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

2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit Final Compliance Report

6 September 2016 to 6 July 2017

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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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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 2016 Hangzhou Final Compliance Report is prepared by the G20 Research Group based at the University of Toronto and its Russian partners 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 19 priority commitments of a total of 213 commitments made at the Hangzhou Summit hosted by China on 4-5 September 2016. The report covers relevant actions taken by the G20 members between 6 September 2016 to just before the 2017 Hamburg Summit on 7-8 July 2017, and builds on the already published Interim Compliance Report that assessed progress up to 17 February 2017.

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.[1]

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.

Commitment Breakdown

The G20 made a total of 213 commitments at the Hangzhou Summit.[2] These commitments, as identified by the G20 Research Group and RANEPA, are drawn from the official G20 Leaders' Communiqué, Blueprint on Innovative Growth and the Hangzhou 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,

[1] The formula to convert a score into a percentage is P = 50 × (S + 1), where P is the percentage and S is the score.

[2] 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).

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 2016 Hangzhou Final Compliance Report, 19 priority commitments were selected for assessment by the University of Toronto and RANEPA teams from the 213 commitments made at the Hangzhou Summit (see Table 1).

Final Compliance Scores

The assessment is based on relevant, publicly available information relating to actions taken from 6 September 2016 to 6 July 2017. 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 period from 6 September 2016 to 6 July 2017, G20 members achieved an average final compliance score of +0.60, which translates to 80%. The interim compliance score for the Hangzhou Summit was +0.45 (72%).

Final Compliance by Member

For compliance with the Hangzhou Summit's priority commitments at the midway point between summits, Canada and the European Union have the highest rate of compliance at +0.84 (92%), followed by Australia and Germany at +0.79 (89%), and China at +0.74 (87%). The lowest scoring member is Italy with +0.32 (66%). The difference between the highest and lowest G20 member compliance scores is 0.53. For more information about compliance by G20 members, see 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 technologies and innovation (knowledge diffusion and technology transfer) and on corporate governance ranked highest at +1.00 (100%), followed by the commitment on development (tax administration) at +0.95 (98%) and the innovation and investment commitments with 0.90 (95%). The lowest score was on energy (fossil fuels subsidies) at −0.60 (20%). For more information on scoring by commitment, see Table 4.

Table 1: 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit Commitments Selected for Compliance Monitoring

1	Macroeconomics: Growth policy tools	"We are determined to use all policy tools — monetary, fiscal and structural — individually and collectively to achieve our goal of strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
2	Innovation	"To achieve innovation-driven growth and the creation of innovative ecosystems, we support dialogue and cooperation on innovation, which covers a wide range of domains with science and technology innovation at its core." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
3	Development: Tax administration	"[We will continue our support for international tax cooperation to achieve a globally fair and modern international tax system and to foster growth, including advancing] tax capacity-building of developing countries" (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
4	Corruption	"We endorse the 2017-2018 G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity, implementing our stance of zero tolerance against corruption, zero loopholes in our institutions and zero barriers in our actions." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
5	Energy: Fossil Fuel Subsidies	"We also reaffirm our commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption over the medium term, recognizing the need to support the poor." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
6	Climate Change	"We reiterate our commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
7	Trade: Anti-protectionism	"We extend our commitments to standstill and rollback of protectionist measures till the end of 2018, reaffirm our determination to deliver on them." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
8	Trade: E-commerce	"[We endorse the G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth, under which the G20 will lead by example to] promote e-commerce development" (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
9	2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development	"We commit to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative collective and intended national actions in a wide range of areas." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
10	Employment: Gender	"We will 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." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
11	Migration and Refugees	"The G20 will continue to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
12	Financial Regulation: Terrorism	"In confronting terrorism, we remain committed to effectively exchanging information, freezing terrorist assets, and criminalizing terrorist financing." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)

13	Technologies and Innovation: Knowledge diffusion and technology transfer	"We support effort to promote voluntary knowledge diffusion and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and conditions." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
14	Financial Regulation: Financial Sector Reform Agenda	"To this end, we remain committed to finalizing remaining critical elements of the regulatory framework and to the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda, including Basel III and the total-loss-absorbing-capacity (TLAC) standard as well as effective cross-border resolution regimes." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
15	Tax: Base erosion and profit shifting	"We will continue our support for international tax cooperation to achieve a globally fair and modern international tax system and to foster growth, including advancing on-going cooperation on base erosion and profits shifting (BEPS)" (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
16	Energy: Energy efficiency	"We encourage members to significantly improve energy efficiency based on the specific needs and national circumstances of each member" (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
17	Trade: Trade costs	"We endorse the G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth, under which the G20 will lead by example to lower trade costs" (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
18	Investment	"We endorse the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking, which will help foster an open, transparent and conductive global policy environment for investment." (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)
19	Corporate governance	"We support the effective implementation of the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance" (G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué)

Table 2: 2016 G20 Hangzhou 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	Macroeconomics: Growth policy tools	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+0.75	88%
2	Innovation	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+0.90	95%
3	Development: Tax administration	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.95	98%
4	Corruption	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	-1	0	0	-1	-1	+1	0	0	+0.35	68%
5	Energy: Fossil Fuel Subsidies	0	-1	-1	-1	0	+1	-1	0	0	-1	-1	0	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-0.60	20%
6	Climate Change	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	0	+1	0	+1	0	0	0	0	+1	-1	+1	+0.45	73%
7	Trade: Anti-protectionism	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	0	0	0	+1	0	0	0	0	+1	-1	0	0	0	0	+1	+0.30	65%
8	Trade: E-commerce	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	+1	-1	+1	+0.60	80%
9	2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+0.85	93%
10	Employment: Gender	0	0	0	+1	0	0	0	0	0	0	+1	0	0	+1	0	0	0	+1	0	+1	+0.25	63%
11	Migration and Refugees	+1	0	+1	+1	0	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	0	0	0	0	0	+1	0	0	+1	+0.45	73%
12	Financial Regulation: Terrorism	+1	+1	-1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
13	Knowledge diffusion and technology transfer	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
14	Financial Sector Reform Agenda	0	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	0	0	+1	0	0	0	+1	0	0	0	+1	+1	+0.45	73%
15	Base erosion and profit shifting	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+0.65	83%
16	Energy efficiency	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	-1	+1	0	0	-1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+0.55	78%
17	Trade: Lowering trade costs	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	+0.80	90%
18	Investment	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+0.90	95%
19	Corporate governance	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
		+0.63	+0.79	+0.58	+0.84	+0.74	+0.63	+0.79	+0.63	+0.53	+0.32	+0.68	+0.68	+0.53	+0.68	+0.42	+0.37	+0.37	+0.47	+0.42	+0.84	+0.60	80%
		82%	89%	79%	92%	87%	82%	89%	82%	76%	66%	84%	84%	76%	84%	71%	68%	68%	74%	71%	92%	80%	

Table 3: 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit Final Compliance by Member

Rank	Member	Average	
1	Canada	+0.84	92%
	European Union		
3	Australia	+0.79	89%
	Germany		
5	China	+0.74	87%
6	Japan	+0.68	84%
	Korea		
	Russia		
9	Argentina	+0.63	82%
	France		
	India		
12	Brazil	+0.58	79%
13	Indonesia	+0.53	76%
	Mexico		
15	United Kingdom	+0.47	74%
16	Saudi Arabia	+0.42	71%
	United States		
18	South Africa	+0.37	68%
	Turkey		
20	Italy	+0.32	66%

