial and economic interests of the Union and its Member States, including protecting those interests from tax fraud, tax evasion and tax avoidance, and of improving tax collection.<sup>3674</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union issued its Management Plan 2019. One of the main goals mentioned in the plan for 2019 was international tax cooperation. In 2019, the EU would continue to encourage third countries to adhere to international tax good governance standards.<sup>3675</sup>

On 29-31 March 2019, a high-level EU mission visited the Kingdom of Eswatini. On taxes issues the EU reminded the 3 benchmarks the Kingdom of Eswatini had committed with the EU to comply by end 2019: 1) to be member of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes; 2) to commit to sign and ratify the OECD Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters and 3) to join the Inclusive Framework on BEPS or commit to the minimum standard and to communicate the timeline for doing so. The EU underlined the political importance to comply with these benchmarks, to continue benefiting from EIB assistance and to attract foreign direct investment.<sup>3676</sup>

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<sup>3671</sup> Study on the application of economic valuation techniques for determining transfer prices of cross border transactions between members of multinational enterprise groups in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2016. Access date: 12 February 2019. <https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/e7dbd290-c682-11e6-a6db-01aa75ed71a1>.

<sup>3672</sup> EU Joint Transfer Pricing Forum – a coordinated approach to transfer pricing controls within the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 19 October 2018. Access date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/sites/taxation/files/jtpf\\_report\\_on\\_a\\_coordinated\\_approach\\_to\\_transfer\\_pricing\\_controls\\_within\\_the\\_eu\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/sites/taxation/files/jtpf_report_on_a_coordinated_approach_to_transfer_pricing_controls_within_the_eu_en.pdf).

<sup>3673</sup> EU Joint Transfer Pricing Forum: The Application of the Profit Split Method within the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 7 March 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/sites/taxation/files/report\\_on\\_the\\_application\\_of\\_the\\_profit\\_split\\_method\\_within\\_the\\_eu\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/sites/taxation/files/report_on_the_application_of_the_profit_split_method_within_the_eu_en.pdf).

<sup>3674</sup> European Parliament: Fiscal Programme for Cooperation in the Field of Taxation, European Parliament (Brussels) 17 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-8-2019-0404\\_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-8-2019-0404_EN.pdf).

<sup>3675</sup> DG TAXUD Management Plan 2019, European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access date: 13 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/management-plan-taxud-2019\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/management-plan-taxud-2019_en.pdf).

<sup>3676</sup> High Level EU Mission Visits Eswatini, European External Action Service (Brussels) 1 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/60437/high-level-eu-mission-visits-eswatini\\_fr](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/60437/high-level-eu-mission-visits-eswatini_fr).

European Union has taken actions to move towards a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system both through national initiatives and as an international actor. Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

## 17. Food and Agriculture: Sustainable Agriculture

“We will promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture, conscious of the importance of sustainable soil, water and riverbanks management supported by individual countries voluntarily, taking into consideration the specific needs of family and small-holder farmers.”

*G20 Leaders Buenos Aires Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia		0	
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea		0	
Mexico		0	
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.55	

### Background

For the first time G20 leaders discussed the problem of food security and agricultural sphere in Pittsburgh in 2009. The summit declaration said that “sustained funding and targeted investments were urgently needed to improve long-term food security.”<sup>3677</sup> The leaders supported the food security initiative announced in L’Aquila and “efforts to further implement the Global Partnership for Agriculture and Food Security and to address excessive price volatility.”<sup>3678</sup> They also committed to supporting innovative bilateral and multilateral efforts to improve global nutrition and build sustainable agricultural systems, including programs like those developed through the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program.

In fulfillment of the G20 Pittsburgh commitment on food security, the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program was launched to further implement the Global Partnership for Agriculture and Food Security in 2010. At the Toronto Summit, G20 leaders committed to “exploring innovative,

<sup>3677</sup> G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Pittsburgh). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communiqu0925.html>

<sup>3678</sup> G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Pittsburgh). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communiqu0925.html>

results-based mechanisms to harness the private sector for agricultural innovation.”<sup>3679</sup> The urgency to accelerate research and development to close agricultural productivity gaps, including through regional and South-South cooperation, amidst growing demands and mounting environmental stresses, particularly in Africa was also mentioned in the Declaration. Leaders committed to “exploring the potential of innovative, results-based mechanisms such as advance market commitments to harness the creativity and resources of the private sector in achieving breakthrough innovations in food security and agriculture development in poor countries.”<sup>3680</sup>

In 2010, the Seoul Multi-Year Action Plan on Development was released. The document featured a special section dedicated to food security and agriculture. The leaders underlined “the need to fulfill ... existing commitments on food security and sustainable agricultural development.”<sup>3681</sup> They also called for support to build capacity in tropical agriculture technologies and productive systems. The section also mentioned that the focus of the actions has to be on “harnessing the potential of the agriculture sector to advance sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction, enhance engagement with the private sector and strengthen North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation.”<sup>3682</sup>

In Cannes in 2011, G20 leaders agreed to mobilize the G20 capacities to address these key challenges in food security and agriculture, in close cooperation with all relevant international organisations and in consultation with producers, civil society and the private sector. Agriculture Ministers met for the first time in Paris on 22-23 June 2011 and adopted the Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture, which was welcomed by the G20 leaders. It was decided to act on the five objectives of this Action Plan: (i) improving agricultural production and productivity, (ii) increasing market information and transparency, (iii) reducing the effects of price volatility for the most vulnerable, (iv) strengthening international policy coordination and (v) improving the functioning of agricultural commodity derivatives’ markets.<sup>3683</sup>

At the Los Cabos Summit held on 18-19 June 2012, G20 Leaders affirmed their on-going commitment to improving domestic food and agricultural practices, with a particular focus on adapting agriculture so as to mitigate its contributions to climate change.

In 2013 in St. Petersburg the leaders acknowledged that food security and nutrition should remain a top priority in G20 agenda. They recognized the importance of “boosting agricultural productivity, investment and trade to strengthen the global food system to promote economic growth and job creation.”<sup>3684</sup> G20 leaders promised to encourage all “efforts in the agricultural sector to further reduce hunger, under-nutrition and malnutrition, through increased coordination in the G20 to promote the identification and implementation of effective actions in support of production and productivity growth as well as enhancement of food security and nutrition for vulnerable population through, among others, nutrition sensitive policies and comprehensive social protection systems,

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<sup>3679</sup>The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communiqué.html>

<sup>3680</sup>The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Toronto). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communiqué.html>

<sup>3681</sup>Multi-Year Action Plan on Development, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Seoul). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/g20seoul-development.html>

<sup>3682</sup>Multi-Year Action Plan on Development, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Seoul). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/g20seoul-development.html>

<sup>3683</sup>Cannes Summit Final Declaration, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Cannes). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html>

<sup>3684</sup>G20 Leaders' Declaration September 6, 2013, St Petersburg, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (St Petersburg). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>

with particular emphasis on low income countries.”<sup>3685</sup> They reaffirmed the determination to implement all previous G20 commitments and existing initiatives including that stated in the Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture which the G20 endorsed in 2011.

In Brisbane the G20 Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Framework was issued. It builds on previous work of international organizations and the broader G20 agenda. The FSN Framework provided the basis for the G20 to take a long-term, integrated and sustainable “food systems” approach that would guide future action on food security and nutrition. It recognized that actions within and beyond the agricultural sector are needed to maximize future opportunities and reduce the risk of future crises. The FSN Framework set out three Priority Objectives which were intended to integrate work on food security and nutrition with the G20 core mandate and work streams and guide G20 efforts on food security and nutrition. They are: increasing responsible investment in food systems, increasing incomes and quality employment in food systems, increasing productivity sustainably to expand the food supply.<sup>3686</sup>

In 2015 in Antalya G20 leaders adopted the G20 Action Plan on Food Security and Sustainable Food Systems. It contained actions on several key aspects: promoting responsible investment in agriculture and food systems, improving market transparency for food security, supporting human resource development, fostering sustainable productivity growth, reducing food loss and waste.<sup>3687</sup>

In Hangzhou in 2016, the G20 committed to continue to prioritize its work on food security, nutrition, sustainable agricultural growth and rural development as a significant contribution to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. G20 Leaders supported increasing efforts by the agricultural scientific and private sectors and welcomed the opening of the First G20 Agricultural Entrepreneurs Forum. The role of family farmers and smallholder agriculture in development was also underlined.<sup>3688</sup>

In Hamburg in 2017, G20 leaders emphasized the need to promote food security, water sustainability and rural youth employment. They committed to “increase agricultural productivity and resilience in a sustainable manner, while aiming to protect, manage and use efficiently water and water-related ecosystems”<sup>3689</sup> and stressed the need for “strengthened cooperation on ICT [information and communications technologies] in agriculture and underline the importance of access to high-speed digital services for farmers and of adequately serving rural areas.”<sup>3690</sup> The G20 also launched the G20 Initiative for Rural Youth Employment in developing countries with a focus on Africa. This Initiative will, in alignment with developing countries’ strategies, contribute to creating 1.1 million new jobs by 2022 and to providing innovative skills development programmes for at least 5 million young people over the next five years.<sup>3691</sup>

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<sup>3685</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration September 6, 2013, St Petersburg, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (St Petersburg). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html>

<sup>3686</sup> G20 FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION FRAMEWORK, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Brisbane). Access date: 11 May 2019. [http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20\\_food\\_security\\_nutrition\\_framework.pdf](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/g20_food_security_nutrition_framework.pdf)

<sup>3687</sup> G20 ACTION PLAN ON FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Antalya). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/G20-Action-Plan-on-Food-Security-and-Sustainable-Food-Systems.pdf>

<sup>3688</sup> G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Hangzhou). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communiqué.html>

<sup>3689</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Hamburg). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>3690</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Hamburg). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>3691</sup> G20 Initiative for Rural Youth Employment, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Hamburg). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-g20-rural-youth-employment.html>

In Buenos Aires in 2018, food and agriculture became one of the key priorities for the Argentine Presidency. The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to tackling the challenges of food security, which is crucial to achieving a world free of hunger and all forms of malnutrition, pledged to encourage the voluntary use and sharing of innovative as well as traditional agricultural practices and technologies, increase efforts to engage with the private sector, the scientific community and all other relevant stakeholders to enhance value addition, productivity, efficiency, sustainability and upgrading in Agro-Food Global Value Chains. They also agreed to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture, conscious of the importance of sustainable soil, water and riverbanks management supported by individual countries voluntarily, taking into consideration the specific needs of family and small-holder farmers.

### **Commitment Features**

The commitment requires promoting development in rural areas and agriculture through actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil and water and riverbanks management, taking into consideration the specific needs of family and small-holder farmers.

The first part of the commitment requires promoting development and sustainability in rural areas and agriculture through actions in soil preservation. In 2017, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) issued Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management.<sup>3692</sup> In this document, the FAO outlined the most important aspects of soil protection:

- Minimize soil erosion
- Enhance soil organic matter content
- Foster soil nutrient balance and cycles
- Prevent, minimize and mitigate soil salinization and alkalization
- Prevent and minimize soil contamination
- Prevent and minimize soil acidification
- Preserve and enhance soil biodiversity
- Minimize soil sealing
- Prevent and mitigate soil compaction
- Improve soil water management

Government actions aimed at any of these aspects can be counted as compliance with the first part of the commitment. These actions may include allocating resources to soil management research, financing of various programmes aimed at soil preservation and development, promoting education programmes among rural citizens and people employed in agriculture and so on.

The second part of the commitment requires promotion of sustainable water management including taking care of riverbanks. According to FAO, water management consists of several aspects.<sup>3693</sup> They are:

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<sup>3692</sup> Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management, FAO (Rome) 2017. Access date: 11 May 2019.

<http://www.fao.org/3/a-bl813e.pdf>

<sup>3693</sup> Water Management, FAO (Rome). Access date: 11 May 2019. <http://www.fao.org/land-water/water/water-management/en/>

- Water quality
- Irrigation Management
- Agriculture Water Management
- Water Accounting and Auditing
- Wastewater Treatment and Reuse in Agriculture
- Water Harvesting and Storage
- Transboundary Water Management

Government actions aimed at any of these aspects can be counted as compliance with the second part of the commitment. These actions may include allocating resources to water management research, financing of various programmes aimed at raising the quality of water, promoting sustainable irrigation practices, providing training and capacity building etc.

Full compliance requires member states to take actions in both aspects of the commitment: soil management and water and riverbanks management. Actions on one of these issues is assessed as partial compliance. No actions in any of these two spheres lead to the score of -1.

#### Scoring Guidelines

-1	G20 member does not take any actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil or in water and riverbank management
0	G20 member takes actions aimed at EITHER increasing the sustainability of soil OR in water and riverbank management
+1	G20 member takes actions aimed at BOTH increasing the sustainability of soil AND in water and riverbank management

#### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 20 December 2018, the Ministry of Agribusiness of Argentina announced an initiative “Water for all” with a total investment of approximately USD500,000 aimed at strengthening an access to safe water in communities of Santiago del Estero province.<sup>3694</sup> The initiative will allow to put into operation a water supply system with two modules for water storage of 42,000 liters each. The initiative will increase an availability of safe water to strengthen livestock production. About 60 families of farmers will benefit from the initiative.<sup>3695</sup>

On 8 January 2019, the Ministry of Agribusiness of Argentina and the Ministry of Agriculture and Production of the province of Misiones announced their collaboration on three projects PISEAR (Project of Socio-Economic Inclusion in Rural Areas) with a total cost of 1.8 million pesos aimed at development of watershed protection and community water distribution networks in the municipality

<sup>3694</sup> Agroindustria fortalece el acceso al agua segura en comunidades de Santiago del Estero, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019.

<sup>3695</sup> Agroindustria fortalece el acceso al agua segura en comunidades de Santiago del Estero, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019.

of Panambí of Misiones province.<sup>3696</sup> The project will benefit 53 Panambian families with an access to safe and quality water. The three projects include “Protection of the watershed and water network for Paraje Dorado,” “Recovery of the well drilled and water network in Paraje Tres Vertientes” and “Protected slope for Paraje Mbororé.”<sup>3697</sup> The projects will be completed by March 2019 to put into operation community networks of water distribution, installation of pumps and placement of elevated tanks to ensure provision of water to farmers engaged in horticultural and tobacco production.<sup>3698</sup> The slope protection is a simple and low-cost system that helps to address a lack of water, physical and / or bacterial contamination of water as well as to facilitate access to reservoirs for producers. The projects will contribute to protecting water resources and water conservation as well as promoting good practices of cultivation, management and conservation of soil.<sup>3699</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the Ministry of Agribusiness of Argentina presented a map of risks of deficit and excess water in agriculture that affect the main crops (corn, soy, wheat, sunflower and cotton).<sup>3700</sup> The map is based on two climate change scenarios until 2039. The first one proceeds from the premise that greenhouse gases emissions will decrease, the second one – that they will be the same. The map will allow the Argentinian producers to improve planning and apply various adaptation measures in the different zones of the country.<sup>3701</sup> The Office of Agricultural Risks at the Ministry of Agribusiness has monitored water reserves in the soil for several years, through a water balance model (which includes soil characteristics, dates of crops sowing as well as a level of water needed for crops at every growth step).<sup>3702</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the Argentine Secretary of Agribusiness announced that it would expand the network of beneficiaries for the recomposition of rural roads, according to the amended Resolution No. 32/2019.<sup>3703</sup> With the measure, the consortia and associations are allowed to make agreements to finance the recomposition of roads and road machinery, from the damages caused by emergencies

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<sup>3696</sup> Nación y provincia invierten más de 1,8 millones de pesos para proveer de agua segura a agricultores familiares de Misiones, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-y-provincia-invierten-mas-de-18-millones-de-pesos-para-proveer-de-agua-segura>.

<sup>3697</sup> Nación y provincia invierten más de 1,8 millones de pesos para proveer de agua segura a agricultores familiares de Misiones, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-y-provincia-invierten-mas-de-18-millones-de-pesos-para-proveer-de-agua-segura>.

<sup>3698</sup> Nación y provincia invierten más de 1,8 millones de pesos para proveer de agua segura a agricultores familiares de Misiones, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-y-provincia-invierten-mas-de-18-millones-de-pesos-para-proveer-de-agua-segura>.

<sup>3699</sup> Nación y provincia invierten más de 1,8 millones de pesos para proveer de agua segura a agricultores familiares de Misiones, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-y-provincia-invierten-mas-de-18-millones-de-pesos-para-proveer-de-agua-segura>.

<sup>3700</sup> Agroindustria elaboró un mapa de riesgo agrícola por el cambio climático, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-elaboro-un-mapa-de-riesgo-agricola-por-el-cambio-climatico>.

<sup>3701</sup> Agroindustria elaboró un mapa de riesgo agrícola por el cambio climático, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-elaboro-un-mapa-de-riesgo-agricola-por-el-cambio-climatico>.

<sup>3702</sup> Agroindustria elaboró un mapa de riesgo agrícola por el cambio climático, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-elaboro-un-mapa-de-riesgo-agricola-por-el-cambio-climatico>.

<sup>3703</sup> Agroindustria amplía la red de beneficiarios para la recomposición de caminos Rurales, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-amplia-la-red-de-beneficiarios-para-la-recomposicion-de-caminos-rurales>.

and / or agricultural disasters. To do this, these entities must be duly registered and authorized by the highest authority in road matters of each jurisdiction to carry out their functions.<sup>3704</sup> The maintenance and improvement of rural roads are essential to avoid environmental and socioeconomic problems, because they tend to modify the natural runoff of water and the lack of conditioning aggravates waterlogging situations and hinders the development of rural activities.<sup>3705</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the 5th National Table of Wheat was organized in Córdoba province to discuss measures to preserve soils and boost wheat production as well as increase competitiveness and sustainability.<sup>3706</sup> The meeting was attended by representatives of the public and private sector who discussed the application of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and other issues. The participants strengthened an importance of implementation of the National Soil Plan and Fertilizer Law to guarantee good soil nutrition.<sup>3707</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the Argentine Secretariat of Agribusiness launched a special Pro Huerta Project in San Ignacio, Misiones aimed at developing watershed protection and community water distribution networks for family farmers who cultivate cassava and vegetables.<sup>3708</sup> More than 40 families will access the water through the spring recovery system. The total investment to the project was more than USD1 million. The project measures include an installation of pumps and a placement of elevated tanks to ensure the supply to the farms of the network as well as a slope protection. The project will help to conserve water resources, promote sustainable soil management and facilitate better cultivation.<sup>3709</sup>

On 15 February 2019, the Argentine Secretariat of Agribusiness delivered 34 deeds to small producers of Santa Rita living on 68 hectares in Mendoza province with an aim to expand their access to water to expand their productive capacity.<sup>3710</sup> The project will improve fruit, vegetable and vine production.

On 26 February 2019, the Argentine Secretariat of Agribusiness in cooperation with Secretariat of Family Agriculture, Coordination and Territorial Development, launched activities to increase agricultural production and improve water supply for consumption of 50 family farmers living in the

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<sup>3704</sup> Agroindustria amplía la red de beneficiarios para la recomposición de caminos Rurales, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-amplia-la-red-de-beneficiarios-para-la-recomposicion-de-caminos-rurales>.

<sup>3705</sup> Agroindustria amplía la red de beneficiarios para la recomposición de caminos Rurales, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-amplia-la-red-de-beneficiarios-para-la-recomposicion-de-caminos-rurales>.

<sup>3706</sup> Etchevehere encabezó la Mesa Nacional del Trigo en Córdoba, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/etchevehere-encabezo-la-mesa-nacional-del-trigo-en-cordoba>.

<sup>3707</sup> Etchevehere encabezó la Mesa Nacional del Trigo en Córdoba, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/etchevehere-encabezo-la-mesa-nacional-del-trigo-en-cordoba>.

<sup>3708</sup> Obras para proveer agua segura a productores de San Ignacio, Misiones, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/obras-para-proveer-agua-segura-productores-de-san-ignacio-misiones>.

<sup>3709</sup> Obras para proveer agua segura a productores de San Ignacio, Misiones, Ministerio de Producción y Trabajo (Buenos Aires) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/obras-para-proveer-agua-segura-productores-de-san-ignacio-misiones>.

<sup>3710</sup> Agroindustria entregó escrituras y diseño proyectos productivos con acceso al agua para pequeños productores de Mendoza, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 15 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-entrego-escrituras-y-diseno-proyectos-productivos-con-acceso-al-agua-para>.

communities of El Condado and La Misión located in Los Toldos, province of Salta, under the Program for Inclusive Rural Development (PRODERI).<sup>3711</sup> The activities that will be finished in next July aim to facilitate for the producers an access to water for self-consumption and their agricultural production.<sup>3712</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the Argentinian Ministry of Agribusiness in cooperation with Secretariat of Family Farming, Coordination and Territorial Development of Misiones province, together with National Agricultural Technology Institute (INTA) and Ministry of Social Development of Argentina implemented the Special Pro Huerta Project in Misiones aimed at improving conditions of supply of drinking water and electricity for 18 small family producers of the community of Guapoy Poty in the area of Puerto Rico municipality.<sup>3713</sup> The farmers produce artisanal products as well as corn, squash and cassava. The project will provide an access to the electric power for irrigating 19 hectares. A 91-meter-deep well was drilled, a water tower, two tanks and a safe water distribution network for homes were installed.<sup>3714</sup>

On 21 March 2019, the Secretariat of Environment and Sustainable Development of Argentina organized a workshop to validate the preliminary baseline of land degradation in the country.<sup>3715</sup> The event was organized within the framework of the Secretariat's work to establish voluntary goals to achieve neutrality in land degradation, adopted within the framework of the United Nations General Assembly and incorporated into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The participants discussed technical concepts as well as indicators for monitoring of land degradation. The guides for practices of sustainable land management and soil conservation were also presented.<sup>3716</sup>

On 29 March 2019, the Argentine Secretariat of Agribusiness participated in the installation of a water tank that serves as a reservoir of 18,000 liters that would allow 15 families from different parts of La Rioja province, to improve cattle watering and sowing pastures to increase their production.<sup>3717</sup>

On 2 April 2019, Argentinian Secretary of Agribusiness, Luis Miguel Etchevehere, visited Colonia Hocker town in Entre Ríos province where a solar panel was established to provide water for irrigation to four hectares of rice.<sup>3718</sup> The project of such type is implemented in Argentina for the

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<sup>3711</sup> Obras hídricas para agricultores familiares en Salta, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/obras-hidricas-para-agricultores-familiares-en-salta>.

<sup>3712</sup> Obras hídricas para agricultores familiares en Salta, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/obras-hidricas-para-agricultores-familiares-en-salta>.

<sup>3713</sup> En Misiones mejoraron el acceso al agua y la energía para la comunidad de pueblos originarios de Yvira Poty, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/en-misiones-mejoraron-el-acceso-al-agua-y-la-energia-para-la-comunidad-de-pueblos>.

<sup>3714</sup> En Misiones mejoraron el acceso al agua y la energía para la comunidad de pueblos originarios de Yvira Poty, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/en-misiones-mejoraron-el-acceso-al-agua-y-la-energia-para-la-comunidad-de-pueblos>.

<sup>3715</sup> Ambiente coordinó una capacitación para el freno a la degradación de la tierra, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-coordino-una-capacitacion-para-el-freno-la-degradacion-de-la-tierra>.

<sup>3716</sup> Ambiente coordinó una capacitación para el freno a la degradación de la tierra, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-coordino-una-capacitacion-para-el-freno-la-degradacion-de-la-tierra>.

<sup>3717</sup> Mejoran el almacenamiento de agua para actividades productivas en La Rioja, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/mejoran-el-almacenamiento-de-agua-para-actividades-productivas-en-la-rioja>.

<sup>3718</sup> En Entre Ríos, realizan un ensayo experimental de riego con energía solar, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/en-entre-rios-realizan-un-ensayo-experimental-de-riego-con-energia-solar>.

first time. The solar panel works with a pump that provides water to the cultivated surface in the nighttime. This innovation, which was designed by the Entre Ríos electromechanical engineer, Elbio Woeffray, allows the use of 100 per cent solar energy, and reduces production costs, such as the electricity.<sup>3719</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the Argentinian Ministry of Agribusiness allocated USD350,000 to a special project of the Pro Huerta Program to improve the storage capacity and water resource quality for self-consumption and agricultural production of small producers.<sup>3720</sup> Under the project, pipes and tanks to store and supply safe water for the benefit of 22 family farmers from Santa Martina, located in the Valle del Conlara, in the province of San Luis will be constructed. The project will create better conditions for breeding of cattle, goats and pigs, increase pastures` productivity where sorghum and corn are cultivated.<sup>3721</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the Ministry of the Interior, Public Works and Housing of Argentina led by Rogelio Frigerio opened the envelopes of the tender for the drainage works in the municipality of Álvarez in Santa Fe province that would require an investment of the National Government of more than 180 million pesos and will allow the recovery of 2,500 productive hectares.<sup>3722</sup> The municipality suffers floods since its founding 124 years ago and this project will improve the quality of life of residents and their production capacities. The project includes execution of relieving ducts on the Belgrano – Güemes and San Martín arteries, lining of the Álvarez canal, construction of retardant dams downstream and upstream of the town, cleaning of the channel from the mouth of the Saladillo stream to the boundary of the town, replacement of sewers, location of relief ducts on Calle Caseros and tasks in the Suipacha and Canal Oeste channels.<sup>3723</sup>

Argentina has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil and in water and riverbank management.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

### **Australia: 0**

Australia has partially complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 15 January 2019, the Australian government announced plans to mechanically pump oxygen into lakes and rivers after hundreds of thousands of fish died in heatwave conditions. To counteract the low levels of oxygen in the state's waterways, the government bought 16 aerators that will pump oxygen into lakes and rivers affected by drought. Niall Blair, the minister for regional water, said

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<sup>3719</sup> En Entre Ríos, realizan un ensayo experimental de riego con energía solar, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 2 April 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/en-entre-rios-realizan-un-ensayo-experimental-de-riego-con-energia-solar>.

<sup>3720</sup> Agroindustria fortalece el acceso al agua en San Luis, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-fortalece-el-acceso-al-agua-en-san-luis>.

<sup>3721</sup> Agroindustria fortalece el acceso al agua en San Luis, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/agroindustria-fortalece-el-acceso-al-agua-en-san-luis>.

<sup>3722</sup> Obras para controlar inundaciones y recuperar 2.500 hectáreas productivas en Alvarez, Santa Fe, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/obras-para-controlar-inundaciones-y-recuperar-2500-hectareas-productivas-en-alvarez-santa>.

<sup>3723</sup> Obras para controlar inundaciones y recuperar 2.500 hectáreas productivas en Alvarez, Santa Fe, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/obras-para-controlar-inundaciones-y-recuperar-2500-hectareas-productivas-en-alvarez-santa>.

these fish will only stop dying if the river flows are improved and the water levels in dams return to normal.<sup>3724</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the Australian government announced assistance for water resource management in the Indo-Pacific countries with 2019-20 Budget Estimate of AUD50.2 million. Australia is going to share its experience and expertise by supporting and funding technology transfer and training, knowledge sharing, and strengthening key institutions to improve water resource management throughout South and South East Asia and the Pacific.<sup>3725</sup> The program includes countries as Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, China, Myanmar, Pakistan, northern India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan. Australia is planning to guide water resource planning and decision-making, strengthen social and environmental standards associated with development activities in the river basin and build civil society's capacity for involvement in water planning and management.<sup>3726</sup>

On 1 May 2019, the Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack promised AUD100 million for a new national plan for water management. The plan promises that a re-elected Coalition Government would build new dams in the bush as well as establish a new statutory authority, the National Water Grid, to manage water policy and water infrastructure across Australia.<sup>3727</sup>

Australia has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of water and riverbank management, but no actions aimed at soil management were registered.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

#### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 5 December 2018, the Sustainable Rural Project held the Field Day with 28 participants. The event presented a lecture about Degraded Area Recovery through pasture use.<sup>3728</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the National Forest Research Center (Embrapa Florestas) launched the project the Herb System 20, which represented a set of practices in planted herbs that aim to increase the efficiency and sustainability of the cultivation of yerba mate. Its adoption is able to increase productivity and increase the quality of the plantations through the improvement in day-to-day

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<sup>3724</sup> Australia is pumping oxygen into lakes and rivers as a 'Band-Aid solution' to stop thousands of fish from dying, Business Insider (New York) 17 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.businessinsider.com/australia-pumping-oxygen-into-lakes-rivers-fish-dying-2019-1>

<sup>3725</sup> Overview of Australia's assistance for water resource management, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 2 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/agriculture-fisheries-water/water-resource-management/Pages/water-resource-management.aspx>

<sup>3726</sup> Overview of Australia's assistance for water resource management, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 2 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/agriculture-fisheries-water/water-resource-management/Pages/water-resource-management.aspx>

<sup>3727</sup> McCormack's 'just add water' plan won't fix water management in Australia, expert says, ABC.net (Sydney) 1 May 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/breakfast/just-add-water-plan-wont-fix-water-management-expert-says/11061294>

<sup>3728</sup> O uso da pastagem para recuperação de áreas degradadas, Rural Sustentável (Brasília) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <http://www.ruralsustentavel.org/noticia/389/prs>

production practices, such as planting, pruning, fertilization, weed control, herbal renewal among others.<sup>3729</sup>

On 4 December 2018, the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) promoted the seminar “Remineralizers de Soil: Agro-geological Zoning;” The objective of the event was to present the results of the work of the Remineralizers Working Group, established in 2012 and coordinated by the MME. Remineralizadores are fundamental for the sustainability of the mineral activity.<sup>3730</sup>

On 15 April 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Supply published a review of good agricultural practices to preserve soil such as protection soil from exposure to rain, wind and products that lead to the loss of organic matter and the reduction of cultivation capacity; agricultural and livestock integration increasing the percentage of organic matter in the soil and productivity by at least 50 per cent; and the creation of a map with detailed data on the characteristics of the Brazilian soil.<sup>3731</sup>

On 11 December 2018, the National Water Agency (NWA) held the Seminar on Sustainable Development Objectives on Water and Sanitation. It was aimed to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.<sup>3732</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the NWA, the Secretariat of State for the Environment and Sustainable Development, and the Minas Gerais Institute for Water Management signed a cooperation agreement to allow the sharing of information and the improvement of governance over water management in the state.<sup>3733</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the NWA presented the report Water Resources in Brazil. Among other topics, the report highlights the situation of water quantity and quality, management and regulation actions carried out to minimize the impact of water crises in Brazil.<sup>3734</sup>

On 27 January 2019, the NWA held a meeting on the breaking of the Brumadinho dam. During the meeting, it was also discussed what are the safety standards of dams, the regulatory framework of the

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<sup>3729</sup> Conjunto de boas práticas é capaz de aumentar eficiência de plantações de erva mate, Empresa Brasileira de Pesquisa Agropecuária, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 10 March 2019. <https://www.embrapa.br/busca-de-noticias/-/noticia/41718287/conjunto-de-boas-praticas-e-capaz-de-aumentar-eficiencia-de-plantacoes-de-erva-mate>

<sup>3730</sup> MME promove workshop “Sustentabilidade para fechamento de minas e gestão dos impactos ambientais”, Ministério de Minas e Energia (Brasília) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. [http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset\\_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-promove-workshop-sustentabilidade-para-fechamento-de-minas-e-gestao-dos-impactos-ambientais-](http://www.mme.gov.br/web/guest/pagina-inicial/outras-noticias/-/asset_publisher/32hLrOzMKwWb/content/mme-promove-workshop-sustentabilidade-para-fechamento-de-minas-e-gestao-dos-impactos-ambientais-)

<sup>3731</sup> Técnicas sustentáveis de plantio preservam o solo e aumentam rendimento da produção, Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Brasília) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/noticias/tecnicas-sustentaveis-de-plantio-preservam-o-solo-e-aumentam-rendimento-da-producao>

<sup>3732</sup> Especialistas discutem implementação do ODS sobre água e saneamento no Brasil, Agência Nacional de Águas (Brasília) 11 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://www3.ana.gov.br/portal/ANA/noticias/especialistas-discutem-implementacao-do-objetivo-de-desenvolvimento-sustentavel-sobre-agua-e-saneamento-no-brasil>

<sup>3733</sup> Mais qualidade e segurança hídrica: MG firma cooperação com a ANA para aprimorar gestão dos recursos hídricos, Agência Nacional de Águas (Brasília) 14 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://www3.ana.gov.br/portal/ANA/noticias/mais-qualidade-e-seguranca-hidrica-mg-firma-cooperacao-com-a-ana-para-aprimorar-gestao-dos-recursos-hidricos>

<sup>3734</sup> ANA lança Conjuntura dos Recursos Hídricos no Brasil 2018, Agência Nacional de Águas (Brasília) 19 December 2018. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://www3.ana.gov.br/portal/ANA/noticias/ana-lanca-conjuntura-dos-recursos-hidricos-no-brasil-2018>

sector and what can be improved so that an event such as the rupture of the Brumadinho dam is not repeated. Another point discussed was the water quality of the Paraopeba River.<sup>3735</sup>

On 5 February 2019, the NWA announced that São Francisco River Integration Project with the Northeastern Hydrographic Basins will be coordinated by a specific committee from now on. The goal of PISF is to bring water from the São Francisco River to 12 million people in 390 municipalities in Ceará, Paraíba, Pernambuco and Rio Grande do Norte, which are vulnerable to drought.<sup>3736</sup>

On 7 February 2019, the NWA announced the meetings with governor of Rio Grande do Norte Fatima Bezerra to address opportunities for technical cooperation and management of water resources, the reuse of treated water in irrigated areas.<sup>3737</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the NWA campaigned to regulate water users in the Piranhas-Açu and Piancó river basins. The regularization of water users is important for the National Water Agency to manage water resources as the region is still suffering a critical hydrological situation.<sup>3738</sup>

On 1 April 2019, the NWA issued a research about the prospect of increasing water use in Brazil by 2030. The use of water is expected to grow 24 per cent by 2030, exceeding the 2.5 million liters per second mark. This research on water uses guides water planning and water management, as well as being important for water infrastructure planning national. This database was used, for example, in the construction of the Plan and the National Water Safety Program, which will be launched by NWA soon.<sup>3739</sup>

On 11 April 2019, the NWA published that the federal government had launched action plan to guarantee water security in the country. Recommendations of the NWA include studies, projects and works on dams, canals, integration shafts and water adductor systems. With the Plan, there were also identified priorities to guarantee water security to the Brazilian population in the future.<sup>3740</sup>

Argentina has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil and in water and riverbank management.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

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<sup>3735</sup> ANA, CPRM e IGAM monitoram qualidade do rio Paraopeba e divulgarão dados sistematicamente, Agência Nacional de Águas (Brasília) 27 January 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019.

