

AUGUST 15–28, 2023

In the past two weeks, the G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Meeting took note of the India Presidency's proposal for a One Future Alliance to bring governments, private players, academic and research institutions, and other stakeholders to synergize global efforts in DPI; the G20 Health Ministers meeting gave the first Call for Proposals for the Pandemic Fund; and the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group said it will seek to ensure women's full, equal, and meaningful participation and leadership in preventing and combating corruption.

G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Meeting adopts framework for DPI



August 18: The G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Meeting, which concluded in Bengaluru, reviewed the recommendations on the Working Group priorities on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), Security in the Digital Economy, and Digital Skilling. The meeting recognized that accessible, inclusive, secure, and safe digital systems have the potential to drive the economy of the future, as well as catalyze growth and drive innovation in food security, health, and sustainable development. The Ministers unanimously

agreed on the Declaration, which has adopted the G20 Framework for Systems of Digital Public Infrastructure.

The Framework for Systems of Digital Public Infrastructure will support sharing domestic experiences and learnings in the development and deployment of DPI—within and beyond the G20—to fully harness the opportunities offered by DPI and provide reference to other countries, including low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). The Ministerial also took note of the discussion initiated by the Indian Presidency on its proposal of the One Future Alliance (OFA), a voluntary initiative that aims to bring together governments, the private sector, academic and research institutions, donor agencies, civil society organizations, and other relevant stakeholders and existing mechanisms to synergize global efforts in the DPI ecosystem.

The other two deliverables, “High-Level Principles to Support Businesses in Building Safety, Security, Resilience, and Trust in the Digital Economy” and “Roadmap to Facilitate the Cross-Country Comparison of Digital Skills,” have also found places in the Working Group's Outcome Document.

G20 Health Ministers announce support for global initiative on Digital Health

August 19: The G20 Health Ministers met in Gandhinagar to wrap up the Health Working Group (HWG) activities under the India Presidency. The ministers deliberated on the recommendations proposed by the Working Group and announced unanimous adoption of an Outcome Document. One of the major outcomes of the G20 HWG meetings was the agreement to strengthen global health architecture. The Ministers announced support for WHO's Global Initiative on Digital Health and consensus on the Climate Health Initiative.



The G20 Ministers recognized WHO's efforts to establish the Global Initiative on Digital Health. The Initiative will support countries in planning and implementing high-quality digital health systems and facilitating patients' access to healthcare services. The G20 members discussed enhanced collaboration between governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, philanthropists, multilateral development banks, and private sectors for building global health resilience and response capacities against future pandemic threats.

To better equip the member countries for COVID 19-like health emergencies, the ministers announced support for the ongoing negotiations in the Inter-Governmental Negotiating Body for a legally binding WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response for health emergencies by May 2024. The Ministerial Meeting also gave the first Call for Proposals of the Pandemic Fund.

G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group agrees to promote ICT for enhanced transparency



August 11: The third and final meeting of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) under India's Presidency was held August 9–12 in Kolkata. Over 154 delegates from G20 Members, ten invitee countries, and various international organizations attended the meeting. It was followed by the G20 Anti-Corruption Ministerial Meeting, which took up the discussion on recommendations by the Working Group.

The Ministers recognized that e-governance and employing information and communications technology (ICT) can reduce avenues for corruption and increase transparency and accountability across the public and private sectors by modernizing governance, increasing efficiency, and improving service delivery. The Working Group reaffirmed its commitment to embracing responsible ICT innovations, enabling cross-sector collaboration, and enhancing cooperation and partnership for preventing and combating corruption, in accordance with domestic law and with due regard for data protection and privacy rights.

The Ministerial note also welcomed the discussions on gender dimensions of corruption initiated under the Indian Presidency in 2023 and agreed to work toward developing a body of evidence-based research to constitute a basis for collective initiatives on this issue by G20 member countries. The member countries also agreed on the approach that they need to be mindful of and responsive to gender aspects in our anti-corruption strategies, in accordance with domestic laws, and will seek to ensure women’s full, equal, and meaningful participation and leadership in preventing and combating corruption.

B20 wraps up activities and hands over Communiqué to G20 India

G20’s business engagement platform Business 20 (B20) held its India Summit 2023 last week in New Delhi. The discussions and deliberations at the summit were around the overall theme of B20 India and the B20 India Communiqué was handed over to G20 India. The B20 India Summit 2023 witnessed participation of government and key business leaders, including more than a thousand CEOs, senior business executives, and thought leaders. Embracing the B20 India theme, “R.A.I.S.E.—Responsible, Accelerated, Innovative, Sustainable, Equitable Businesses,” the summit presented outcomes and recommendations of the deliberations over the seven months of the B20 India Task Forces and Action Councils. (Separate EGA analysis on the B20 Summit outcomes to follow.)

Aligning with the G20 India theme of “One Earth, One Family, One Future,” the B20 India theme is rooted in the belief that the G20 business community should raise the bar for equitable growth by committing to business practices that are responsible and anchored in sustainable practices. Such businesses generate profit while advancing economic and social development without negatively impacting people or the planet. With over 1,500 participants, including over 800 from G20 members, invitee countries, and other countries, the B20 Summit saw deliberations over 25-plus sessions on industry priorities.

A special valedictory session on the final day of the summit was addressed by Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ **September 1–2:** B20 International Conference on Aerospace, Gwalior
- ◆ **September 3–6:** G20 4th Sherpa Meeting, New Delhi
- ◆ **September 5–6:** G20 Finance Deputies Meeting, New Delhi
- ◆ **September 9–10:** G20 Leadership 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.



Bi-Weekly G20 India Diaries

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