Table 4: 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit Final Compliance by Commitment

Rank	Commitment	Average	
1	Technologies and Innovation: Knowledge diffusion and technology transfer	+1.00	100%
	Corporate governance		
3	Development: Tax administration	+0.95	98%
4	Innovation	+0.90	95%
	Investment		
6	2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	+0.85	93%
7	Trade: Lowering trade costs	+0.80	90%
8	Macroeconomics: Growth policy tools	+0.75	88%
	Financial Regulation: Terrorism		
10	Base erosion and profit shifting	+0.65	83%
11	Trade: E-commerce	+0.60	80%
12	Energy efficiency	+0.55	78%
13	Migration and Refugees	+0.45	73%
	Climate Change		
	Financial Regulation: Financial Sector Reform Agenda		
16	Corruption	+0.35	68%
17	Trade: Anti-protectionism	+0.30	65%
18	Employment: Gender	+0.25	63%
19	Energy: Fossil Fuel Subsidies	−0.60	20%

Table 5: G20 Compliance by Member, 2008–2016

	Washington 2008		London 2009		Pittsburgh 2009		Toronto 2010		Seoul 2010		Cannes 2011		Los Cabos 2012		St. Petersburg 2013		Brisbane 2014		Antalya 2015		Hangzhou 2016			
Member	Final		Final		Final		Final		Final		Final		Final		Final		Final		Final		Interim		Final	
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%	+0.42	71%	+0.63	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%	+0.79	89%
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%	+0.32	66%	+0.58	79%
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%	+0.79	89%	+0.84	92%
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%	+0.63	82%	+0.74	87%
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%	+0.58	79%	+0.63	82%
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%	+0.58	79%	+0.79	89%
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%	+0.32	66%	+0.63	82%
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%	+0.37	68%	+0.53	76%
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%	+0.16	58%	+0.32	66%
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%	+0.37	68%	+0.68	84%
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%	+0.37	68%	+0.68	84%
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%	+0.42	71%	+0.53	76%
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%	+0.53	76%	+0.68	84%
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%	+0.26	63%	+0.42	71%
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%	+0.21	61%	+0.37	68%
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%	+0.21	61%	+0.37	68%
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%	+0.53	76%	+0.47	74%
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%	+0.53	76%	+0.37	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%	+0.58	79%	+0.84	92%
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%	+0.45	72%	+0.59	80%

n/a = not available

Conclusions

At 80% — the highest score to date — compliance with the 2016 Hangzhou commitments has continued the upward trend since the lows of the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit at 72% and the 2014 Brisbane Summit at 71%, although it is a small increase from 2015 Antalya's 77%. There had previously been a steady increase in compliance from the 2009 London Summit and 2009 Pittsburgh Summit (both at 62%) up to the 2012 Los Cabos Summit (79%). If the G20 can maintain this trend and continue to 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 2016 Hangzhou 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 Hangzhou 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.

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. Macroeconomics: Growth Policy Tools

"We are determined to use all policy tools — monetary, fiscal and structural — individually and collectively to achieve our goal of strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth."

G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.75		

Background

At the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, G20 leaders agreed to develop and implement "Comprehensive Growth Strategies." G20 leaders presented peer-reviewed strategies as part of the 2014 Brisbane Action Plan, acknowledging that these strategies represented a key mechanism through which global economic recovery could be achieved. In February 2014, the finance ministers and central bank governors indicated that adherence to this commitment by G20 countries, rather than reliance on existing macroeconomic policies, would raise the collective gross domestic product (GDP) by more than 2 per cent over the next five years.[3] Subsequent analysis by the International Monetary Fund and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development revealed that this increase in collective GDP would be closer to 2.1 per cent, attributing a quarter of the increase to positive spillovers to the global economy resulting from simultaneous implementation of policies.[4]

On 15-16 November 2014, G20 leaders at the Brisbane Summit acknowledged that recovery from the global financial crisis remained uneven, hampered by "weak cyclical recovery…weakened productive

[3] Meeting of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Communiqué, G20 (Sydney) 23 February 2014. Access Date: 22 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-0223-finance.html.
[4] Quantifying the Impact of G-20 Members' Growth Strategies, International Monetary Fund (Washington) 2014. Access Date: 22 October 2016. http://www.imf.org/external/np/g20/pdf/2014/growthstrat.pdf.

capacity in key economies, and a legacy of vulnerabilities from the financial crisis."[5] G20 leaders reaffirmed the need for a concerted effort towards strong, sustainable and balanced growth, and agreed that implementing flexible fiscal strategies, which take into consideration national economic circumstances, are key to recovery and job creation.

On 15-16 November 2015, G20 leaders at the Antalya Summit renewed their commitment to "fully implement our comprehensive growth strategies in a timely manner, as well as all our past commitments, to move towards our overarching objective of strong, sustainable and balanced growth."[6] Many members "updated their St. Petersburg fiscal strategy as part of their Growth Strategy for the Brisbane Summit and their adjusted Growth Strategy for the Antalya Summit taking into account policy development, short-term growth and inflation developments."[7]

On 4-5 September 2016, G20 leaders at the Hangzhou Summit acknowledged that while resilience had improved in some economies, growth was still weak and desirable. They reiterated their commitment to full implementation of the growth strategies that were published in Brisbane and subsequently adjusted in Antalya.[8] Underscoring the essential role of structural reform, they stated "We are using fiscal policy flexibly and making tax policy and public expenditure more growth-friendly, including by prioritizing high-quality investment, while enhancing resilience and ensuring debt as a share of GDP is on a sustainable path."[9]

Commitment Features

The G20 committed to use all policy tools — monetary, fiscal and structural — individually and collectively to achieve its goal of strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.

Monetary policy is the macroeconomic policy laid down by the central bank. It involves management of money supply and interest rate and is the demand side economic policy used by the government of a country to achieve macroeconomic objectives like inflation, consumption, growth and liquidity. The G20 stated "Monetary policy will continue to support economic activity and ensure price stability, consistent with central banks' mandates, but monetary policy alone cannot lead to balanced growth." The G20 committed specifically to refrain from competitive devaluations and not to target exchange rates for competitive purposes. "We will carefully calibrate and clearly communicate our macroeconomic and structural policy actions to reduce policy uncertainty, minimize negative spillovers and promote transparency."

Fiscal policy is the means by which a government adjusts its spending levels and tax rates to monitor and influence a nation's economy. It is the sister strategy to monetary policy through which a central bank influences a nation's money supply. The G20 stated "We are using fiscal policy flexibly and making tax policy and public expenditure more growth-friendly, including by prioritizing high-quality investment, while enhancing resilience and ensuring debt as a share of GDP is on a sustainable path."

Structural refers to a set of economic policies often introduced as a condition for gaining a loan from the IMF. Structural adjustment policies usually involve a combination of free market policies such as

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[5] Brisbane Action Plan, G20 Australia 2014 (Brisbane) November 2014. Access Date: 22 October 2016. https://g20.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/brisbane_action_plan.pdf.