<http://www3.ana.gov.br/porta/ANA/noticias/ana-monitora-qualidade-do-rio-paraopeba-e-divulgara-dados-sistematicamente>

<sup>3736</sup> Ações da ANA no PISF terão gestão centralizada com criação de Comitê de Implementação, Agência Nacional de Águas (Brasília) 5 February 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www3.ana.gov.br/porta/ANA/noticias/acoes-da-ana-no-pisf-terao-gestao-centralizada-com-criacao-de-comite-de-implementacao>

<sup>3737</sup> ANA se articula com autoridades nordestinas nas temáticas de água e segurança de barragens, Agência Nacional de Águas (Brasília) 7 February 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://www3.ana.gov.br/porta/ANA/noticias/ana-se-articula-com-autoridades-nordestinas-nas-tematicas-de-recursos-hidricos-e-seguranca-de-barragens>

<sup>3738</sup> ANA faz campanha para regularizar usuários de água das bacias dos rios Piranhas-Açu e Piancó, Agência Nacional de Águas (Brasília) 20 February 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www3.ana.gov.br/porta/ANA/noticias/ana-faz-campanha-para-regularizar-usuarios-de-agua-das-bacias-dos-rios-piranhas-acu-e-pianco>

<sup>3739</sup> ANA aponta perspectiva de aumento do uso de água no Brasil até 2030, Agência Nacional de Águas (Brasília) 1 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www3.ana.gov.br/porta/ANA/noticias/estudo-da-ana-aponta-perspectiva-de-aumento-do-uso-de-agua-no-brasil-ate-2030>

<sup>3740</sup> Governo Federal lança plano de ações para garantir segurança hídrica do País, Agência Nacional de Águas (Brasília) 11 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://www3.ana.gov.br/porta/ANA/noticias/governo-federal-lanca-plano-de-acoes-para-garantir-seguranca-hidrica-do-pais>

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 11 February 2019, Minister of International Development Marie-Claude Bibeau, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Lawrence MacAulay announced an investment of up to CAD1.8 million under the Dairy Processing Investment Fund. The funding will allow Smucker's Foods to invest in upgrades to equipment which will enable them to introduce production of heavy cream, and process new formats of evaporated and condensed-sweetened milk.<sup>3741</sup>

On 12 February 2019, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Lawrence MacAulay announced the new Canadian Agricultural Strategic Priorities Program, an investment of CAD50.3 million over five years. Funding available through this program will help facilitate the sector's ability to address emerging issues and capitalize on opportunities.<sup>3742</sup> The program also builds on other Government of Canada initiatives to support competitiveness and sustainability in the agricultural sector. These include the CAD3-billion, five-year Canadian Agricultural Partnership, CAD70 million announced in Budget 2018 to support agricultural discoveries in science and innovation to address climate change and soil and water conservation.<sup>3743</sup>

On 6 March 2019, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defense Lawrence MacAulay, on behalf of Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Marie-Claude Bibeau, was at the Canadian Horticultural Council Annual General Meeting to announce a federal investment of up to CAD11.5 million to the Horticulture Cluster under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership.<sup>3744</sup> The cluster, led by the Canadian Horticultural Council, will include an additional CAD6.5 million in contributions from industry, for a total investment of CAD18 million. The cluster will support cutting-edge research to develop new technologies and practices for better pest and disease management, post-harvest storage and handling for apples, berries, field vegetables, potatoes and greenhouse grown crops and strategies to improve soil health.<sup>3745</sup>

On 11 March 2019, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Marie-Claude Bibeau and Member of Parliament for Kelowna-Lake Country Stephen Fuhr announced an investment of up to CAD4.2M under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, AgriScience Program to the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association. This funding will support the Association in developing innovative,

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<sup>3741</sup> Government of Canada invests in Quebec dairy processor to help expand operations and improve competitiveness, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2019. Access date: 18 February 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-invests-in-quebec-dairy-processor-to-help-expand-operations-and-improve-competitiveness.html>

<sup>3742</sup> Government of Canada invests over \$50 million to help the agricultural sector address emerging challenges and opportunities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-invests-over-50-million-to-help-the-agricultural-sector-address-emerging-challenges-and-opportunities1.html>

<sup>3743</sup> Government of Canada invests over \$50 million to help the agricultural sector address emerging challenges and opportunities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-invests-over-50-million-to-help-the-agricultural-sector-address-emerging-challenges-and-opportunities1.html>

<sup>3744</sup> The Government of Canada invests to advance Canadian horticulture, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 6 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/03/the-government-of-canada-invests-to-advance-canadian-horticulture.html>

<sup>3745</sup> The Government of Canada invests to advance Canadian horticulture, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 6 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/03/the-government-of-canada-invests-to-advance-canadian-horticulture.html>

commercially successful Canadian-bred apple and sweet cherry cultivars that enhance the profitability of Canada's tree fruit sector.<sup>3746</sup>

On 1 May 2019, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Marie-Claude Bibeau and Minister of International Trade Diversification Jim Carr announced actions to support Canadian farm families. Minister Bibeau announced that the Government intends to amend the Agricultural Marketing Programs Regulations to temporarily increase loan limits under the Advance Payments Program. These changes will help ease cash flow pressures that farmers are facing and help them manage the impacts of market disruptions in key export countries.<sup>3747</sup>

Canada has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil and in water and riverbank management.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Uliana Koptiyukh*

### **China +1**

China has fully complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 26 January 2019, Beijing authorities set a plan to protect and restore the Yangtze River. The plan aims to increase the water quality of more than 85 per cent of the river by 2020. Yangtze River protection measures include strengthening agricultural pollution treatment, ensuring safety of drinking water quality and cracking down on ecological destruction.<sup>3748</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the Jiangsu province authorities closed about 3,000 heavily polluting factories in order to improve the water quality of the Yangtze River.<sup>3749</sup>

On 5 March 2019, National Development and Reform Commission delivered a Report on the Implementation of the 2018 Plan for National Economic and Social Development and on the 2019 Draft Plan for National Economic and Social Development. The report reaffirms China's efforts to promote the rural revitalization strategy including projects ensuring safety of drinking water in rural areas. The report also set a task to tackle soil erosion in rural areas and ensure small water basins are ecologically clean.<sup>3750</sup>

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<sup>3746</sup> Government of Canada announces funding to support the fruit industry. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 11 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-support-the-fruit-industry.html>

<sup>3747</sup> Government of Canada Taking Action for Canada's Canola Sector. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 1 May 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2019/05/government-of-canada-taking-action-for-canadas-canola-sector.html>

<sup>3748</sup> China unveils action plan to protect, restore Yangtze River, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 26 January 2019. Access date: 27 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/26/c\\_137775761.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/26/c_137775761.htm)

<sup>3749</sup> Factories closed in Jiangsu to protect Yangtze River: report, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 4 March 2019. Access date: 27 April 2019. [www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/04/c\\_137867511.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/04/c_137867511.htm)

<sup>3750</sup> Report on the Implementation of the 2018 Plan for National Economic and Social Development and on the 2019 Draft Plan for National Economic and Social Development, National Development and Reform Commission (Beijing) 5 March 2019. Access date: 27 April 2019. [www.xinhuanet.com/english/special/2019lh/download/Full%2520text%2520Report%2520on%2520China%27s%2520national%2520economic,%2520social%2520development%2520plan.doc+&cd=22&hl=ru&ct=clnk&gl=ru](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/special/2019lh/download/Full%2520text%2520Report%2520on%2520China%27s%2520national%2520economic,%2520social%2520development%2520plan.doc+&cd=22&hl=ru&ct=clnk&gl=ru)

On 26 March 2019, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress held a forum inviting experts to advise on the enforcement of the country's water pollution control law.<sup>3751</sup>

On 5 April 2019, Beijing authorities adopted an action plan issued by the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Affairs and Beijing Municipal Ecology and Environment Bureau to prevent soil contamination and improve rural environment. An action plan specified 20 tasks by 2020 for the protection of drinking water sources in rural areas, decreasing the use of pesticides and fertilizers, agriculture water management and increasing the public awareness of environmental protection for rural citizens.<sup>3752</sup>

On 1-3 April 2019, an EU delegation headed by EU Commissioner for the Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Karmenu Vella visited China to continue and deepen EU-China environmental bilateral relations.<sup>3753</sup> The Commissioner co-chaired the 7<sup>th</sup> Environmental Policy Dialogue and initiated two new high-level dialogues on Water and Circular Economy. He also met several Chinese ministers to discuss shared priorities related to water and circular economy, the EU-China Ocean Partnership, etc.<sup>3754</sup> The first China-EU Water Policy Dialogue was expected to deepen the EU-China cooperation on water, allowing partners to exchange information and experience and provide political steer to the work of the China-Europe Water Platform. The European Commission supported the work of this platform through a EUR6 million Partnership Instrument project, addressing issues such as water policies, integrated water resources management, water disaster mitigation, protection of water ecosystems, etc.<sup>3755</sup>

China has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil and in water and riverbank management.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 31 December 2018, a Scientific and Technical Committee: "Nutrient Management and Emissions to the Environment" was established.<sup>3756</sup>

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<sup>3751</sup> Top legislature hears experts on water pollution law enforcement, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 26 March 2019. Access date: 27 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/26/c\\_137925062.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/26/c_137925062.htm)

<sup>3752</sup> Beijing tackles pollution in rural areas, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 5 April. Access date: 27 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/05/c\\_137952088.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/05/c_137952088.htm)

<sup>3753</sup> EU and China Step Up Their Cooperation on Environment, Water and Circular Economy, European Commission (Brussels) 1 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-their-cooperation-environment-water-and-circular-economy-2019-apr-01\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-their-cooperation-environment-water-and-circular-economy-2019-apr-01_en).

<sup>3754</sup> EU and China Step Up Their Cooperation on Environment, Water and Circular Economy, European Commission (Brussels) 1 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-their-cooperation-environment-water-and-circular-economy-2019-apr-01\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-their-cooperation-environment-water-and-circular-economy-2019-apr-01_en).

<sup>3755</sup> EU and China Step Up Their Cooperation on Environment, Water and Circular Economy, European Commission (Brussels) 1 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-their-cooperation-environment-water-and-circular-economy-2019-apr-01\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-their-cooperation-environment-water-and-circular-economy-2019-apr-01_en).

<sup>3756</sup> Comité scientifique et technique: « Gestion des éléments nutritifs et des émissions vers les milieux », Ministère de l'agriculture, de l'agroalimentaire et de la forêt (Paris) 31 December 2018. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/comite-scientifique-et-technique-gestion-des-elements-nutritifs-et-des-emissions-vers-les-milieux>

On 30 January 2019, the Franco-Italian consortium led by the Agency for the Development of International Cooperation in the Fields of Agriculture, Food and Rural Spaces won the “support to the implementation of a quality approach within the Algerian services of plant protection and technical controls.” It is a member of the Conseil General de l’Alimentation de l’Agriculture et des Espaces Ruraux (CGAAER) and includes a two-year program that begins in spring with an expert to oversee the coordination between the French and Italian ministries.<sup>3757</sup>

On 31 January 2019, Agnès Pannier-Runacher, Secretary of State to the Minister of the Economy and Finance, signed the Strategic Committee (CSF) contract for the water sector. The CSF Eau sets itself the ambition to provide new solutions to the imperatives of modernization and optimization of infrastructures, control of micropollutants in order to face the environmental challenges and technological changes in the sector.<sup>3758</sup>

On 5 April 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food launched a call for projects with the aim to encourage the French aquaculture industry in its innovation dynamic and is aimed at businesses, professional organizations and scientific and technical organizations.<sup>3759</sup>

France has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of water and riverbank management, but no actions aimed at soil management were registered.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Darya Myasnikova*

#### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 4 December 2019, German federal Environment Minister Svenja Schulze announced that additional EUR13.6 million will be spent to the lower Havel floodplain project. This is one of the largest river renaturation projects of the German Nature Conservation Union (NABU) funded by the government since 2005. With its extension until 2025, flooding areas in particular will be re-connected to the river.<sup>3760</sup>

On 6 December 2018, the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety presented its projects in support of the Global Peatlands Initiative, which will be funded by the German government with EUR2 million. Germany is supporting the International Peatlands

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<sup>3757</sup> Jumelage franco-algérien en faveur des services phytosanitaires algériens, Ministère de l’agriculture, de l’agroalimentaire et de la forêt (Paris) 30 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/jumelage-franco-algerien-en-faveur-des-services-phytosanitaires-algeriens>

<sup>3758</sup> Signature du Contrat stratégique de la filière Eau, Le portail de l’Économie, des Finances, de l’Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 31 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=084D6F7C-76A0-4353-8326-89B18FD955B1&filename=1000%20-%20Signature%20du%20Contrat%20strat%C3%A9gique%20de%20la%20fil%C3%A8re%20Eau.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=084D6F7C-76A0-4353-8326-89B18FD955B1&filename=1000%20-%20Signature%20du%20Contrat%20strat%C3%A9gique%20de%20la%20fil%C3%A8re%20Eau.pdf)

<sup>3759</sup> LANCEMENT D’UN APPEL À PROJETS « INNOVATION AQUACULTURE 2019 », FranceAgriMer (Paris) 5 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.franceagrimer.fr/Actualite/Filieres/Peche-et-aquaculture/2019/Lancement-d-un-appel-a-projets-innovation-aquaculture-2019>

<sup>3760</sup> Untere Havelniederung: weitere 13,6 Millionen Euro für die Renaturierung, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/untere-havelniederung-weitere-136-millionen-euro-fuer-die-renaturierung/>.

Initiative coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme with an aim to save peat bogs and thus prevent CO<sub>2</sub> releases into the atmosphere.<sup>3761</sup>

On 21 February 2019, Minister Svenja Schulze announced that for 2019 the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety provided for EUR4 million to be allocated to the “Förderprogramm Auen.” This program is aimed at supporting sustainable development of floodplains along federal waterways.<sup>3762</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety held a conference devoted to new measures for the reduction of substances originating from the production, use and disposal of medicines, pesticides, industrial and household chemicals in water. Companies, environmental associations, federal states and municipalities agreed on a set of steps to be taken in this regard during the one-year pilot phase.<sup>3763</sup>

On 4 April 2019, the relevant ministers of the nine contracting parties of the Alpine Convention, including Germany, agreed to increased cooperation on soil protection in the Alps. A target system for climate-neutrality in the Alps by 2050 was adopted, covering several areas including agriculture. A working group on soil protection was established, that will focus on protection of peatlands. The Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety will chair the working group with the support of Bavaria and other partners.<sup>3764</sup>

Germany has taken actions aimed at both increasing the sustainability of soil and water and riverbank management.

Thus, it is given a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepon*

## **India: 0**

India has partially complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 10 December 2018, the first International Conference ‘Sustainable Water Management’ was organized under the aegis of National Hydrology Project, Union Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation at Indian School of Business, Mohali.<sup>3765</sup>

On 13 December 2018, the Asian Development Bank and the Government of India signed a USD60 million Loan Agreement in New Delhi to continue financing riverbank protection works, renovation

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<sup>3761</sup> World Soil Day: Peatland conservation is an essential part of climate action, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/weltbodentag-moorbodenschutz-ist-wichtig-fuer-den-klimaschutz/>.

<sup>3762</sup> Neues Förderprogramm zur Auenrenaturierung für ein "Blaues Band" durch Deutschland, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 21 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/neues-foerderprogramm-zur-auenrenaturierung-fuer-ein-blaues-band-durch-deutschland/>.

<sup>3763</sup> Besserer Schutz der Gewässer vor Spurenstoffen, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/besserer-schutz-der-gewaesser-vor-spurenstoffen-1/>.

<sup>3764</sup> Alpine region to be climate neutral by 2050, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 4 April 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/alpenregion-soll-bis-2050-klimaneutral-werden/>.

<sup>3765</sup> 1st International Conference on Sustainable Water Management inaugurated at Mohali today, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 10 December. Access date: 10 December. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1555482>

of flood embankments, and community-based flood risk management activities in critically flood-prone areas along the Brahmaputra River in Assam.<sup>3766</sup>

On 11 January 2019, the Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Shri Nitin Gadkari signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh for the construction of Renukaji Multi-Purpose Dam project in the Upper Yamuna Basin. Shri Gadkari also presided over the ceremony of signing of concession agreement for Namami Gange projects in Prayagraj under Hybrid Annuity Mode and One-City-One-Operator concept.<sup>3767</sup>

From 16–18 January 2019, the 9<sup>th</sup> International Micro Irrigation Conference on Modern Agriculture at Aurangabad in Maharashtra was organized by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India, in association with International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, Indian National Committee on Surface Water and WAPCOS Limited. The event was a multi-disciplinary dialogue in the form of a conference discussing issues related to micro irrigation for modern agriculture and various related issues like new techniques in micro irrigation for increased crop productivity, micro irrigation in cluster level farming etc.<sup>3768</sup>

On 29 of January 2019, the governments of South Africa and India agreed to strengthen cooperation in the fields of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. The ministers recognized the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Agricultural Research and Education between the Agricultural Research Council of South Africa and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in 2018.<sup>3769</sup> Further agreements were made on working together on mutual food and security initiatives directed towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with specific reference to SDG 1 – addressing poverty; SDG 2 – addressing hunger; and sharing their experiences in the development of drought resistant varieties and bio-fortified varieties.<sup>3770</sup>

On 7 February 2019, Central Ground Water Authority under Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation had notified revised guidelines to regulate and control ground water extraction in India. Water Conservation Fee would be levied for use of ground water depending on the category of area, type of industry and quantum of ground water withdrawal.<sup>3771</sup>

On 7 February 2019, Central Ground Water Board was entrusted with the responsibilities of developing and disseminating technologies, monitoring national policies for the scientific and sustainable development and management of India's ground water resources.<sup>3772</sup>

India has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of water and riverbank management, but no actions aimed at soil management were registered.

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<sup>3766</sup> The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) sign a \$60 Million Loan Agreement to reduce floods and the riverbank erosion in Assam, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 13 December 2018. Access date: 13 December 2018. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1555846>

<sup>3767</sup> Enough Water available, Key is efficient Water Management: Nitin Gadkari, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 11 January 2019. Access date: 11 January 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1559576>

<sup>3768</sup> International Micro Irrigation Conference (IMIC) 16-18 January 2019, International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (New Delhi). [http://www.icid.org/conf\\_microirri.html](http://www.icid.org/conf_microirri.html)

<sup>3769</sup> SA, India to strengthen cooperation in agriculture, South African Government News Agency (Pretoria) 28 January 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019, <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-india-strengthen-cooperation-agriculture>

<sup>3770</sup> SA, India to strengthen cooperation in agriculture, South African Government News Agency (Pretoria) 28 January 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019, <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-india-strengthen-cooperation-agriculture>

<sup>3771</sup> Water conservation fee 7 February 2019. Access date: 7 February 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1563250>

<sup>3772</sup> Management of ground water, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (Delhi) 7 February 2019. Access date: 7 February 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1563249>

Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Polina Stanke*

### **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 11 March 2019, it was reported that Indonesia's Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources allocated budget for drilling additional 650 water bore wells to cover the population's needs for clean water in difficult water areas.<sup>3773</sup>

Indonesia has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of water and riverbank management, but no actions aimed at soil management were registered.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 7 December 2018, the National Table on Coastal Erosion published the version 2.0 of the National Guidelines for the Defense of the Coast from erosion and the effects of climate change.<sup>3774</sup>

On 9 December 2018, the Ministry of Agricultural Policies launched a plan on reservoirs, including the Gallura aqueduct, that puts EUR250 million on the table for the first ten planned interventions, including the dedicated one to the "reconstruction and rehabilitation of the adductor canal" fed by the dam on the Liscia river. A strategic infrastructure should limit the problems caused by droughts.<sup>3775</sup>

On 11 December 2018, the Chamber of Deputies approved the unified text of the proposed law "Provisions for the protection, development and competitiveness of agricultural, food and aquaculture production with organic methods." The unified text developed by the Agriculture Committee of the Chamber reflects the European regulatory framework that recognizes that organic production is based on best environmental practices, on climate action practices, on a high level of biodiversity, on safeguarding natural resources and on the application of strict animal welfare criteria.<sup>3776</sup>

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<sup>3773</sup> Overcome Water Difficulties, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Allocates Budget for 650 Drilling in 2019, Indonesia's Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (Jakarta) 11 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.esdm.go.id/en/media-center/news-archives/atasi-kesulitan-air-kementerian-esdm-alokasikan-anggaran-untuk-650-sumur-bor-di-2019>

<sup>3774</sup> Erosione costiera: al via la versione 2.0 delle Linee guida nazionali per la difesa della costa, Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 7 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/notizie/erosione-costiera-al-la-versione-20-delle-linee-guida-nazionali-la-difesa-della-costa-0>

<sup>3775</sup> Venti milioni dal governo per l'acqua della Gallura, La Nuova (Rome) 9 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. <http://www.lanuovasardegna.it/regione/2018/12/09/news/venti-milioni-dal-governo-per-l-acqua-della-gallura-1.17547753>

<sup>3776</sup> DISEGNO DI LEGGE, Senato della Repubblica (Rome) 11 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. <http://www.senato.it/service/PDF/PDFServer/DF/341468.pdf>

On 27 December 2018, the Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of the Territory and the Sea evaluated the actions related to Water Management Plan - Southern Apennine District, Flood Risk Management Plan - Southern Apennine District, Repercussion of areas at risk induced by natural phenomena - Municipality of Forino.<sup>3777</sup> Its objectives are optimization and strengthening of the irrigation system, mitigation of hydraulic risk, adaptation and strengthening of the sewage-purification system, strengthening and optimization of the drinking water supply system; evaluation of a transitional protection system on all APSFR identified also through the adoption of safeguard measures where no type of legislation is currently present, preparation of hazard and risk maps based on the identified APSFR, comparison and updating of knowledge among all the institutional subjects involved in safeguarding, of human health, of productive activities and in the protection of the territory, for the purpose of the concerted implementation of the plan measures identified in the first cycle.<sup>3778</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the Ministry of the Environment and Protection of the Territory and the Sea initiated a program for the co-financing of interventions to the sustainable management of green spaces belonging to public health facilities or accredited by the National Health Service was published in Official Newspaper (Gazzetta Ufficiale).<sup>3779</sup> It aimed at providing the sustainable management of irrigation, the installation of systems for the recovery, treatment and reuse of rainwater, the creation of plant filters (or rain garden); sustainable maintenance of green areas; the management of residues from pruning, mowing and cleaning; the energy efficiency of lighting systems.<sup>3780</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the Franco-Italian consortium led by the Agency for the Development of International Cooperation in the Fields of Agriculture, Food and Rural Spaces won the “support to the implementation of a quality approach within the Algerian services of plant protection and technical controls.” It is a member of the Conseil General de l’Alimentation de l’Agriculture et des Espaces Ruraux (CGAAER) and includes a two-year program that begins in Spring with an expert to oversee the coordination between the French and Italian ministries.<sup>3781</sup>

On 20 February 2019, the Gazzetta Ufficiale published the decree of the council of ministries aimed at mitigation of hydrological risks, restoration and protection of environmental resources.<sup>3782</sup>

On 27 February 2019, Prime Minister of Italy Giuseppe Conte and Ministers of the Environment, of Agricultural Policies and of the South presented the plan “Proteggi Italia” that allocates EUR11 billion to interventions against hydrogeological instability in the three-year period 2019-2021.<sup>3783</sup>

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<sup>3777</sup> COMUNICATO STAMPA, Conferenza Istituzionale Permanente (Caserta) 27 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019.

[www.ildistrettoidrograficodellappenninomeridionale.it/comunicato%20stampa%20del%2028\\_12\\_2018.pdf](http://www.ildistrettoidrograficodellappenninomeridionale.it/comunicato%20stampa%20del%2028_12_2018.pdf)

<sup>3778</sup> COMUNICATO STAMPA, Conferenza Istituzionale Permanente (Caserta) 27 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019.

[www.ildistrettoidrograficodellappenninomeridionale.it/comunicato%20stampa%20del%2028\\_12\\_2018.pdf](http://www.ildistrettoidrograficodellappenninomeridionale.it/comunicato%20stampa%20del%2028_12_2018.pdf)

<sup>3779</sup> Gestione sostenibile delle aree verdi delle strutture sanitarie, Ministero dell’Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 29 January 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/pagina/gestione-sostenibile-delle-aree-verdi-delle-strutture-sanitarie>

<sup>3780</sup> Gestione sostenibile delle aree verdi delle strutture sanitarie, Ministero dell’Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 29 January 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/pagina/gestione-sostenibile-delle-aree-verdi-delle-strutture-sanitarie>

<sup>3781</sup> Jumelage franco-algérien en faveur des services phytosanitaires algériens, Ministère de l’agriculture, de l’agroalimentaire et de la forêt (Paris) 30 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/jumelage-franco-algerien-en-faveur-des-services-phytosanitaires-algeriens>

<sup>3782</sup> Proteggi Italia, in Gazzetta il piano contro il rischio idrogeologico, edilportale (Bari) 16 Aprile 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. [https://www.edilportale.com/news/2019/04/ambiente/proteggi-italia-in-gazzetta-il-piano-contro-il-rischio-idrogeologico\\_69847\\_52.html](https://www.edilportale.com/news/2019/04/ambiente/proteggi-italia-in-gazzetta-il-piano-contro-il-rischio-idrogeologico_69847_52.html)

On 19-22 March, the First International Forum on Scarcity in Agriculture was held in Praia, Cape Verde, sponsored by the Government of Cape Verde and organized in collaboration with Italy and the Food and Agriculture Organization. The Forum aimed to identify practical and innovative solutions to solve the problem of water scarcity in agriculture in conditions of climate change and to illustrate good practices to address and transform this threat into an opportunity for sustainable development and food security.<sup>3784</sup>

On 5 April 2019, the Undersecretary for the Environment Salvatore Micillo, met the Councilor for the Territory and Civil Protection Pietro Foroni at the headquarters of the Lombardy Region in Milan for a discussion on the topic of mitigation interventions on the phenomena of hydrogeological instability in the regional territory. Undersecretary Micillo confirmed the attention of the government on the issue of land protection and soil protection, confirming the availability through allocations of the Ministry of the Environment for interventions in Lombardy for an amount of EUR80 million, of which 30 for current year, 50 in the following 2020 and 2021.<sup>3785</sup>

Italy has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil and in water and riverbank management.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova*

#### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

In December 2018, Japan's Ministry of Environment as part of its countermeasures against soil contamination presented results of the 2017 Survey of the Implementation of the Act to Prevent Soil Contamination on Agricultural Land, which found there were no areas where the regulatory standard for hazardous substances in soil was exceeded.<sup>3786</sup>

On 9 January 2019, the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a grant agreement with the Government of the Republic of Rwanda to provide grant aids of up to JPY3.191 billion for improving the largest water transmission pipeline in the Rwanda capital Kigali, pump equipment and a water reservoir with the aim of improving social services through improved access to a stable supply of water and stable water services.<sup>3787</sup>

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<sup>3783</sup> Dissesto idrogeologico, il governo vara il piano Proteggi Italia. Conte: «11 miliardi in campo», il Messaggero.it (Rome) 27 February 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019.

[https://www.ilmessaggero.it/politica/dissesto\\_idrogeologico\\_piano\\_governo\\_proteggi\\_italia\\_conte-4328638.html?refresh\\_ce](https://www.ilmessaggero.it/politica/dissesto_idrogeologico_piano_governo_proteggi_italia_conte-4328638.html?refresh_ce)

<sup>3784</sup> 1st WASAG International Forum on Water Scarcity in Agriculture, FAO (Rome) 19-22 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <http://www.fao.org/land-water/events/ws-forum/en/>

<sup>3785</sup> Dissesto idrogeologico - Micillo incontra Assessore Foroni: "Per la Regione Lombardia stanziati 80 milioni di euro in tre anni", Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Rome) 5 April 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.minambiente.it/notizie/dissesto-idrogeologico-micillo-incontra-assessore-foroni-la-regione-lombardia-stanziati-80>

<sup>3786</sup> Results of FY 2017 Survey of the Implementation of the Act to Prevent Soil Contamination on Agricultural Land, Japan's Ministry of Environment (Tokyo) 25 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2390.html>

<sup>3787</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Rwanda: Contributing to a stable water supply and better social services through improving the water supply facilities in Kigali, JICA (Tokyo) 9 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190109\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190109_01.html)

On 31 January 2019, Japan contributed USD8 million to support the Food and Agriculture Organization's work in the conflict-ridden Yemen, including the work on the rehabilitation of irrigation systems and other agricultural facilities.<sup>3788</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a technical cooperation agreement with the Government of Nepal to support the creation of a high-productivity irrigated agriculture model and the extension of the model while strengthening the capacity of government agencies and water user associations to operate, manage and maintain irrigation facilities.<sup>3789</sup>

On 25 February 2019, Japan's Representative Office to Palestine signed three grant agreements with the Palestine municipalities for water rehabilitation projects.<sup>3790</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a loan agreement with the Royal Government of Cambodia in Phnom Penh to provide a Japanese official development assistance loan of up to JPY3,599 million for constructing and rehabilitating irrigation systems, establishing and strengthening Farmer Water User Communities and Groups and improving the farm management capacity of farmers, thereby contributing to enhancement of agricultural income and living standard of farmers in the West Tonle Sap region.<sup>3791</sup>

On 27 February 2019, the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a grant agreement with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to provide grant aid of up to JPY1,425 million for constructing an inspection and analysis laboratory to maintain and enhance the capacity to carry out sanitary inspections on fishery and aquaculture products.<sup>3792</sup>

Japan has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil and in water and riverbank management.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Korea: 0**

Korea has partially complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 24 December 2018, the Ministry of Environment of Korea presented the national plan of Korea on implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Plan

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<sup>3788</sup> FAO receives \$8 million from Japan to boost food security and nutrition in conflict-ridden Yemen, ReliefWeb (Rome) 31 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/fao-receives-8-million-japan-boost-food-security-and-nutrition-conflict-ridden-yemen>

<sup>3789</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Nepal: Support for building an irrigated agriculture model for the Terai plains, a food-producing region of Nepal, and extending the model, JICA (Tokyo) 7 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190207\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190207_01.html)

<sup>3790</sup> Japan funds electricity, water rehabilitation projects in West Bank, Palestinian News and Info Agency (Ramalla) 25 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://english.wafa.ps/page.aspx?id=KpPpDb108557898933aKpPpDb>

<sup>3791</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Cambodia: Contributing to an increase in agricultural production by rehabilitating and improving irrigation and drainage facilities in the impoverished West Tonle Sap region, JICA (Tokyo) 27 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190227\\_02.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190227_02.html)

<sup>3792</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Mauritania: Contributing to enhancing capacity of sanitary inspection and analysis of fishery and aquaculture product through the construction of a sanitary inspection and analysis laboratory and the provision of equipment, JICA (Tokyo) 28 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190228\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190228_01.html)

contains a set of specified targets to ensure sustainability of Korea, including agricultural development and improvement of water resources management.<sup>3793</sup>

On 23 January 2019, the Ministry of Environment of Korea reported the pre-announcement of legislation of the Enforcement Decree of the enactment of the Water Management Basic Act, which will be implemented on 13 June 2019.<sup>3794</sup> This legislation deals with affairs of entrusted in the 'Water Management Basic Act' such as name, position and jurisdiction of the basin water management committee, the public officials and public institutions that are members of the national basin water management committee, the secretariat duties and composition and detailed procedures of adjustment of water dispute etc.<sup>3795</sup> In addition, it is also stipulated that the types of water management related plans to be established in accordance with the National Water Management Basic Plan and the Basin Water Management Comprehensive Plan, which will present the direction of the water management policy, matters concerning the operation of the Water Management Committee and composition of its subcommittees, agencies that can entrust a part of the affairs.<sup>3796</sup>

Korea has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of water and riverbank management, but no actions aimed at soil management were registered.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 10 March 2019, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Ministry of Commerce and Export Promotion of New Zealand signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen cooperation and exchange of agri-food products between the two countries through the implementation of rural development activities, agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture. The exchange of experiences allows to develop dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.<sup>3797</sup>

On 1 January 2019, the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development, Víctor Villalobos Arámbula, held a working meeting with the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply of the Government of Brazil, Tereza Cristina Da Costa Días and they agreed that they would start meetings

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<sup>3793</sup> A milestone for the sustainable future, establishing K-SDGs, Korean Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 24 December 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=934470&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>3794</sup> Establishment of integrated water management system. Pre-announcement of legislation of enactment, Korean Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 23 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=949270&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>3795</sup> Establishment of integrated water management system. Pre-announcement of legislation of enactment, Korean Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 23 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=949270&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>3796</sup> Establishment of integrated water management system. Pre-announcement of legislation of enactment, Korean Ministry of Environment (Seoul) 23 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019.

<http://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=21&orgCd=&boardId=949270&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>3797</sup> Fortalecen México y Nueva Zelanda cooperación en desarrollo agropecuario, Mexican Government (Mexico) 10 March 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/fortalecen-mexico-y-nueva-zelandia-cooperacion-en-desarrollo-agropecuario?idiom=es>

to strengthen the relationship and bilateral cooperation in the area of research, trade and regional development.<sup>3798</sup> Mexico highlighted its interest in resuming the Brazilian experience in boosting family farming and promoting the exchange of experiences between the National Institute of Forestry, Agriculture and Livestock Research of Mexico and the Brazilian Agricultural Research Company.<sup>3799</sup>

On 24 January 2019, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development published Documents of the Production Program for Wellbeing 2019, which include planned measures for agricultural development, that has its objective to provide direct support to 2.8 million small producers and thus contribute to food self-sufficiency. This program allows to develop sustainable agriculture in rural areas.<sup>3800</sup>

On 17 February 2019, the National Commission of Arid Zones and the National Agricultural, Rural, Forestry and Fisheries Development signed a coordination agreement to strengthen the projects of small producers in arid and semi-arid regions of the country. This measure allows advancement in a productive and inclusive rural development.<sup>3801</sup>

Mexico has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of water and riverbank management, but no actions aimed at soil management were registered.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich*

## **Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 20 December 2018, First Deputy Minister of Agriculture Jambulat Khatuov held a conference call on the liming (deoxidation) of agricultural soils. As it was noted at the event with the participation of representatives of the regions and the scientific community, this issue will be given increased attention in order to increase crop yields and preserve and enhance soil fertility in the coming years. As Jambulat Khatuov concluded, activities in this area will be coordinated at the federal level, in connection with which such meetings will be held on a regular basis.<sup>3802</sup>

On 21 December 2018, the Federal Scientific and Technical Program of the Agriculture Development for 2017–2025 was supplemented with the subprogram “Development of sugar beet

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<sup>3798</sup> Sostiene titular de la SADER reunión de trabajo con Ministra de Agricultura, Ganadería y Abastecimiento de Brasil, Mexican Government (Mexico) 1 January 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019.

<https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/sostiene-titular-de-la-sader-reunion-de-trabajo-con-ministra-de-agricultura-ganaderia-y-abastecimiento-de-brasil>

<sup>3799</sup> Sostiene titular de la SADER reunión de trabajo con Ministra de Agricultura, Ganadería y Abastecimiento de Brasil, Mexican Government (Mexico) 1 January 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019.

