AUGUST 1–14, 2023

The past two weeks saw the unanimous adoption of three G20 outcome documents at the G20 Labor and Employment Ministers Meeting. One key outcome is that gig and platform workers can now look forward to social protection and gainful employment. The Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group, meeting for the third and final time, agreed on action points under five priority areas. The Ministerial Conference on Women's Empowerment also released a statement recommending policy initiatives in four focus areas. Meanwhile, the Think 20 Engagement Platform wrapped up its work under India's G20 Presidency.

G20 Labor and Employment Ministers adopt outcome documents on skills, gig economy, and social security net funding

July 21: The two-day G20 Labor and Employment Ministers Meeting 2023 in Indore concluded with the unanimous adoption of three G20 Outcome Documents: Policy Priorities for G20 on Strategies to Address Skill Gaps Globally, Adequate and Sustainable Social Protection and Decent Work for Gig and Platform Workers, and G20 Policy Options for Sustainable Financing of Social Protection. These documents will be submitted to the leaders for their consideration to be annexed to the G20 New Delhi Leader's Declaration 2023.

In a significant breakthrough for the gig and platform economy, the Indian G20 Presidency forged consensus within members for providing social protection to the gig and platform workers, irrespective of their classification. It is expected that the long-awaited international referencing framework of occupations by skills and occupations requirements will soon be a reality. The agreement to work towards adoption of common language and mapping by the ILO and OECD will boost accurate mapping of global skill gaps and surpluses. The members also agreed on strengthening contributory and non-contributory mechanisms to ensure sustainable financing of adequate social protection for all. This will enable people to secure gainful employment with adequate social protection, and foster resilient, inclusive economic development.

Third and Final G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group meeting concludes with accepting action points in five priority areas

July 26: The G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRRWG) concluded its third and final meeting in Chennai. All G20 members accepted the relevant action points under the five priority areas: Global coverage of early warning systems, Disaster- and climate-resilient infrastructure, Financing framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Disaster response system, and an Ecosystem-based approach to disaster risk reduction (DRR).

The members agreed on accelerating efforts to enhance universal coverage of multi-hazard early warning systems and transforming them into early action. The members will explore collaboration between multiple stakeholders to build capacities for anticipatory action and promote prearranged financing so that early action may save lives and livelihoods. The members also agreed on strengthening existing comprehensive national financing strategies for DRR that strengthen synergies between disaster risk financing and DRR financing in a risk-layered approach. Furthermore, they acknowledged the need to strengthen public-private partnerships, blended finance mechanisms, and governance systems for resilient and interconnected infrastructure projects.

Yet another significant agreement was on developing and promoting the use of assessment tools to analyze and quantify the economic impact of disasters. The member countries will aim to strengthen national and global disaster preparedness, recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction systems.

Think 20 (T20) Communiqué released at the Mysuru Summit

August 2: The Think 20 (T20) Engagement Platform wrapped up its work under India's G20 Presidency with the Summit at Mysuru. The T20 communiqué and Task Force Statements released during the summit encapsulate key recommendations and policy proposals developed by the Task Forces for the G20 Leaders' Communiqué. Some key policy recommendations on macroeconomics, trade, and livelihoods suggest that the G20 must try to build consensus on new trade policy

issues such as green trade and digital trade as well as develop policy and action plans to increase internal and cross-border agency collaboration for resilient supply chains. The recommendations also suggest that policies aimed at reducing greenhouse gases (GHGs) in manufacturing should avoid creating new tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade.

Regarding affordable, accessible, and inclusive digital public infrastructure (DPI), the T20 Working Group has recommended that the G20 should leverage public-private partnerships for building scalable DPI ecosystems, support DPI-based and DPI-enabled digital innovations that advance financial inclusion, and maximize the potential of "data for development" by promoting the use of open data.

For accelerating progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Working Group recommended creating a framework to enhance the coverage, adequacy, and comprehensiveness of nutrition-sensitive social protection systems and promoting data-driven analyses at various stages of production across the agricultural value chain. It also suggested encouraging the creation of national groups for universal digital access to inclusive healthcare, strengthening access to markets and global value chains to increase the visibility of women-led businesses, and recognizing women's rights organizations as important pathways towards advancing gender equality and sustainable development.

G20 Ministerial Conference on Women Empowerment concludes, recommends policy initiatives in four focus areas

August 4: The G20 Ministerial Conference on Women's Empowerment on the theme "Women-Led Inclusive Development at the Cusp of Inter-Generational Transformation" concluded in Gandhinagar, releasing a Chair's Statement that recommends policy initiatives in four focus areas: education for women, women's entrepreneurship, partnership for promoting women's leadership at all levels (including grassroots), and women and girls as changemakers in climate action. Digital skilling underpins all four of the focus areas.

Key policy recommendations suggested by the G20 Ministers in the outcome document include:
- increasing investments for improving access to affordable, inclusive, equitable, and quality education, including in the sciences and vocational subjects
- bridging the gender digital divide and enhancing the participation of women in the digital economy
- promoting women's financial inclusion by integrating all women, particularly women entrepreneurs
- strengthening access to markets and global value chains to increase the visibility of women-led businesses, and
- recognizing women's rights organizations as important pathways towards advancing gender equality and sustainable development.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ **August 16–19:** 4th Digital Economy Working Group and Ministerial Meeting, Bengaluru
- ◆ **August 17–19:** 4th Health Working Group Meeting and Ministerial, Gandhinagar
- ◆ **August 19:** Joint Health and Finance Ministers Meeting, Gandhinagar
- ◆ **August 24:** Summit Side Event: UN Side Event on Driving the 2030 Agenda through Responsible Business Actions, New Delhi
- ◆ **August 24:** Summit Side Event: Economist Impact Forum, New Delhi
- ◆ **August 25–27:** Business 20 Summit, New Delhi

The Group of Twenty (G20) is the premier forum for international economic cooperation. It plays an important role in shaping and strengthening global architecture and governance on major international economic issues. India holds the G20 Presidency from December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023, and is hosting a series of events aligned with the agenda and themes of the G20 in the run-up to the two-day summit scheduled to be held in New Delhi starting September 9, 2023.

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To learn more about the G20 India Presidency, please visit edelmanglobaladvisory.com, or reach out to Anand.Patel@EdelmanEGA.com.