[6] Antalya Action Plan, G20 Turkey 2015 (Antalya) November 2015. Access Date: 22 October 2016. https://www.oecd.org/g20/summits/antalya/Antalya-Action-Plan.pdf.

[7] Antalya Accountability Assessment, G20 Framework Working Group (Antalya) November 2015. Access Date: 22 October 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000185868.pdf.

[8] Hangzhou Action Plan, Hangzhou 2016 G20 Summit (Hangzhou) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 20 October 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000187185.pdf.

[9] G20 Leaders' Communique Hangzhou Summit, Hangzhou 2016 G20 Summit (Hangzhou) 4-5 September 2016. Access Date: 20 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Dynamic/201609/t20160906_3396.html.

privatisation, fiscal austerity, free trade and deregulation. The G20 underscored the essential role of structural reforms and emphasized that its fiscal strategies are equally important to supporting common growth objectives.

During the 2014 Brisbane Summit, each G20 member submitted individual Comprehensive Growth Strategies, which describe each member's policy objectives. Adjusted growth strategies were submitted ahead of the 2015 Antalya Summit and the 2016 Hangzhou Summit. The objectives outlined in the growth strategies have taken into account each member's near-term economic conditions, which is evident in the variance — in strength and nature — of policy commitments across countries.[10] Moreover, each member's Growth Strategy outlines measures within their fiscal objectives that address putting debt-to-GDP ratios on a sustainable path. Each member report below, summaries the New and Adjusted Policy Commitments made since Antalya, as part of the updated Growth Strategies made at the Hangzhou Summit.

Therefore, each G20 member must adhere to the monetary, fiscal and structural policies as laid out in each individual member Growth Strategy. Each individual member's report below will begin by identifying the policy objectives outlined in each Growth Strategy. The report will then assess compliance based on actions taken by each member to fulfill the stated policy objectives.

Full compliance is achieved if the G20 member takes actions towards implementing all three types of policy tools- monetary, fiscal and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy. Partial compliance will be achieved if the G20 member takes actions toward implementing some policy tools- either monetary, fiscal or structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy. No compliance is achieved if the G20 member does not take action to implement any policy tool- monetary, fiscal nor structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	Member has made NO progress towards implementing monetary, fiscal or structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy
0	Member has made SOME progress towards implementing monetary, fiscal OR structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy
+1	Member has made progress towards implementing monetary, fiscal AND structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy

Lead Analyst: Doris Li

Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Argentina has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Belgrano Plan
- Increasing regional connectivity- implementing the infrastructure of Transport Plan
- Completion of the Embalse Nuclear Power Plant Refurbishment
- Construction of the IV and V Nuclear Power Plants in Argentina
- National Securities Commission (CNV) measures for SME
- Promote transparency and competition in the financial sector
- Promote long run savings and credit in domestic currency and increasing mortgage loans

[10] Policy note: Strategies for economic growth, G20 Australia 2014 (Brisbane) May 2014. Access Date: 22 October 2016. http://www.g20australia.org/sites/default/files/g20_resources/library/policy_note_strategies_economic_growth.pdf.

- Family Allowance Scheme
- Trade facilitation & policy
- Competition policy: To improve the institutional mechanisms of defense of competition and the consumer[11]

On 21 October 2016, Minister of Finance Alfonso Prat-Gay announced that Argentina posted a primary fiscal deficit of ARS38.9 billion in September 2016, which is an increase from ARS37.2 billion in August 2016.[12]

On 31 October 2016, the Argentinean government presented a report allowing ARS94.285 billion to develop the north of Argentina as a part of the Belgrano plan. This amount is mainly reserved to improve the infrastructures of the different regions of the north.[13]

On 7 November 2016, Vice President Gabriela Michetti announced during a state visit to Qatar that both countries are setting up an ARS1.3 billion fund focused on infrastructure projects. The fund's initial focus will be infrastructure projects but could extend to other areas including energy.[14]

On 25 January 2017, Argentina's central bank announced it will set its reference rate every two weeks starting in March 2017 to provide more stability and certainty.[15] Under President Mauricio Macri the central bank has been striving to normalize monetary policy and prove its independence.[16] The rate is currently set every week with the bank's goal being to eventually get to a monthly policy rate. In a quarterly press conference, central bank President Federico Sturzenegger said Argentina hoped to renew a currency swap program with China when it expires in June 2017.[17] Sturzenegger also said the central bank is working on a deal with 20 other banks to develop instruments to invest reserves, which in October 2016 swelled above ARS40 billion for the first time since 2013.[18]

On 17 May 2017, President Macri and Chinese president Xi Jinping signed a contract that state China is to supply Argentina with two nuclear power reactors.[19] On 20 May 2017, President Macri signed an agreement with Chinese President Xi Jinping on the refurbishment of the San Martín freight train, worth an investment of USD2.4 billion.[20]

Argentina has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies as listed in its Growth Strategy. Argentina has announced funding for infrastructure projects, including under the Belgrano plan.

[11] 2016 Growth Strategy: Argentina, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 16 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-argentina.pdf.
[12] Argentina says fiscal deficit widened to 38.9 bln pesos in September, Reuters 21 October 2016. Access Date: 17 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/argentina-economy-idUSL1N1CR21U.
[13] Plan Belgrano: en qué estado están las obras, provincia por provincia, La Nacion (Beunos Aires) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 20 November 2016 http://www.lanacion.com.ar/1954632-plan-belgrano-se-dieron-a-conocer-los-detalles-de-las-obras-y-presupuestos.
[14] Argentina, Qatar build infrastructure fund, LatinFinance 7 November 2016. Access Date: 20 November 2016. http://www.latinfinance.com/Article/3599820/Argentina-Qatar-build-infrastructure-fund.html#/.WDYEVfnhA2w/.
[15] UPDATE 1-Argentina central bank to set key rate every 2 weeks from March, Reuters January 25 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/argentina-cenbank-idUSL1N1FF1GI
[16] UPDATE 1-Argentina central bank to set key rate every 2 weeks from March, Reuters January 25 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/argentina-cenbank-idUSL1N1FF1GI
[17] UPDATE 1-Argentina central bank to set key rate every 2 weeks from March, Reuters January 25 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/argentina-cenbank-idUSL1N1FF1GI
[18] UPDATE 1-Argentina central bank to set key rate every 2 weeks from March, Reuters January 25 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/argentina-cenbank-idUSL1N1FF1GI
[19] Argentina and China sign contract for two reactors, World Nuclear News 18 May 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NN-Argentina-and-China-sign-contract-for-two-reactors-1805175.html.
[20] Macri returns from Beijing with US$ 17bn for infrastructure and energy projects, MercoPress 20 May 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://en.mercopress.com/2017/05/20/macri-returns-from-beijing-with-us-17bn-for-infrastructure-and-energy-projects.