<https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/sostiene-titular-de-la-sader-reunion-de-trabajo-con-ministra-de-agricultura-ganaderia-y-abastecimiento-de-brasil>

<sup>3800</sup> El bienestar comienza a llegar al campo, Mexican Government (Mexico) 05 February 2019. Access date: March 21 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sader/es/articulos/el-bienestar-comienza-a-llegar-al-campo?idiom=es>

<sup>3801</sup> Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural, Mexican Government (Mexico) 3 December 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019 <https://www.gob.mx/sader/prensa/formalizan-entrega-recepcion-administrativa-en-la-secretaria-de-agricultura-y-desarrollo-rural?idiom=es>

<sup>3802</sup> The Ministry of Agriculture discussed the implementation of soil deoxidation measures, Ministry of Agriculture of Russian Federation (Moscow) 20 December 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <http://mcx.ru/press-service/news/v-minselkhoze-obsudili-realizatsiyu-meropriyatij-po-raskisleniyu-pochv/>

breeding and seed production in the Russian Federation.”<sup>3803</sup> The purpose of this subprogram is to ensure stable growth in industrial production and sales of high-quality competitive seeds in order to ensure the profitability of domestic breeding based on new high-tech Russian developers and the implementation of comprehensive scientific and technical projects of the full innovation cycle.<sup>3804</sup>

On 28 April 2019, the federal law introduced by the State Duma expanded the list of cases allowing agricultural producers to receive insurance compensation. It also clarifies the procedure, terms and conditions for the conclusion of the agricultural insurance contract. The insured amount for which this contract is concluded was reduced from 80 per cent to 70 per cent of the value of the insurance object. This should reduce the financial burden on agricultural producers.<sup>3805</sup>

Russia has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil but did not take actions aimed at water and riverbank management.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anna Piekalnits*

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 14 February 2019, SABIC (a 70 per cent state-owned petrochemical company) announced its intention to improve effectiveness, crop yield and profits of the local farms in Saudi Arabia by means of incorporating new technologies and practices. As a part of the initiative, soil testing was conducted in many regions of the country.<sup>3806</sup>

On 22 March 2019, the Government of Saudi Arabia announced a new program aimed at reduction in water use. The program was titled the Qatrah and aimed at promotion of sustainable use of water in harsh weather conditions of the country. The program is designed to reduce daily water consumption from 263 liters to 150 by 2030.<sup>3807</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil and in water and riverbank management.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

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<sup>3803</sup> Russian Government. On Amendments to the Federal Scientific and Technical Program for the Development of Agriculture for 2017-2025 (Moscow) 21 December 2018. Access date: 15 February 2019. <http://static.government.ru/media/files/Aa4pyASB4dEANcOqFVxYAlBPPpqHwtZ3.pdf>

<sup>3804</sup> Russian Government. On Amendments to the Federal Scientific and Technical Program for the Development of Agriculture for 2017-2025 (Moscow) 21 December 2018. Access date: 15 February 2019. <http://static.government.ru/media/files/Aa4pyASB4dEANcOqFVxYAlBPPpqHwtZ3.pdf>

<sup>3805</sup> The President of Russian Federation signed the Federal Law developed by the Government on Improving the Agricultural Insurance System, Russian Government (Moscow) 28 December 2018. Access date: 15 February 2019. <http://government.ru/activities/selection/525/35351/>

<sup>3806</sup> SABIC Insights Give Farmers Roadmap to Improve Effectiveness and Profits, SABIC (Riyadh) 14 February. Access date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.sabic.com/en/news/17402-sabic-insights-give-farmers-roadmap-to-improve-efficiencies-and-profits>

<sup>3807</sup> Saudi in fresh move to reduce water consumption, Gulf News (Abu-Dhabi) 22 March 2019. Access date 9 April 2019. <https://gulfnews.com/world/gulf/saudi/saudi-in-fresh-move-to-reduce-water-consumption-1.62813813>

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 29 of January 2019, the governments of South Africa and India agreed to strengthen cooperation in the fields of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. The ministers recognized the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Agricultural Research and Education between the Agricultural Research Council of South Africa and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in 2018.<sup>3808</sup> Further agreements were made on working together on mutual food and security initiatives directed towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with specific reference to SDG 1 – addressing poverty; SDG 2 – addressing hunger; and sharing their experiences in the development of drought resistant varieties and bio-fortified varieties.<sup>3809</sup>

On 19 March 2019, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Senzeni Zokwana launched a programme of Small-Scale Fisheries Sector of KwaZulu Natal, eMandeni, KwaMazitapele. The programme was launched in line with the government strategic framework's Outcome 4: Decent employment through inclusive economic growth; Outcome 7: Vibrant, equitable, sustainable rural communities contributing to food security for all; and Outcome 10: Protect and enhance environmental assets and natural resources.<sup>3810</sup>

South Africa has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of water and riverbank management, but no actions aimed at soil management were registered.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

### **Turkey: +1**

Turkey has fully complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 10 January 2019, Turkey appointed former Forestry and Water Affairs Minister a special envoy to Iraq to resolve the water sharing and management issues between the two countries; the envoy will lead a working group comprising representatives from Turkish forestry, foreign affairs and energy ministries that will interact with counterparts from Iraq on equitable sharing of water from the Tigris and the Euphrates, as well as on sharing Turkey's experience and know-how in efficient management of water.<sup>3811</sup>

On 23 January 2019, it was reported that Turkey and the World Bank had agreed on USD254 million (USD252 million as a loan, USD2 million as a grant) worth project to modernize irrigation

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<sup>3808</sup> SA, India to strengthen cooperation in agriculture, South African Government News Agency (Pretoria), 28 January 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019, <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-india-strengthen-cooperation-agriculture>

<sup>3809</sup> SA, India to strengthen cooperation in agriculture, South African Government News Agency (Pretoria), 28 January 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019, <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-india-strengthen-cooperation-agriculture>

<sup>3810</sup> Minister Senzeni Zokwana: Launch of Small-Scale Fisheries Sector, South African Government (Cape Town), 19 March 2019. Access date: 28 March 2019, <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-senzeni-zokwana-launch-small-scale-fisheries-sector-19-mar-2019-0000>

<sup>3811</sup> Former minister appointed special envoy for water affairs with Iraq, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 10 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/2019/01/10/former-minister-appointed-special-envoy-for-water-affairs-with-iraq>

infrastructure in Turkey, and to implement relevant projects for innovation, institutional support, and project management.<sup>3812</sup>

On 7 March 2019, it was reported that Turkey's President Erdogan announced new incentives for Turkish farmers, which will include subsidies worth TRY3.7 billion, including subsidies on electricity used in irrigation systems; Erdogan also announced increase in the number of farmlands having the status of protected areas.<sup>3813</sup>

Turkey has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil and in water and riverbank management.

Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 5 December 2018, on an International Soil Day, Environment Minister Thérèse Coffey announced that a new system of “public money for public goods” will reward farmers for environmental outcomes such as clean air and water, flood prevention, thriving plants and wildlife and the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.<sup>3814</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the Countryside Stewardship scheme opened for farmers, foresters and land managers to request 2019 application packs. These agreements provide a viable, long-term source of income to those who deliver environmental benefits on their land – including habitats for wildlife, pollinator plots and increased biodiversity. Improvements have been introduced this year to make the scheme easier to apply for.<sup>3815</sup>

On 12 April 2019, the Environmental Agency announced that ecological and environmental surveys will be carried out in 2019. Further environmental surveys are being carried out which will inform the development of the River Thames Scheme. The ecological surveys will be carried out over the spring and summer of 2019 to ensure species are surveyed at the optimal time. A range of species will be targeted in these surveys. These surveys will involve a team of ecologists. The programme of data collection covers soil and river investigations, ground and gas monitoring and a range of ecological and habitat surveys.<sup>3816</sup>

United Kingdom has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of soil and in water and riverbank management.

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<sup>3812</sup> World Bank to fund modernization of Turkey's irrigation, Hurriyett Daily News (Istanbul) 23 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/world-bank-to-fund-modernization-of-turkeys-irrigation-140705>

<sup>3813</sup> Erdoğan pledges new incentives for farmers, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 7 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/2019/03/07/erdogan-pledges-new-incentives-for-farmers>

<sup>3814</sup> World Soil Day marks importance of healthy farmed environment, UK Government (London) 5 December 2018. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-soil-day-marks-importance-of-healthy-farmed-environment>

<sup>3815</sup> Countryside Stewardship opens for applications in 2019, UK Government (London) 12 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/countryside-stewardship-opens-for-applications-in-2019>

<sup>3816</sup> River Thames Scheme: Environmental Surveys 2018, UK Government (London) 12 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/river-thames-scheme-environmental-surveys-2018>

Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mariya Kalugina*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 4 December 2018, Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Anne Hazlett announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is investing USD1.2 billion to help rebuild and improve rural water infrastructure for 936,000 rural Americans living in 46 states. The funding can be used for drinking water, stormwater drainage and waste disposal systems for rural communities with 10,000 or fewer residents.<sup>3817</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded more than USD30.8 million to Arizona's clean water and drinking water State Revolving Fund programs. These infrastructure improvements will directly benefit thousands of Arizonans by improving access to healthy drinking water and modernizing wastewater treatment.<sup>3818</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the EPA awarded more than USD20.8 million to Nevada for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvements.<sup>3819</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the EPA awarded more than USD187.3 million to California for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvements.<sup>3820</sup>

On 26 March 2019, Acting Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Joel Baxley today announced that USDA is investing USD116 million to help rebuild and improve rural water infrastructure for 171,000 rural Americans in 23 states.<sup>3821</sup>

On 30 April 2019, the EPA announced the availability of nearly USD87 million in grant funding to assist states, tribes, and territories with improving drinking water. New Jersey is eligible to receive up to USD2.26 million in available funding.<sup>3822</sup>

United States has taken actions aimed at increasing the sustainability of water and riverbank management, but no actions aimed at soil management were registered.

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<sup>3817</sup> USDA announces \$1.2 billion investment for improving and rebuilding of rural water infrastructure, United States Department of Agriculture (Washington) 4 December 2018. Access Date: 31 March 2019.

<https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2018/12/04/usda-invests-water-and-wastewater-infrastructure-46-states>

<sup>3818</sup> EPA announces more than \$30.8 million funding to Arizona for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvement, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 31 March 2019.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-arizona-308-million-drinking-water-and-wastewater-projects>

<sup>3819</sup> EPA announces more than \$20.8 million funding to Nevada for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvements, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 31 March 2019.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-nevada-208-million-drinking-water-and-wastewater-projects>

<sup>3820</sup> EPA announces more than \$187.3 million funding to California for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvements, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 31 March 2019.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-california-187-million-drinking-water-and-wastewater-projects>

<sup>3821</sup> USDA Announces Investments in Water and Wastewater Infrastructure in 23 States that will Benefit 171,000 Rural Residents, United States Department of Agriculture (Washington) 4 December 26 March 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2019/03/26/usda-announces-investments-water-and-wastewater-infrastructure-23>

<sup>3822</sup> EPA Announces Available Funding to Improve Drinking Water for Schools and Small and Disadvantaged Communities, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019.

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-available-funding-improve-drinking-water-schools-and-small-and>

Thus, it has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Dmitriy Lukanin*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

On 5 December 2018, the inaugural meeting of the National Interagency Steering Committee of the European Union Water Initiative Plus for the Eastern Partnership (EUWI+) took place in Minsk, Belarus in support of a national dialogue on water sector policy.<sup>3823</sup> The participants representing various ministries and entities responsible for water resources management discussed the role of the EUWI+ in implementing national water sector policy, enhancing transboundary cooperation, advancing river basin management planning and in further development of laboratories and ground and surface water monitoring. The discussions under the long-term priorities for the water sector focused on the development and implementation of the River Basin Management Plans, also in the context of finalizing the development of the National Water Strategy until 2030.<sup>3824</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the European Commission launched a call for experts such as farmers, foresters, advisers, scientists and other relevant actors for five new agricultural European Innovation Partnership Focus Groups. Two of these focus groups focus on soil salinization and protecting agricultural soil from contamination. The groups would start its work in May-June 2019.<sup>3825</sup>

On 22 January 2019, the Environmental Committee of the European Parliament stated their support for the plans to counter water scarcity by facilitating the reuse of treated wastewater for agricultural irrigation. The legislation defines minimum quality standards for reclaimed water to be used for agricultural irrigation.<sup>3826</sup> It also sets out obligations for production, distribution and storage operators, as well as risk management measures. Members of the European Parliament say that while the legislation is being adopted, member states in the meantime may allow reclaimed water to be used in other ways, such as industrial water reuse and for amenity-related and environmental purposes, provided that human health, animals and the environment are thoroughly protected.<sup>3827</sup>

On 5-6 February 2019, the workshop on investments in water and agriculture was held in Bucharest, Romania. This workshop was the second of three EU-level regional workshops being organized over the period of 2018-2019 by the European Commission's Task Force on Water and Agriculture.<sup>3828</sup> Hosted by the Romanian EU Presidency, this workshop brought together experts from Member

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<sup>3823</sup> European Union and Belarus to step up cooperation on water policies, the Council of the European Union (Brussels) 3 December 2018. Access date: 19 February 2019. <https://euprojects.by/news/european-union-and-belarus-to-step-up-cooperation-on-water-policies>.

<sup>3824</sup> European Union and Belarus to step up cooperation on water policies, the Council of the European Union (Brussels) 3 December 2018. Access date: 19 February 2019. <https://euprojects.by/news/european-union-and-belarus-to-step-up-cooperation-on-water-policies>.

<sup>3825</sup> Call for expression of interest for experts participating in Focus Groups of the European Innovation Partnership on 'Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability', European Commission (Brussels) 19 December 2018. Access date: 18 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/20181219\\_calltext\\_fg34-38.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/sites/agri-eip/files/20181219_calltext_fg34-38.pdf).

<sup>3826</sup> MEPs back plans to promote water reuse for agricultural irrigation, European Parliament (Brussels) 22 January 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20190121IPR23924/meps-back-plans-to-promote-water-reuse-for-agricultural-irrigation>.

<sup>3827</sup> MEPs back plans to promote water reuse for agricultural irrigation, European Parliament (Brussels) 22 January 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20190121IPR23924/meps-back-plans-to-promote-water-reuse-for-agricultural-irrigation>.

<sup>3828</sup> Workshop on investments in water and agriculture, European Commission (Brussels) 6 February 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/workshop-investments-water-and-agriculture>.

States, organizations and others from across the EU.<sup>3829</sup> It aimed at exploring good examples and best practices on investment measures, using innovative financial resources and ensuring funds to create positive synergies for water and agriculture in the post-2020 implementation of the Water Framework Directive, Nitrates Directive and Common Agricultural Policy.<sup>3830</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the European Commission published the report on the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) and the Floods Directive (2007/60/EC).<sup>3831</sup> The report looked at how Member States had implemented EU water legislation, highlighting successes and shortcomings. It assessed Member States' river basin management plans that run from 2015 to 2021. It showed that water quality in Europe is slowly improving, thanks to urban wastewater treatment, reduced pollution from agriculture and greater numbers of rivers and lakes returning to a more natural state.<sup>3832</sup> The findings included significant improvements in knowledge and reporting on the Water Framework Directive compared to the previous reporting cycle. Compliance with the Water Framework Directive objectives was reported to be increasing gradually. For the Floods Directive, very important steps were taken: the report confirmed that all Member States had fundamentally embraced the concept of flood risk management, although the quality of the results varies.<sup>3833</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the European Commission announced that the Horizon 2020 project AquaNES would present their innovations in cooperation with BLUE PLANET Berlin Water Dialogues, the leading platform for exchange on water-related issues, in Berlin on 9 April 2019.<sup>3834</sup> During the conference each of the 13 AquaNES projects would be presented in various ways: there would be lectures, interactive workshops with the participants of the conference and a gallery-tour. One of the keynote speakers was announced to be Stefan Uhlenbrook, Coordinator and Director of the United Nations World Water Assessment Programme. One of the key goals of the event would be presenting ways to combine natural and engineered systems in water management.<sup>3835</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the European Commission announced the prize winner for zero power water monitoring. Aiming to address the challenges of water scarcity, the European Commission offered a Horizon prize with a cash reward of EUR2 000 000, received by the Fenix Hub solution.<sup>3836</sup> With the prize, the Commission rewarded a viable solution that could be applied in European water management systems. The purpose of the prize is to stimulate broader European efforts to develop

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<sup>3829</sup> Workshop on investments in water and agriculture, European Commission (Brussels) 6 February 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/workshop-investments-water-and-agriculture>.

<sup>3830</sup> Workshop on investments in water and agriculture, European Commission (Brussels) 6 February 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/news/workshop-investments-water-and-agriculture>.

<sup>3831</sup> Commission reviews progress made in water quality and flood risk management, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access date: 22 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-reviews-progress-made-water-quality-and-flood-risk-management-2019-feb-26\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-reviews-progress-made-water-quality-and-flood-risk-management-2019-feb-26_en).

<sup>3832</sup> Commission reviews progress made in water quality and flood risk management, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access date: 22 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-reviews-progress-made-water-quality-and-flood-risk-management-2019-feb-26\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-reviews-progress-made-water-quality-and-flood-risk-management-2019-feb-26_en).

<sup>3833</sup> Commission reviews progress made in water quality and flood risk management, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2019. Access date: 22 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-reviews-progress-made-water-quality-and-flood-risk-management-2019-feb-26\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/commission-reviews-progress-made-water-quality-and-flood-risk-management-2019-feb-26_en).

<sup>3834</sup> Inspired by Nature: Combining Natural and Engineered Systems in Water Management, European Commission (Brussels) 14 March 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=events&eventcode=D1B6C054-B114-C563-EE15552BC1B659DA>.

<sup>3835</sup> Inspired by Nature: Combining Natural and Engineered Systems in Water Management, European Commission (Brussels) 14 March 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=events&eventcode=D1B6C054-B114-C563-EE15552BC1B659DA>.

<sup>3836</sup> Winner of the Horizon prize for zero power water monitoring, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2019. Access date: 22 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/winner-horizon-prize-zero-power-water-monitoring>.

solutions for sustainable water management. Fenix Hub was a solution submitted by Aqua Robur, a young company originating from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. It was an all-in-one, zero-power, wireless, real-time sensor and data communication platform for smart water monitoring that is deployable anywhere.<sup>3837</sup>

On 20 March 2019, the European Commission published the Final Report of the High-Level Panel of the European Decarbonisation Pathways Initiative, which presented a number of research proposals, among which were topic such as the development of low-impact, innovative products, as well as soil preservation and regeneration schemes, including biobased and biodegradable chemicals/materials/products associated with effective risk-management strategies.<sup>3838</sup>

On 28-29 March 2019, the European Commission in cooperation with the European Soil Data Centre and Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) Global Soil Partnership held a plenary meeting in Italy.<sup>3839</sup> Soils4EU Workshop was organized on behalf of the European Commission Directorate-General for Environment. This project provided support to DG Environment of the European Commission on soil policy. Soils4EU elaborated a report entitled "Review of *economic, social and environmental impacts of and implementation barriers for soil protection and sustainable management measures for arable land across the EU.*" This workshop aimed at presenting and discussing this report with the European Soil Partnership partners and experts working in this field, with the objectives of 1) disseminating this work, 2) providing information of the state of implementation of the FAO "Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management" in EU countries and 3) gathering feedback on the topic from the workshop participants.<sup>3840</sup>

On 1-3 April 2019, an EU delegation headed by EU Commissioner for the Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Karmenu Vella visited China to continue and deepen EU – China environmental bilateral relations. The Commissioner co-chaired the 7<sup>th</sup> Environmental Policy Dialogue and initiated two new high-level dialogues on Water and Circular Economy. He also met several Chinese ministers to discuss shared priorities related to water and circular economy, the EU-China Ocean Partnership, etc.<sup>3841</sup> The first China-EU Water Policy Dialogue was expected to deepen the EU-China cooperation on water, allowing partners to exchange information and experience and provide political steer to the work of the China-Europe Water Platform. The European Commission supported the work of this platform through a EUR6 million Partnership Instrument project, addressing issues such as water policies, integrated water resources management, water disaster mitigation, protection of water ecosystems, etc.<sup>3842</sup>

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<sup>3837</sup> Winner of the Horizon prize for zero power water monitoring, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2019. Access date: 22 March 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/winner-horizon-prize-zero-power-water-monitoring>.

<sup>3838</sup> Final Report of the High-Level Panel of the European Decarbonisation Pathways Initiative, European Commission (Brussels) 20 March 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/research\\_and\\_innovation/research\\_by\\_area/documents/ec\\_rtd\\_decarbonisation-report\\_112018.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/research_and_innovation/research_by_area/documents/ec_rtd_decarbonisation-report_112018.pdf).

<sup>3839</sup> European Soil Partnership Plenary Meeting, European Commission (Brussels) 29 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/event/european-soil-partnership-plenary-meeting>.

<sup>3840</sup> European Soil Partnership Plenary Meeting, European Commission (Brussels) 29 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://esdac.jrc.ec.europa.eu/event/european-soil-partnership-plenary-meeting>.

<sup>3841</sup> EU and China Step Up Their Cooperation on Environment, Water and Circular Economy, European Commission (Brussels) 1 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-their-cooperation-environment-water-and-circular-economy-2019-apr-01\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-their-cooperation-environment-water-and-circular-economy-2019-apr-01_en).

<sup>3842</sup> EU and China Step Up Their Cooperation on Environment, Water and Circular Economy, European Commission (Brussels) 1 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-their-cooperation-environment-water-and-circular-economy-2019-apr-01\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-china-step-their-cooperation-environment-water-and-circular-economy-2019-apr-01_en).

On 29 April 2019, the EU announced that on 11-12 June 2019 the 1st meeting of the Agricultural European Innovation Partnership Focus Group on protecting agricultural soils from contamination would be held in Italy.<sup>3843</sup> The main tasks of this new Focus Group included identifying the main soil pollutants in different regions and challenges each of them poses, reviewing existing knowledge about ways to measure soil contamination and share information, identifying innovative methods to prevent soil contamination in particular through improved management on farm, identifying a set of good practices to prevent agricultural soil contamination from various sources and to remedy agricultural soil contamination, identifying remaining research needs from practice and propose possible directions for further research on soil contamination, proposing priorities for innovative actions by suggesting ideas for Operational Groups to test solutions for the prevention of soil contamination or remediation of contaminated soils and other ways to exchange the practical knowledge gathered beyond the Focus Group.<sup>3844</sup>

The EU has fully complied with its commitment to promote dynamism in rural areas and sustainable agriculture.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

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<sup>3843</sup> Protecting Agricultural Soil Form Contamination, European Commission (Brussels) 29 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/protecting-agricultural-soils-contamination>.

<sup>3844</sup> Protecting Agricultural Soil Form Contamination, European Commission (Brussels) 29 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/focus-groups/protecting-agricultural-soils-contamination>.

## 18. Health: Universal Health Coverage

“We reaffirm the need for stronger health systems providing cost effective and evidence-based intervention to achieve better access to health care and to improve its quality and affordability to move towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC), in line with their national contexts and priorities.”

*G20 Leaders Buenos Aires Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia		0	
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.85	

### Background

The G20 first addressed the issues related to healthcare in Brisbane in 2014. That year the world was deeply concerned with the outbreak of Ebola virus in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The G20 members approved a joint statement on the Ebola threat and pledged to “do what is necessary to ensure the international effort can extinguish the outbreak” and urged the World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund (IMF) to “continue their strong support for the affected countries.” Moreover, the G20 members pledged to fully implement the World Health Organization (WHO)’s International Health Regulations (IHR) addressing “longer-term systemic issues and gaps in capability, preparedness and response capacity that expose the global economy to the impacts of infectious disease.”<sup>3845</sup>

The G20 again addressed healthcare issues in 2017 during the Presidency of Germany. At a ministerial meeting in Berlin, Health Ministers produced the joint Berlin Declaration. The G20 members’ ministers of health acknowledged the exceptional role of the WHO’s IHR 2005 and agreed to act “accordingly with our obligations under the IHR and support the leadership and coordination

<sup>3845</sup> G20 Leaders’ Brisbane Statement on Ebola, CIIR RANEPa (Brisbane). Access date: 11 December 2018.  
<https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2014brisbane/G20%20Leaders%E2%80%99%20Brisbane%20Statement%20on%20Ebola.pdf>

of WHO in the event of health crises of international concern.” In addition to taking joint international actions, the G20 members agreed to “strengthen the national and, where applicable, regional monitoring and surveillance of both antimicrobial resistance and the consumption of antibiotics” within their own jurisdictions.<sup>3846</sup> In the communique, the G20 leaders acknowledged the antimicrobial resistance (AMR) “growing threat to public health and economic growth” and pledged to “strengthen public awareness, infection prevention and control and improve the understanding of the issue of antimicrobials in the environment.”<sup>3847</sup>

At the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit, the G20 leaders in their joint declaration acknowledged “the need for further multi-sectoral action to reduce the spread of AMR” and also extended the health-related agenda of the G20 by pledging to “tackle malnutrition, with a special focus on childhood overweight and obesity, through national, community-based and collaborative multi-stakeholder approaches.”<sup>3848</sup> In addition, the G20 leaders focused on the provision of “better health care” and agreed to “improve health care quality and affordability to move towards Universal Health Coverage.”<sup>3849</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The G20 reaffirmed “the need for stronger health systems providing cost effective and evidence-based intervention to achieve better access to health care and to improve its quality and affordability to move towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC), in line with their national contexts and priorities.”

The commitment requires G20 members to improve healthcare systems to ensure its quality and affordability “in line with ... national contexts and priorities” in a move towards UHC.<sup>3850</sup> As defined by WHO, providing UHC means that “all people and communities can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services ... of sufficient quality.” Actions of a G20 member in line with obligations to promote moving towards UHC may refer to three main objectives pointed out by WHO:

1. “Equity in access to health services – everyone who needs services should get them, not only those who can pay for them;
2. The quality of health services should be good enough to improve the health of those receiving services; and
3. People should be protected against financial-risk, ensuring that the cost of using services does not put people at risk of financial harm.”<sup>3851</sup>

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<sup>3846</sup> Berlin Declaration of the G20 Health Ministers<sup>6</sup> CIIR RANEPa (Berlin). Access Date: 11 December 2018.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20\\_Health\\_Ministers\\_Declaration\\_engl.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20_Health_Ministers_Declaration_engl.pdf)

<sup>3847</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Shaping an interconnected world, CIIR RANEPa (Hamburg). Access Date: 11 December 2018.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders\\_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf).

<sup>3848</sup> Childhood Overweight Policy Brief, WHO (Geneva) 2014. Access date: 23 May

2019. [https://www.who.int/nutrition/topics/globaltargets\\_overweight\\_policybrief.pdf](https://www.who.int/nutrition/topics/globaltargets_overweight_policybrief.pdf)

<sup>3849</sup> G20 leader's declaration Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, CIIR RANEPa (Buenos Aires). Access Date: 11 December 2018.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos\\_aires\\_leaders\\_declaration.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf)

<sup>3850</sup> G20 leader's declaration Building consensus for fair and sustainable, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 1 December 2019. Access Date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/12/01/g20-leaders-declaration/>.

<sup>3851</sup> World Health Organization. Health financing, WHO (Geneva). Access Date: 11 December 2018.

[https://www.who.int/health\\_financing/universal\\_coverage\\_definition/en/](https://www.who.int/health_financing/universal_coverage_definition/en/).

WHO specified some key aspects of achieving the UHC in practice. Accordingly, actions of the G20 countries may include, but not limited to:

- Pooling funds from compulsory funding sources (such as mandatory insurance contributions);
- Improving the availability, accessibility, and capacity of health workers;
- Investments in quality primary health care workforce.<sup>3852</sup>

WHO's definition of primary health care refers to three main key elements:

- “ensuring people’s health problems are addressed through comprehensive promotive, protective, preventive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative care throughout the life course, strategically prioritizing key system functions aimed at individuals and families and the population as the central elements of integrated service delivery across all levels of care;
- systematically addressing the broader determinants of health (including social, economic, environmental, as well as people’s characteristics and behaviours) through evidence-informed public policies and actions across all sectors; and
- empowering individuals, families, and communities to optimize their health, as advocates for policies that promote and protect health and wellbeing, as co-developers of health and social services through their participation, and as self-carers and care-givers to others.”<sup>3853</sup>

Other critical elements of achieving the UHC specified as follows:

- Good governance;
- Sound systems of procurement and supply of medicines;
- Health technologies and well-functioning health information systems.<sup>3854</sup>

WHO also specified what should not be included in the scope of the UHC:

- “UHC does not mean free coverage for all possible health interventions, regardless of the cost, as no country can provide all services free of charge on a sustainable basis.
- UHC is not just about health financing. It encompasses all components of the health system: health service delivery systems, the health workforce, health facilities and communications networks, health technologies, information systems, quality assurance mechanisms, and governance and legislation.
- UHC is not only about ensuring a minimum package of health services, but also about ensuring a progressive expansion of coverage of health services and financial protection as more resources become available.

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<sup>3852</sup> Universal Health Coverage. World Health Organisation (Geneva) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2019. [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc))

<sup>3853</sup> Universal Health Coverage. World Health Organisation (Geneva) 29 January 2019. Access date: 14 May 2019. [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc)).

<sup>3854</sup> Universal Health Coverage. World Health Organisation (Geneva) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2019. [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc))

- UHC is not only about individual treatment services, but also includes population-based services such as public health campaigns, adding fluoride to water, controlling mosquito breeding grounds, and so on.
- UHC is comprised of much more than just health; taking steps towards UHC means steps towards equity, development priorities, and social inclusion and cohesion.”<sup>3855</sup>

Finally, WHO pointed out that “moving towards UHC requires strengthening health systems in all countries.”<sup>3856</sup> It means that the G20 countries actions should not be limited to their own territory but also include actions at international fora.

As specified in the Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration, the G20 members may also take actions aimed at development of “scientifically proven traditional and complementary medicine, assuring the safety, quality and effectiveness of health services.”<sup>3857</sup>

To achieve full compliance, a G20 member is required to take action aimed at promotion of universal health coverage both within its own territory and abroad (including both other G20 members’ territories and third countries).

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G20 member did not take any action aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage.
0	The G20 member take actions aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage domestically OR internationally.
+1	The G20 member take actions aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage domestically AND internationally.

### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage.

On 3 December 2018, the eighth meeting of the Argentinian Federal Council of Health (COFESA) was held in Buenos Aires under an overall theme of universal health coverage.<sup>3858</sup> The participants discussed developments with the Digital Health strategy aimed at the creation of a unified electronic information system for all Argentine patients containing their clinical history. A total of 21 Argentine provinces signed the agreement on implementing the strategy.<sup>3859</sup> The strategy will help to increase territorial health coverage in the country as well as address chronic noncommunicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and high blood pressure in early stages. At the meeting,

<sup>3855</sup> Universal Health Coverage. World Health Organisation(Geneva) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2019. [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc))

<sup>3856</sup> Universal Health Coverage. World Health Organisation(Geneva) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2019. [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc))

<sup>3857</sup> G20 leader's declaration Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, CIIR RANEPa (Buenos Aires). Access date: 11 December 2018.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos\\_aires\\_leaders\\_declaration.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf)

<sup>3858</sup> Comenzó en Buenos Aires la última reunión del año de las máximas autoridades de salud del país, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzo-en-buenos-aires-la-ultima-reunion-del-ano-de-las-maximas-autoridades-de-salud-del>.

<sup>3859</sup> Comenzó en Buenos Aires la última reunión del año de las máximas autoridades de salud del país, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzo-en-buenos-aires-la-ultima-reunion-del-ano-de-las-maximas-autoridades-de-salud-del>.

Minister of Health of Argentina Adolfo Rubinstein announced a granting of 112 ambulance cars to the provincial health ministries.<sup>3860</sup>

On 17 December 2018, the Ministry of Health and Social Development launched the National Plan for the Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Arterial Hypertension aimed at detecting patients with this problem.<sup>3861</sup> The initiative was supported by the Pan American Health Organization and World Health Organization.

On 18 December 2018, it was announced that in October-November 2,500,000 children aged 13 months to four years living across the country (coverage of 89 per cent) received an additional dose of the triple viral vaccine that protects against measles, rubella and mumps under the National Monitoring Campaign against Measles and Rubella of the Argentinian Ministry of Health and Social Development.<sup>3862</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the third technical meeting on Interprofessional Education in Health was held in Buenos Aires.<sup>3863</sup> The discussion focused on the issues of universal health coverage. The events were organized by the Argentinian Ministry of Health and Social Development, Pan American Health Organization, World Health Organization and Regional Network of Interprofessional Education of the Americas. The meeting was attended by representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Suriname and Uruguay.<sup>3864</sup> The participants presented their national measures and plans to achieve universal health, strategies to improve health practices, interprofessional education, etc.<sup>3865</sup>

On 8 January 2019, the territorial body of the Ministry of Health and Social Development launched an initiative aimed at providing various health services for workers engaged in recycling processes for two weeks in José León Suárez city located in Mendoza province.<sup>3866</sup> The workers will be able to

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<sup>3860</sup> Comenzó en Buenos Aires la última reunión del año de las máximas autoridades de salud del país, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzo-en-buenos-aires-la-ultima-reunion-del-ano-de-las-maximas-autoridades-de-salud-del>.

<sup>3861</sup> Rubinstein lanzó Plan Nacional de Prevención, Diagnóstico y Tratamiento de la Hipertensión Arterial en el primer nivel de atención, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-lanzo-plan-nacional-de-prevencion-diagnostico-y-tratamiento-de-la-hipertension>.

<sup>3862</sup> Argentina logró una cobertura del 89% en la Campaña Nacional de Seguimiento contra el Sarampión y la Rubéola, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 18 December 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-logro-una-cobertura-del-89-en-la-campana-nacional-de-seguimiento-contra-el>.

<sup>3863</sup> Salud organizó la Tercera Reunión Técnica sobre Educación Interprofesional de la región de las Américas, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-organizo-la-tercera-reunion-tecnica-sobre-educacion-interprofesional-de-la-region-de>.

<sup>3864</sup> Salud organizó la Tercera Reunión Técnica sobre Educación Interprofesional de la región de las Américas, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-organizo-la-tercera-reunion-tecnica-sobre-educacion-interprofesional-de-la-region-de>.

<sup>3865</sup> Salud organizó la Tercera Reunión Técnica sobre Educación Interprofesional de la región de las Américas, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-organizo-la-tercera-reunion-tecnica-sobre-educacion-interprofesional-de-la-region-de>.

<sup>3866</sup> Atención sanitaria a recuperadores de residuos en Ceamse, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/atencion-sanitaria-recuperadores-de-residuos-en-ceamse>.

have health checks, tests for HIV and Syphilis and vaccination. A team of health specialists will teach the first aid courses and workshops.

On 21 March 2019, the Ministry of Health and Social Development and Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology of Argentina presented the Healthy School Environments Guide that includes a set of recommendations to establish nutritional criteria for food and prohibit the sale of sugary drinks and foods high in sugars, fats and sodium in schools.<sup>3867</sup> The Guide aims to prevent childhood overweight and obesity.