Argentina has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies and restoring market certainty. However, it has not made progress in implementing structural policies nor has it made progress towards decreasing the fiscal deficit. Thus, Argentina receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Marwan Bennis

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Australia has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Ten-year enterprise tax plan
- National Innovation and Science Agenda
- Youth Employment Package
- Trans-Pacific Partnership
- Harper Review Response
- Boost water infrastructure investment through the National Water Infrastructure Loan Facility
- Information Technology Agreement[21]

On 10 October 2016, the Senate committee approved changes to Enterprise Tax bill. The amendment makes changes to tax legislation related to the government's commitment to progressively reduce company tax rates for small and large companies under its Ten Year Enterprise Tax Plan.[22]

On 11 October 11 2016, the Government of Australia launched grant guidelines for the second round of the Empowering Youth Initiatives.[23]

On 20 October 2016, Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection Peter Dutton introduced the Expanded Information Technology Agreement Bill 2016 to the House of Representatives. This bill is meant to reduce custom duty rates on certain information technology products.[24]

On 28 October 2016, the Australian government announced a AUD440 million investment in key water structure projects across the country. This investment was announced with the National Water Infrastructure Development Fund guidelines, which made AUD60 million available to get major projects started.[25]

On 3 December 2016, the Australian government announced an investment of AUD36 million over five years in a Global Innovation Strategy designed to help companies compete on an international level and to improve innovation and science collaboration.[26]

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[21] 2016 Growth Strategy: Australia, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-australia.pdf.

[22] Senate committee approves changes to Enterprise Tax bill, ZDNet 11 October 2016. Access Date: 31 January 2017. http://www.zdnet.com/article/senate-committee-approves-changes-to-enterprise-tax-bill/.

[23] Empowering Youth Round 2, Minister's Media Centre, 11 October 2016. Access Date: 20 December 2016. https://ministers.employment.gov.au/cash/empowering-youth-round-2-now-open.

[24] Bill to implement the Expanded Information Technology Agreement introduced, Lexology (London) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 20 December 2016. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=627d1a72-f318-426c-817e-48370f82a376.

[25] Australia largest water infrastructure investment, Utility Magazine (Melbourne) 28 October 2016. Access Date: 20 December 2016. http://www.utilitymagazine.com.au/australias-largest-water-infrastructure-investment/.

[26] National Innovation and Science Agenda is Having a Significant Impact One Year On, Ministry for Industry Innovation & Science (Canberra) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 20 December 2016. https://www.pm.gov.au/media/2016-12-07/national-innovation-and-science-agenda-having-significant-impact-one-year.

On 6 December 2016, the Reserve Bank of Australia maintained its interest rate at 1.5 per cent.[27] In August 2016, Australia lowered its interest to 1.5 per cent, due to low inflation.[28]

On 7 February 2017, Australia's central bank held rates at its first policy meeting of the 2017, playing down a recent soft patch in economic growth as a temporary interruption that would not prevent a pick up to a healthy 3 per cent pace over time.[29] The Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) optimistic tone lifted the local currency AUD0.7662 as markets widened the odds on another policy easing.[30] The central bank kept rates at a record low of 1.5 per cent for a seventh straight month, following easing in August and May last year.[31] This is in line with Australia's commitment, in its Growth Strategy, "Monetary policy will continue to be set to foster sustainable growth in demand and achieve inflation outcomes consistent with the Reserve Bank of Australia's inflation target of 2-3 per cent, on average, over the cycle.[32]

On 11 May 2017, the Treasury Laws Amendment (Enterprise Tax Plan No. 2) Bill 2017 was presented to House of Representatives, according to which corporate entities would be eligible for lower corporate tax rate in upcoming years.[33]

On 19 May 2017, the Australian government announced it will invest AUD75 billion in infrastructure funding and financing from 2017–18 to 2026–27 for critical airport, road, and rail infrastructure project.[34]

Australia has made progress towards implementing fiscal policies as listed in its Growth Strategy. Australia has boosted water infrastructure investment and worked towards improving innovation and science collaboration. Australia has made progress towards implementing structural reforms through tax reforms Australia has made progress towards implementing monetary policies. Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Isra Batool

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Brazil has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

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[27] The Reserve Bank of Australia warns on near-term growth, Business Insider 6 December 2016. Access Date: 6 February 2017. http://www.businessinsider.com/reserve-bank-of-australia-interest-rate-decision-december-6-2016-2016-12.

[28] Australia Growth Strategies, G20 (2016) Access Date: 7 February 2017. http://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2016Hangzhou/2016-growth-australia.pdf

[29] Australia central bank holds rates, takes upbeat tone on growth, Globe and Mail 7 February 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2017. http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/economy/australia-central-bank-holds-rates-takes-upbeat-tone-on-growth/article33920809/

[30] Australia central bank holds rates, takes upbeat tone on growth, Globe and Mail 7 February 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2017. http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/economy/australia-central-bank-holds-rates-takes-upbeat-tone-on-growth/article33920809/

[31] Australia central bank holds rates, takes upbeat tone on growth, Globe and Mail 7 February 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2017. http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/economy/australia-central-bank-holds-rates-takes-upbeat-tone-on-growth/article33920809/

[32] Australia Growth Strategies, G20 (2016) Access Date: 7 February 2017. http://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2016Hangzhou/2016-growth-australia.pdf

[33] Reducing the Corporate Tax, Australian Government Taxation Office (Canberra) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.ato.gov.au/General/New-legislation/In-detail/Direct-taxes/Income-tax-for-businesses/Reducing-the-corporate-tax-rate/.

[34] Investing for growth in our regions, Minister for Regional Development (Canberra) 9 May 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017. http://minister.infrastructure.gov.au/nash/releases/2017/May/budget-infra_01-2017.aspx.

- Rescind various tax relief measures and impose stricter rules for obtaining benefits
- Promote expenditure cuts
- Develop new revenue sources and reform existing taxes
- Facilitate access of micro and small enterprises to private capital
- Brazil More Productive Program: A federal government program to raise SMEs productivity by at least 20 per cent[35]

On 8 September 2016, Minister of Trade, Industry and Services Marcos Pereira launched the National Plan of Export Culture as well as the Brazil More Productive Program. Both programs intend to improve domestic industries by improving efficiency in order to compete with foreign firms. The Brazil More Productive Program aims to improve the efficiency of 3000 Brazilian firms by 20 per cent. The program received an initial contribution of BRL50 million to distribute to state governments and businesses. Minister Pereira made the announcement in the State of Bahia, where more than ninety companies in the State are registered.[36] As of 27 January 2017, thirteen states have collaborated with the federal government in launching the 'Brazil More Productive' program. Minister Pereira stated that some companies registered with the program have achieved efficiency improvements exceeding 80 per cent.[37]

On 13 September 2016, a revision to the Parcerias de Investimentos (PPI) was announced. This was meant to "strengthen legal certainty, regulatory stability and modernize governance" in order to attract investment in infrastructure and stimulate growth.[38][39]

On 15 November 2016, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) released a country report assessing Brazil's macroeconomic policy progress.[40] The report stated, "Since May 2016, the government announced a series of measures to strengthen macro policies and restore credibility. Notably, the government has sent to Congress a constitutional amendment limiting the growth in federal noninterest spending to the rate of consumer price inflation of the previous year for the next 20 years. The government has also announced a reform of the social security system, needed in its own right and also necessary to make the expenditure limit viable." The report also found the central bank has intervened in the foreign exchange market less frequently than in the past and broadly symmetrically, limiting corrective action to containing short-term excessive volatility.[41]

On 5 December 2016, President Michel Temer sought support from political leaders for his pension reforms proposal, which would set a minimum retirement age of 65, reduce death pension benefits, and

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[35] 2016 Growth Strategy: Argentina, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 16 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-argentina.pdf.