On 5 April 2019, Secretary of Health of Argentina Adolfo Rubinstein together with mayor of the city of Corrientes Eduardo Tassano opened the first health station in the municipality of El Sombrero in Corrientes province, which aims to prevent chronic diseases through the promotion of healthy lifestyles, detection of risk factors and treatment at the first level of care.<sup>3868</sup> The project aims to contribute to the national universal health coverage goals. The station will provide free basic sanitary controls and counseling of healthy lifestyles to the population.<sup>3869</sup> Its staff consists of nurses, nutritionists and physical education teachers who will advise how to prevent cardiovascular diseases and choose right diet. A cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Health, Health Ministry of Corrientes and Municipality of Corrientes was signed to guarantee good functioning of health promotion posts and prevent chronic noncommunicable diseases among population through weight, body mass index, blood pressure and blood glucose and blood cholesterol control.<sup>3870</sup> These activities will be carried out openly and free of charge. In addition, the Ministry of Health delivered to the province a number of vehicles for transferring health agents and other health equipment.<sup>3871</sup>

On 10 April 2019, representatives of the Ministry of Health participated in the presentation of the report of the High Level Commission on “Universal Health in the XXI Century: 40 Years of Alma-Ata” in Mexico City, event that was led by the President of Mexico, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, and was attended by the director of the Pan American Health Organization, Carissa Etienne and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet.<sup>3872</sup> The document reaffirms the commitment to health for all people, with special emphasis on the role of primary health care, on the path to achieving universal health in the region.<sup>3873</sup> The objective of this initiative of the Pan American Health Organization is to reflect progress and challenges and provide recommendations to

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<sup>3867</sup> Salud y Educación presentaron la Guía de Entornos Escolares Saludables para prevenir la obesidad, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-y-educacion-presentaron-la-guia-de-entornos-escolares-saludables-para-prevenir-la>.

<sup>3868</sup> Rubinstein inauguró la primera Estación Saludable de Corrientes, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-inauguro-la-primera-estacion-saludable-de-corrientes>.

<sup>3869</sup> Rubinstein inauguró la primera Estación Saludable de Corrientes, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-inauguro-la-primera-estacion-saludable-de-corrientes>.

<sup>3870</sup> Rubinstein inauguró la primera Estación Saludable de Corrientes, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-inauguro-la-primera-estacion-saludable-de-corrientes>.

<sup>3871</sup> Rubinstein inauguró la primera Estación Saludable de Corrientes, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-inauguro-la-primera-estacion-saludable-de-corrientes>.

<sup>3872</sup> Argentina participó del lanzamiento del Informe de Alto Nivel “Salud Universal en el Siglo XXI: 40 años de Alma-Ata” en México, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-lanzamiento-del-informe-de-alto-nivel-salud-universal-en-el-siglo>.

<sup>3873</sup> Argentina participó del lanzamiento del Informe de Alto Nivel “Salud Universal en el Siglo XXI: 40 años de Alma-Ata” en México, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-lanzamiento-del-informe-de-alto-nivel-salud-universal-en-el-siglo>.

expand access and health coverage in the region by the year 2030, taking into account social, political and other factors as well as institutions of each country.<sup>3874</sup> The Argentine officials shared with the participants the Universal Health Coverage Strategy implemented by the National Government.<sup>3875</sup>

On 8-12 April 2019, the commissions of Health Care Services, Health Surveillance and Health Products, with their respective subcommittees and working groups from Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, held the L Ordinary Meeting of MERCOSUR Health, which reached different agreements and strategies on blood programs, health transfers and epidemiological surveillance.<sup>3876</sup> The participants agreed to implement joint actions for the production of drugs derived from surplus plasma as well as share semiannual epidemiological information relevant to a timely warning and an adequate response to situations that require it.<sup>3877</sup> The national plans for the prevention and control of antimicrobial resistance were also reviewed and the health response was exchanged on travelers, migrants and refugees.<sup>3878</sup> Finally, the national coordinators agreed to carry out a technical cooperation project to train inspectors in the pharmaceutical area, under the regulatory framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between MERCOSUR and the Pan American Health Organization and to hold two cooperation workshops on food labeling and border health.<sup>3879</sup>

On 9-12 April 2019, technical teams of the Ministry of Health of Argentina and National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality jointly with the European Union organized a course on antimicrobial resistance in Buenos Aires for the countries of the region to promote integrated work between the sectors of industry and health.<sup>3880</sup> The event was attended by leaders from Brazil, Paraguay, Chile, Uruguay, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador.

On 16 April 2019, Secretary of Health of Argentina Adolfo Rubinstein launched the anti-flu vaccination campaign.<sup>3881</sup> More than 10 million doses of influenza vaccine, in particular eight million – for adults and two million – for children, will be disseminated free of charge to those people who

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<sup>3874</sup> Argentina participó del lanzamiento del Informe de Alto Nivel “Salud Universal en el Siglo XXI: 40 años de Alma-Ata” en México, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-lanzamiento-del-informe-de-alto-nivel-salud-universal-en-el-siglo>.

<sup>3875</sup> Argentina participó del lanzamiento del Informe de Alto Nivel “Salud Universal en el Siglo XXI: 40 años de Alma-Ata” en México, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-lanzamiento-del-informe-de-alto-nivel-salud-universal-en-el-siglo>.

<sup>3876</sup> Se realizó la reunión ordinaria del subgrupo de trabajo Salud MERCOSUR, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-la-reunion-ordinaria-del-subgrupo-de-trabajo-salud-mercosur>.

<sup>3877</sup> Se realizó la reunión ordinaria del subgrupo de trabajo Salud MERCOSUR, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-la-reunion-ordinaria-del-subgrupo-de-trabajo-salud-mercosur>.

<sup>3878</sup> Se realizó la reunión ordinaria del subgrupo de trabajo Salud MERCOSUR, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-la-reunion-ordinaria-del-subgrupo-de-trabajo-salud-mercosur>.

<sup>3879</sup> Se realizó la reunión ordinaria del subgrupo de trabajo Salud MERCOSUR, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-la-reunion-ordinaria-del-subgrupo-de-trabajo-salud-mercosur>.

<sup>3880</sup> Equipos técnicos de Salud e Industria se capacitaron en resistencia antimicrobiana, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/equipos-tecnicos-de-salud-e-industria-se-capacitaron-en-resistencia-antimicrobiana>.

<sup>3881</sup> Nación lanzó la campaña de vacunación contra la gripe 2019, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-lanzo-la-campana-de-vacunacion-contra-la-gripe-2019>.

are at risk of complications in case of having the disease.<sup>3882</sup> The purpose of the strategy is to achieve coverage greater than or equal to 95 per cent in each group of the population at risk to reduce complications, hospitalizations, sequelae and deaths caused by the influenza virus. The recipients include pregnant women, puerperal women (up to 10 days after delivery if they did not receive it during pregnancy), children from 6 to 24 months of age, adults 65 years of age or older and people between two and 64 years of age who have risk factors (heart, respiratory or kidney disease, immunosuppression, diabetes).<sup>3883</sup> The total investment for the purchase of the flu vaccine dose was more than USD2,550 million. Each province will inform the local population when it will begin to apply the vaccine. Since 2011, Argentina has annually supported the vaccination strategy against influenza for the target population through the trivalent vaccine, which covers strains of influenza A H3N2, H1N1 and influenza B.<sup>3884</sup>

Argentina has taken actions aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

### **Australia: 0**

Australia has partially complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 6 December 2018, the Government supported the brightest minds with a AUD240 million program giving researchers significant funds for their innovative and transformational medical research. The Frontiers program is filling a gap in the research sector by providing government funding for early innovative projects and ideas that traditionally would not have received funding at this stage. This investment has the potential to transform healthcare and stimulate growth in the Australian medical technologies, biomedical and pharmaceutical sector, a vital part of the innovation economy.<sup>3885</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the Government announced investing more than half a billion dollars in world-leading health and medical research that aims to improve the lives of all Australians. A total of 682 grants will be funded through the National Health and Medical Research Council.<sup>3886</sup>

On 17 December 2018, an investment of AUD512 million was made in strengthening primary care to support Australia's doctors and specialists to deliver improved access and outcomes for patients. An expert advisory group has been established to propose potential new models of patient centered,

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<sup>3882</sup> Nación lanzó la campaña de vacunación contra la gripe 2019, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-lanzo-la-campana-de-vacunacion-contra-la-gripe-2019>.

<sup>3883</sup> Nación lanzó la campaña de vacunación contra la gripe 2019, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-lanzo-la-campana-de-vacunacion-contra-la-gripe-2019>.

<sup>3884</sup> Nación lanzó la campaña de vacunación contra la gripe 2019, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-lanzo-la-campana-de-vacunacion-contra-la-gripe-2019>.

<sup>3885</sup> \$240 million for research into the next big medical breakthrough, Department of Health (Canberra) 6 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2018-hunt166.htm>

<sup>3886</sup> More than \$500 million research boost to improve lives, Department of Health (Canberra) 12 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2018-hunt173.htm>

innovative and flexible primary care, particularly to address the challenges of chronic and complex conditions and to deliver more coordinated care for patients.<sup>3887</sup>

On 4 February 2019, the government announced that it will provide AUD54.5 million for research that will support more than 120,000 Australian children and adults living with type 1 diabetes. The government is aware of the significant impact that diabetes has on people and their families and is committed to working towards the broad prevention of the disease in the Australian community.<sup>3888</sup>

On 4 February 2019, the government announced that it will expand its Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) program to 50 new MRI licences, giving patients from all around Australia access to life saving scans. The Government of Australia will invest a further AUD150 million, bringing the total investment to AUD375 million over the forward estimates and delivering 50 MRI licences nationally. Access to MRI scans keep the cost of healthcare down for families and will help Australians in their fight against cancer.<sup>3889</sup>

On 5 February 2019, the Government of Australia made a AUD70 million investment in a world-first national network of specialist care units that will benefit some of the most vulnerable Australians who live with dementia. The innovative program will see more than 30 specialist care units established to provide best practice person-centred care for people exhibiting very severe behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia. It will provide much needed specialist care for people who are currently unable to be appropriately cared for by mainstream residential aged care services.<sup>3890</sup>

On 5 February 2019, the Minister for Regional Services Bridget McKenzie, announced funding of AUD61 million so Primary Health Networks across Australia can continue to commission treatment services. This funding forms part of the broader treatment funding under the National Ice Action Strategy providing AUD241.5 million for Primary Health Networks to commission additional drug and alcohol treatment services to meet local need.<sup>3891</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the national government announced establishing the HeartKids Project with financing of AUD26 million to tackle childhood heart disease, which affects more than 65,000 Australians. The funding is for an open grant round aimed at better understanding the disease's genetic causes and prevention and treatment options.<sup>3892</sup>

On 17 February 2019, the government announced that 170,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and adolescents aged five to 14 years of age will now be able to access an influenza vaccine for free. Also, an additional AUD12 million will be spent over the next three years to expand the

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<sup>3887</sup> \$500 million to boost primary care in 2018-19 MYEFO, Department of Health (Canberra) 17 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2018-hunt178.htm>

<sup>3888</sup> \$54.5 million for type 1 diabetes research, Department of Health (Canberra) 4 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt014.htm>

<sup>3889</sup> \$375 million for 50 MRI licences, Department of Health (Canberra) 4 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt015.htm>

<sup>3890</sup> \$70 million a year to better support people with severe symptoms of dementia, Department of Health (Canberra) 5 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-wyatt020.htm>

<sup>3891</sup> \$61 Million Boost for Drug Treatment, Department of Health (Canberra) 5 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-mckenzie012.htm>

<sup>3892</sup> The HeartKids Project: \$26 million to tackle childhood heart disease, Department of Health (Canberra) 14 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt020.htm>

reach of the successful Get the Facts about immunisation campaign which raises awareness of the benefits and importance of immunisation.<sup>3893</sup>

On 22 February 2019, it was announced that the government will invest AUD10 million to expand access to a medicine for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Intuniv (guanfacine) for the treatment of ADHD were made available as an add-on therapy to other ADHD medicines on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme from 1 March 2019. Without subsidy patients would pay over AUD1,600 per year for this treatment. Under the PBS the price goes down to just AUD40.30 per script, or AUD6.50 for concessional patients.<sup>3894</sup>

On 3 January 2019, the government made a commitment that Senior Australians living in regional, rural and remote areas will have more access to high quality, higher level aged care through a new AUD4 million annual investment in flexible aged care places. It will also fund delivery of higher-level care at 26 MPS centres including 15 in New South Wales, seven in South Australia, two in Queensland, and one each in Victoria and Western Australia.<sup>3895</sup>

On 16 January 2019, the government announced providing a record AUD1.45 billion for community mental health services and changing the funding model to ensure security for both jobs and services. The funding will be provided through the government's innovative 31 Primary Health Networks (PHNs), which are independent regional health organizations. PHNs will coordinate local support for child and youth mental health, psychological therapy, severe and complex illness, community-based suicide prevention and Indigenous mental health.<sup>3896</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the government made a significant investment of AUD36.8 million for Parkinson's medical research through the Garvin's Institute's Australian Parkinson Mission and in Parkinson's nurses to improve the life of people living the disease and ultimately to find a cure. This investment will help to trial promising drugs to reduce the progression of the disease and allow people to live in their homes longer.<sup>3897</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Department of health announced that the government will support clinical trials to test the effectiveness of a world-first malaria vaccine in an attempt to globally eradicate the deadly disease. The Rotary clubs have raised AUD500,000 and the government will match this with funding of AUD500,000 towards the Malaria Vaccine Project, which has developed a new novel vaccine for the disease. The funding will be provided to Griffith University through the Medical Research Future Fund to undertake clinical trials to test the effectiveness of the new malaria vaccine PlasProtect.<sup>3898</sup>

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<sup>3893</sup> Free flu vaccines for Aboriginal children and \$12 million to boost immunization, Department of Health (Canberra) 17 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt022.htm>

<sup>3894</sup> \$10 million for ADHD medicine on the PBS, Department of Health (Canberra) 22 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt025.htm>

<sup>3895</sup> Senior Australians Receive \$4 Million Regional Aged Care Boost, Department of Health (Canberra) 3 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-wyatt002.htm>

<sup>3896</sup> \$1.45 billion to strengthen mental health services and support job security, Department of Health (Canberra) 16 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt008.htm>

<sup>3897</sup> \$36.8 million for Parkinson's disease, Department of Health (Canberra) 30 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt013.htm>

<sup>3898</sup> New malaria vaccine clinical trials aims to globally eradicate the disease, Department of Health (Canberra) 8 March 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt038.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=03>

On 17 March 2019, the government launched a program that will help reduce the out of pocket medical expenses for families needing life-saving scans like ultrasounds and X-rays with an almost AUD200 million investment. For the first time in 20 years the indexation of Medicare Benefits Schedule items will be expanded to all ultrasound and diagnostic radiology services over three years from 1 July 2020. Medicare rebates for about 90 per cent of all diagnostic imaging services will now be indexed, including X-rays for fractures, mammograms, pregnancy ultrasounds, echocardiograms, angiograms, image guided procedures and CT scans for the diagnosis and management of cancer.<sup>3899</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Australian government announced listing crucial medicines for Cancer, Parkinson's and motor neurone on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), saving patients up to AUD300,000 a year. The Government will invest AUD19 million to broaden the PBS listing of Adcetris (brentuximab vedotin) to include treatment of cutaneous T-cell lymphomas. It is a very rare form of cancer affecting around 150 to 200 Australians each year caused by cancerous growth of a type of white blood cell called a T-cell.<sup>3900</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the government invested almost AUD92 million to support better health care for all Tasmanians, improving waiting times for elective surgery, boosting mental health and maternity services and increasing cancer diagnosis scans.<sup>3901</sup> The Tasmanian Health Plan also provides greater support for Tasmanians in rural and remote locations while increasing a wide range of vital services, from general practitioners to hospital care and specialist health services.<sup>3902</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the government launched the National Women's Health Strategy 2020-2030 with more than AUD50 million in funding to improve women's health in areas such as ovarian cancer and endometriosis. The women's health strategy for 2020-2030 includes recommendations for action by governments, health professionals and women themselves.<sup>3903</sup> It recognises that there is no "average" woman and is inclusive of sexuality and gender identities. AUD20 million was allocated for research on ovarian cancer with a focus on early detection. AUD9 million was a contestable targeted call from the Medical Research Future Fund for endometriosis research to improve the treatment and understanding on an often misunderstood and crippling condition.<sup>3904</sup>

Australia has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically but no actions on international for a were registered during compliance period.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

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<sup>3899</sup> \$200 million to reduce out of pocket costs for scans, Department of Health (Canberra) 18 March 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt044.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=03>

<sup>3900</sup> Cancer, Parkinson's and motor neurone medicines listed on the PBS, Department of Health (Canberra) 19 March 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt046.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=03>

<sup>3901</sup> Boosting Health Services in Tasmania, Department of Health (Canberra) 10 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt129.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=04>

<sup>3902</sup> Boosting Health Services in Tasmania, Department of Health (Canberra) 10 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt129.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=04>

<sup>3903</sup> \$52.2 million to improve women's health, Department of Health (Canberra) 9 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt123.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=04>

<sup>3904</sup> \$52.2 million to improve women's health, Department of Health (Canberra) 9 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt123.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=04>

**Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 5 December 2018, the Ministry of Health released the list of projects approved to receive tax exemption resources by the National Program of Support to Oncologic Attention and the National Program to Support the Attention of the Health of People with Disabilities.<sup>3905</sup>

On 7 December 2019, the Ministry of Health provided BRL19,2 million to expand assistance in the state of Sergipe for improvement of home care, basic care, medium and high complexity care, mental health, child health, people with disabilities and health monitoring.<sup>3906</sup>

On 10 December 2018, the Ministry of Health allocated additional resources (BRL23,2 million) to five cities in the interior of Sao Paulo to expand hospital care.<sup>3907</sup>

On 10-12 December 2018, the Ministry of Health held the National Conference on Indigenous Health to discuss the proposals and demands of 10 different ethnic groups inhabiting Altamira. The basic document discussed in the local, district and national levels has seven axes: traditional indigenous health systems; model of care and organization of health services; human resources and personnel management in an intercultural context; infrastructure and sanitation of indigenous peoples' health care; financing; social determinants of health; and social control and participatory management.<sup>3908</sup>

On 13 December, the Ministry of Health allocated BRL4,9 million for Basic Units of Health (UBS) reforms to modernize the physical spaces of the UBS and promote better care.<sup>3909</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the Ministry of Health allocated BRL17,3 million to universities' hospitals to improve the health services. The resource can be used by managers to pay for ambulatory and hospital care and procedures, to finance renovation and expansion of spaces and physical structures, acquisition of medical and hospital materials, modernization of the environment and care for patients.<sup>3910</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the Health Minister Gilberto Occhi announced an allocation BRL66,6 million to expand and improve health services in 34 municipalities of Pernambuco. The resources

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<sup>3905</sup> Publicados projetos que receberão recursos de isenção do Pronon e Pronas, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/44876-publicados-projetos-que-receberao-recursos-de-isencao-do-pronon-e-pronas>

<sup>3906</sup> Ministério da Saúde libera R\$ 19,2 milhões para ampliar assistência em Sergipe, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/44885-ministerio-da-saude-libera-r-19-2-milhoes-para-ampliar-assistencia-em-sergipe>

<sup>3907</sup> Cinco cidades do interior de SP terão adicional de R\$ 23,2 mi para ampliar assistência, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/44890-cinco-cidades-paulistas-terao-incremento-de-r-23-2-mi-para-ampliar-assistencia>

<sup>3908</sup> Conferência Nacional de Saúde Indígena: etapa distrital em Altamira/PA debate propostas do Médio Xingu, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sesai/44947-conferencia-nacional-de-saude-indigena-etapa-distrital-em-altamira-pa-debate-propostas-do-medio-xingu>

<sup>3909</sup> Ministério da Saúde libera R\$ 4,9 milhões para reformas de UBS, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/44953-ministerio-da-saude-libera-r-4-9-milhoes-para-reformas-de-ubs>

<sup>3910</sup> Ministério da Saúde libera R\$ 17,3 milhões para Hospitais Universitários, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 13 December 2018. Access Date : 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/44953-ministerio-da-saude-libera-r-4-9-milhoes-para-reformas-de-ubs>

will be used for hospital care, construction and habilitation of new services, and donation of vehicles to support the Specialized Centers in Rehabilitation.<sup>3911</sup>

On 20 December 2018, four ministries launched the National Plan for Prevention and Control of Antimicrobial Resistance. The main objective of the National Plan is to protect the health of the population, especially the hospitalized patient.<sup>3912</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the Ministry of Health allocated BRL51 million to improve oral health in 898 Brazilian municipalities. The money was intended to purchase 2,836 dental chairs, for all regions of the country. The investment contributes to qualify, expand and strengthen Oral Health care in the Unified Health System.<sup>3913</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the Minister of Health and five other ministers of State (Defense, Citizenship, Human Rights, Education, General Controllershship of the Union) visited the state of Roraima to confer the assistance to Venezuelan refugees in the scope of Operation «Welcomed». They learnt about the activities carried out by the Humanitarian Logistics Task Force, on the border with Venezuela. The Health Minister Luiz Henrique Mandetta highlighted the need to strengthen vaccination to protect the local population and immigrants from preventable diseases.<sup>3914</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the federal government launched the digital service for issuing the International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis. It reduces costs for the State and for the citizens.<sup>3915</sup>

On 23 January 2019, the federal government launched an integrated action plan for federal hospitals, consisting from diagnosis of each unit, production of management strategy and start of implementation of the action plan. Measure aims to optimize the operation of the services and improve the assistance, making service more agile and accessible.<sup>3916</sup>

On 22 February 2019, the meeting between the Ministry of Health, the Health Education and the representatives of Amazonas state medical entities was held in Brasília. The central theme of the debate was the performance of medical professionals and the expansion of the budget for public health financing in Brazil.<sup>3917</sup>

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<sup>3911</sup> Pernambuco recebe R\$ 66,6 milhões para ampliar atendimento à população, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45001-pernambuco-recebe-r-66-6-milhoes-para-ampliar-atendimento-a-populacao>

<sup>3912</sup> Quatro ministérios lançam Plano Nacional de Controle de Antimicrobianos, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 8 January 2019. Access Date : 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/svs/45085-quatro-ministerios-lancam-plano-nacional-de-controle-de-antimicrobianos>

<sup>3913</sup> Municípios terão R\$ 51 mi para comprar equipamentos de saúde buccal, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45046-municipios-terao-r-51-mi-para-comprar-equipamentos-de-saude-bucal>

<sup>3914</sup> Ministro da Saúde visita Roraima e acompanha assistência a venezuelanos, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45128-em-visita-a-roraima-ministro-acompanha-acolhida-a-venezuelanos>

<sup>3915</sup> Emissão de certificado internacional de vacinação passa a ser digital, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45147-ministro-da-saude-participa-das-comemoracoes-dos-20-anos-da-anvisa>

<sup>3916</sup> Governo Federal lança ação integrada para hospitais federais, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45136-governo-federal-lanca-acao-integrada-para-hospitais-federais>

<sup>3917</sup> Ministério de Saúde e entidades médicas do Amazonas se reúnem para debater a situação da saúde no estado, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sgtes/45253-ministerio-da-saude-e-entidades-medicas-do-amazonas-se-reunem-para-debater-a-situacao-da-saude-no-estado>

On 27 February 2019, the Ministry of Health announced that Santa Catarina received BRL30,4 million to expand the offer of hemodialysis services, home care, habilitation of new hospital beds, strengthening of the Stork Network and reception of pregnant women and infants, qualification and qualification of UPAs, qualification and renewal of the Mobile Emergency Care Service.<sup>3918</sup>

On 27 February 2019, the Ministry of Health renewed contracts of doctors who works in areas of greater vulnerability as a part of a federal programme “More Doctors,” which is a part of a broad effort by the Federal Government of the support of states and municipalities to improve care for users of the Unified Health System.<sup>3919</sup> It provides more physicians to areas where there is a shortage or absence of these professionals, more investments in the construction, remodeling and expansion of Basic Health Units, as well as new graduation vacancies and medical residency to qualify the training of these professionals.<sup>3920</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the Ministry of Health and Federal Council of Dentistry met to discuss expansion of the participation of dental professionals in multiprofessional teams, considering the need to supply Primary Care demand, especially in places of difficult access and extreme poverty.<sup>3921</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the site of the Ministry of Health report the beginning of the distribution of Child Health Passports, which allows to monitor and share health information, facilitating the communication between the services that take care of the child in the different levels of attention. 3,267,186 Health Passports were purchased. The document tracks the health situation of children up to the age of nine.<sup>3922</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the Minister of Health Luiz Henrique Mandetta participated in a debate on the theme “Health Project for a New Brazil.” He presented to an audience of businessmen of the sector the actions that he intends to implement to improve Brazilian public health, which were computerization of the system, the restructuring of Primary Care, the regionalization of health, the improvement of the “More Doctors” program, and the integrated action of federal hospitals to promote management improvements and, consequently, the quality of the provided to the population.<sup>3923</sup>

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<sup>3918</sup> Santa Catarina terá R\$ 30,4 milhões para ampliar ações de saúde, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date : 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45254-santa-catarina-tera-r-30-4-milhoes-para-ampliar-acoes-de-saude>

<sup>3919</sup> Saúde renovará contrato de médico que atua em áreas de maior vulnerabilidade, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45260-ministerio-vai-renovar-contrato-de-medicos-que-atuam-em-areas-de-maior-vulnerabilidade>

<sup>3920</sup> Saúde renovará contrato de médico que atua em áreas de maior vulnerabilidade, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45260-ministerio-vai-renovar-contrato-de-medicos-que-atuam-em-areas-de-maior-vulnerabilidade>

<sup>3921</sup> Ministério da Saúde e Conselho Federal de Odontologia se reúnem para discutir propostas de políticas públicas na área da saúde, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sgtes/45272-ministerio-da-saude-e-conselho-federal-de-odontologia-se-reunem-para-discutir-propostas-de-politicas-publicas-na-area-da-saude>

<sup>3922</sup> Cadernetas de saúde da criança estão sendo enviadas aos estados, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45277-cadernetas-de-saude-da-crianca-estao-sendo-enviadas-aos-estados>

<sup>3923</sup> Ministro da Saúde apresenta projetos para o setor a empresários, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45289-ministro-da-saude-apresenta-projetos-para-o-setor-a-empresarios>

On 25 March 2019, the Ministry of Health announced an allocation of BRL27,7 million of federal resources to expand and qualify health care and the fight against endemic diseases in the state of Paraíba.<sup>3924</sup>

On 28 March 2019, the Ministry of Health announced a conference within the 6th National Conference on Indigenous Health with two thousand delegates to prepare proposals for Indigenous Health. The main issues to discuss will be organization of the health services for indigenous, infrastructure and sanitation, and financing.<sup>3925</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the Health Minister Luiz Henrique Mandetta announced new actions to qualify and expand access to Primary Care services.<sup>3926</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the Ministry of Health announced that 48 university hospitals in 22 states and in the Federal District will receive federal resources of BRL102,5 million to improve the infrastructure of the units, as well as to provide care to the population.<sup>3927</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the Ministry of Health held a meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the main points of the Quality Health Program for Brazil.<sup>3928</sup>

On 9-12 April 2019, technical teams of the Ministry of Health of Argentina and National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality jointly with the European Union organized a course on antimicrobial resistance in Buenos Aires for the countries of the region to promote integrated work between the sectors of industry and health.<sup>3929</sup> The event was attended by leaders from Brazil, Paraguay, Chile, Uruguay, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador.

On 20 April 2019, the Ministry of Health launched the 13th edition of the Indigenous Peoples' Immunization Month 2019 to intensify vaccination in indigenous areas in order to improve the vaccination coverage, especially in areas with difficult geographical access.<sup>3930</sup>

On 30 April 2019, the Ministry of Health extended the treatment available to children who undergo liver transplantation.<sup>3931</sup>

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<sup>3924</sup> Saúde libera R\$ 27,7 milhões para ampliar assistência na Paraíba, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45315-saude-libera-r-27-7-milhoes-para-ampliar-assistencia-na-paraiba>

<sup>3925</sup> 6ª CNSI é lançada no Congresso Nacional, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sesai/45320-6-cnsi-e-lancada-no-congresso-nacional>

<sup>3926</sup> Ministro da Saúde anuncia novas ações para fortalecimento da Atenção Básica, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45343-ministro-da-saude-anuncia-novas-acoes-para-fortalecimento-da-atencao-basica>

<sup>3927</sup> Hospitais Universitários ganham reforço de R\$ 102,5 milhões, Ministry of Health of Brazil 10 April 2019, (Brasília). Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45349-hospitais-universitarios-ganham-reforco-de-r-102-5-milhoes>

<sup>3928</sup> MS e MDH debatem propostas do programa QUALISAÚDE-BRASIL, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sgtes/45361-ms-e-mdh-debatem-propostas-do-programa-qualisaude-brasil>

<sup>3929</sup> Equipos técnicos de Salud e Industria se capacitaron en resistencia antimicrobiana, Argentine government (Buenos Aires) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/equipos-tecnicos-de-salud-e-industria-se-capacitaron-en-resistencia-antimicrobiana>

<sup>3930</sup> Começa o Mês de Vacinação dos Povos Indígenas, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45386-comeca-mes-de-vacinacao-dos-povos-indigenas>

<sup>3931</sup> Ministério da Saúde amplia oferta de medicamentos a crianças que realizaram transplante de fígado, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45408-ministerio-da-saude-amplia-oferta-de-medicamentos-a-criancas-que-realizaram-transplante-de-figado>

Brazil has taken actions aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 21 December 2019, it was announced that The Canadian Institutes of Health Research will continue its long-standing collaboration with the European Commission by supporting eight joint transnational calls in 2019. The Canadian dedicated funding will support the involvement of Canadian researchers in multinational research consortia in areas such as personalized medicine, rare diseases, neurodegenerative diseases, mental health, cardiovascular diseases, and aging well.<sup>3932</sup>

In 2019, the Integrated Health Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean (IHSLAC) Project, a cooperation agreement between the Government of Canada's Department of Global Affairs Canada and the Pan American Health Organization is being implemented. IHSLAC responds to priorities within maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health. It is implemented in 11 countries. The IHSLAC Project runs from 2016 to 2019. Its ultimate outcome is to contribute to improved health of children, young girls and women (including mothers) in situations of vulnerability in Latin America and the Caribbean.<sup>3933</sup>

On 11 February 2019, on behalf of the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, Member of Parliament, the Honourable Hedy Fry, announced CAD950,000 over 30 months to support RADIUS' Health Promotion Lab housed at Simon Fraser University's Beedie School of Business. Through this project, RADIUS will collaborate with organizations to develop, test and accelerate innovative initiatives that help address chronic diseases in Canada.<sup>3934</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the Minister of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor announced that the Public Health Agency of Canada is providing CAD250,000 to Parachute Canada for its Pan-Canadian Seniors' Fall Prevention Network project. In collaboration with other organizations focused on injury prevention across Canada, Parachute Canada will create an online hub for individuals and health professionals, making it easier for them to find tools, resources and information related to fall prevention and recovery.<sup>3935</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the Minister of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor announced an investment of CAD1.7 million over the next two years for 8 projects that will help improve the health of Canadians in changing climate. Funded projects will enhance surveillance and monitoring of infectious diseases

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<sup>3932</sup> CIHR partners with the European Union to advance research in key areas, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 21 December 2018. Access date: 23 May 2019. <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51280.html>

<sup>3933</sup> Integrated Health Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean (IHSLAC), Pan-American Health Organisation (Washington). Access Date: 23 May 2019. [https://www.paho.org/can/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=302:integrated-health-systems-in-latin-america-and-the-caribbean-ihslac&Itemid=243&lang=es](https://www.paho.org/can/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=302:integrated-health-systems-in-latin-america-and-the-caribbean-ihslac&Itemid=243&lang=es)

<sup>3934</sup> Government of Canada Supports Hub to Promote Healthy Living - Innovative lab will help start-ups design and deliver activities to prevent chronic diseases. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2019. Access date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-supports-hub-to-promote-healthy-living---innovative-lab-will-help-start-ups-design-and-deliver-activities-to-prevent-chronic-d.html>

<sup>3935</sup> Public Health Agency of Canada Supports Fall Prevention Among Canadian Seniors. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/public-health-agency-of-canada-supports-fall-prevention-among-canadian-seniors.html>

linked to climate change as well as implement education and awareness activities across the country so that Canadians are informed about health risks and prevention strategies. Funding is provided through the Infectious Disease and Climate Change Fund which is now accepting proposals from interested applicants for future funding opportunities.<sup>3936</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the Minister of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor announced funding for a community-based project that will better serve the complex needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) as well as their families and caregivers throughout their lives, with a focus on times of transition from youth to adult and from adult to senior.<sup>3937</sup> Projects funded through the Autism Spectrum Disorder Strategic Fund will provide opportunities for Canadians living with ASD as well as their families and caregivers to gain knowledge, resources and skills. Funding will also improve the capacity of communities to address the challenges of autism. This support is essential to helping Canadians affected by ASD achieve and maintain optimal health and wellbeing.<sup>3938</sup>

In April 2019, FUJIFILM Canada Inc. launched a new medical systems division to sell and market its diagnostic imaging solutions across Canada. To that end, FUJIFILM Canada Inc. will continue its 50-year long relationship with Christie Innomed, a Canadian company that develops, distributes, integrates and supports innovative medical imaging and health information management solutions to improve Canadian healthcare and will expand its Canadian sales workforce.<sup>3939</sup> On 2 April 2019, Health Canada and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration held joint public consultation meetings on International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) guidelines currently under development.<sup>3940</sup> The aim of this initiative is to hold public consultation meetings prior to each bi-annual ICH face-to-face meeting, in order to seek input on areas where harmonised ICH guidelines would be beneficial. Stakeholder input received through this initiative will be considered in current or future guideline development. Health Canada also intends to use these opportunities to better understand areas in drug product regulation where Canadian requirements may differ from those in place in the U.S., with a view to minimizing these differences.<sup>3941</sup>

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<sup>3936</sup> Government of Canada Announces New Projects that Will Help Reduce the Health Impacts of Climate Change. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 1 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-new-projects-that-will-help-reduce-the-health-impacts-of-climate-change.html>

<sup>3937</sup> Government of Canada Announces First Project under the Autism Spectrum Disorder Strategic Fund. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 2 April 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-first-project-under-the-autism-spectrum-disorder-strategic-fund.html>

<sup>3938</sup> Government of Canada Announces First Project under the Autism Spectrum Disorder Strategic Fund. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 2 April 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-first-project-under-the-autism-spectrum-disorder-strategic-fund.html>

<sup>3939</sup> Canada announces closer collaboration with Japan, Site of the Prime Minister of Canada Justine Trudeau (Ottawa) 26 April 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2019/04/28/canada-announces-closer-collaboration-japan>

<sup>3940</sup> Notice: Health Canada and United States Food and Drug Administration Joint Public Consultation on the International Council on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) Guidelines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 April 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/public-involvement-consultations/drug-products/international-council-harmonisation-registration-pharmaceuticals-human-use-consultation-notice.html>

<sup>3941</sup> Notice: Health Canada and United States Food and Drug Administration Joint Public Consultation on the International Council on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) Guidelines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 April 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/public-involvement-consultations/drug-products/international-council-harmonisation-registration-pharmaceuticals-human-use-consultation-notice.html>

On 17 April 2019, the Minister of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor announced that the Public Health Agency of Canada is investing up to CAD1.5 million over three years in the Alliance Wellness and Rehabilitation Inc. (Alliance Health) Healthy Kids Initiative.<sup>3942</sup> This is a three-year initiative to improve the activity levels, eating habits and social supports of up to 3,000 children and youth between the ages of 10 and 17 in Moose Jaw, Regina and Saskatoon in Saskatchewan. The Healthy Kids Initiative is a 12-week program that takes a whole-of-community approach to promoting healthy living by providing daily physical activity and access to healthy eating and mental health sessions.<sup>3943</sup>

Canada has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Uliana Kopyukh*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 5 March 2019, National Development and Reform Commission issued 2019 Draft Plan for National Economic and Social Development. The plan has established the goals for 2019 which particularly include reforms on medical and healthcare system aiming at providing the citizens with the modern hospital management, universal health insurance, medicine supplies, and comprehensive healthcare examination; developing Internet Plus Healthcare model; continuing the reform of medical insurance payouts; improving the long-term mechanism for supervision over vaccines and drugs, etc.<sup>3944</sup>

On 26 March 2019, China Civil Engineering Company set plans to construct 26 hospitals in South Sudan using Chinese financial sources.<sup>3945</sup>

On 8 April 2019, the 19th China Medical Team in Rwanda provided medical treatment to about 300 patients. The goal of the medical team is to provide quality medical services to those Rwandan people who are not able to afford medicines and higher quality health care.<sup>3946</sup>

On 15 April 2019, National Health Commission launched a capacity-building platform designed for strengthening healthcare services on the community level. Platform combines online and offline training programs for community level healthcare workers.<sup>3947</sup>

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<sup>3942</sup> Government of Canada Supports Health and Well-being for Children and Youth in Saskatchewan. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 17 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-supports-health-and-well-being-for-children-and-youth-in-saskatchewan.html>

<sup>3943</sup> Government of Canada Supports Health and Well-being for Children and Youth in Saskatchewan. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 17 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-supports-health-and-well-being-for-children-and-youth-in-saskatchewan.html>

<sup>3944</sup> Report on the Implementation of the 2018 Plan for National Economic and Social Development and on the 2019 Draft Plan for National Economic and Social Development, National Development and Reform Commission (Beijing) 5 March 2019. Access date: 27 April 2019. [www.xinhuanet.com/english/special/2019lh/download/Full%2520text%2520Report%2520on%2520China%27s%2520national%2520economic,%2520social%2520development%2520plan.doc+&cd=22&hl=ru&ct=clnk&gl=ru](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/special/2019lh/download/Full%2520text%2520Report%2520on%2520China%27s%2520national%2520economic,%2520social%2520development%2520plan.doc+&cd=22&hl=ru&ct=clnk&gl=ru)

<sup>3945</sup> Chinese firm to construct 26 hospitals in South Sudan, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 26 March 2019. Access date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/26/c\\_137925217.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/26/c_137925217.htm)

<sup>3946</sup> Chinese doctors provide free health care in Rwanda, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 8 April 2019. Access date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/08/c\\_137960672.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/08/c_137960672.htm)

On 17 April 2019, Chinese government, in collaboration with the World Health Organization, provided the Fijian government with the medical supplies for detecting and treatment of the cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases and cancer.<sup>3948</sup>

On 25 April 2019, National Health Commission reported that according to the China's healthcare reform aiming to provide more affordable drugs for patients, seventeen anti-cancer drugs were added to the medical insurance reimbursement list with their prices cut by 56.7 percent on average.<sup>3949</sup>

On 28 April 2019, Chinese medical team provided a free healthcare treatment for around 200 local workers in Ghana, including such medical services as acupuncture and ophthalmology.<sup>3950</sup>

China has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage.