[36] Marcos Pereira leads Brazil More Productive to Bahia, sixth state to receive the program, Ministry of Industry Foreign Trade and Services (Salvador) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017 http://www.mdic.gov.br/noticias/1857-marcos-pereira-leva-brasil-mais-produtivo-a-bahia-sexto-estado-a-receber-o-programa.

[37] Brazil More Productive and PNCE will support exports of companies from inland cities, Comex Do Brasil (Brazilia) 27 January 2017. Access Date: 27 January 2017. https://www.comexdobrasil.com/brasil-mais-produtivo-e-pnce-vao-apoiar-exportacoes-das-empresas-de-cidades-do-interior/.

[38] Entenda o Programa de Parcerias de Investimentos, Palácio do Planalto (Brasilia) 13 September 2016. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www2.planalto.gov.br/acompanhe-planalto/noticias/2016/09/entenda-o-programa-de-parcerias-de-investimentos

[39] The Brazilian Investment Partnership Program, CRESCER. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.projetocrescer.gov.br/sobre-o-programa

[40] 2016 Article IV consultation, IMF November 2016. Access Date: 7 February 2017. https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2016/cr16348.pdf

[41] 2016 Article IV consultation, IMF November 2016. Access Date: 7 February 2017. https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2016/cr16348.pdf

increase social security contributions by civil servants. These measures aim to reduce government expenditure on various social services which presently comprise 40 per cent of the government's budget.[42]

On 7 December 2016, Minister of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services Marcos Pereira signed the Brazil-US cooperation agreement in areas of "innovation, regulatory convergence, trade facilitation, and productive investments."[43]

On 13 December 2016, the Brazilian Senate passed a proposal by President Temer that will cap growth in public spending for a minimum of 20 years.[44] This is in line with Brazil's fiscal goal, "to improve the budgetary and financial execution of public expenditures, contributing to the achievement of the fiscal targets, the optimization of the efficiency of public spending and the enhancement of public policy and government management programs."[45]

On 15 December 2016, President Michel Temer announced stimulus measures "to reduce the debt burden of businesses and consumers."[46] Some measures include writing off some of the taxes owed by companies and allowing others to pay their debts in installments.[47]

On 11 January 2017, the central bank lowered its interest rates by 75 base points (bps) to 13 per cent.[48] It is the third straight rate decline, bringing borrowing cost to the lowest since March of 2015 amid slowing inflation and a severe contraction.[49] In Brazil's 2016 Growth Strategy, short term interest rate projections were 12 per cent for 2017.[50]

On 7 March 2017, the Brazilian government announced 55 new projects for private sector concessions, as well as projects to renew current concessions. This follows the first wave of concessions in September 2016. The aim of the program is to attract investment by providing predictability.[51]

On 31 May 2017, Brazil's central bank cut its Seliac rate from 11.26 per cent to 10.25 per cent. The rate cut is meant to address the slow economic recovery and low inflation.[52]

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[42] Brazil's Temer unveils pension reform, sets retirement age at 65, Reuters (Brasília) 5 December 2016. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-economy-pension-idUSKBN13U1VT.

[43] MDIC e Amcham assinam acordo para cooperação Brasil-EUA em inovação e convergência regulatória, Ministério da Indústria, Comércio Exterior e Serviços (Brasília) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.mdic.gov.br/noticias/2152-mdic-e-amcham-assinam-acordo-para-cooperacao-brasil-eua-em-inovacao-e-convergencia-regulatoria.

[44] Brazil Senate passes spending cap in win for Temer, Reuters (Brasília) 13 December 2016. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-politics-idUSKBN142203.

[45] Brazil Growth Strategy, G20 (2016) Access Date: 7 February 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-brazil.pdf

[46] Brazil's Temer launches stimulus plan to counter discontent, Reuters (Brasília) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-economy-idUSKBN1442J1.

[47] Brazil's Temer launches stimulus plan to counter discontent, Reuters (Brasília) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-economy-idUSKBN1442J1.

[48] Brazil Interest Rate 1999-2017 (New York City) 15 January 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.tradingeconomics.com/brazil/interest-rate.

[49] Brazil Interest Rate 1999-2017 (New York City) 15 January 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.tradingeconomics.com/brazil/interest-rate.

[50] Brazil Growth Strategy, G20 (2016) Access Date: 7 February 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-brazil.pdf

[51] Govn't announces 55 new projects for private sector concessions, EBC Agência Brasil (Brasilia) 7 March 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017 http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/politica/noticia/2017-03/govnt-announces-55-new-projects-private-sector-concessions

[52] Central Bank cuts interest rate to lowest level since 2013, BrazilGovNews (Brasilia), 31 May 2017, Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/06/central-bank-cuts-interest-rate-to-lowest-level-since-2013

On 31 May 2017, President Michel Temer launched the Family Harvest plan, which will offer credit to small farmers. He said that the goal was to stimulate employment and development.[53]

Brazil has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies such as reducing public spending. Brazil has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies and reducing market volatility. Brazil has made progress in implementing structural policies such as improving the efficiency of trade. Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Theodora Mladenova & Miguel Martins

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Canada has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- New Infrastructure Plan
- Middle Class Tax Cut- Reduce taxes for middle-income earners.
- Increased support for families: New Canada Child Benefit.
- Improving the Retirement Income System
- Improving Employment Insurance
- Making Post-Secondary Education More Affordable
- Helping Youth Obtain Valuable Work Experience
- Improving the Education Outcomes for First Nations Children
- Strategic Infrastructure Investments at Post-Secondary Institutions
- Investing in and Promoting Clean Growth
- Expanding Trade Opportunities: Eliminate or waive tariffs on a number of goods.
- Strengthen resiliency on Canada's housing finance system[54]

On 14 October 2016, the Canadian government amended housing market regulations, including new regulations for mortgages. These include making mandatory stress tests regardless of down payment, increasing restrictions on insurance for low-ratio mortgages, and enforcing mandatory reporting of primary residence sales to the Canada Revenue Agency.[55]

On 30 October 2016, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) in Brussels, which began the ratification process of the free trade agreement between Canada and the European Union.[56]

On 1 November 2016, Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced the creation of a Canada infrastructure bank, which the government will contribute CAD35 billion towards major construction projects.[57]

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[53] Temer launches Family Harvest Plan with R$ 30 billion credit line, BrazilGovNews (Brasilia), 31 May 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017 http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/06/temer-launches-family-harvest-plan-with-r-30-billion-credit-line
[54] 2016 Growth Strategy: Canada, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date 21 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-canada.pdf.
[55] Technical Backgrounder: Mortgage Insurance Rules and Income Tax Proposals, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 14 October 2016. Access Date: 24 November 2016. https://www.fin.gc.ca/n16/data/16-117_2-eng.asp; and Four Major changes to Canada's housing rules, The Globe and Mail (Toronto) 3 October 2016. Access Date: 24 November 2016 http://www.theglobeandmail.com/real-estate/four-major-changes-to-canadas-housing-rules/article32223470/.
[56] Trudeau signs CETA but final ratification required by European Union, The Globe and Mail (Toronto) 30 October 2016. Access Date: 22 November 2016. http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/prime-minister-trudeau-signs-canada-eu-trade-deal-in-brussels/article32586423/.

On 21 November 2016, the Government of Canada announced a joint investment with the Province of Ontario in post-secondary infrastructure at Centennial College. The Government of Canada will contribute CAD18.4 million.[58]

On 23 November 2016, the Business Development Bank of Canada announced that it is launching a CAD135 million fund "that will invest in entrepreneurial startup companies in the energy and clean technology sector."[59]

On 13 January 2016, Finance Minister Bill Morneau said the government is not considering any additional measures to tighten housing finance rules "at this stage" but is monitoring the market to ensure risk levels are appropriate.[60]

On 18 January 2017, the Bank of Canada announced that it is maintaining its target for the overnight rate at 0.50 per cent. In Canada's 2016 Adjusted Growth Started report, Canada noted "The Bank of Canada's target for the overnight rate has remained unchanged at 0.5 per cent since July 2015, a historically low level. As such, monetary conditions are very accommodative. While conventional monetary policy rates are low, there is room for the Bank of Canada to use unconventional monetary policies if warranted." Maintaining the interest rate is seen in line with the growth strategies.[61]

On 22 March 2017, Finance Minister Bill Morneau tabled the 2017 federal budget. It allocates funds to support business and innovation, as well as Canadian families. The budget deficit is higher than projected, but is expected to fall in the next five years.[62,63]

On 24 May 2017, the Bank of Canada announced that it is maintaining its target rate at 0.5 per cent and that inflation is in line with the bank's projections.[64,65,66]

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[57] Liberals announce Canada infrastructure bank: what is it and how does it work?, Global News (Ottawa) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://globalnews.ca/news/3039197/liberals-announce-canada-infrastructure-bank-what-is-it-and-how-does-it-work/.

[58] Canada and Ontario invest in post-secondary infrastructure at Centennial College, CNW (Toronto) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/canada-and-ontario-invest-in-post-secondary-infrastructure-at-centennial-college-602246655.html.

[59] BDC Capital creates $135-million venture fund for clean technology startups, CTV News (Toronto) 23 November 2016. Access Date: 20 November 2017. http://www.ctvnews.ca/business/bdc-capital-creates-135-million-venture-fund-for-clean-technology-startups-1.3173318.

[60] Canada not considering housing measures at this stage: Morneau, Reuters (Toronto) 13 January 2017. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://ca.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idCAKBN14X1XI.

[61] Canada Growth Strategy, Government of Canada (2016) Access Date: 7 February 2017. http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/g20/2016-Growth_Strategy-Strategie_Croissance.aspx?lang=eng#H3-2a

[62] Buiding a Strong Middle Class (Ottawa), 22 March 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.budget.gc.ca/2017/docs/plan/budget-2017-en.pdf

[63] Federal budget 2017: Highlights of Bill Morneau's 2nd budget, CBC News (Ottawa), 31 May 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/federal-budget-highlights-2017-1.4032898

[64] Bank of Canada maintains overnight rate target at ½ per cent, Bank of Canada (Ottawa), 24 May 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.bankofcanada.ca/2017/05/fad-press-release-2017-05-24/

[65] House prices and debt loads a growing concern, Bank of Canada says, CBC News (Ottawa), 8 June 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017.
http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/bank-of-canada-poloz-1.4151272

[66] Household vulnerabilities have moved higher, but the financial system remains resilient, Bank of Canada (Ottawa), 8 June 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017.
http://www.bankofcanada.ca/2017/06/household-vulnerabilities-have-moved-higher/

Canada has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as increasing infrastructure spending. Canada has made progress in implementing structural, implementing monetary policies and decreasing market volatility. Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Theodora Mladenova & Kyle VanHooren

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

China outlined the following fiscal, structural and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Cut the basic pension insurance contribution rate, unemployment insurance contribution rate and housing provident fund contribution rate progressively to reduce the burden of market players and increase cash income of workers;.
- Promote the tax reform of changing Turnover Tax to Value Added Tax (VAT), further reduce the burden on enterprises, and facilitate economic restructuring and upgrading;
- A fresh round of power grid upgrading projects was implemented in rural areas, to improve the working and living conditions, facilitate the development of related industries, and stimulate investment and consumption;
- Continue to open up and accelerate the development of service trade.
- Legal and market-based measures to reduce overcapacity in steel and coal industries, facilitate supply-side structural reform, and promote the optimization and upgrading of industrial structure;
- Reduce enterprises' burden, promote energy saving and emission reduction, as well as structural adjustment, through the relief of electricity price contradictions;
- Expand the income tax pilot policy in National Innovation Demonstration Zone to nationwide, so that proactive fiscal policy plays a more important role in promoting the mass entrepreneurship and innovation and fostering new driving forces of economic growth;
- Optimizing the Investment Environment;
- Strengthening Infrastructure Investment;
- Use multiple instruments including Open Market Operations, Short-term Liquidity Operations (SLO), Standing Lending Facility (SLF) and Medium-term Lending Facility (MLF) in a combined way to ensure banking liquidity is kept at an appropriate and adequate level.
- Promoting the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME) Investment.[67]

On 9 September 2016, the National Development and Reform Commission of the People's Republic of China held a meeting to examine methods to shore up fields where China falls behind other major economies, such as poverty reduction, sustainable agriculture, and corporate technological upgrading. The

[67] Comprehensive Growth Strategy: China, 2016 G20 (Hangzhou), 26 September 2016. Access Date: 1 November 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/201609/P020160926602268177290.pdf.

commission concluded that the priority will be to adopt public-private partnerships (PPP) model in primary infrastructure projects to stimulate investment from private investors.[68]

On 13 September 2016, the People's Bank of China (PBOC) injected funds into the financial system for the first time since February 2016 by auctioning RMB60 billion of reverse repurchase agreements in open market operations. Interest rate lowered after the use of a 28 day lending tool was resumed, from 2.6 per cent to 2.55 per cent. The PBOC also sold RMB70 billion of one-week contracts and RMB30 billion of 14 day reverse repos, which maintained the interest rate at 2.25 per cent and 2.4 per cent respectively.[69]

On 25 October 2016, China's central bank revealed that it will broaden its Macro Prudential Assessment (MPA) risk-tool framework starting the first quarter of 2017 to incorporate wealth management products. This adjustment to the MPA system aims to help the PBOC to curb rising debt levels in its financial system.[70]

On 7 November 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev met in St. Petersburg for a signing ceremony to support the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) between two countries.[71]

On 30 November 2016, the PBOC released a moderate amount of liquidity into the market after four consecutive days of reducing liquidity. This decision was made after the market went into crisis on 29 November 2016, which was caused by the limitations the PBOC placed on large banks' lending to smaller banks.[72]

On 9 December 2016, Vice Premier Wang Yang and Thai Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusripitak met in Beijing to extend their five-year plan for economic and trade cooperation.[73]

On 28 December 2016, Yu Xuejun, an official from China Banking Regulatory Commission, urged for a reduction of the required reserve ratio. The senior banking regulator was cited saying "China's requirement for how much cash banks must hold as reserves is very high and should be reduced at an appropriate time."[74]

On 13 January 2017, the PBOC injected 305.5 billion yuan for the first time via its medium-term lending facility (MLF) to 21 financial institutions to maintain liquidity in the interbank market. The