On 1 January 2019, the assumption of 100 per cent health costs in the field of optics, audiology and dental gradually entered into force. Its deployment will continue until 2021. As of January 1, 2019, the prices of the "100 per cent health" basket are capped in audiology and dentistry. In addition, the reimbursement of hearing aids increases by EUR100 for the insured. In total, the remaining dependents will be reduced by EUR200 on average for "100 per cent health" hearing aids.<sup>3951</sup>

On 1 January 2019, as part of the national sexual health strategy to combat the spread of sexually transmitted infections (HIV, viral hepatitis, syphilis, gonorrhoea, chlamydia, etc.), a male condom mark is reimbursed by health insurance.<sup>3952</sup>

On 30 January 2019 in partnership with Public Health France, the Collège de France opened a new department dedicated to public health.<sup>3953</sup>

On 4 February 2019, Minister of Solidarities and Health Agnès Buzyn signed the Contract of the Health Industries and Technologies sector. The National Institute of Health Data will disappear in favor of an expanded "health data platform." Its role will be to "collect, organize and provide data from the National Health Data System"; the concept of "telecare" is coming into the health system. It is defined as a practice of distance care between a patient and one or more pharmacists. The

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<sup>3947</sup> Platform launched to enhance China's community-level healthcare services, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 15 April 2019. Access date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/15/c\\_137978979.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/15/c_137978979.htm)

<sup>3948</sup> China provides Fiji medical equipments to detect non-communicable diseases, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 25 April 2019. Access date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/17/c\\_137984758.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/17/c_137984758.htm)

<sup>3949</sup> More affordable drugs offered with healthcare reform: official, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 25 April 2019. Access date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/25/c\\_138008495.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/25/c_138008495.htm)

<sup>3950</sup> Chinese medical team in Ghana offers free service to local workers, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 28 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/28/c\\_138019135.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/28/c_138019135.htm)

<sup>3951</sup> Ce qui change en 2019, Gouvernement de la République française (Paris) 1 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/ce-qui-change-en-2019>

<sup>3952</sup> Ce qui change en 2019, Gouvernement de la République française (Paris) 1 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/ce-qui-change-en-2019>

<sup>3953</sup> En partenariat avec Santé publique France, le Collège de France ouvre une nouvelle chaire consacrée à la santé publique, Santé publique France (Paris) 30 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <http://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/Actualites/En-partenariat-avec-Sante-publique-France-le-College-de-France-ouvre-une-nouvelle-chaire-consacree-a-la-sante-publique>

conditions of care will be specified by decree and will take into account “deficiencies in the supply of care due to insularity and geographical isolation”; diversification of the profiles of future health professionals, put an end to a competition system and to increase the number of doctors by 20 per cent.<sup>3954</sup>

On 22 January 2019, it was announced that French Development Agency and the Hospital Center of Western Guiana signed a partnership agreement that signals a new step forward in the reinforcement of healthcare cooperation between French Guiana and Suriname.<sup>3955</sup>

On 17 April 2019, it was announced that the Ministry of Solidarity and Health provides all stakeholders with a “guide to help with the preparation and management of hospital stresses and exceptional health situations.” Developed by the Directorate General for Health and the Directorate-General for Caregiving in close collaboration with hospital professionals, this guide offers facility managers, presidents of medical establishment committees and teams in the framework of the preparation and crisis management, consistent with the regional response mechanism “ORSAN1.”<sup>3956</sup>

France has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dariya Myasnikova*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage.

On 22 January 2019, Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron signed the Treaty of Aachen. The Treaty provides for specific solutions to make the everyday life of people living in border regions of the two countries easier. Practical cross-border projects are to facilitate dialogue, including the establishment of joint nurseries and education facilities, emergency and health services and new industrial estates.<sup>3957</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the government announced that from the start of the 2019 winter semester supplements to health and long-term nursing care insurance will also be increased for the recipients of state assistance under the German Federal Training Assistance Act.<sup>3958</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the Health Ministry launched the “Global Health Hub Germany” initiative. It is an independent Germany-based network of health organizations, foundations, non-governmental organizations, science and academia, and the healthcare industry promoting informal exchange and

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<sup>3954</sup> Signature du Contrat stratégique de la filière « Industries et Technologies de Santé, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 4 February 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=D0F01FC6-D307-4D70-8FE9-A42AF36844FE&filename=1004.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=D0F01FC6-D307-4D70-8FE9-A42AF36844FE&filename=1004.pdf)

<sup>3955</sup> Between French Guiana And Suriname, Healthcare Has No Borders, Le groupe Agence française de développement (AFD) (Paris) 22 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/between-french-guiana-and-suriname-healthcare-has-no-borders>

<sup>3956</sup> Le ministère accompagne les professionnels dans la préparation et la gestion des situations sanitaires exceptionnelles Santé publique France (Paris) 17 April 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/le-ministère-accompagne-les-professionnels-dans-la-préparation-et-la-gestion>

<sup>3957</sup> Strengthening friendship, German Federal Government (Berlin) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/strengthening-friendship-1571398>.

<sup>3958</sup> More young people to receive Bafög training assistance, German Federal Government (Berlin) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/more-young-people-to-receive-bafog-training-assistance-1575562>.

facilitating the creation of new projects and partnerships in the area of global health.<sup>3959</sup> Over a period of three years (up to 2021), the Federal Ministry of Health will support the Global Health Hub Germany by means of seed funding. The German Agency for International Cooperation will serve as the network's managing office for this period of time.<sup>3960</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the German Bundestag adopted the law "for faster doctor appointments and better care" in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. The law is expected to come into force in May 2019 and is not subject to approval by the Bundesrat. The new law is aimed at the expansion of appointment service points. They should become central contact points for patients reachable 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. Besides, the law provides for an increase in the minimum number of consultation hours offered by contract physicians. In underserved areas, the associations of physicians must in the future open their own practices or offer alternative care.<sup>3961</sup>

In 2019, Germany continued the implementation of the Universal health coverage project launched in October 2017. The project worth EUR19.5 million is implemented by the German Agency for International Cooperation and Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in Benin, Cameroon, Guinea, Indonesia, Kenya, Cambodia, Laos, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Chad, Tanzania.<sup>3962</sup>

Germany has taken actions aimed at promotion of universal health coverage domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepov*

#### **India: +1**

India had fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 6 December 2018, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave its approval on the Memorandum of Cooperation between India and Japan in the field of Healthcare and Wellness signed on 29th October 2018.<sup>3963</sup>

On 14 December 2018, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation Suresh Prabhu announced setting up of a National Medical Devices Promotion Council under the Department of

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<sup>3959</sup> Federal Minister of Health Jens Spahn: "A strong German network for global health", German Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/press/2019/global-health-hub-germany.html>.

<sup>3960</sup> Federal Minister of Health Jens Spahn: "A strong German network for global health", German Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/press/2019/global-health-hub-germany.html>.

<sup>3961</sup> Bundestag beschließt Terminservice- und Versorgungsgesetz, German Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/2019/1-quartal/tsvg-2-3-lesung-bundestag.html>.

<sup>3962</sup> Universal Health Coverage - Universelle soziale Absicherung im Krankheitsfall, German Agency for International Cooperation (Bonn). Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<https://www.giz.de/projektdaten/exportDetail.action?documentId=201720192&infotypeSource=projects>

<sup>3963</sup> Cabinet approves Memorandum of Cooperation between India and Japan in the field of Healthcare and Wellness, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 6 December 2018. Access date: 6 December 2018.

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1554941>

Industrial Policy and Promotion in the Ministry of Commerce & Industry to give a fillip to the medical device sector, which is a sunrise sector.<sup>3964</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the 12th Global Healthcare Summit organized by the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin in Mumbai.<sup>3965</sup>

On 2 January 2019, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for continuation of five schemes under the “Umbrella Scheme for Family Welfare and Other Health Interventions” during the Fourteenth Finance Commission period 2017-18 to 2019-20.<sup>3966</sup>

On 4 April 2019, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with World Health Organization (WHO) formed a Solidarity Human Chain as part of the World Health Day celebrations to reaffirm their commitment to bridging gaps and working collaboratively towards Universal Health Coverage.<sup>3967</sup>

India has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Sbtanko*

#### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 6 December 2018, it was reported Indonesia’s Ministry of Finance would allocate additional resources worth USD357 million to cover deficits the Social Security Agency for Health; however, it is yet to be defined how to overcome ever-lasting losses at the Agency as it continues to operate in a situation of claims paid out far exceeding premiums collected.<sup>3968</sup>

On 5 February 2019 it was reported that Indonesia was among a group of countries in the World Health Organization, which agreed to co-sponsor the draft resolution (originally proposed by Japan and Thailand) towards a United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting on universal health coverage to be held in autumn 2019.<sup>3969</sup>

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<sup>3964</sup> National Medical Devices Promotion Council to be set up under DIPP, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 14 December 2018. Access date: 14 December 2018. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1555920>

<sup>3965</sup> President of India Inaugurates the 12th Global Healthcare Summit in Mumbai; Addresses the centenary celebration event of the Yoga Institute, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 28 December 2018. Access date: 28 December 2018. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1557714>

<sup>3966</sup> Cabinet approves Continuation of Umbrella scheme for "Family Welfare and Other Health Interventions" during 2017-18 to 2019-20, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 2 January 2019. Access date: 2 January 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1558207>

<sup>3967</sup> Health Ministry forms a Solidarity Human Chain; reaffirms commitment towards Universal Health Care, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 4 April 2019. Access date: 4 April 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1570052>

<sup>3968</sup> Indonesia to inject \$357 mln into state health insurer, Reuters (Jakarta) 6 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/indonesia-insurance-budget/indonesia-to-inject-357-mln-into-state-health-insurer-idUSL4N1YB28G>

<sup>3969</sup> TRIPS Debated As WHO Board Reaches Agreement On Universal Health Coverage, IP Watch (Geneva) 5 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.ip-watch.org/2019/02/05/trips-debated-board-reaches-agreement-universal-health-coverage/>

On 11-13 February 2019, Indonesia's Ministry of Health held a National Health Work Meeting; the Meeting reiterated the government's commitment to increase the rate of universal health coverage, and to undertake a series of efforts that are holistic, strategic and integral to all health development efforts at all stages of the human life cycle, so that all Indonesian people have access to comprehensive and quality health services without financial constraints; it was also stressed that Indonesia's Ministry of Health focuses on promotive, preventive efforts including disease control and curative and rehabilitative health services by mainstreaming quality primary health services.<sup>3970</sup>

Indonesia has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

## **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 11 December 2018, Tuscany Region, with the patronage of the Ministry of Health, launched a national pilot project with the objectives of facilitating the citizen's access to health services in areas with difficulty accessing care.<sup>3971</sup>

On 11-12 December 2018, National Agency for Regional Health Services presented "National accreditation manual for the delivery of ECM [continuing medical education] events," "Manual on continuing education of the healthcare professional" that aim at rationalization and simplification of rules, increase of controls on events in the name of transparency, as well as implementation of training courses calibrated to the knowledge needs of each healthcare provider with the sole aim of raising the overall quality of the training offer.<sup>3972</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the General director of the Food Safety Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Gabonese Republic Sylvain Patrick Enkoro, the General director of Ministry of Health for the Directorate General for Animal Health and Veterinary Drugs Silvio Borrello and the General director of Ministry of Health for the Directorate-General for Hygiene and Food Safety and Nutrition Gaetana Ferri signed the Technical Understanding in the field of food safety, phytopharmaceutical products and animal health in order to create a scientific collaboration and technical and administrative support between the Parties, in consideration of their duty to ensure controls on food safety, phytosanitary and animal health in their respective countries.<sup>3973</sup>

On 30 December 2018, the Italian government approved Budget law that allocates EUR4 million to mandatory neonatal diagnostic tests and EUR150 million to modernize infrastructure and to reduce waiting times for the provision of health services.<sup>3974</sup>

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<sup>3970</sup> Ministry of Health Targets Universal Health Coverage, Suara Merdeka News (Jakarta) 28 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.suaramerdeka.com/news/baca/171181/kemenkes-targetkan-universal-health-coverage>

<sup>3971</sup> Sanità nelle isole, un progetto per migliorare il servizio, Gonews.it (Rome) 11 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.gonews.it/2018/12/11/sanita-nelle-isole-un-progetto-migliorare-servizio/>

<sup>3972</sup> Ecm, nuove regole dal 2019. Agenas: focus sulla qualità della formazione, Aboutpharma.online (Rome) 13 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.aboutpharma.com/blog/2018/12/13/ecm-nuove-regole-dal-2019-agenas-focus-sulla-qualita-della-formazione/>

<sup>3973</sup> Intesa tecnica tra Italia e Gabon nel settore della sicurezza alimentare, dei prodotti fitofarmaceutici e della sanità animale, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 18 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. [www.salute.gov.it/portale/rapportiInternazionali/dettaglioNotizieRapportiInternazionali.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3579](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/rapportiInternazionali/dettaglioNotizieRapportiInternazionali.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3579)

<sup>3974</sup> LEGGE 30 dicembre 2018, n. 145, GAZZETTA UFFICIALE (Rome) 31 December 2018. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/gu/2018/12/31/302/so/62/sg/pdf>

On 29 January 2019, the Director of the Customs and Monopolies Agency adopted “Three-year plan for the prevention of corruption and transparency 2019-2021” in order to fight corruption and protect population against financial-risk.<sup>3975</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Ministry of Health decided to allocate EUR100 million to Southern Regions for the modernization of oncology radiotherapy, and in particular, for the acquisition of equipment equipped with robotic or rotational technology.<sup>3976</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Minister of Health, Giulia Grillo, initiated collaboration con Autorità garante per l’infanzia e l’adolescenza in order to create a norm that would provide minors with free access to diagnostic tests of HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases so it would eliminate requirement of the prior consent of the parent or guardian for taking the test<sup>3977</sup>.

On 13 April 2019, the Minister of Health Giulia Grillo sent a task force composed of Health technicians, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Agenas, Carabinieri of the Nucleo Antisofisticazioni e Sanità in region Calabria to verify the full respect of the national anti-corruption plan and of the Anac provisions. Among his duties there is also an extraordinary recognition of the quality levels provided in all the departments of the hospital structures involved.<sup>3978</sup>

On 18 April 2019, the Council of ministries approved the “Decreto Calabria.” The decree establishes stringent restrictions on purchases and supplies, which the Calabrian Health Service will now have to carry out through the national central for the purchases of the Public Administration (Consip), or through the central purchasing bodies of other regions. New provisions concern the sub-threshold awarding procedures, which must be carried out with the coordination of the National Anti-Corruption Authority (Anac). The Decree confirmed the EUR82 million already allocated to Calabria for the technological modernization of its health system.<sup>3979</sup>

Italy has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically but no actions on international for a were registered during compliance period.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova*

## **Japan: +1**

Japan had fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

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<sup>3975</sup> Piano Triennale per la prevenzione della corruzione e per la trasparenza 2019-2021, Agenzia delle Dogane e dei Monopoli (Rome) 29 January 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.adm.gov.it/portale/piano-triennale-di-prevenzione-della-corruzione-2019-2021>

<sup>3976</sup> Sbloccati 100 milioni per svecchiare le radioterapie oncologiche del Sud, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 14 February 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5148](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5148)

<sup>3977</sup> Test hiv su minori senza consenso genitori, sì del Garante Infanzia al ministro Grillo per collaborazione su nuove regole, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 26 February 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5158](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5158)

<sup>3978</sup> Umbria, ministero invia la task force, Ministero della salute (Rome) 18 April 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3708](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3708)

<sup>3979</sup> Consiglio dei ministri approva all'unanimità il Decreto Calabria, Ministero della salute (Rome) 18 April 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3715](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3715)

On 5-7 December 2018, Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare held the 16th Association of Southeast Asian Nations and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies in Yokohama, having discussed, among others the issues of healthcare.<sup>3980</sup>

On 7 December 2018, a roadmap for European Union-Japan Science and Technology cooperation was published by the European Commission. In this roadmap the EU confirmed its readiness to engage in active cooperation with Japan in the field of health care, among other areas. The possibility of future cooperation in this area was said to be able to be examined and pursued through the Horizon 2020 International Cooperation Flagship on "Technologies for global health care," proposed for multilateral international cooperation. It also stated EU's and Japan's support to further development of international cooperation in digital transformation of health and care.<sup>3981</sup>

On 26 January 2019, in preparation for the United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting on universal health coverage in September 2019, draft resolution for this meeting drafted by Japan jointly with Thailand was published.<sup>3982</sup> The draft resolution calls, among other things, to accelerate progress towards the goal of universal health coverage, with a specific emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population; to continue to mobilize adequate and sustainable resources to support universal health coverage; to continue investing in and strengthening primary health care under good governance as a cornerstone of universal health coverage; to ensure adequate, competent and committed health workforce by active implementation of the Global strategy on human resources for health 2030; and to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation platforms to support regular tracking of the progress in improving an equitable access to health care and financial risk protection.<sup>3983</sup>

On 4 February 2019, Japan International Cooperation Agency held its 3rd seminar in Egypt on the issues of UHC (jointly with Egypt's government bodies, World Bank and World Health Organization), "to share the Japanese knowledge and techniques in the field of Universal Health Coverage that dates back to more than 50 years ago so that the Egyptian side can avoid the obstacles that Japan has faced and benefit from the Japanese experience in the practical implementation of the Universal Health Insurance System."<sup>3984</sup>

On 13 February 2019, Japan International Cooperation Agency jointly with Asian Development Bank held a high-level Meeting on Achieving Universal Health Coverage in Asia and the Pacific, "to share global and regional experience in supporting Universal Health Coverage, and to discuss partnerships to bridge health care financing gaps, priority health issues including non-communicable diseases and elderly care, and pandemic preparedness."<sup>3985</sup>

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<sup>3980</sup> Summary The 16th ASEAN and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies, Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 7 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/policy/affairs/asean/16th\\_summary.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/policy/affairs/asean/16th_summary.html)

<sup>3981</sup> Roadmap for EU-Japan S&T cooperation, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/jp\\_roadmap\\_2018.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/jp_roadmap_2018.pdf).

<sup>3982</sup> Preparation for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on universal health coverage, World Health Organization (Geneva) 26 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/EB144/B144\\_CONF5-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB144/B144_CONF5-en.pdf)

<sup>3983</sup> Preparation for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on universal health coverage, World Health Organization (Geneva) 26 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/EB144/B144\\_CONF5-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB144/B144_CONF5-en.pdf)

<sup>3984</sup> JICA holds 3rd seminar in Egypt on Universal Health Coverage, Egypt Today (Cairo) 5 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.egypttoday.com/Article/1/64319/JICA-holds-3rd-seminar-in-Egypt-on-Universal-Health-Coverage>

<sup>3985</sup> Universal Health Coverage meeting gets underway in Japan, Sierra Leone Times (Sydney) 13 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.sierraleonetimes.com/news/259510592/universal-health-coverage-meeting-gets-underway-in-japan>

On 24 February 2019, it was reported that Japan and the Philippines signed a memorandum of cooperation in the fields of healthcare, which aims to establish a mechanism for future cooperation between the Philippines and Japan on universal health coverage, elderly care, disease prevention, maternal and child health services and sanitation.<sup>3986</sup>

Japan has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 10-11 December 2018, a representative of National Health Insurance Service of Korea took part in a working session of the Joint Learning Network for Universal Health Coverage in Nairobi, Kenya. The session was devoted to data use in ensuring UHC; the example of Korea as one of the leading nations using health data for further improvement of healthcare services was highlighted as a milestone to achieve in building such a system in Kenya.<sup>3987</sup>

On 14 January 2019, the Ministry of Health of Korea announced that the National Health Insurance will cover Chuna manual therapy. This kind of therapy is used to treat and correct spinal disorders by hands – a practice that is similar to Western chiropractic treatment. The decision is based on evidence of growing demand for this kind of treatment.<sup>3988</sup>

Korea has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 21 December 2018, in Mérida, the Secretary of Health and the governors of Campeche, Chiapas, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Quintana Roo, Tabasco, Veracruz and Yucatan, signed an agreement to guarantee the right to health with medical care and free medicines for the population without social security. This allows to develop stronger health system in the southeast of the country.<sup>3989</sup>

On 25 December 2018, Health Secretary announced that as part of the cooperation in mental health, the Pan American Health Organization will support the state of Aguascalientes in the development of the state plan for the prevention of suicide, in order to address this serious health problem in the

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<sup>3986</sup> Philippines, Japan finalize ¥3.56 B grants for infrastructure, Phil Star Global (Manila) 24 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.philstar.com/business/2019/02/24/1896167/philippines-japan-finalize-356-b-grants-infrastructure#JWsLz1sVaYjiw7LV.99>

<sup>3987</sup> Data use case studies for Universal Health Coverage (UHC): from theory to practice, Digital Health Network (Baltimore). Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.globaldigitalhealthnetwork.org/resources/data-use-case-studies-universal-health-coverage-uhc-theory-practice>

<sup>3988</sup> National Health Insurance to cover Chuna treatment expense amid controversy, Korea Herald (Seoul) 14 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190114000548&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190114000548&ACE_SEARCH=1)

<sup>3989</sup> Learn about the commitments signed by the Secretary of Health to improve the Health System in the Mexican southeast, Mexican Government (Mexico) 21 December 2018. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/en/articulos/learn-about-the-commitments-signed-by-the-secretary-of-health-to-improve-the-health-system-in-the-mexican-southeast?idiom=en>

entity. The support began in February 2019 and is based on the Health Gap Mental Intervention Guide, a model that was developed for mental, neurological and substance use disorders. This measure allows to develop health system and to provide qualified medical care for all.<sup>3990</sup>

On 27 December 2018, Health Secretary announced that negotiations began to discuss the participation of Mexico in the direct purchase of certain vaccines and medicines through Rotary and Strategic Funds from Pan-American and World Health Organizations, from which it would obtain benefits with respect to the prices offered. This measure would allow to achieve better access to health care and to improve its quality and affordability to population.<sup>3991</sup>

On 23 January 2019, Mexico's President, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador announced that his commitment is providing access to health services, infrastructure and doctors for all the children population. This announcement leads to improvement of quality and affordability of the health system.<sup>3992</sup>

On 23 February 2019, the First National Health Week 2019 started. More than 37 million 884 thousand actions in health were taken in all national territory. This event contributed to providing cost effective and qualified health care to all population regardless their income.<sup>3993</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Health Secretary presented the Health Project for 2019 - 2024 in the Fourth Transformation, which would give all Mexicans access to health services. The main actions to be taken include providing medical services and free medicines to society, making legal and structural changes to meet the needs and granting services with quality and equity, until achieving universalization. This measure leads to stronger health systems and better access to health care, while improving its quality and affordability.<sup>3994</sup>

On 10 April 2019, representatives of the Ministry of Health participated in the presentation of the report of the High Level Commission on "Universal Health in the XXI Century: 40 Years of Alma-Ata" in Mexico City, event that was led by the President of Mexico, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, and was attended by the director of the Pan American Health Organization, Carissa Etienne and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet.<sup>3995</sup> The document reaffirms the commitment to health for all people, with special emphasis on the role of primary health care, on the path to achieving universal health in the region. The objective of this initiative of the Pan American Health Organization is to reflect progress and challenges and provide recommendations to expand access and health coverage in the region by the year 2030, taking into account social, political and other factors as well as institutions of each country. The Argentine officials shared with the participants the UHC Strategy implemented by the National Government.

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<sup>3990</sup> OPS apoyará a la prevención y atención del suicidio en Aguascalientes, Mexican Government (Mexico) 25 December 2018. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/479-ops-apoyara-a-la-prevencion-y-atencion-del-suicidio-en-aguascalientes?idiom=es>

<sup>3991</sup> México avanza en compra consolidada de vacunas y medicamentos, Mexican Government (Mexico) 27 December 2018. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/481-mexico-avanza-en-compra-consolidada-de-vacunas-y-medicamentos?idiom=es>

<sup>3992</sup> Health services for children, Mexican Government (Mexico) 23 January 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/en/articulos/health-services-for-children?idiom=en>

<sup>3993</sup> Inicia Primera Semana Nacional de Salud, Mexican Government (Mexico) 24 February 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/articulos/inicia-primera-semana-nacional-de-salud?idiom=es>

<sup>3994</sup> Meet the Health Project in the Fourth Transformation, Mexican Government (Mexico) 26 February 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/articulos/78290>

<sup>3995</sup> Argentina participó del lanzamiento del Informe de Alto Nivel "Salud Universal en el Siglo XXI: 40 años de Alma-Ata" en México, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-lanzamiento-del-informe-de-alto-nivel-salud-universal-en-el-siglo>.

Mexico has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 31 January 2019, the Minister of Health of the Russian Federation V. Skvortsova signed the Order No. 33 on the creation of the Federal Information and Analytical Center for the Public-Private Partnership in Health Care Development.<sup>3996</sup> The key objectives of the Center would be preparation of: information and analytical materials on the use and improvement of public-private partnership mechanisms in health, proposals for improving these mechanisms in health, materials for educational activities on the development of such mechanisms in health care and monitoring the best practices of implementing projects on the principles of public-private partnership in health care.<sup>3997</sup>

On 6 March 2019, President of Russia V.V. Putin signed the federal law on the organization of palliative care developed by the government. The federal law expanded the concept of palliative care, clarified the types of such care, the procedure and conditions for its provision.<sup>3998</sup>

On 18 March 2019, Libya and Russia signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of health and the provision of medical services. The agreement is aimed at cooperation between countries “in the provision of basic medical services, improving their quality and management efficiency of hospitals and medical centers in Libya.” “Interaction between the parties in the field of research, information exchange and the organization of visits of experts in the field of health to increase the qualifications of specialists” is also expected.<sup>3999</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Russian Academy of Sciences and the US National Academy of Sciences have signed a cooperation agreement. The respective academies signed an agreement on cooperation in scientific, engineering and medical research. According to this accord, the Russian-US cooperation includes such areas as biomedical research on cancer and Alzheimer’s disease as well as the monitoring of climate change in the Arctic, among other issues.<sup>4000</sup>

On 22 April 2019, Prime Minister of Russian Federation D.A. Medvedev signed the Order No 479. The signed order approved the Federal Scientific and Technical Program for the Development of Genetic Technologies for 2019–2027. The main objectives of the Program are a comprehensive

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<sup>3996</sup> The Federal Information and Analytical Center for the Development of Public-Private Partnership in Healthcare has been created. Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 31 January 2019. 01 February 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2019/02/01/10660-sozdan-federalnyy-informatsionno-analiticheskiy-tsentr-razvitiya-gosudarstvenno-chastnogo-partnerstva-v-zdravoohranenii>

<sup>3997</sup> The Federal Information and Analytical Center for the Development of Public-Private Partnership in Healthcare has been created. Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 31 January 2019. 01 February 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2019/02/01/10660-sozdan-federalnyy-informatsionno-analiticheskiy-tsentr-razvitiya-gosudarstvenno-chastnogo-partnerstva-v-zdravoohranenii>

<sup>3998</sup> The President of Russia signed the Federal Law on the Organization of Palliative Medical Care developed by the Government, Russian Government (Moscow) 6 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <http://government.ru/activities/selection/525/35978/>

<sup>3999</sup> Libya and Russia signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of health, TASS (Moscow) 18 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://tass.ru/obschestvo/6229238>

<sup>4000</sup> Russian, US Scientists Sign Cooperation Agreement, Sputnik News (Moscow) 13 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://sputniknews.com/us/201903131073181275-usa-russia-science-cooperation-agreement/>

solution of the tasks of accelerated development of genetic technologies, including technologies of genetic editing, the creation of scientific and technological reserves for medicine.<sup>4001</sup>

Russia has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Piekaltins*

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 25 December 2018, the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia launched an emergency line for doctors allowing professionals communicate with each other about critical situations and cases. The endeavor aims at further improvement of health service of all emergency departments.<sup>4002</sup>

On 21 January 2019, the Ministry of Health launched the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative. The initiative includes a training course aimed at qualifying participating trainees and providing them with the basic skills to evaluate the health institutions on the baby-friendly initiative standards according to the standards of the World Health Organization and UNICEF.<sup>4003</sup>

On 23 January 2019, the Ministry of Health held a training course on X-ray pigment complications at Clinical Simulation Center of Alnoor Specialist Hospital in Makkah.<sup>4004</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the Ministry of Health launched the national vaccination campaign against measles and rubella targeting children aged six months to five years.<sup>4005</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the Ministry of Health launched the Public Health System Project aimed at outlining public health priorities and public needs in accordance with international health regulations and promoting international cooperation in the public health field.<sup>4006</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the Ministry of Health signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Technical and Vocational Training Corporation to promote cooperation in training of healthcare specialists and infrastructure development.<sup>4007</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Ministry of Health signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Program to Support the Management of Projects in Public Entities “Mashoat.” The MoU aims at boosting cooperation between the Ministry and Mashoat in provision of consulting services

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<sup>4001</sup> Order on April 22, 2019, Russian Government (Moscow) 22 April 2019. Access date: 25 April 2019.

<http://static.government.ru/media/files/1FErVexYSovYFduUn1tStWlLkyrkTEmu.pdf>

<sup>4002</sup> Health Minister Launches New Service to Facilitate Communication Between Emergency Doctors, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 25 December 2018. Access date: 06 May 2019.

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2018-12-25-002.aspx>

<sup>4003</sup> MOH Activates Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 21 January 2019. Access date: 06 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-01-21-006.aspx>

<sup>4004</sup> MOH Upgrades Skills of Radiology Staff in Makkah, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 23 January 2019. Access date: 06 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-01-23-003.aspx>

<sup>4005</sup> MOH: National Vaccination Campaign against Measles Launched, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 6 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-02-06-003.aspx>

<sup>4006</sup> Health Minister Launches Public Health System, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 6 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-02-06-001.aspx>

<sup>4007</sup> MOH Signs MoU with Technical and Vocational Training Corporation, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 18 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-02-18-001.aspx>

and technical support to contribute to raising the efficiency and quality of the Ministry's public health projects.<sup>4008</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia launched "Watin" mobile application for blood donation. The initiative seeks to meet blood needs of the Kingdom and improve donor experience.<sup>4009</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the Ministry of Health represented by Minister Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al Rabiah signed agreements aimed at promotion of healthcare services in Mahayel Asir Governorate. The agreements include establishment of several new healthcare centers on public-private partnership basis with worth SAR12 million.<sup>4010</sup>

On 23 April 2019, the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia announced launch of a new desalination plant in Al-Jaizah village, Adham province. With the Ministry's contribution of SAR750,000, the plant will produce 200 cubic meter of fresh water per day.<sup>4011</sup>

On 30 April 2019, the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia announced its intention to initialize the first of a kind public-private partnership project aimed at upgrading radiology and medical imaging services in Riyadh region. The project's value reaches SR 250 million and realization set up for the next 10 years.<sup>4012</sup>

On 1 May 2019, the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia announced inauguration of a new Fertility and Reproductive Health Center of the Maternity and Children Center in Arar, the capital of Northern Borders Region.<sup>4013</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 23 of January 2019, the Minister of Health, on recommendation of the Pricing Committee, issued a «Regulations relating to the transparent pricing system for medicines and scheduled substances: dispensing fee for pharmacists» which provided with more transparent legislation of pricing.<sup>4014</sup>

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<sup>4008</sup> MOH Signs MoU with Mashoat Program, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 14 march 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/news-2019-03-14-007.aspx>

<sup>4009</sup> MOH Launches "Watin" Blood Donation App, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 14 march 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/news-2019-03-14-001.aspx>

<sup>4010</sup> Minister of Health Signs Community Partnership Agreements Worth SR 12 Million, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 2 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019.