[68] State To Accelerate Structural Reform, China Daily Asia (Beijing) 13 September 2016. Access Date: 1 November 2016. http://www.chinadailyasia.com/chinafocus/2016-09/13/content_15494601.html.
[69] China's PBOC Injects 28-Day Funds for First Time Since February, Bloomberg (New York) 12 September 2016. Access Date: 1 November 2016. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-09-13/pboc-injects-cash-via-28-day-reverse-repos-first-time-since-feb.
[70] China to count off-balance sheet financing in assessing banks' risk, CNBC 26 October 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://www.cnbc.com/2016/10/26/chinas-central-bank-takes-more-steps-to-tackle-rising-debt-in-the-economy.html.
[71] China and Russia to promote SME cooperation, The State Council The People's Republic of China (Beijing) 9 November 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/premier/news/2016/11/09/content_281475486878807.htm
[72] China's borrowing costs surge, sending economy into cycle of implicit monetary tightening, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://www.scmp.com/business/banking-finance/article/2050522/chinas-borrowing-costs-surge-sending-economy-cycle-implicit.
[73] China and Thailand ink deals to strengthen cooperation, The State Council The People's Republic of China (Beijing) 10 December 2016. Access Date: 28 December 2016. http://english.gov.cn/state_council/state_councilors/2016/12/10/content_281475512489671.htm.
[74] China Banking Official Urges Cut to Required Reserve Ratio, Bloomberg (New York) 28 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-12-28/china-banking-official-says-required-reserve-ratio-should-be-cut.

MLF liquidity included RMB182.5 billion in one-year maturities and RMB123 billion in six-month maturities.[75]

On 6 March 2017, Premier Li Keqiang said the government will simplify the four-tier Value-Added Tax (VAT) regime to three levels to cut tax by RMB51 billion.[76]

On 1 May 2017, China had fully completed its VAT reform. The four industries required to pay VAT instead of a business tax were consumer services, finance, property and construction.[77]

On 3 May 2017, the Ministry of Finance introduced a lower VAT on imported and exported agricultural and forage products, natural gas, books and vegetable oil. The tax rate will be reduced from 13 per cent to 11 per cent and will come into effect on 1 July 2017.[78]

China has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as increasing funding to fight poverty. China has made progress in implementing structural policies, such as promoting SMEs abroad. China has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies such as, broadening its Macro Prudential Assessment (MPA). Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Michelle Tham

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

France has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Functioning of the labour market — Improve the flexibility and the functioning of the labour market and promote labour-management dialogue in companies.
- Cost competitiveness — Continue to cut taxes and labour costs for businesses, to boost investment and create jobs.
- Unemployment insurance — Ensure the sustainability and the efficiency of the unemployment insurance system.
- Business environment — Heighten economic transparency to build investor confidence and promote France's attractiveness.
- New economic opportunities — Capitalize on new business opportunities.[79]

In June 2016 France released its Stability Programme which outlines France's fiscal strategy for the period 2016-2019. The strategy "aims to continue fiscal consolidation and reduce the general government deficit to less than 3% of GDP in 2017 and then achieve structural balance in 2019. The Programme adds $3.8 billion in additional savings measures for 2016 that seek to mitigate against the negative impacts of low inflation resulting in efforts to reduce government deficit. These include:

[75] China PBOC Injects CNY305.5 Bln Via MLF; Rates Unchanged, MNI News (New York) 13 January 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.marketnews.com/content/china-pboc-injects-cny3055-bln-mlf-rates-unchanged.
[76] China to simplify tax rules to shore up the economy. Access Date: 1 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/business/china-business/article/2076228/china-simplify-tax-rules-shore-economy.
[77] China to simplify tax rules to shore up the economy. Access Date: 1 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/business/china-business/article/2076228/china-simplify-tax-rules-shore-economy.
[78] VAT to be reduced on agricultural products in July. Access Date: 3 May 2017. http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-05/03/content_29188491.htm.
[79] 2016 Growth Strategy: France, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 12 December 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/201609/P020160926602750892633.pdf

- EUR1 billion on central government and agency expenditures
- EUR1 billion on healthcare and social protection expenditure
- EUR1.8 billion less in interest expenditure due solely to the lower interest rate forecast.

In 2017 France will adjust these expenditures to EUR2 billion, EUR2 billion and EUR1 billion, respectively. Further, for the purposes of promoting employment, sustaining productive investment capacity and underpinning competitiveness France will continue, as per its Responsibilty and Solidarity Pact, with tax cuts in the following areas: cuts in social security contributions, elimination of corporate income tax payments for large corporations, a further cut in the corporate social solidarity contribution, cut in income tax bill for households. On social security, France projects that revenue should increase by 2.6% by 2017, "sustained by strong growth of private-sector wages and salaries (2.5%) as the economy recovers and by the government's measures to boost employment." [80] Progress made within the compliance period is not known.

On 28 September 2016, the Autorité de contrôle prudentiel et de résolution and the Autorité des marchés financiers announced reforms to streamline prospective business investment from British firms in response to the result of the British referendum on European Union membership. These measures include providing English speaking officials to support firms in the licensing process as well as distributing a preauthorization document for prospective companies within two weeks of applying.[81]

On 8 November 2016, France adopted the Law on Transparency, the Fight against Corruption and Modernization of Economic Life. The main provisions include expanding jurisdiction to allow "French authorities to prosecute acts of corruption committed abroad by any company that carries on business or part of its business in France" and the creation of an anti-corruption agency.[82]

On 19 November 2016, France "enacted a bill creating a legal basis for class actions against data controllers and processors resulting from data protection violations."[83]

On 23 May 2017, President Emmanuel Macron presented his labour reform plan to French unions. Macron has vowed to introduce flexibility to France's labour market to tackle unemployment.[84][85]

France has made progress in implementing structural policies, such as streamlining prospective business investment. France has not made progress towards implementing fiscal policies or monetary policies. Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Theodora Mladenova & Miguel Martins

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

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[80] Stabiliy Programme 2016-2019, June 2016, Government of France. Date of Access: 01 March 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/pdf/csr2016/sp2016_france_en.pdf

[81] Here's Why France Might Steal the UK's Fintech Crown, Business Insider (New York City) 6 January 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.businessinsider.com/heres-why-france-might-steal-the-uks-fintech-crown-2017-1.

[82] New French Anti Corruption Law: Companies Doing Business in France must Beware, Lexology (Paris) 22 November 2016. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=bab97afd-83bb-40be-bdc7-39aaec08f797.

[83] France Adopts Class Action Regime for Data Protection Violations, Lexology (Paris) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=561d7b16-5809-4669-bd76-6ac25d3e9e23.