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-04-02-001.aspx>

<sup>4011</sup> MOH: Desalination Plant Project was Launched at Al-Jaizah Village, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 23 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-04-23-003.aspx>

<sup>4012</sup> MOH: Radiology and Medical Imaging Service Targeted, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 30 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-04-30-004.aspx>

<sup>4013</sup> Arar; 1<sup>st</sup> Fertility and Reproductive Health Center Inaugurated, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 1 May 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-05-01-004.aspx>

<sup>4014</sup> Regulations relating to the transparent pricing system for medicines and scheduled substances: dispensing fee for pharmacists», South African Government (Cape Town), 23 January 2019. Access date: 29 March 2019. [https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis\\_document/201901/42183gon28.pdf](https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/201901/42183gon28.pdf)

On 20 of February 2019, the South African Government announced a series of interventions in an effort to curb the rise of medical negligence claims against the State. The measures are contained in the National Treasury's 2019 Budget Review, which was released on 20 of February as Finance Minister Tito Mboweni tabled the national Budget.<sup>4015</sup>

On 20 of February 2019, the Government increased allocations in grants, for health care purposes such as the HIV/AIDS and malaria fighting and financing hiring and educating medical personnel.<sup>4016</sup>

South Africa has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically but no actions on international for a were registered during compliance period.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

### **Turkey: +1**

Turkey has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 8 December 2018, it was reported that Turkey and Iran signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate on developing their healthcare systems through the use of information technology and electronic infrastructures.<sup>4017</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Europe's largest Ankara City Hospital was opened, with 3,623 beds and 12,000 staff. Another city hospital in Ankara, as well as city hospital in Bursa are planned to be opened by end-2019.

Turkey has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 29 January 2019 the UK and Russia signed Memorandum of understanding on Regulatory Cooperation on Medicines. Medicines regulators of the UK and Russian set out key principles to support their collaboration on improving public health.<sup>4018</sup>

On 26 February 2019, it was announced that three projects will receive funding through a collaboration between Innovate UK and Asthma UK to help ensure asthma patients receive better treatment. With each project set to receive more than GBP200,000, it is expected that patients will

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<sup>4015</sup> Government acts to curb medico-legal claims South African Government News Agency (Pretoria), 20 February 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/government-acts-curb-medico-legal-claims>

<sup>4016</sup> Increased allocations in grants, education and health, South African News Agency (Pretoria), 20 February 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/increased-allocations-grants-education-and-health>

<sup>4017</sup> Iran, Turkey sign MOU on e-health development, Tehran Times (Tehran) 8 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/430426/Iran-Turkey-sign-MOU-on-e-health-development>

<sup>4018</sup> UK and Russia sign MoU on Regulatory Cooperation on Medicines, UK Government (London) 29 January 2019. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-russia-sign-mou-on-regulatory-cooperation-on-medicines>

see an improvement in services thanks to new diagnostic testing that better predicts response to treatment.<sup>4019</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the Department of Health and Social Care, National Health System (NHS) of England and the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee began discussions for the contractual framework for 2019 to 2020 and beyond. The negotiations will support the delivery of the NHS Long Term Plan's vision for the future of primary care, in which all providers work together, making the best use of their unique skills for the benefit of patients.<sup>4020</sup>

On 30 April 2019, it was announced that all NHS organisations will get the fastest broadband available, which will improve the range and quality of digital healthcare services offered to patients.<sup>4021</sup>

On 6 May 2019, it was announced that the UK government is backing plans to create new digital innovation hubs, changing the way scientists access NHS data. Plans to transform the way scientists access health data are being backed by GBP37 million of Industrial Strategy Government investment, to pioneer new, faster treatments for patients and new cures for diseases. The new centres across the UK – known as Digital Innovation Hubs – will enable scientists and innovators to access data from the NHS, universities and social care to deliver more efficient clinical trials.<sup>4022</sup>

The United Kingdom has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mariya Kalugina*

### **United States: +1**

United States has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 31 January 2019, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the 2019 CMS Equity Award winners at the CMS Quality Conference. At the 2019 CMS Quality Conference, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services presented the 2019 CMS Health Equity Award to recognize organizations that demonstrate an exceptional commitment to health equity by reducing disparities among minority and other underserved populations.<sup>4023</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, announced a new payment model for emergency ambulance services that aims to allow Medicare Fee-For-Service beneficiaries to receive the most appropriate level of care at the

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<sup>4019</sup> Better, faster, more personalised asthma treatment, UK Government (London) 26 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/better-faster-more-personalised-asthma-treatment>

<sup>4020</sup> Negotiations started for the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework 2019 to 2020, UK Government (London) 9 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/negotiations-started-for-the-community-pharmacy-contractual-framework-2019-to-2020>

<sup>4021</sup> NHS hospitals and GP practices to get fibre optic internet, UK Government (London) 30 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-hospitals-and-gp-practices-to-get-fibre-optic-internet>

<sup>4022</sup> Investment to transform access to data to help pioneer new patient treatments, UK Government (London) 6 May 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/investment-to-transform-access-to-data-to-help-pioneer-new-patient-treatments>

<sup>4023</sup> CMS announces winners of CMS Equity Awards, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Washington) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/equity-initiatives/equity-awards.html>

right time and place with the potential for lower out-of-pocket costs. This new payment model will help to improve quality of medical service.<sup>4024</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Russian Academy of Sciences and the US National Academy of Sciences have signed a cooperation agreement. The respective academies signed an agreement on cooperation in scientific, engineering and medical research. According to this accord, the Russian-US cooperation includes such areas as biomedical research on cancer and Alzheimer's disease as well as the monitoring of climate change in the Arctic, among other issues.<sup>4025</sup>

On 22 April 2019, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar and CMS Administrator Seema Verma are announcing the CMS Primary Cares Initiative, a new set of payment models that will transform primary care to deliver better value for patients throughout the healthcare system.<sup>4026</sup>

On 24 April 2019, the CMS sent a letter to State Medicaid Directors inviting states to partner with CMS to test innovative approaches to better serve those who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. Many of the 12 million dually eligible beneficiaries have complex healthcare issues, including multiple chronic conditions, and often have socioeconomic risk factors that can lead to poor outcomes.<sup>4027</sup>

United States has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dmitry Lukanin*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 4 December 2018, it was announced that over EUR64 million from the European Regional Development Fund was invested in modernising healthcare infrastructure in the Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital, in the Latvian capital of Riga. By purchasing highly specialized medical equipment and introducing new information technology systems, this EU-funded project would improve access to high-quality medical services for almost 2 million Latvian citizens once it is completed in 2023.<sup>4028</sup> This investment came on top of a previous, EUR24 million EU investment in

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<sup>4024</sup> HHS launches innovative payment model with new treatment and transport options, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/02/14/hhs-launches-innovative-payment-model-new-treatment-transport-options.html>

<sup>4025</sup> Russian, US Scientists Sign Cooperation Agreement, Sputnik News (Moscow) 13 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://sputniknews.com/us/201903131073181275-usa-russia-science-cooperation-agreement/>

<sup>4026</sup> HHS To Deliver Value-Based Transformation in Primary Care, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Washington) 22 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/hhs-news-hhs-deliver-value-based-transformation-primary-care>

<sup>4027</sup> CMS Announces New Opportunities to Test Innovative Integrated Care Models for Dually Eligible Individuals, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Washington) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-announces-new-opportunities-test-innovative-integrated-care-models-dually-eligible-individuals>

<sup>4028</sup> Latvia: improved access to high-quality health care services thanks to EU funds, European Commission (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access date: 10 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/newsroom/news/2018/12/12-04-2018-latvia-improved-access-to-high-quality-healthcare-services-thanks-to-eu-funds](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2018/12/12-04-2018-latvia-improved-access-to-high-quality-healthcare-services-thanks-to-eu-funds)

the hospital. The EU funding would help increase the hospital capacity by over 500 beds in a new area of more than 68,000 m<sup>2</sup>.<sup>4029</sup>

On 7 December 2018, a roadmap for EU-Japan Science and Technology cooperation was published by the European Commission. In this roadmap the EU confirmed its readiness to engage in active cooperation with Japan in the field of health care, among other areas. The possibility of future cooperation in this area was said to be able to be examined and pursued through the Horizon 2020 International Cooperation Flagship on “Technologies for global health care,” proposed for multilateral international cooperation. It also stated EU’s and Japan’s support to further development of international cooperation in digital transformation of health and care.<sup>4030</sup>

On 8 February 2019, it was announced by the EU that a 2-days study visit would be held in March by the Thematic network “Healthcare in cross-border Regions” in Lower Austria.<sup>4031</sup> It aimed at bringing together different stakeholder organisations to produce joint statements on health-related developments. The network was hosted on the EU health policy platform and supported by Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE). The “Healthcare in cross-border regions” thematic network, led by EUREGHA and Healthacross, also aimed to support the European Commission in its exercise of mapping and building cross-border and regional cooperation in healthcare through the identification of crucial challenges and successful existing experiences to be scaled up.<sup>4032</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the European Commission published a booklet on enhancing healthcare cooperation in cross-border regions, which briefly presented 12 good practice examples to illustrate the success factors and the added value of cross border cooperation in health sector. Cooperation between health services, facilities and authorities was said to mean better care for patients on both sides of the border. It was also established to be a win-win for health authorities, helping them manage scarce resources (labour, skills, infrastructure) more effectively while taking advantage of new opportunities.<sup>4033</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the European Commission announced top results from quasi experimental “participatory action research.” This was the overriding conclusion of an international research team backed by the European Union, which was based on such keys to overcoming widespread fragmentation and improving service quality and health outcomes in Latin America as long-term vision, high-level endorsement and participation, and tailored forms of international scientific collaboration. Each of the Europe’s Latin American partners was working together with a public

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<sup>4029</sup> Latvia: improved access to high-quality health care services thanks to EU funds, European Commission (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access date: 10 February 2019.

[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/newsroom/news/2018/12/12-04-2018-latvia-improved-access-to-high-quality-healthcare-services-thanks-to-eu-funds](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2018/12/12-04-2018-latvia-improved-access-to-high-quality-healthcare-services-thanks-to-eu-funds).

<sup>4030</sup> Roadmap for EU-Japan S&T cooperation, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/jp\\_roadmap\\_2018.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/jp_roadmap_2018.pdf).

<sup>4031</sup> EUREGHA's Thematic network "Healthcare in cross-border Regions" - Conference and 2-days study visit, European Commission (Brussels) 8 February 2019. Access date: 10 February 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/health/eureghas-thematic-network-healthcare-cross-border-regions-conference-and-2-days-study-visit-0>.

<sup>4032</sup> EUREGHA's Thematic network "Healthcare in cross-border Regions" - Conference and 2-days study visit, European Commission (Brussels) 8 February 2019. Access date: 10 February 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/health/eureghas-thematic-network-healthcare-cross-border-regions-conference-and-2-days-study-visit-0>.

<sup>4033</sup> Enhancing Healthcare Cooperation in Cross-border Regions, European Commission (Brussels) 19 February 2019. Access date: 23 March 2019.

[https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/system/files/ged/booklet\\_enhancing\\_healthcare\\_cooperation.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/system/files/ged/booklet_enhancing_healthcare_cooperation.pdf)

healthcare services network using the participatory action research approach to design and implement ways to improve clinical coordination across levels of care.<sup>4034</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the meeting of the Expert Panel on effective ways of investing in health was held. The meeting discussed the achievements and further actions of the Working group on Task shifting in healthcare systems. The meeting was co-organized by DG SANTE. By applying task shifting the use of human resources in health care was said to be made more efficient and therefore the quality of health care services would be maximized.<sup>4035</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the European Commission announced it dedicated this year's EU Health Award to initiatives of cities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and schools that already contributed or are contributing to a higher level of public health in the European Union and its Member States through preventing and reducing obesity in children and young people (6-18 years old).<sup>4036</sup>

On 24 April 2019, the 15th Plenary Meeting of the Expert Panel on effective ways of investing in health was held in Brussels, Belgium. During the plenary meeting European stakeholders shared opinions on value-based health care, task shifting in health care systems, defined categories for public health priority setting and discussed the EU level cooperation on health issues.<sup>4037</sup>

On 26 April 2019, the European Commission announced it would organise, in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), a Global Vaccination Summit on 12 September 2019 in Brussels.<sup>4038</sup> It would take place under the joint auspices of the European Commission President Jean Claude Juncker and WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. The objective was to give high level visibility and political endorsement to the topic of vaccination and issue a statement to endorse and promote the benefits of vaccination as the most successful public health measure that saves millions of lives every year.<sup>4039</sup> It would also demonstrate EU leadership for global commitment to vaccination, boost political commitment towards eliminating vaccine preventable diseases and engage political leaders and leaders from scientific, medical, industry, philanthropic and civil society. The Summit would bring together around 400 participants from around the globe, including high-level political decision makers, health ministers, United Nations organisations, NGOs, academia representatives, renowned researchers and healthcare professionals, vaccine industry CEOs, celebrities and social media influencers who actively support vaccination.<sup>4040</sup>

The European Union has taken actions aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

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<sup>4034</sup> Top results from quasi experimental "participatory action research", European Commission (Brussels) 4 March 2019. Access date: 23 March 2019. [http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article\\_en.cfm?artid=49937](http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article_en.cfm?artid=49937).

<sup>4035</sup> Meeting of the Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health, European Commission (Brussels) 2 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/expert\\_panel/sites/expertpanel/files/ev\\_20190402\\_mi\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/expert_panel/sites/expertpanel/files/ev_20190402_mi_en.pdf)

<sup>4036</sup> 2019 EU Health Award for Cities, NGOs and Schools, European Commission (Brussels) 2 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/ngo\\_award/home\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/ngo_award/home_en).

<sup>4037</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health, European Commission (Brussels) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/expert\\_panel/sites/expertpanel/files/ev\\_20190424\\_ag\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/expert_panel/sites/expertpanel/files/ev_20190424_ag_en.pdf).

<sup>4038</sup> Global Vaccination Summit, European Commission (Brussels) 26 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev\\_20190912\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev_20190912_en).

<sup>4039</sup> Global Vaccination Summit, European Commission (Brussels) 26 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev\\_20190912\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev_20190912_en).

<sup>4040</sup> Global Vaccination Summit, European Commission (Brussels) 26 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev\\_20190912\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev_20190912_en).

## 19. Infrastructure: Infrastructure Investment

“To address the persistent infrastructure financing gap, we reaffirm our commitment to attract more private capital to infrastructure investment.”

*G20 Leaders Buenos Aires Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China		0	
France			+1
Germany		0	
India		0	
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.65	

### Background

Specific G20 commitments on infrastructure investment were first made during the Russian Presidency in 2013. On 15-16 February 2013, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) presented a report on the Role of Banks, Equity Markets and Institutional Investors in Long-Term Financing for Growth and Development to the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Banks Governors. The report stressed the importance of long-term financing and the high potential of institutional investors in this regard.<sup>4041</sup> At this meeting, the G20 agreed to establish a Study Group on Financing for Investment. At the Saint Petersburg Summit, the leaders endorsed the G20/OECD High-Level Principles on Long-Term Investment Financing by Institutional Investors,<sup>4042</sup> and called on the OECD and other interested institutions to identify approaches to their implementation by the next summit.

<sup>4041</sup> The Role of Banks, Equity Markets and Institutional Investors in Long-Term Financing for Growth and Development, OECD (Paris) February 2013. Access date: 27 May 2019.

<http://www.oecd.org/daf/fin/privatepensions/G20reportLTFinancingForGrowthRussianPresidency2013.pdf>.

<sup>4042</sup> G20/OECD High Level Principles on Long-Term Investment Financing by Institutional Investors, OECD (Paris). Access date: 27 May 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/finance/private-pensions/G20-OECD-Principles-LTI-Financing.pdf>.

On 15-16 November 2014 at the Brisbane Summit, G20 leaders “agreed on a set of voluntary leading practices to promote and prioritize quality investment, particularly in infrastructure.”<sup>4043</sup> To reflect the high priority placed on financing for investment by the G20, in 2014 the study group was upgraded to a Working Group on Investment and Infrastructure.

At the Antalya 2015, G20 members developed guidelines and best practices for public-private-partnership models and focused on considering alternative financing structures, including asset-based financing, and securitization to facilitate better intermediation for investment.<sup>4044</sup>

At the Hangzhou Summit in 2016, G20 leaders reaffirmed their commitment “to promote investment with focus on infrastructure in terms of both quantity and quality.”<sup>4045</sup> Particular emphasis was made on infrastructure connectivity, resulting in the endorsement of the Global Infrastructure Connectivity Alliance to enhance the synergy and cooperation among various infrastructure connectivity programs.<sup>4046</sup>

The German 2017 G20 Presidency retained the focus on attracting more private sources to finance infrastructure investment and endorsed the multilateral development banks’ Joint Principles and Ambitions on Crowding-In Private Finance.<sup>4047</sup>

In 2018, the Buenos Aires Summit consolidated G20 achievements in the area and reaffirmed previous commitments, including the one on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment, with an aim of turning infrastructure into a separate “asset class.”<sup>4048</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment requires G20 members to implement measures to facilitate private capital flows to infrastructure investment. The G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class endorsed in Buenos Aires stresses that despite G20 efforts, the infrastructure investment gap remains significant. Although “traditional channels for financing infrastructure development remain relevant, it is evident that innovative mechanisms need to be explored in order to crowd-in private capital.” Thus, it is proposed that the work on attracting private capital progresses under a roadmap to “developing infrastructure as an asset class.”

The Roadmap is organized into two pillars with the principal objectives of: i) improving project development and ii) improving investment environment for infrastructure. Work across these two pillars could contribute to the overarching objective of promoting greater standardization in infrastructure investment. Upholding the three pillars are seven work-streams, organized as follows:

1. improving project development;

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<sup>4043</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communiqué Brisbane Summit, 15-16 November 2014, CIIR RANEPa (Brisbane). Access date: 27 May 2019. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2014brisbane/G20%20Leaders%20Communiqué%20Brisban%20Summit,%2015-16%20November%202014.pdf>.

<sup>4044</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communiqué Antalya Summit, 15-16 November 2015, CIIR RANEPa (Brisbane). Access date: 27 May. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2015Antalya/000111117.pdf>

<sup>4045</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communiqué Hangzhou Summit, September 5, 2016, CIIR RANEPa (Brisbane). Access date: 27 May <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2016Hangzhou/G20%20Leaders%20Communique%20Hangzhou%20Summit.pdf>

<sup>4046</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communiqué Hangzhou Summit, September 5, 2016, CIIR RANEPa (Brisbane). Access date: 27 May <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2016Hangzhou/G20%20Leaders%20Communique%20Hangzhou%20Summit.pdf>

<sup>4047</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration. Shaping an interconnected world, Hamburg, 7/8 July 2017, CIIR RANEPa (Brisbane). Access date: 27 May.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders\\_%20communiqué.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders_%20communiqué.pdf)

<sup>4048</sup> G20 Leaders’ declaration. Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, CIIR RANEPa (Brisbane). Access date: 27 May. [https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos\\_aires\\_leaders\\_declaration.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf).

- a. Contractual Standardization;
  - b. Financial Standardization;
  - c. Project Preparation;
  - d. Bridging the Data Gap.
2. improving investment environment:
- i. Financial Engineering, Risk Allocation and Mitigation;
  - ii. Regulatory Frameworks and Capital Markets; and
  - iii. Quality Infrastructure.

Each work-stream is discussed in more detail in the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.<sup>4049</sup>

Full compliance requires members' actions in line with both major pillars to be taken during the compliance period. Actions consistent with any number of workstreams included in only one pillar are counted as partial compliance. If the G20 member has not taken any actions to attract more private capital to infrastructure investment it receives a score of -1.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	G20 member does not take any actions to improve project development or investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.
0	G20 member takes actions to improve EITHER project development OR investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.
+1	G20 member takes actions to improve both project development AND investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 11 December 2018, the Ministry of the Interior, Public Works and Housing of Argentina presented an updated Strategic Territorial Plan Argentina in Chaco.<sup>4050</sup> It is the instrument of territorial planning aimed at deploying public and private investment and boosting regional development in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>4051</sup>

On 18 December 2018, Argentinian Minister of the Interior, Public Works, and Housing Rogelio Frigerio, Minister of Finance Nicolás Dujovne and Governor of Mendoza province Alfredo Cornejo announced a bidding process for a construction of the Portezuelo de Viento dam with an installed capacity of 210 MW that would generate an average energy of 889 GWh over a year and improve the

<sup>4049</sup> The G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class, OECD (Paris) 2018

[http://www.oecd.org/g20/roadmap\\_to\\_infrastructure\\_as\\_an\\_asset\\_class\\_argentina\\_presidency\\_1\\_0.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/g20/roadmap_to_infrastructure_as_an_asset_class_argentina_presidency_1_0.pdf)

<sup>4050</sup> Avanza el Plan Estratégico Territorial para una mejor planificación de la inversión pública y privada en todo el país, Ministerio del Interior, Obras Públicas y Vivienda (Buenos Aires) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanza-el-plan-estrategico-territorial-para-una-mejor-planificacion-de-la-inversion-publica>.

<sup>4051</sup> Avanza el Plan Estratégico Territorial para una mejor planificación de la inversión pública y privada en todo el país, Ministerio del Interior, Obras Públicas y Vivienda (Buenos Aires) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanza-el-plan-estrategico-territorial-para-una-mejor-planificacion-de-la-inversion-publica>.

irrigation capacity in the area and will take electricity to more than 130 thousand houses.<sup>4052</sup> The project will be financed by public-private partnership scheme. On 10 January 2019, Secretary of Housing of Argentina Iván Kerr and Mayor of Gualeguaychú Esteban Martín Piaggio signed an agreement launching a new public-private partnership project for housing construction in Gualeguaychú.<sup>4053</sup> Under the project, 525 houses will be built in the city. The project is implemented in the framework of state sub-programme “Integrated Urban Complexes” of the Public-Private Partnership program. About 40 per cent of the constructed houses will be allocated for social housing while the other 60 per cent will be for sale. A similar agreement was signed at the end of December 2018 by the Argentinian Ministry of the Interior, Public Works and Housing and the municipality of Esperanza, in the province of Santa Fe, for constructing of 120 houses, 48 of which will be allocated to social housing.<sup>4054</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the Argentinian Superintendence of Insurance, an agency of the Ministry of Finance, announced that tax deductions could be made as savings incentives for insurances<sup>4055</sup> following a meeting between Argentinian President Mauricio Macri with Minister of Finance of Argentina Nicolas Dujovne and Minister of Production and Labour of Argentina Dante Sica. The amount for tax deductions will be USD12,000, in 2019, USD18,000 in 2020 and USD24,000 in 2021.<sup>4056</sup> This measure aims to channel these savings to the real economy. The Argentinian insurance industry assumed a commitment to raise investments in small and medium-sized enterprises instruments from three per cent to five per cent, with a scope of USD11 billion. This measure will allow to increase the liquidity of the capital markets and create better conditions for engaging more companies in investments. According to estimates, 1700 jobs will be created due to development of new products and boost of investments.<sup>4057</sup>

On 1 February 2019, Argentinian Secretary of Housing Iván Kerr, on behalf of the Ministry of the Interior, Public Works and Housing, together with President of the Central Bank of Argentina (BNA) Javier González Fraga signed a public-private partnership agreement for the construction of 100 houses and facilities in the locality of Gualeguay with a total investment of about ARS116

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<sup>4052</sup> Ya están disponibles los pliegos de licitación para construir la represa Portezuelo del Viento, una obra muy esperada en Mendoza, Ministerio del Interior, Obras Públicas y Vivienda (Buenos Aires) 18 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ya-estan-disponibles-los-pliegos-de-licitacion-para-construir-la-represa-portezuelo-del>.

<sup>4053</sup> Nuevo proyecto de asociación público-privada para la construcción de viviendas en Gualeguaychú, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nuevo-proyecto-de-asociacion-publico-privada-para-la-construccion-de-viviendas-en>.

<sup>4054</sup> Nuevo proyecto de asociación público-privada para la construcción de viviendas en Gualeguaychú, Ministerio del Interior, Obras Públicas y Vivienda (Buenos Aires) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nuevo-proyecto-de-asociacion-publico-privada-para-la-construccion-de-viviendas-en>.

<sup>4055</sup> El Gobierno incentiva los seguros de vida y retiro para generar ahorro e inversión en PyMEs, Ministerio de Hacienda (Buenos Aires) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 31 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-incentiva-los-seguros-de-vida-y-retiro-para-generar-ahorro-e-inversion-en-pymes>.

<sup>4056</sup> El Gobierno incentiva los seguros de vida y retiro para generar ahorro e inversión en PyMEs, Ministerio de Hacienda (Buenos Aires) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 31 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-incentiva-los-seguros-de-vida-y-retiro-para-generar-ahorro-e-inversion-en-pymes>.

<sup>4057</sup> El Gobierno incentiva los seguros de vida y retiro para generar ahorro e inversión en PyMEs, Ministerio de Hacienda (Buenos Aires) 17 January 2019. Access Date: 31 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-incentiva-los-seguros-de-vida-y-retiro-para-generar-ahorro-e-inversion-en-pymes>.

million.<sup>4058</sup> The Secretariat of Housing will subsidy 30 per cent of the total investment, BNA will provide a mortgage and intermediate credit for 70 per cent of the project.

On 8 February 2019, the Argentine government amended Decree 44/1991, which regulates hydrocarbon transport concessions, with the aim of promoting competition and investment in the sector.<sup>4059</sup> The document aims to attract new companies that can construct new oil and gas pipelines. The Argentine transport concessionaires will be able to guarantee firm service capacity to any interested shipper through contracts that can be freely negotiated in terms of their allocation modality, prices and volumes.<sup>4060</sup>

On 7 March 2019, Argentinian Secretariat of Territorial Planning and Coordination of Public Works, on behalf of the Ministry of the Interior, Public Works and Housing, signed six contracts to begin consulting process for potable water and sanitation projects in Misiones, Santa Fe, Córdoba and Buenos Aires provinces.<sup>4061</sup> One of the purposes of contracts is to find suitable sources of financing in the meantime reducing costs and increasing efficiency of works.<sup>4062</sup>

On 19 March 2019, Secretary of Provinces and Municipalities, Alejandro Caldarelli, representing the Ministry of the Interior, Public Works and Housing of Argentina, met with President of the Provincial Electric Power Agency of Neuquén, Francisco Zambon to sign an agreement on construction of a transformer station that would supply electric power to the North and South Industrial Parks in the town of Añelo.<sup>4063</sup> These works are co-financed by the Inter-American Development Bank within the framework of the Provincial Management Strengthening Program. The total budget of the project is USD195.6 million. This initiative aims to strengthen the local economy of that Patagonian region, ensuring an availability of electricity for the expansion and construction of productive projects and services.<sup>4064</sup>

Argentina has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

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<sup>4058</sup> Nuevo proyecto de asociación público-privada para la construcción de viviendas en Gualaguay, Ministerio del Interior, Obras Públicas y Vivienda (Buenos Aires) 1 February 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nuevo-proyecto-de-asociacion-publico-privada-para-la-construccion-de-viviendas-en-gualeguay>.

<sup>4059</sup> El gobierno busca favorecer la inversión en infraestructura para el transporte de petróleo y gas, Ministerio de Hacienda (Buenos Aires) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-busca-favorecer-la-inversion-en-infraestructura-para-el-transporte-de-0/>.

<sup>4060</sup> El gobierno busca favorecer la inversión en infraestructura para el transporte de petróleo y gas, Ministerio de Hacienda (Buenos Aires) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-busca-favorecer-la-inversion-en-infraestructura-para-el-transporte-de-0/>.

<sup>4061</sup> Avanzan proyectos para que vecinos de Misiones, Santa Fe, Córdoba y Buenos Aires tengan acceso al agua potable y cloacas, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanzan-proyectos-para-que-vecinos-de-misiones-santa-fe-cordoba-y-buenos-aires-tengan>.

<sup>4062</sup> Avanzan proyectos para que vecinos de Misiones, Santa Fe, Córdoba y Buenos Aires tengan acceso al agua potable y cloacas, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 8 March 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanzan-proyectos-para-que-vecinos-de-misiones-santa-fe-cordoba-y-buenos-aires-tengan>.

<sup>4063</sup> Avanza el proyecto de energía eléctrica para parques industriales de Vaca Muerta, Neuquén, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanza-el-proyecto-de-energia-electrica-para-parques-industriales-de-vaca-muerta-neuquen>.

<sup>4064</sup> Avanza el proyecto de energía eléctrica para parques industriales de Vaca Muerta, Neuquén, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 19 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/avanza-el-proyecto-de-energia-electrica-para-parques-industriales-de-vaca-muerta-neuquen>.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to attract more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 14 February 2019 Infrastructure Australia released the 2019 Infrastructure Priority List, presenting a record 121 nationally significant infrastructure proposals and a USD58 billion project pipeline designed to guide the next 15 years of Australian infrastructure investment. It includes eight High Priority Projects, 10 Priority Projects, 29 High Priority Initiatives and 74 Priority Initiatives. Twenty-five new infrastructure proposals had been included in this year's publication which provides a credible pipeline of nationally significant proposals for governments at all levels to choose from.<sup>4065</sup> This document presents a complex strategy of Australian Government in managing the most important infrastructure projects and enhances both investment environment and project management.

On 4 March 2019, Indonesia and Australia had signed an economic partnership agreement, which among other things will reduce controls on Australian investment and business ownership in Indonesia, including in energy, mining, construction and some transport infrastructure companies.<sup>4066</sup>

Australia has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 14 December 2018, the Port Operator of Itaqui and the Maranhense Port Administration Company signed advance contract extension for another 20 years. With an investment of BRL80 million, the new structure will change its capacity from 80 thousand tons to 3.5 million tons of fertilizers per year.<sup>4067</sup>

On 10 January 2019, the Programa de Parcerias de Investimentos announced that in the coming years about BRL111 billion will be invested in the logistics sector. For this year, 59 projects in this sector are underway within the program – assets that will improve the country's infrastructure and continue to leverage Brazil in the international market.<sup>4068</sup>

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<sup>4065</sup> 2019 Infrastructure Priority List Identifies Record \$58bn Project Pipeline, Infrastructure Australia (Canberra) 14 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. [https://infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/2019/2019\\_02\\_14.aspx](https://infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/2019/2019_02_14.aspx)

<sup>4066</sup> Trade deal will allow more Australian ownership, investment in Indonesia, Out-Law.com (London) 4 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.out-law.com/en/articles/2019/March/trade-deal-australian-ownership-investment-in-indonesia/>

<sup>4067</sup> Setor portuário: projeto do PPI será referência na América Latina, Programa de Parcerias de Investimentos (Brasília) 18 December. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <https://www.ppi.gov.br/setor-portuario-projeto-do-ppi-sera-referencia-na-america-latina->

<sup>4068</sup> Setor de logística vai movimentar mais de R\$ 111 bilhões em investimentos nos próximos anos, Programa de Parcerias de Investimentos (Brasília) 10 January 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <https://www.ppi.gov.br/setor-de-logistica-vai-movimentar-mais-de-r-111-bilhoes-em-investimentos-nos-proximos-anos>

On 6 February 2019, the National Federation of Accounting Services Companies and Advisory Companies, Skills, Information and Research, affiliated to the National Confederation of Commerce, suggested initiatives aimed at developing the business environment and improve Brazil's position in international rankings, and attract foreign investment.<sup>4069</sup> Among the suggestions presented by the Fenacon are the standardization of requirements, the integrated performance of state authorities, avoiding repeated compliance with obligations, changes to the procedure of business registration.<sup>4070</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Minister of Infrastructure Tarcisio Gomes de Freitas participated in a public hearing at the Infrastructure Services Commission of the Federal Senate, where he raised following issues: the expansion of partnership and dialogue with the private sector, in order to attract investments to infrastructure development, the need to diversify Brazilian transport policy, increasing the use of waterways, cabotage (inland navigation, in rivers or sea) and railways.<sup>4071</sup>

On 12 March 2019, the Ministry of Infrastructure reported that the new passenger terminal of the Macaé Airport was opened with finishing of recovering and expanding the landing strip and others facilities. The airport received BRL90 million of investments in total, of which BRL64 million was for the terminal only.<sup>4072</sup>

On 12 March 2019, Brazil and Paraguay reached an agreement to build second bridge in Foz do Iguaçu, which should reduce traffic at the border crossing, which occurs through the Bridge of Friendship.<sup>4073</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Minister of Infrastructure Tarcisio Gomes de Freitas met with European investors in the Italian Embassy to present the infrastructure projects agenda and demonstrate the investment opportunities in the country's road, railway, maritime terminal and airport facilities.<sup>4074</sup>

On 3 April 2019, the National Civil Aviation Secretariat of the Ministry of Infrastructure authorized the start of a bidding process of BRL5.1 million to implement an approach light system and obstacle approach lights at Governador Carlos Wilson Airport in Fernando de Noronha.<sup>4075</sup>

On 30 April 2019, the Ministry of Infrastructure along with the state government, Caxias prefecture and private initiative allocated BRL200 million to construct the Airport of Vila Oliva.<sup>4076</sup>

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<sup>4069</sup> Fenacon entrega ao governo prioridades para melhorar o ambiente de negócios, Fenacon (Brasília) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <http://www.fenacon.org.br/noticias/fenacon-entrega-ao-governo-prioridades-para-melhorar-o-ambiente-de-negocios-4227/>

<sup>4070</sup> Fenacon entrega ao governo prioridades para melhorar o ambiente de negócios, Fenacon (Brasília) 8 February 2019. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <http://www.fenacon.org.br/noticias/fenacon-entrega-ao-governo-prioridades-para-melhorar-o-ambiente-de-negocios-4227/>

<sup>4071</sup> Ministro da Infraestrutura apresenta prioridades da Pasta ao Senado Federal, Ministério da Infraestrutura (Brasília) 26 February 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://transportes.gov.br/ultimas-noticias/8339-ministro-da-infraestrutura-apresenta-prioridades-da-pasta-ao-senado-federal.html>

<sup>4072</sup> Secretário de Aviação inaugura obras no Aeroporto de Macaé, Ministério da Infraestrutura 12 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. [http://transportes.gov.br/ultimas-noticias/8359-secretário-de-avição-inaugura-obras-no-aeroporto-de-macaé.html](http://transportes.gov.br/ultimas-noticias/8359-secretario-de-aviacao-inaugura-obras-no-aeroporto-de-macaé.html)

<sup>4073</sup> Brasil e Paraguai fecham acordo para construção de segunda ponte em Foz do Iguaçu (PR), Ministério da Infraestrutura (Brasília) 12 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://transportes.gov.br/ultimas-noticias/8360-brasil-e-paraguai-fecham-acordo-para-construção-de-segunda-ponte-em-foz-do-iguacu-pr.html>

<sup>4074</sup> Ministro apresenta programa de concessões do Governo Federal para investidores europeus, Ministério da Infraestrutura (Brasília) 13 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://transportes.gov.br/ultimas-noticias/8364-ministro-apresenta-programa-de-concessões-do-governo-federal-para-investidores-europeus.html>

<sup>4075</sup> Aeroporto de Fernando de Noronha receberá investimentos de R\$ 5 milhões, Ministério da Infraestrutura 3 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. [http://transportes.gov.br/ultimas-noticias/8434-aeroporto-de-fernando-de-noronha-receberá-investimentos-de-r\\$-5-milhões.html](http://transportes.gov.br/ultimas-noticias/8434-aeroporto-de-fernando-de-noronha-recebera-investimentos-de-r-5-milhoes.html)

Brazil has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 20 December 2018, the government announced that more than CAD426,000 in joint support for two road improvement projects in Western Newfoundland and Labrador would be allocated. The governments of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador recognize that strategic investments in modern and efficient roadways are crucial to encouraging and supporting economic activity, facilitating trade, and creating well-paying, middle class jobs.<sup>4077</sup>

In March 2019, Investing in Canada infrastructure program was released and is designed to create long-term economic growth, build inclusive, sustainable and resilient communities and support a low-carbon economy. Through the program, the federal government is providing CAD11.8 billion dollars in federal infrastructure funding to cost-share projects under the following four streams:

- Public Transit
- Green Infrastructure
- Community, Culture and Recreation
- Rural and Northern Communities<sup>4078</sup>

Announced on 19 March 2019, the Budget for 2019 will contain serious funding for infrastructure projects. In Budget 2019, the Government of Canada proposed to provide new infrastructure funding for local communities through a major municipal infrastructure top-up investment. This will double the government's commitment to municipalities and provide much-needed funds to communities of all sizes across the country.<sup>4079</sup>

Canada has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Uliana Koptnyukh*

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<sup>4076</sup> Aeroporto de Vila Oliva (RS) terá investimento de R\$ 200 milhões do Ministério da Infraestrutura, Ministério da Infraestrutura (Brasília) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <http://transportes.gov.br/ultimas-noticias/8660-aeroporto-de-vila-oliva-rs-terá-investimento-de-r-200-milhões-do-ministério-da-infraestrutura.html>

<sup>4077</sup> Residents of Western Newfoundland and Labrador to benefit from better, safer roads. Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2018. Access date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infraestructure/news/2018/12/residents-of-western-newfoundland-and-labrador-to-benefit-from-better-safer-roads.html>

<sup>4078</sup> Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - Rural and Northern Communities Funding Stream Ontario Program Guidelines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) March 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. [https://www.grants.gov.on.ca/prodconsum/groups/grants\\_web\\_contents/documents/grants\\_web\\_contents/prdr019518.pdf](https://www.grants.gov.on.ca/prodconsum/groups/grants_web_contents/documents/grants_web_contents/prdr019518.pdf)

<sup>4079</sup> Budget 2019: Building a Better Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/03/budget-2019-building-a-better-canada.html>

### **China: 0**

China has partially complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 28 February 2019, members of National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference proposed to accelerate legislative work on the first national-level regulation on public-private partnerships, which is a model of investing capital into infrastructure projects from the private and governmental sectors.<sup>4080</sup>

China has taken actions to improve the investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class but has not taken action on improving project development.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 1 February 2019, it was announced that the European Investment Fund, together with the French government, developed the French National Initiative for Agriculture. This new guarantee instrument should be able to attract more than EUR1 billion of investment in the sector.<sup>4081</sup>

On 7 March 2019, High Commissioner for Social and Solidarity Economy and Social Innovation Christophe Itier announced the launch of a mission dedicated to the development of Social Impact Contracts, a tool for financing innovative social and ecological projects. French adaptation of the Social Impact Bonds is a new mode of public-private financing intended to favor the emergence of preventive and innovative projects.<sup>4082</sup>

On 7 March 2019, Minister of Territorial Cohesion and Relations with Local Authorities Jacqueline Gourault, and Secretary of State to the Minister of Economy and Finance Agnès Pannier-Runacher, signed four mobilization agreements with the Banque des Territoires, Bpifrance, Business France and Pôle Emploi.<sup>4083</sup>

France has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Daria Myasnikova*

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<sup>4080</sup> Rules in pipeline for public-private projects, The State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 28 February 2019. Access date: 26 April 2019.

[http://english.gov.cn/policies/policy\\_watch/2019/02/28/content\\_281476541520514.htm](http://english.gov.cn/policies/policy_watch/2019/02/28/content_281476541520514.htm).

<sup>4081</sup> L'Inaf, un instrument financier inédit au service des agriculteurs, AGRA PRESSE (Paris) 1 February 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <http://www.agra.fr/l-inaf-un-instrument-financier-in-dit-au-service-des-agriculteurs-art451468-39.html>

<sup>4082</sup> Une nouvelle ambition en faveur de l'investissement à impact social, Ministère de la Transition écologique et solidaire (Paris) 7 March 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/nouvelle-ambition-en-faveur-linvestissement-impact-social>

<sup>4083</sup> Le Gouvernement et les opérateurs publics concrétisent leurs engagements au service des 136 Territoires d'industrie, MINISTÈRE DE LA COHÉSION DES TERRITOIRES ET DES RELATIONS AVEC LES COLLECTIVITÉS TERRITORIALES (Paris) 7 March 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <http://www.cohesion-territoires.gouv.fr/le-gouvernement-et-les-operateurs-publics-concretisent-leurs-engagements-au-service-des-136-territoires-d-industrie>

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partly complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 1 March 2019, Finance Minister Olaf Scholz announced the allocation of more than EUR150 billion for infrastructure, education, housing and digital technology over the next four years. The push on infrastructure is helping construction, which grew at an annual pace of more than three per cent in the second half of 2018.<sup>4084</sup>

On 9 April 2019, The State Secretaries Stientje van Veldhoven of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands and Enak Ferlemann, German Federal Commissioner for Railway Transportation, discussed the improvement of the train connection between Amsterdam and Berlin today. Common aim is to realize more attractive travel offerings by the environmentally friendly railway transportation in order to increase its market share with respect to road and air transport.<sup>4085</sup>

Germany has taken actions to improve project development in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class, but no actions were registered on improving investment environment.

Thus, Germany is given a score of 0.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepon*

### **India: 0**

India has partially complied with its commitment to attract more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 5 January 2019, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid the Foundation Stone for the revival of North Koel (Mandal Dam) project, Kanhar Sone pipeline irrigation scheme, and strengthening of various irrigation systems and lining works. These projects are cumulatively worth over 3,500 crore rupees, the Prime Minister said.<sup>4086</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the government put forth the Union Budget for 2019-2020. The Government of India allocated USD63.20 billion for infrastructure projects. A total of USD5.36 billion was allocated to the development of post and telecommunications departments. The Indian Railways received allocation under Union Budget 2019-20 at USD9.25 billion. Out of this allocation, USD8.95 billion is capital expenditure.

In addition, USD11.51 billion was allocated towards road transport and highway, USD540.53 billion to increase capacity of the Green Energy Corridor Project along with wind and solar power projects, and US1.16 billion to boost telecom infrastructure.

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<sup>4084</sup> Deficit Conquered, Germany Is Finally Boosting Public Spending, Bloomberg (London) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-03-01/germany-is-slowly-getting-on-board-the-investment-train>

<sup>4085</sup> The Ministries for Transport of the Netherlands and Germany joining efforts for a more attractive train connection between Amsterdam and Berlin, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (Berlin) 9 April 2019. Access Date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.bmvi.de/SharedDocs/EN/PressRelease/2019/029-train-berlin-amsterdam.html>.

<sup>4086</sup> PM witnesses collective e-Grih Pravesh, lays Foundation Stone for development projects in Palamu, Jharkhand (Delhi) 5 January 2019. Access date: 5 January 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1558751>

India has taken actions to improve project development in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class, but no actions were registered on improving investment environment.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Polina Shtanko*

### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 19 December 2018, it was reported that Indonesia was offering a series of new projects worth up to USD60 billion for the Chinese investment to boost its participation in China's Belt and Road Initiative, including power plants and industrial parks, ports and other infrastructure in provinces of central Kalimantan, North Sumatra, North Sulawesi and Bali.<sup>4087</sup>

On 15 January 2019, Indonesia's Ministry of Finance held an Indonesia Public Private Partnership Day in Singapore, in an attempt to bring new private investors in infrastructure; Singapore's investors were informed of cooperation opportunities in Indonesia, as well as support measures via public private partnership scheme, including Development Facility Project, Viability Gap Fund, Infrastructure Guarantee, and Special Mission Vehicles consisting of Sarana Multi Infrastruktur, Indonesia Investment Fund, Indonesia Infrastructure Guarantee Fund and State Asset Management Agency.<sup>4088</sup>

On 28 February 2019, Indonesia's government introduced an Online Single Submission system for doing-business in Indonesia related procedures, which is expected to significantly facilitate the investment process in Indonesia.<sup>4089</sup>

On 4 March 2019, Indonesia and Australia had signed an economic partnership agreement, which among other things will reduce controls on Australian investment and business ownership in Indonesia, including in energy, mining, construction and some transport infrastructure companies.<sup>4090</sup>

Indonesia has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

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<sup>4087</sup> Indonesia seeks \$60bn Chinese investment for infrastructure projects, Out-Law.com (London) 19 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.out-law.com/en/articles/2018/december/indonesia-seeks-60bn-chinese-investment-for-infrastructure-projects/>

<sup>4088</sup> Get New PPP Investors, Indonesia Expands to Singapore, Indonesia's Ministry of Finance (Jakarta) 16 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.kemenkeu.go.id/en/publications/news/get-new-ppp-investors-indonesia-expands-to-singapore/>

<sup>4089</sup> Online Single Submission Gives Ease of Investment, Indonesia's Ministry of Finance (Jakarta) 28 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.kemenkeu.go.id/en/publications/news/online-single-submission-gives-ease-of-investment/>

<sup>4090</sup> Trade deal will allow more Australian ownership, investment in Indonesia, Out-Law.com (London) 4 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.out-law.com/en/articles/2019/March/trade-deal-australian-ownership-investment-in-indonesia/>

**Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 10 December 2018, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport forwarded a new project to the Autostrade per l'Italia concessionary that aims to take into account all the requests coming from the territory and therefore really decongest the traffic on the ring road annexed to the Bologna junction, but with a less impactful solution for the environment and also a lot less expensive than the previous ones, for the benefit of the pockets of traveling citizens.<sup>4091</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport approved two decrees that allocates a total of EUR200 million over several years for the design of infrastructures by local authorities.<sup>4092</sup>

On 30 December 2018, the Italian government approved budget law that includes the establishment of a mission structure, called 'Investitalia' which will have the task of coordinating the Government's policies on public and private investments, is envisaged in the budget law under discussion in the Chamber.<sup>4093</sup>

On 10 January 2019, projects "TEMI MIRATI," "RAFAEL," "SENTINEL," which involve Autonomous National Road Company as part of national partnerships, were awarded the funding by the European Commission.<sup>4094</sup> "RAFAEL" aims at creating a risk analysis and forecasting system of catastrophic events that allow, on the basis of indications provided by sensors of various kinds (remote sensing, environmental, seismic and geodynamic sensors) and weather forecasts, to elaborate scenarios of events that could occur in the short to medium term, identifying the possible risks for primary critical infrastructures (electricity, telephone, water and road networks) providing an estimate of possible impacts on services and the consequences on the population.<sup>4095</sup> "SENTINEL" aims at the development and testing of a system for dynamic vehicle weighing, based on fiber optic sensors integrated with intelligent transportation systems with consequent identification and overcoming the problems related to the intensive use of technology and the development of dedicated electronic systems at low cost and high availability. As part of the project, a pilot action will also be carried out to experiment in the real environment, through the installation of electronic systems near a road

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<sup>4091</sup> Dal Mit un nuovo progetto alternativo per il Passante di Bologna, Ministero delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti (Rome) 10 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. <http://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/dal-mit-un-nuovo-progetto-alternativo-per-il-passante-di-bologna>

<sup>4092</sup> Infrastrutture: intesa su 200mln per progettazione enti locali, Ministero delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti (Rome) 20 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. [www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/infrastrutture-sicurezza/infrastrutture-intesa-su-200mln-per-progettazione-enti](http://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/infrastrutture-sicurezza/infrastrutture-intesa-su-200mln-per-progettazione-enti)

<sup>4093</sup> Bilancio di previsione dello Stato per l'anno finanziario 2019 e bilancio pluriennale per il triennio 2019-2021, Gazzeta Ufficiale (Rome) 31 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019.

<https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2018/12/31/18G00172/sg>

<sup>4094</sup> Sviluppo e Territorio - Anas: finanziamento europeo per i progetti Temi Mirati, Rafael e Sentinel, Info Appalti (Rome) 10 January 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <http://www.infoappalti.it/news/rasstampa/sviluppoterr/articoli/2019-01-10-anas-finanziamento-progetti-temi-mirati-rafael-sentinel.htm>

<sup>4095</sup> Sviluppo e Territorio - Anas: finanziamento europeo per i progetti Temi Mirati, Rafael e Sentinel, Info Appalti (Rome) 10 January 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <http://www.infoappalti.it/news/rasstampa/sviluppoterr/articoli/2019-01-10-anas-finanziamento-progetti-temi-mirati-rafael-sentinel.htm>

viaduct.<sup>4096</sup> “TEMI MIRATI” aims at the evaluation and testing of different methodological approaches for the purpose of reducing hydrogeological risk in areas subject to landslides and debris flows.<sup>4097</sup>

On 8 February 2019, the Ministry of Economic Development approved the project for the conversion and industrial redevelopment of the complex industrial crisis area of Gela that aimed at strengthening the infrastructural endowment of the area; the strengthening of the existing productive fabric and the development of logistics; the attraction of new investments and the job placement of personnel belonging to a specific reference area.<sup>4098</sup>

On 4 March 2019, Italy signed a declaration on the development of the Blockchain within the MED7, the group made up of seven Southern European countries (Italy, Spain, France, Malt a, Cyprus, Greece and Portugal). The declaration recognizes itself as the blockchain and, more generally, technologies based on distributed registers can play a decisive role in the development of these countries. It is therefore necessary to create a technical coordination between countries, to experiment with the use of these technologies and emerging ones (5G, Internet of Things, artificial intelligence).<sup>4099</sup>

On 16 April 2019, the Deputy Prime Minister of Italy and Minister of Economic Development, Labour and Social Policies Luigi Di Maio during his mission to the United Arab Emirates took part in the presentation of the special economic zones of Southern Italy by Intesa Sanpaolo at the Dubai International Financial Center. The objective was to promote investments in the zones present in the Southern regions of Italy through credit facilities and simplified procedures for companies wishing to access development opportunities guaranteed by the presence of port areas.<sup>4100</sup> He met President of the Dubai Government Authority for transport and mobility Mattar al Tayer and during the conversation emphasized a desire to further enhance the strong and profitable relationship between Italy and the United Arab Emirates through the development of large infrastructure projects in progress involving Italian companies in the UAE.<sup>4101</sup>

Italy has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

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<sup>4096</sup> Sviluppo e Territorio - Anas: finanziamento europeo per i progetti Temi Mirati, Rafael e Sentinel, Info Appalti (Rome) 10 January 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <http://www.infoappalti.it/news/rasstampa/sviluppoterr/articoli/2019-01-10-anas-finanziamento-progetti-temi-mirati-rafael-sentinel.htm>

<sup>4097</sup> Sviluppo e Territorio - Anas: finanziamento europeo per i progetti Temi Mirati, Rafael e Sentinel, Info Appalti (Rome) 10 January 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <http://www.infoappalti.it/news/rasstampa/sviluppoterr/articoli/2019-01-10-anas-finanziamento-progetti-temi-mirati-rafael-sentinel.htm>

<sup>4098</sup> Aiuti per le aree di crisi industriale della Regione Calabria e di Gela, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 8 February 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2039212-aiuti-per-le-aree-di-crisi-industriale-della-regione-calabria-e-di-gela>

<sup>4099</sup> L'Italia firma dichiarazione sullo sviluppo della Blockchain con i Paesi del MED7, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 4 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/per-i-media/notizie/2038896-l-italia-firma-dichiarazione-sullo-sviluppo-della-blockchain-con-i-paesi-del-med7>

<sup>4100</sup> Di Maio: secondo giorno di missione negli EAU, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039603-di-maio-in-missione-negli-eau-2>

<sup>4101</sup> Di Maio: secondo giorno di missione negli EAU, Ministero dello sviluppo economico (Rome) 16 April 2019. AccessDdate: 24 April 2019. <https://www.mise.gov.it/index.php/it/198-notizie-stampa/2039603-di-maio-in-missione-negli-eau-2>

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to attract more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 18 December 2018, it was reported that Japan Bank of International Cooperation (JBIC) signed a loan agreement amounting up to approximately USD47 million, co-financed by Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and Mizuho Bank, Ltd., bringing the total co-financing amount to USD144 million, with Yangon Museum Development Pte. Ltd., as part of JBIC's Global Facility to Promote Quality Infrastructure Investment for Environmental Preservation and Sustainable Growth.<sup>4102</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the Japan International Cooperation Agency would sponsor the project for installing a nationwide early warning system and strengthening of disaster communications in Tonga.<sup>4103</sup>

On 12 March 2019, the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a loan agreement of USD270 million to construct light rail system in Sri Lankan capital Colombo.<sup>4104</sup>

Japan has taken actions to improve project development in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class but has not taken action to improve investment environment.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 17 December 2018, the Ministry of Economic and Finance of Republic of Korea presented the economic plan for 2019. Among main tasks for the year, promotion of corporate and private investments was mentioned with a specific focus on infrastructure development. In particular, the Government plans to allocate KRW16 trillion to promote corporate investment.<sup>4105</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the Cabinet announced its intention to waive preliminary feasibility studies stage for 23 projects worth USD21.5 billion to promote balanced regional development. The projects mostly focus on infrastructure development: building roads, railroads and a tram system as well as healthcare facilities; in particular, Korea seeks to attract foreign investments into eco-friendly urban projects.<sup>4106</sup>

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<sup>4102</sup> Loan for Mixed Use Development Project by Japanese Company in Myanmar, JBIC (Tokyo) 3 December 2018.

Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/information/press/press-2018/1218-011714.html>

<sup>4103</sup> New Early Warning System and Disaster Communications for Tonga, ReliefWeb (Tokyo) 4 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/tonga/new-early-warning-system-and-disaster-communications-tonga>

<sup>4104</sup> Japan to fund Sri Lankan light rail system, Japan Today (Tokyo) 12 March 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://japantoday.com/category/business/japan-to-fund-sri-lankan-light-rail-system>

<sup>4105</sup> 2019 Economic Policies, Korean Ministry of Economy and Finance 17 December 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4629>

<sup>4106</sup> Cabinet waives feasibility studies for 24.1 trl won worth of projects, Korea Herald (Seoul) 29 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190129000680&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190129000680&ACE_SEARCH=1)

On 13 March 2019, the 10<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting on economic policies in 2019 was held. Several issues were discussed, namely promotion of employment, industrial innovations and infrastructure investment. Concerning infrastructure investment facilitation, the Ministry announced 13 thematic projects worth KRW12.6 trillion starting in 2020 with focus on construction of highways and sewage treatment facilities; revision of related laws and increase of private investment guarantee ceiling were announced as well.<sup>4107</sup>

On 28 March 2019, President Moon Jae-in pledged to increase support for foreign companies operating in Korea with an aim to attract foreign investment. Among other measures for investment facilitation, increase of subsidies for foreign investment was mentioned.<sup>4108</sup>

Korea has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 22 December 2018, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador presented the National Highway Infrastructure Program 2018-2024. ARS30,000 million will be allocated to maintenance of federal highways and rural roads, which will address the persistent infrastructure financing gap.<sup>4109</sup>

On 15 February 2019, the Energy Secretariat made various documents and tools available to the public, so that anyone interested can check the progress in natural gas infrastructure projects in Mexico. This measure allows to regulate the financing of the infrastructure and to address the infrastructure financing gap.<sup>4110</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Instituto Matías Romero published the internal call for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the online course Trade Finance Infrastructure Development. This measure allows to increase the literacy level of officials in the field of Finance Infrastructure, which will contribute to developing the infrastructure financing.<sup>4111</sup>

On 25 January 2019, the Secretariat of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development launched the National Reconstruction Plan in Nayarit, as part of the integral assistance to thousands of families

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<sup>4107</sup> Government to Promote Private Investment in Infrastructure, Korean Ministry of Economy and Finance 13 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. Accessed 02 April 2019.

[http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4642#fn\\_download](http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4642#fn_download)

<sup>4108</sup> Moon pledges to aid foreign firms' operations in Korea, Korea Herald (Seoul) 28 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190328000737&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190328000737&ACE_SEARCH=1)

<sup>4109</sup> Programa Nacional de Infraestructura Carretera 2018-2024, Mexican Government (Mexico) 22 December, 2018. Access date 21 March 2019: <https://www.gob.mx/sct/articulos/programa-nacional-de-infraestructura-carretera-2018-2024-185945?idiom=es>

<sup>4110</sup> Infraestructura de gas natural en México, Mexican Government (Mexico) 15 February 2019. Access date 21 March 2019 <https://www.gob.mx/sener/articulos/infraestructura-de-gas-natural-en-mexico>

<sup>4111</sup> Convocatoria interna para la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores al curso en línea Trade Finance Infrastructure Development - Febrero 2019, Mexican Government (Mexico) 26 February 2019. Access date 21 March 2019 <https://www.gob.mx/imr/documentos/convocatoria-interna-para-la-secretaria-de-relaciones-exteriores-al-curso-en-linea-trade-finance-infraestructure-development-febrero-2019>

affected by the passage of Hurricane Willa. This measure will allow to improve infrastructure and to bridge the infrastructure financing gap.<sup>4112</sup>

Mexico has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to attract more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 12 December 2018, Resolution No. 1509 increased authorized capital of Russian Railways by 54.88 billion rubles in order to modernize the railway infrastructure of the Baikal-Amur and Trans-Siberian railways and implement other major infrastructure projects. Relevant funds are indicated in the federal budget.<sup>4113</sup>

On 9 February 2019, the list of major infrastructure projects with state participation was supplemented with 13 additional projects that meet the established selection criteria. In particular it includes projects for the construction and reconstruction of sections of the M-25 Novorossiysk-Kerch highway, and also provides for the construction of bridges across the Volga River in Volgograd. The implementation of these projects is provided for by the transport part of the comprehensive plan for the modernization and expansion of the trunk infrastructure for the period up to 2024.<sup>4114</sup>

On 7 March 2019, the Ministry of the Russian Federation for the North Caucasus approved the Strategy for the Development of Tourism in the North Caucasus Federal District until 2035. The strategy included creation and development of a modern tourist infrastructure, actions to ensure the safety of tourists and the operation of tourist infrastructure facilities, the development of the industry-specific system of training specialists for the tourism industry of the North Caucasus.<sup>4115</sup>

On 28 March 2019, the Government of the Russian Federation made a decision to allocate funds for the development of road infrastructure of the transport corridor “Europe – Western China” from 2019-2021. This is within the framework of the federal project “Europe – Western China “transport system.” It was decided to distribute funds in the amount of 30,855,920.8 thousand rubles, including: in 2019 – 2,056,649.6 thousand rubles; in 2020 – 10,622,841.1 thousand rubles; in 2021 – 18,176,430.0 thousand rubles.<sup>4116</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Government of the Russian Federation signed Order No. 466 approving the long-term development program of Russian Railways until 2025. As part of the long-term

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<sup>4112</sup> SEDATU inicia acciones del Plan Nacional de Reconstrucción en Nayarit, Mexican Government (Mexico) 25 January 2019. Access date 21 March <https://www.gob.mx/sedatu/prensa/sedatu-inicia-acciones-del-plan-nacional-de-reconstruccion-en-nayarit>

<sup>4113</sup> On increasing the authorized capital of Russian Railways for the implementation of investment projects, Russian Government (Moscow) 12 December 2018. Access date: 12 February 2019. <http://government.ru/docs/35068/>

<sup>4114</sup> On the addition of a list of large projects with state participation, Russian Government (Moscow) 12 February 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <http://government.ru/docs/35702/>

<sup>4115</sup> A strategy for the development of tourism in the North Caucasus Federal District until 2035 is approved, Russian Government (Moscow). 15 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <http://government.ru/docs/36037/>

<sup>4116</sup> Decisions taken at the Government meeting on March 28, 2019, Russian Government (Moscow) 30 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <http://government.ru/news/36210/>

development program of Russian Railways, in particular, it was planned to develop integrated services for shippers and improve the quality of freight traffic, increase the transport mobility of people within and between agglomerations, develop container traffic, expand the network of high-speed highways, and develop infrastructure to ensure promising transportation volumes, the transition to the “digital railway.”<sup>4117</sup>

Russia has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Piekalnits*

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 22 January 2019, Saudi Arabia unveiled seven investment principles, issued by royal decree and based on international best practices and recommendations from the World Bank and The World Economic Forum. The principles will support the development of a competitive investment environment in the Kingdom through: ensure equality between Saudi and foreign investors; ensure protection of investments; enable sustainability of investment; provide access to equal investment incentives; implement social and environmental standards and ensure investor compliance with Saudi health, safety and environmental regulations; facilitate access procedures for foreign workers and their families; and ensure a solid transfer of knowledge, technology and enhancement of local human capital.<sup>4118</sup>

On 27 January 2019, Saudi Arabia announced its intention to attract over USD425 billion of investments for numerous long-lasting projects aimed at diversification of the national economy. Within the framework of the program, the country’s transport infrastructure will receive massive support – more than 60 logistic initiatives were approved. The Minister of Transport of Saudi Arabia Nabil Al-Amoudi said that the government will seek both domestic and foreign investment.<sup>4119</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

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<sup>4117</sup> The long-term development program of the «Russian Railways» until 2025 has been approved, Russian Government (Moscow) 20 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019.

<http://static.government.ru/media/files/zcAMxApAgyO7PnJ42aXtXAgA2RXSVoKu.pdf>

<sup>4118</sup> Saudi Arabia unveils seven investment principles, Arab News (Jeddah) 22 January 2019. Access date: 25 June 2019. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1440261/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>4119</sup> Saudi Arabia seeks more than \$425 billion in investments for massive infrastructure program, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 27 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/01/27/saudi-arabia-seeks-over-425-billion-in-investments-for-infrastructure.html>.

On 20 February 2019, South Africa announced a budget allocated funds to a blended finance Infrastructure Fund. Design work for the fund was under way with the help of the private sector, development finance institutions and multilateral development banks.<sup>4120</sup>

On 7 March 2019, Communications Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams welcomed Microsoft's investment in enterprise-grade data centres as they positioned South Africa as one of the leading Information and Communications Technology markets on the African Continent. Microsoft announced a multi-million-dollar investment to create economic opportunities for South Africa through an Equity Equivalent Investment Programme.<sup>4121</sup>

On 21 of March 2019, it was announced that the New Development Bank planned to lend USD780 million to Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd. for infrastructure projects as the ailing South African power utility battles to keep power supply steady.<sup>4122</sup>

South Africa has taken actions to improve project development in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class, but no actions were registered on improving investment environment.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

In April 2018, Turkey's Investment Support and Promotion Agency issued a publication Investing in Infrastructure and Public Private Partnership in Turkey.<sup>4123</sup> The paper highlights a growing need for investment in infrastructure in Turkey against the background of targets set towards the centennial of the Republic of Turkey in 2023, as well as rapidly growing population and intensifying urbanization in Turkey.<sup>4124</sup> Overall, the paper assesses Turkey's need for investment in infrastructure in 2016-2040 at USD975 billion, with a gap of USD405 billion, to be channeled in projects in energy, telecom, water, healthcare and transportation sectors. To bridge this gap, Turkey's government provides:

- A favorable investment legislation for public private partnership investments that can be realized through various models, such as build-operate, build-operate-transfer, transfer of operational rights, build-lease-transfer and others;
- Tax incentives, i.e. exemptions from certain fees and taxes (VAT and Stamp Duty), corporate tax deductions, as well as other financial incentives that public private partnership investors may benefit from under certain conditions;

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<sup>4120</sup> South Africa: Infrastructure fund planned, African Energy (Hastings) 28 February 2019, Access date: 29 March 2019. <https://www.africa-energy.com/article/south-africa-infrastructure-fund-planned>

<sup>4121</sup> Government welcomes Microsoft's investment, South African Government News Agency (Pretoria), 6 March 2019. Access Date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/government-welcomes-microsofts-investment>.

<sup>4122</sup> BRICS Bank to Lend Up to \$780 Million to South Africa's Eskom, InfoBRICS (Moscow) 21 March 2019. Access date: 28 March 2019. [http://infobrics.org/post/28305/%7B\[url\]%7D](http://infobrics.org/post/28305/%7B[url]%7D)

<sup>4123</sup> Investing in Infrastructure and Public Private Partnership in Turkey, Turkey's Investment Support and Promotion Agency (Ankara) April 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.invest.gov.tr/tr-TR/infocenter/publications/Documents/ALTYAPI.SEKTORU.pdf>

<sup>4124</sup> Investing in Infrastructure and Public Private Partnership in Turkey, Turkey's Investment Support and Promotion Agency (Ankara) April 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.invest.gov.tr/tr-TR/infocenter/publications/Documents/ALTYAPI.SEKTORU.pdf>

- Opportunities for free use by investor of the state-owned land;
- Opportunities to assume foreign debt of public private partnership investors by Turkey's government;
- Domestic and international laws that protect investments and provide international arbitration, including Foreign Direct Investment Law, bilateral investment protection treaties with 75 countries, treaties to avoid double-taxation with 80 countries;
- Support to public private partnership in form of macroeconomic policies, state investments and minimum revenue guarantees;
- Broad access to finance from national financial institutions, as well as from international financial institutions that Turkey is partnering with (such as European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, International Finance Corporation, European Investment Bank, Japan Bank for International Cooperation, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and others).<sup>4125</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the investment plans for metro and tram projects were announced. The project that will surely be commissioned this year is project Marmaray. TL2.9 billion will be spent this year for this project. Another project with large amount of investment is Gayrettepe-Airport metro: TL2.3 billion will be allocated. In general, 14 projects will continue to be implemented and one will be finished this year.<sup>4126</sup>

Turkey has taken actions to improve project development in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class, but no actions were registered on improving investment environment.

Thus, Turkey is given a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to attract more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 14 February 2019, the government confirmed GBP157 million under the Housing Infrastructure Fund in schemes in Devon and Cumbria. The money paid for a new motorway link road between south Carlisle and the M6, unlocking up to 10,000 new homes at St Cuthbert's Garden Village. In Devon, GBP55 million spent on road improvements and other infrastructure so that 2,500 homes can be built to the south west of Exeter.<sup>4127</sup>

United Kingdom has taken actions to improve project development in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class, but no actions were registered on improving investment environment.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

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<sup>4125</sup> Investing in Infrastructure and Public Private Partnership in Turkey, Turkey's Investment Support and Promotion Agency (Ankara) April 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.invest.gov.tr/tr-TR/infocenter/publications/Documents/ALTYAPI.SEKTORU.pdf>

<sup>4126</sup> Metro and tram projects of 2019 in Turkish cities, Rail Turkey (Istanbul) 26 February 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://railturkey.org/2019/02/26/metro-and-tram-projects-of-2019-in-turkish-cities/>

<sup>4127</sup> £250 million of housing deals struck to deliver tens of thousands of homes, UK Government (London) 14 February 2019. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/250-million-of-housing-deals-struck-to-deliver-tens-of-thousands-of-homes>

*Analyst: Mariya Kalugina*

### **United States: +1**

United States has fully complied with its commitment to attract more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 21 December 2018, U.S. Department of Transportation announced the second round of the Infrastructure For Rebuilding America Grant Program. In addition to providing direct federal funding, this program aims to increase the total investment by state, local, and private partners. The program will increase the impact of projects by leveraging federal grant funding and incentivizing project sponsors to pursue innovative strategies, including public-private partnerships. The program is expected to allocate about USD900 million for different projects.<sup>4128</sup>

On 5 February 2019, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced more than USD60 million in funding for 32 University Transportation Centers around the country. They are comprised of groups of universities seeking solutions to national, regional and local transportation issues.<sup>4129</sup>

United States has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dmitriy Lukanin*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment on attracting more private capital to infrastructure investment.

On 16 January 2019, the European Commission welcomed the vote by the European Parliament to agree its position on InvestEU, the proposed programme to boost, among other things, private investment in Europe in the next long-term EU budget. The vote marked an important step towards the creation of the programme, which would bring together under one roof the EU's financial instruments for investment in the European Union and should trigger at least EUR650 billion of investment.<sup>4130</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the European Commission adopted a Management Plan 2019 for Mobility and Transport. The plan states that the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport would continue to work in 2019 to facilitate future investment by working on assuring an agreement on the proposal for streamlined procedures for the preparation of infrastructure projects and through the continuous implementation of the Connecting Europe Facility for the realization of the trans-European networks.<sup>4131</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the European Commission published a brochure announcing the funding for the HOUSEENVEST project, which was funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme. The

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<sup>4128</sup> USDOT announces a second round of INFRA program which will allocate \$855-902.5 million as direct state funding and private investment, U.S. Department of Transportation (Washington) 21 December 2018. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/dot8418>

<sup>4129</sup> USDOT announces funding for University Transportation Centers, U.S. Department of Transportation (Washington) 5 February 2019. Access Date 31 March 2019. <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/dot0119>.

<sup>4130</sup> Commission welcomes European Parliament's position on InvestEU, European Commission (Brussels) 16 January 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-444\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-444_en.htm).

<sup>4131</sup> Management Plan 2019 for Mobility and Transport, European Commission (Brussels) 12 February 2019. Access Date: 20 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/management-plan-move-2019\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/management-plan-move-2019_en.pdf).

project aimed among other thing at implementing a regional financial instrument to solve the current barriers to financing infrastructural project, specifically energy infrastructure, which would provide certain financial standardization to the procedure of financing the building of infrastructure. It also stated that framework contracts and tools for standardization in other areas would be introduced.<sup>4132</sup>

On 20 March 2019, a conference on Quality Infrastructure as the way forward to meet the Sustainable Development Goals was held in Brussels Belgium. The Conference addressed challenges, best practices and tools from the cooperation perspective in the field of creating quality infrastructure, which when effectively planned, financed, delivered, operated, and maintained, would open social and economic opportunities for all. The conference also provided insight on the recent research completed by the United Nations Office for Project Services and the University of Oxford, further supported with an essay by The Economist Intelligence Unit, which revealed key insights about the critical role of infrastructure.<sup>4133</sup>

On 18 April 2019, the European Commission published a brochure on Investment Plan for Europe. Among other things the brochure included information on the European Investment Advisory Hub, which provided advisory services including technical support for project preparation and implementation on all stages of the project cycle<sup>4134</sup>.

On 25 April 2019, the European Union held the 26<sup>th</sup> Summit with Japan in Brussels, Belgium. One of the concrete outcomes of the Summit included a new EU-Japan Partnership on Sustainable Connectivity and Quality Infrastructure. This was an outcome of the significant potential to find synergies between the European Union's approach to connectivity, outlined by the Commission and the High Representative in September 2018 and Japan's Free and Open Indo Pacific Concept, with its focus on quality infrastructure Investment.<sup>4135</sup>

The European Union has taken actions to improve both project development and investment environment in line with the G20 Roadmap to Infrastructure as an Asset Class.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

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<sup>4132</sup> HOUSEENVEST project, European Commission (Brussels) 1 March 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/4.2\\_houseinvest\\_encinasmartin.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/4.2_houseinvest_encinasmartin.pdf).

<sup>4133</sup> Quality Infrastructure: the way forward to meet the SDGs, European Commission (Brussels) 20 March 2019. Access Date: 21 March 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/quality-infrastructure-way-forward-meet-sdgs\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/quality-infrastructure-way-forward-meet-sdgs_en).

<sup>4134</sup> Investment Plan for Europe: April 2019, European Commission (Brussels) 18 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/brochure-investment-plan-apr19\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/brochure-investment-plan-apr19_en.pdf).

<sup>4135</sup> President Juncker at the 26<sup>th</sup> Eu-Japan Summit, European Commission (Brussels) 25 April 2019. Access date: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/president-juncker-26th-eu-japan-summit-2019-apr-25\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/president-juncker-26th-eu-japan-summit-2019-apr-25_en).

## 20. Trade: Reform of the World Trade Organization

“We therefore support the necessary reform of the WTO to improve its functioning.”

*Buenos Leaders Aires Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia	-1		
South Africa	-1		
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.60	

### Background

International trade has been at the core of the G20 agenda since the first summit in 2008 in Washington. Throughout the following 10 years the G20 leaders affirmed their commitment to free, transparent and fair multilateral trading system, tackling such issues as protectionism, regional trade agreements, trade and development, e-commerce, etc.

The 2018 summit in Buenos Aires, however, saw dramatic decline in the number and specificity of the commitments on international trade. Convening against the backdrop of a global trade crisis brought about by the rise of unilateral trade barriers and counter-measures and the inability of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to effectively oppose this trend, the G20 leaders could not reach consensus on the major part of the traditional G20 trade agenda. The pledge to support the reform process necessary to improve the functioning of the WTO was effectively the only concrete commitment on international trade agreed in Buenos Aires.<sup>4136</sup>

### Commitment Features

The commitment requires the G20 countries to support the reform of the WTO, necessary to overcome its operational and structural weaknesses, impeding the effective functioning of the

<sup>4136</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 2018, G20 Information Centre University of Toronto (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access date: 28 May 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

multilateral trading system. The WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo identified three main issue areas which the potential WTO reform should focus on:

1. Enhancing the WTO monitoring capacity (including such issues as notifications and transparency, creating platforms and mechanisms for discussing, clarifying and addressing specific trade concerns);
2. Addressing dispute settlement system issues (including the Appellate Body impasse);
3. Improving the WTO rule making system (including the modernization of the WTO trade rules, development of differentiated mechanisms of members' involvement in trade negotiations and adherence to certain rules, dealing with development-related issues).<sup>4137</sup>

To comply with the commitment the G20 members need to take active participation in discussions on the WTO reform both within the framework of the WTO process, and at other multilateral and bilateral venues. This participation can include drafting reform proposals, backing proposals made by other WTO members, organizing and taking part in events devoted to the WTO reform, promoting discussions among non-government actors and academic community on the WTO reform. To fully comply with the commitment the G20 members need to actively engage in discussions and put forward proposals on WTO reform, containing issues listed above. To partially comply, members need to support the reform in general, but not promote any concrete reform proposals. Negative compliance implies no actions taken to promote the reform of WTO or openly opposing the reform.

#### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G20 member did not take action to support the WTO reform or openly opposed it.
0	The G20 member took part in the promotion of the WTO reform, but didn't put forward any concrete proposals on reform.
+1	The G20 member took part in the promotion of the WTO reform and put forward concrete proposals on reform.

#### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 24 January 2019, Argentina, Norway and Japan circulated a new document with the aim of reaching an agreeable drafting for the Rules of Procedure to be applied to meetings of the Committee on Trade Facilitation.<sup>4138</sup> The document suggested that the Rules of Procedure for meetings of the General Council (WT/L/161) be applied *mutatis mutandis* to meetings of the Committee on Trade Facilitation with some exceptions.

Argentina took part in the promotion of the WTO reform and drafted several proposals on ways to enhance WTO's activities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

<sup>4137</sup> DG Azevêdo in US: This is a "once-in-a-generation opportunity" to renew trading system, WTO (Geneva) 5 December 2018. Access date: 28 May 2019. [https://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news18\\_e/dgra\\_06dec18\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news18_e/dgra_06dec18_e.htm).

<sup>4138</sup> RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE. Proposal by Argentina, Japan and Norway, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 24 January 2019. Access Date: 15 February 2019. [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/tradfa\\_e/comm\\_tradfa\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tradfa_e/comm_tradfa_e.htm).

**Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 26 January 2019, Australia, Japan and Singapore hosted an informal meeting of Ministers on the WTO e-commerce initiative in the margins of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland. Ministers exchanged views on how WTO negotiations can capture opportunities offered by e-commerce for businesses, consumers and the global economy. Following the meeting, 76 WTO Members representing over 90 percent of global trade issued a Joint Statement (Annex) confirming their intention to commence WTO negotiations on trade-related aspects of e-commerce, with the objective of achieving a high standard outcome with the participation of as many Members as possible.<sup>4139</sup>

On 7 February 2019, Australia concluded negotiations to join the World Trade Organization Agreement on Government Procurement. The agreement's principles are transparency and non-discrimination, requiring Members to: offer other Members' suppliers' conditions 'no less favourable' than domestic suppliers; provide review procedures for suppliers to raise complaints about tender processes. Australia wants to join the agreement to protect and promote Australian businesses bidding for government procurement contracts in the markets of its 47 current members.<sup>4140</sup>

On 24 January 2019, it was announced that Australia was going to start talks at the World Trade Organisation for a new regime covering e-commerce and corporate data flows, potentially plugging a critical gap in the multilateral trading system and easing companies' ability to do business across borders. Trade Minister Simon Birmingham met other trade ministers in Davos to get final endorsement for the plan, which will see a WTO grouping begin to develop clear and harmonised standards on electronic invoicing, cross-border data transfers, and the storage of data.<sup>4141</sup>

Australia supports the WTO reform in general and is a member of Ottawa Group, responsible for trade in services aspect of reform. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

**Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 28 March 2019, Brazil proposed guidelines for the performance of panels and the Appellate Body. The proposal seeks to improve procedures, to make the system more agile and efficient in strict compliance with the WTO Dispute Settlement Understanding, and to preserve the rights and obligations agreed in the Marrakesh Agreement which created the World Trade Organization. It also

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<sup>4139</sup> Australia, Japan and Singapore welcome WTO electronic commerce negotiations, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Canberra) 26 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. [https://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/sb\\_mr\\_190126a.aspx](https://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2019/sb_mr_190126a.aspx)

<sup>4140</sup> Agreement on Government Procurement, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 7 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://dfat.gov.au/trade/organisations/wto/Pages/wto-agreement-on-government-procurement.aspx>

<sup>4141</sup> Australia leads the way on WTO talks to ease cross-border data sharing, Financial Review (Melbourne) 24 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.afr.com/news/economy/trade/australia-leads-the-way-on-wto-talks-to-ease-crossborder-data-sharing-20190124-h1afa2>

aims to overcome the impasse in the selection of new members of the Appellate Body, which could jeopardize the progress of disputes in the WTO.<sup>4142</sup>

Brazil supports the WTO reform in general and presented a proposal of Appellate Body reform. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with the commitment of reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 24 February 2019, Minister of International Trade Diversification Jim Carr chaired a meeting of the representative group of WTO members committed to improving and strengthening the multilateral trading system. In October 2018, Minister Carr hosted the inaugural meeting of the group in Ottawa, where ministers discussed reforms and the modernization of the rules-based order. As a follow-up to commitments made in Ottawa, the group of ministers discussed next steps and the need to conclude ongoing WTO negotiations, including those reducing harmful fisheries subsidies. These negotiations will deliver economic, environmental and development benefits.<sup>4143</sup>

Canada supports the WTO reform in general and is the leader of the Ottawa group, whose goal is to elaborate a comprehensive reform of the WTO, its dispute settlement mechanism and multilateral trade system in general. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Uliana Koptiyukh*

**China: +1**

China has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 12 December 2019, China, The European Union and other WTO members delivered a joint statement emphasizing the urgent need to unblock the appointment of WTO Appellate Body members.<sup>4144</sup>

On 20 December 2018, “China’s Position Paper on WTO Reform” was issued. China put forward three basic principles of WTO reform including the preservation of the core values of the multilateral trading system, safeguarding the development interests of developing members and following the practice of decision-making by consensus.<sup>4145</sup>

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<sup>4142</sup> Brasil circula proposta para superar impasse do Órgão de Apelação na OMC, Ministério das Relações Exteriores (Brasilia) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 30 March 2019. <http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/pt-BR/notas-a-imprensa/20234-brasil-circula-proposta-para-superar-impasse-do-orgao-de-apelacao-na-omc>

<sup>4143</sup> Canada-led WTO meeting concludes in Davos, Switzerland. Global Affairs Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 February 2019. Access date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/01/canada-led-wto-meeting-concludes-in-davos-switzerland.html>

<sup>4144</sup> EU, China stress urgent need to unblock appointment of WTO Appellate Body members, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 12 December 2018. Access date: 20 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/12/c\\_137669445.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/12/c_137669445.htm)

<sup>4145</sup> China’s Position Paper on WTO Reform, Ministry of Commerce of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 6 December 2018. Access date: 20 April 2019. <http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/counselorsreport/americaandocanreport/201812/20181202813857.shtml>

On 3 April 2019, Assistant Minister of Commerce Li Chenggang held talks with Japanese Vice-Minister for International Affairs of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Tatsuya Terazawa in Beijing. The two sides exchanged their views on the WTO reform.<sup>4146</sup>

On 9 April 2019, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, President of the European Council Donald Tusk, and President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker held a meeting in Beijing. During the meeting they reaffirmed their joint commitment to cooperate on WTO reform to ensure its continued relevance and allow it to address global trade challenges. They agreed to continue working to resolve the crisis in the WTO Appellate Body.<sup>4147</sup>

On 13 April 2019, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang delivered a speech at the eighth summit of heads of government of China and Central and Eastern European Countries where he emphasized that certain aspects of the WTO rules need to be reformed and improved in order to better reflect changing realities and enhance their authority and effectiveness.<sup>4148</sup>

China supports WTO reform in general and puts forward proposals on possible ways of reforming the organisation. Thus, it gets a score +1.

*Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 17 January 2019, it was announced that France and China were conducting high-level communication and exchanges on issues surrounding the reform of the WTO. Both countries emphasized that multilateralism is very important for global trade and trade disputes should be discussed and settled within the multilateral frameworks of the WTO and G20.<sup>4149</sup>

On 26 March 2019, in their joint statement China and France announced that they will make joint efforts to promote multilateralism based on international law, uphold a rules-based multilateral trading system, and fully implement the 2015 Paris climate accord, according to a joint statement of the two countries.<sup>4150</sup>

France supports the reform of WTO in general and puts forward a proposal on WTO reform. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Dariya Myasnikova*

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<sup>4146</sup> Assistant Minister Li Chenggang Holds Consultations with Japanese Vice-Minister for International Affairs of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry on RCEP, Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 3 April 2019. Access date: 21 April 2019.

<http://lichenggang2.mofcom.gov.cn/article/activity/201904/20190402851575.shtml>

<sup>4147</sup> China, EU issue joint statement of 21st leaders' meeting, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 10 April 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/10/c\\_137963618.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/10/c_137963618.htm)

<sup>4148</sup> Full text of Chinese premier's speech at 8th summit of heads of government of China, CEEC, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 13 April 2019. Access date: 20 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/europe/2019-04/13/c\\_137974076.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/europe/2019-04/13/c_137974076.htm)

<sup>4149</sup> France, China working on issues related to WTO reform: ambassador, Global Times (Beijing) 17 January 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1136174.shtml>

<sup>4150</sup> China, France vow to uphold multilateralism, Paris climate accord, CGTN (Beijing) 26 March 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d3d674d334d6a4e33457a6333566d54/index.html>

**Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 23-24 January 2019, German Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Peter Altmaier attended the 2019 World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos. The aim of his participation was to work together with representatives of various countries and companies on solutions regarding open markets, the modernization of the WTO and artificial intelligence.<sup>4151</sup>

On 4 February 2019, German Chancellor Angela Merkel met with the Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe. They exchanged views regarding current situation in international trade and shared the view that Japan and Germany will cooperate for maintaining and strengthening a free and open economic system, including through the WTO reform.<sup>4152</sup>

On 22 February 2019, Minister Altmaier participated in the meeting of the EU Trade Ministers. Minister Altmaier mentioned: “Without the WTO, the principle that ‘might is right’ would prevail in trade relations. The WTO is a very important organization to promote rules-based international trade. We need to position it better and strengthen it to be able to tackle the challenges of the 21st century. For this purpose, we are, together with the European Commission, engaged in talks with numerous international partners, including the U.S. and China.” Issues related to the WTO reform discussed at the meeting include reestablishing a functioning of the WTO dispute settlement mechanism, closing gaps in the WTO rules, for example on subsidies or e-commerce, and improving the work of the WTO, its committees and bodies.<sup>4153</sup>

Germany supports the reform of WTO in general and puts forward a proposal on WTO reform. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepov*

**India: 0**

India has partially complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 4 February 2019, Minister of State of Commerce and Industry informed that India has recently co-sponsored a proposal with the European Union and other members on reform of the dispute settlement mechanism addressing various challenges. The proposal, inter alia, addresses various imperative issues of timelines, the appointment process of the Appellate Body members, their tenure and other conditions so that the Appellate Body and the Dispute Settlement Mechanism work more efficiently.<sup>4154</sup>

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<sup>4151</sup> Minister Altmaier attends World Economic Forum in Davos: dialogue in times of international trade conflicts more important than ever!, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190122-altmaier-attends-world-economic-forum-in-davos.html>.

<sup>4152</sup> Japan-Germany Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/c\\_see/page6e\\_000166.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/c_see/page6e_000166.html).

<sup>4153</sup> Minister Altmaier: Europe relies on free trade against protectionism, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20190222-altmaier-europe-relies-on-free-trade-against-protectionism.html>.

<sup>4154</sup> WTO issues and challenges, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 4 February. Access date: 4 February. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1558207>

India supports the WTO reform in general and the Appellate Body reform proposal by Ottawa group, however, India doesn't suggest its own reform proposals.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Polina Shtanko*

### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 21 January 2019, a joint statement of the 22nd EU-ASEAN Ministerial meeting (with Indonesia's participation) was issued.<sup>4155</sup> The statement reaffirms strong support for preserving and strengthening an open, fair, non-discriminatory, transparent, rules-based multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization at its core, and the need to address barriers to international trade; expresses deep concern about the systemic impact of protectionist measures that are incompatible with WTO rules and that put the multilateral trading system at risk; and underlines the urgent need to strengthen and reform the WTO to meet new challenges and to improve its negotiating, monitoring, rule-making and dispute settlement functions.<sup>4156</sup>

Indonesia was also among the members of the WTO, which initiated a joint ministerial statement on electronic commerce published on 25 January 2019.<sup>4157</sup> The statement confirms the WTO's members intention to commence negotiations on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce; to achieve a high standard outcome that builds on existing WTO agreements and frameworks with the participation of as many WTO Members as possible; to recognize and take into account the unique opportunities and challenges faced by different members, including developing countries and least development countries, as well as by micro, small and medium sized enterprises, in relation to electronic commerce; and to continue to encourage all WTO Members to participate in order to further enhance the benefits of electronic commerce for businesses, consumers and the global economy.<sup>4158</sup>

Indonesia supports the WTO reform in general and is one of the initiates of Joint ministerial statement on electronic commerce.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

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<sup>4155</sup> Joint statement of the 22nd EU-ASEAN ministerial meeting, European Council (Brussels) 21 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/01/21/joint-statement-of-the-22nd-eu-asean-ministerial-meeting/>

<sup>4156</sup> Joint statement of the 22nd EU-ASEAN ministerial meeting, European Council (Brussels) 21 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/01/21/joint-statement-of-the-22nd-eu-asean-ministerial-meeting/>

<sup>4157</sup> Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce, European Commission (Brussels) 25 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc\\_157643.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc_157643.pdf)

<sup>4158</sup> Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce, European Commission (Brussels) 25 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc\\_157643.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc_157643.pdf)

On 25 January 2019, during the 9th Meeting of the China-Italy Joint Government Committee Italy and China expressed support for the reform of the WTO, with the aim of reinforcing its role.<sup>4159</sup>

On 24 April 2019, Prime Minister Conte welcomed Prime Minister Abe's visit to Italy. The two leaders shared the view that Japan and Italy will cooperate in a variety of areas, including promotion of free trade, WTO reform, data governance, quality infrastructure, and environmental and global issues.<sup>4160</sup>

Italy supports the reform of WTO in general but has not put forward its own proposal on WTO reform.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 9 January 2019, Japan, the European Union and the United States Ministers, Responsible for Trade, issued another joint statement, including on WTO reform, having noted that the three countries agreed to intensify engagement with other trading partners to advance their joint transparency and notification proposal to the Council for Trade in Goods submitted in November 2018, and that they confirmed their agreement to work towards strengthening the regular committees' activities, as well as their call on advanced WTO Members claiming developing country status to undertake full commitments in ongoing and future WTO negotiations.<sup>4161</sup> The Ministers also confirmed their support for the timely initiation of WTO negotiations on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce that seek to achieve a high standard agreement with the participation of as many WTO members as possible, and instructed their staff to finalize "trilateral text-based work" on industrial subsidies by spring to engage other key WTO members.<sup>4162</sup>

On 24-25 January 2019, at the World Economic Forum, Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hiroshige Seko took part in the meeting of the Ottawa Ministerial on WTO Reform, and hosted the informal meeting of Ministers, Responsible for Trade, on the WTO e-commerce related issues<sup>4163</sup>. Following the latter, the joint statement on e-commerce by 76 WTO members was issued, which highlighted that signatories<sup>4164</sup>:

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<sup>4159</sup> Joint Statement on the 9th Meeting of the China-Italy Joint Government Committee, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 25 January 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019.

[https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/01/comunicato-congiunto.html](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/01/comunicato-congiunto.html)

<sup>4160</sup> Japan-Italy Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 April 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/it/page4e\\_001014.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/it/page4e_001014.html)

<sup>4161</sup> Joint Statement of the Trilateral Meeting of the Trade Ministers of the European Union, Japan and the United States, Delegation of the European Union to the United States (Washington) 9 January 2019. Access date: 9 January 2019. [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/united-states-america/56329/joint-statement-trilateral-meeting-trade-ministers-european-union-japan-and-united-states\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/united-states-america/56329/joint-statement-trilateral-meeting-trade-ministers-european-union-japan-and-united-states_en)

<sup>4162</sup> Joint Statement of the Trilateral Meeting of the Trade Ministers of the European Union, Japan and the United States, Delegation of the European Union to the United States (Washington) 9 January 2019. Access date: 9 January 2019. [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/united-states-america/56329/joint-statement-trilateral-meeting-trade-ministers-european-union-japan-and-united-states\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/united-states-america/56329/joint-statement-trilateral-meeting-trade-ministers-european-union-japan-and-united-states_en)

<sup>4163</sup> METI Minister Seko Visits Switzerland, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0128\\_002.html](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0128_002.html)

<sup>4164</sup> Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce, WTO 25 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc\\_157643.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc_157643.pdf)

- Confirm their intention to commence WTO negotiations on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce;
- Will seek to achieve a high standard outcome that builds on existing WTO agreements and frameworks with the participation of as many WTO Members as possible;
- Recognize and will take into account the unique opportunities and challenges faced by Members, including developing countries and the least developed countries, as well as by micro, small and medium sized enterprises, in relation to electronic commerce.

On 24 April 2019, Prime Minister Conte welcomed Prime Minister Abe's visit to Italy. The two leaders shared the view that Japan and Italy will cooperate in a variety of areas, including promotion of free trade, WTO reform, data governance, quality infrastructure, and environmental and global issues.<sup>4165</sup>

Japan supports the WTO reform in general and is one of the authors of Ottawa group proposal on WTO reform.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

#### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 24 January 2019, Kim Hyun-chong, Minister of Trade of Korea, attended a meeting devoted to discussion of the proposed agenda of WTO reform in Davos, Switzerland. The minister expressed support for the need to create a set of WTO rules to cope with the spread of digital commerce and other related matters. At Davos meeting alliance on WTO Appellate body reform emerged.<sup>4166</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the Ottawa group (a Canada-led initiative of 13 countries including Korea) announced its intention to seek more members and launch discussions on specific areas of the WTO reform process.<sup>4167</sup>

Korea supports the WTO reform in general and as a member of Ottawa Group puts forward a reform proposal.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

#### **Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 29 January 2019, the Ottawa group (a Canada-led initiative of 13 countries including Mexico) announced its intention to seek more members and launch discussions on specific areas of the WTO reform process.<sup>4168</sup>

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<sup>4165</sup> Japan-Italy Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 24 April 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/it/page4e\\_001014.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/it/page4e_001014.html)

<sup>4166</sup> Trade minister to attend WTO reform meeting in Davos, Korea Herald (Seoul) 24 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190121000342>

<sup>4167</sup> WTO reform initiative moving forward, National News Watch (Ottawa) 29 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.nationalnewswatch.com/2019/01/29/wto-reform-initiative-moving-forward/#.XKYVX1UzaCg>

On 12 February 2019, Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard met with a delegation of more than 60 business executives from the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry interested in boosting trade and investment between the two countries. Developing of bilateral trade relations allows to develop international trade system.<sup>4169</sup>

On 18 February 2019, Matías Romero Institute announced call for The “Train For Trade” program on International Merchandise Trade Statistics, which is offered free of charge by the Association of Caribbean States in coordination with the Statistics Division of the United Nations Organization, the Conference of the United Nations for Trade and Development, and the World Trade Organization. Establishment of the joint educational program contributes to development of the international trade and expertise on the international trade.<sup>4170</sup>

On 5 March 2019, Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard met with Minister for Trade and Export Growth of New Zealand, David Parker. The two officials agreed to increase the two countries’ economic and political cooperation due to their similar views on issues such as social inclusion, environmental protection and multilateralism, which contributes to international trade development and transformation.<sup>4171</sup>

Mexico supports the WTO reform in general and as a member of Ottawa Group puts forward a reform proposal. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich*

#### **Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 25 January 2019, Russian Minister of Economic Development Maxim Oreshkin said that restoring the effective functioning of the WTO should be the main goal of global governance system. Maxim Oreshkin also stressed some long-standing problems that require a new look. First of all, these are issues related to the expansion of the WTO agenda and progress on the negotiation tracks.<sup>4172</sup>

Russia supports the WTO reform in general, however, doesn’t suggest its own reform proposals.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anna Piekalnits*

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<sup>4168</sup>WTO reform initiative moving forward, National News Watch (Ottawa) 29 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.nationalnewswatch.com/2019/01/29/wto-reform-initiative-moving-forward/#.XKYVX1UzaCg>

<sup>4169</sup> Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard Meets with Japanese Trade Mission, Mexican Government (Mexico) 12 February 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sre/prensa/foreign-secretary-marcelo-ebrard-meets-with-japanese-trade-mission?idiom=en>

<sup>4170</sup> Programa “Train For Trade” sobre Estadísticas del Comercio Internacional de Mercancías (AEC), Mexican Government (Mexico) 18 February 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/imr/documentos/programa-train-for-trade-sobre-estadisticas-del-comercio-internacional-de-mercancias-aec>

<sup>4171</sup> Secretary Marcelo Ebrard Meets with New Zealand Trade Minister David Parker, Mexican Government (Mexico) 5 March 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/sre/prensa/158721>

<sup>4172</sup> Maxim Oreshkin: Restoring the effective functioning of the WTO should be our main goal, Russian Ministry for Economic Development (Moscow) 25 January 2019. Access date: 13 May 2019. <http://economy.gov.ru/minec/about/structure/depTorg/2019250103>

**Saudi Arabia: -1**

Saudi Arabia has not complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

No actions taken by Saudi Arabia to support the WTO reform were found within the compliance period.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of -1.<sup>4173</sup>

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

**South Africa: -1**

South Africa has not complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

No actions taken by Saudi Arabia to support the WTO reform were found within the compliance period.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of -1.<sup>4174</sup>

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

**Turkey: +1**

Turkey has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Turkey was among the members of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body, which initiated joint statements on Appellate Body appointments following the meetings of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body of 18 December 2018 and 25 February 2019.<sup>4175</sup> The statements urge the WTO Dispute Settlement Body to launch recruitment processes to fill 4 vacancies in the Appellate Body, to establish a Selection Committee in line with previous selection processes composed of the Director-General and the Chairpersons of the General Council, the Goods Council, the Services Council, the TRIPS Council and the Dispute Settlement Body, to be Chaired by the Dispute Settlement Body Chair, and to set deadlines for selection process (30 days for nomination and 60 days after nomination ends to form recommendations by the Selection Committee).<sup>4176</sup>

Turkey was among the members of the WTO, which initiated a joint ministerial statement on electronic commerce published on 25 January 2019.<sup>4177</sup> The statement confirms the WTO's members intention to commence negotiations on trade-related aspects of electronic commerce; to achieve a high standard outcome that builds on existing WTO agreements and frameworks with the participation of as many WTO Members as possible; to recognize and take into account the unique opportunities and challenges faced by different members, including developing countries and least development countries, as well as by micro, small and medium sized enterprises, in relation to

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<sup>4173</sup> Additional information has been provided on a confidential basis suggesting progress on WTO reform but cannot be included towards the scoring assessment.

<sup>4174</sup> Additional information has been provided on a confidential basis suggesting progress on WTO reform but cannot be included towards the scoring assessment.

<sup>4175</sup> Dispute Settlement Body, WTO (Geneva) 18 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/dispu\\_e/dispu\\_body\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/dispu_body_e.htm)

<sup>4176</sup> Dispute Settlement Body, WTO (Geneva) 18 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/dispu\\_e/dispu\\_body\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/dispu_body_e.htm)

<sup>4177</sup> Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce, European Commission (Brussels) 25 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc\\_157643.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc_157643.pdf)

electronic commerce; and to continue to encourage all WTO Members to participate in order to further enhance the benefits of electronic commerce for businesses, consumers and the global economy.<sup>4178</sup>

Turkey supports the WTO reform in general and is among initiators of e-commerce statement and supporters of Appellate body reform. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

As still a member on European Union, whose trade policy is in the full competence of the supranational level, the UK supports the reform of the WTO and especially its Appellate body through the proposal of Ottawa Group.

On 13 December 2018, the UK welcomed approval of new trade agreement with Japan. Consumers to be given more choice at lower prices and an increase in job opportunities thanks to the recent EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement.<sup>4179</sup>

On 18 January 2019, the UK and Australia agreed continuity of Mutual Recognition Agreement. The International Trade Secretary signed an arrangement which will help boost British trade with Australia.<sup>4180</sup>

On 31 January 2019, the UK signed Eastern and Southern Africa trade continuity agreement. Trade Policy Minister George Hollingbery signed the trade continuity agreement in London with a number of representative governments.<sup>4181</sup>

On 1 February 2019, the UK signed a new trade continuity agreement with the Faroe Islands.<sup>4182</sup>

On 18 February 2019, International Trade Secretary and President of the Board of Trade the Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox signed the UK-Israel agreement in Tel Aviv with Minister of Economy and Industry Eli Cohen.<sup>4183</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the UK and Chile signed a new trade continuity agreement. This trade continuity agreement will see British businesses and consumers benefiting from preferential trading arrangements with Chile after the country leaves the European Union.<sup>4184</sup>

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<sup>4178</sup> Joint Statement on Electronic Commerce, European Commission (Brussels) 25 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc\\_157643.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc_157643.pdf)

<sup>4179</sup> UK welcomes approval of new trade agreement with Japan, UK Government (London) 13 December 2018. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-welcomes-approval-of-new-trade-agreement-with-japan>

<sup>4180</sup> UK and Australia agree continuity of Mutual Recognition Agreement, UK Government (London) 18 February 2019. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-australia-agree-continuity-of-mutual-recognition-agreement>

<sup>4181</sup> UK signs Eastern and Southern Africa trade continuity agreement, UK Government (London) 31 January 2019. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-signs-eastern-and-southern-africa-trade-continuity-agreement>

<sup>4182</sup> UK and Faroe Islands sign trade continuity agreement, UK Government (London) 1 February 2019. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-faroe-islands-sign-trade-continuity-agreement>

<sup>4183</sup> UK and Israel sign trade continuity agreement, UK Government (London) 18 February 2019. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-israel-sign-trade-continuity-agreement>

United Kingdom supports the WTO reform in general and as a member of Ottawa Group puts forward a reform proposal. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mariya Kalugina*

**United States: +1**

United States has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 12 December 2018, the U.S. rejected the European Union’s proposal to reform the World Trade Organization, dealing a blow to international efforts to bolster the Geneva-based body, which has come under attack from President Donald Trump’s administration.<sup>4185</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the United States proposed a reform of the World Trade Organization that would slash the number of countries that are eligible for “special and differential treatment,” a plan likely to be resisted by China, India and other countries.<sup>4186</sup>

On 2 March 2019, the U.S. argued that it no longer makes sense for China to receive special World Trade Organization privileges that were originally designed to assist developing nations.<sup>4187</sup>

United States has rejected the Appellate body reform proposal put forward by Ottawa group and backed by many WTO members. It also proposed its reform of the WTO. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dmitriy Lukanin*

**European Union: +1**

European Union has fully complied with the commitment on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO).

On 6-7 December 2018, the European Union took part in the 2018 annual session of the parliamentary conference on the WTO. According to the outcome document published on 7 December 2018, the European Union claimed that it was a matter of urgency to proceed with discussing the ways and means of improving the WTO in the light of the latest developments and to review several aspects of the functioning of the WTO with a view to increasing both its effectiveness, transparency, and authority through the upholding of its core values and fundamental principles, and legitimacy.<sup>4188</sup>

On 6-7 December 2018, as a result of the 2018 annual session of the parliamentary conference on the WTO, the outcome document was published by the European Parliament, stating that the EU urged all Members of the WTO to fully respect the rules of the WTO, while urgently seeking a solution for the dispute settlement body, for example through proposing transitional rules for

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<sup>4184</sup> UK and Chile sign continuity agreement, UK Government (London) 30 January 2019. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-chile-sign-continuity-agreement>

<sup>4185</sup> The U.S. rejects EU’s WTO reformation plan, Bloomberg (London) 12 December 2018. Access Date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-12-12/u-s-rejects-the-eu-s-trade-reform-proposal-putting-wto-at-risk>

<sup>4186</sup> The U.S. propose a reform of WTO to halt handouts for big and rich states, Reuters (Washington) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 1 April 2019 <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trade-wto-idUSKCN1Q426T>

<sup>4187</sup> US takes aim at China’s status as a developing nation, Nikkei (Tokyo) 2 March 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2019. <https://asia.nikkei.com/Economy/Trade-war/US-takes-aim-at-China-s-status-as-a-developing-nation>

<sup>4188</sup> 2018 annual session of the parliamentary conference on the WTO “WTO: the way forward” – outcome document, the European Parliament (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access date: 19 February 2019. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/158345/outcome\\_document-final-e.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/158345/outcome_document-final-e.pdf).

outgoing members of the Appellate Body or maximum times allowed before the publication of a report, guaranteeing its independence while ensuring that rules remain within the rights and obligations of the Appellate Body.<sup>4189</sup> The EU called upon all Members of the WTO to urgently engage to address the impasse of the Dispute Settlement Body as this could fundamentally undermine the multilateral rule-based trading system.<sup>4190</sup>

On 9 January 2019, the European Union, the USA and Japan held a trilateral meeting and issued a joint statement, in which they agreed to deepen their cooperation in areas including promoting WTO reform.<sup>4191</sup> The three partners submitted a joint transparency and notification proposal to the Council for Trade in Goods the previous November with other co-sponsors, and the Ministers agreed to intensify engagement with other trading partners to advance this proposal. They confirmed their agreement to work towards strengthening the regular committees' activities. They also reiterated their call on advanced WTO Members claiming developing country status to undertake full commitments in ongoing and future WTO negotiations.<sup>4192</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the 21<sup>st</sup> EU-China Summit issued a Joint Statement, in which the two sides reaffirmed their joint commitment to co-operate on WTO reform to ensure its continued relevance and allow it to address global trade challenges.<sup>4193</sup> To this end, both sides agreed to intensify the discussions with the aim of strengthening international rules on industrial subsidies, building on the work developed in the Joint EU-China working group on WTO reform. The two sides also welcomed the work so far in the EU-China Joint Working Group on WTO reform. The EU and China agreed to continue working to resolve the crisis in the WTO Appellate Body and build convergence on other areas of WTO reform.<sup>4194</sup>

European Union supports the WTO reform in general and as a member of Ottawa Group and one of its leaders puts forward a reform proposal. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

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<sup>4189</sup> 2018 annual session of the parliamentary conference on the WTO "WTO: the way forward" – outcome document, the European Parliament (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access date: 19 February 2019. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/158345/outcome\\_document-final-e.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/158345/outcome_document-final-e.pdf).

<sup>4190</sup> 2018 annual session of the parliamentary conference on the WTO "WTO: the way forward" – outcome document, the European Parliament (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access date: 19 February 2019. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/158345/outcome\\_document-final-e.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/158345/outcome_document-final-e.pdf).

<sup>4191</sup> Joint Statement of the Trilateral Meeting of the Trade Ministers of the European Union, Japan and the United States, European Commission (Brussels) 9 January 2019. Access date: 19 February 2019. [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc\\_157623.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc_157623.pdf).

<sup>4192</sup> Joint Statement of the Trilateral Meeting of the Trade Ministers of the European Union, Japan and the United States, European Commission (Brussels) 9 January 2019. Access date: 19 February 2019. [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc\\_157623.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2019/january/tradoc_157623.pdf).

<sup>4193</sup> Joint Statement of the 21<sup>st</sup> EU-China Summit, European External Action Service (Brussels) 10 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/china\\_en/60836/Joint%20statement%20of%20the%2021st%20EU-China%20summit](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/china_en/60836/Joint%20statement%20of%20the%2021st%20EU-China%20summit).

<sup>4194</sup> Joint Statement of the 21<sup>st</sup> EU-China Summit, European External Action Service (Brussels) 10 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/china\\_en/60836/Joint%20statement%20of%20the%2021st%20EU-China%20summit](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/china_en/60836/Joint%20statement%20of%20the%2021st%20EU-China%20summit).