[84] Emmanuel Macron takes crucial labour reforms to union leaders as French businesses regain optimism, The Telegraph (London), 23 May 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/05/23/emmanuel-macron-takes-crucial-labour-reforms-union-leaders-french/

[85] Why Emmanuel Macron's bid to haul France out of its economic malaise will be harder than he thinks, The Telegraph (London), 30 April 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2017/04/30/emmanuel-macrons-bid-haul-france-economic-malaise-will-harder/

Germany has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Promote digitalisation to increase Germany's role as an innovative and powerful economy, with additional EUR2.7 billion to be spent on broadband internet in 2015-19;
- Offer various funding instruments for founding and expanding innovative small and medium-sized enterprises;
- Establish an infrastructure entity that manages the national highway system;
- Implementing a second Bureaucracy Relief Act to reduce red tape and improve the investment ecosystem;
- Continue to implement programmes aimed at further reducing youth unemployment;
- The new or adjusted policy action- Promoting Digitalisation.
- Boost female labour force participation by implementing an act to alleviate unjustified pay inequities between women and men.[86]

On 12 October 2016, the German Education Minister Johanna Wanka unveiled the "Digital Pact" plan to invest EUR 5 billion to provide primary schools, advanced and vocational schools with digital learning infrastructure. Meanwhile, cornerstones for the implementation of the Digital Pact have been drafted jointly by Federal Government and the Lander. The Digital Pact is scheduled for 2018 with a term of five years.[87]

In December 2016, the German government launched the "Education in the Digital World" strategy. The Council of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of all federal states in Germany presented a clear concept for the shaping of one of the greatest societal challenges of our time.[88]

On 3 January 2017, German consumer prices soared by 0.7 per cent compared to November 2016, bringing the annual rate of increase to 1.7 per cent, according to the country's Federal Statistics Office. This represents Germany's highest rate of inflation since 2013. This is in line with protections in Germany's Growth Strategy.[89]

On 11 January 2017, the German cabinet supported a draft bill to make salaries more transparent for employees in an attempt to close the gender pay gap. The bill would allow employees to see what their colleagues in equivalent positions were earning within companies with over 200 employees. In addition businesses with over 500 workers would need to publish regular updates on their salary structure and show that they were complying with equal pay rules.[90]

[86] 2016 Growth Strategy: Germany, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 16 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-germany.pdf.
[87] German education minister unveils 5-billion-euro 'Digital Pact' for 40,000 schools, Die Welle (Bonn) 12 October 2016. Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://www.dw.com/en/german-education-minister-unveils-5-billion-euro-digital-pact-for-40000-schools/a-36023544.
[88] Strategie Bildung in der digitalen Welt, 8 December 2016. Access Date: 7 July 2017. https://www.kmk.org/presse/pressearchiv/mitteilung/strategie-bildung-in-der-digitalen-welt.html
[89] 2016 Growth Strategy: Germany, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 16 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-germany.pdf.
[90] Berlin pushes for public payslips to fight pay gap, Die Welle (Bonn) 11 January 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.dw.com/en/berlin-pushes-for-public-payslips-to-fight-pay-gap/a-37087655.

On 12 January 2017, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, Matthias Machnig, launched the digital conference entitled "Key Issues for Digital Transformation in the G20" which will culminate in a meeting of G20 digital ministers in Düsseldorf on 6-7 April 2017.[91]

On 12 January 2017, the Finance Ministry announced that Germany had achieved a surplus of EUR6.2 billion in 2016. The government is still debating whether to spend it on tax reductions and paying off old debts, or on investment in infrastructure and education.[92]

On 25 January 2017, the German government approved a bill to combat harmful tax practices in connection with the assignment of rights.[93]

On 22 March 2017, the Ministry of Finance established the Fintech Council (known in German as the FinTechRat) to advise the ministry on issues relating to digital financial technology, particularly with regards to the potential, opportunities and risks of technological developments.[94]

On 11 May 2017, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy tabled a new funding strategy for energy efficiency and heat from renewables. Under this strategy, public-sector funding for energy efficiency will be reorganized. The funding will become better targeted at the various beneficiaries, and funding priorities will be better aligned with the current needs of the energy transition. The funding targeted at private households will be remodeled incrementally, a process that is to be completed in 2020.[95]

Germany has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as the Digital Pact. Germany has made progress in implementing structural policies, such as supporting a draft bill to make salaries more transparent for employees. Germany has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies decreasing market volatility. Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ce Shang

India: +1

India has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

India has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Improving and strengthening the financial system.

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[91] Joint Press Release — The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and the OECD kick off G20 digital ministers' process with a conference on "Key Issues for Digital Transformation in the G20", The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Germany) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/EN/Press/press-releases,did=798532.html.

[92] How will Germany spend its €6 billion surplus?, The Local (Berlin) 21 January 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.thelocal.de/20170113/how-will-germany-spend-its-6-billion-surplus.

[93] Press Release — Federal cabinet approves royalty restrictions to combat tax planning, The Federal Ministry of Finance (Germany) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/2017-01-27-restrictions-to-combat-tax-planning.html

[94] Press Release — German Finance Ministry establishes Fintech Council, The Federal Ministry of Finance (Germany) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/2017-03-22-german-finance-ministry-establishes-fintech-coucil.html.

[95] Press Release — Economic Affairs Ministry tables new funding strategy for energy efficiency and heat from renewables, The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Germany) 11 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170511-economic-affairs-ministry-tables-new-funding-strategy-for-energy-efficiency-and-heat-from-renewables.html.

- Promoting Competition and Enabling Environment.
- Enhancing Environmental Sustainability and Encouraging Innovation
- Advancing Labour Market Reform, Educational Attainment and Skills
- Promoting Fiscal Reform
- Promoting Trade and Investment Openness
- Improving Infrastructure
- Promoting Competition and Enabling Environment
- Enhancing Environmental Sustainability
- Inclusive Growth
- Encouraging Innovation[96]

On 17 October 2016, the Ministry of Labour and Employment launched a model career centre in Mumbai. Union Minister for Labor and Employment Bandaru Dattartreya announced that six more model career centers would be opened this year.[97]

On 24 October 2016, the Government of India made Aadhaar, a unique identification number for citizens, mandatory for receiving cooking gas (LPG) subsidies but gave a two month grace period for citizens to get the unique identification number.[98] This is in line with India's Growth Strategy commitment to "Inclusive growth and Improving and strengthening the financial system: The Indian Parliament has passed the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and 6 Growth Strategy — INDIA Services) Bill, 2016 on March 2016."[99]

On 7 November 2016, India and the United Kingdom agreed to create an infrastructure development fund for India to strengthen economic ties. The fund will initially have GBP120 million in seed money but "private-sector funds will also be sought later from London-based financial institutions and others."[100]

On 8 November 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the demonetisation of the INR500 and INR1000 notes to prevent counterfeiting of notes and curb the flow of black money.[101]

On 11 November 2016, in collaboration with the Indian government, Japan announced that it would "set up institutes in the country to train 30,000 people in 10 years, particularly in rural areas, in Japanese style manufacturing skills and practices." Prime Minister Modi said that the dialogue between Japan and India in regard to training and skills development was "an important component of [their] economic partnership."[102]

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[96] 2016 Growth Strategy: India, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-india.pdf

[97] Govt launches model career centre in Mumbai, Economic Times (New Delhi) 17 October 2016. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/jobs/govt-launches-model-career-centre-in-mumbai/articleshow/54893044.cms.

[98] Aadhar card must for LPG subsidy after November, The Times of India (New Delhi) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 24 December 2016. http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Aadhaar-card-must-for-LPG-subsidy-after-November/articleshow/54680322.cms.

[99] 2016 Growth Strategy: India, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-india.pdf

[100] UK, India begin forging closer ties with infrastructure fund, Nikkei Asian Review (New Delhi) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/International-Relations/UK-India-begin-forging-closer-ties-with-infrastructure-fund.

[101] Narendra Modi just banned Rs500 and Rs1000 notes to fight corruption and terrorism, Quartz India 8 November 2016. Access Date: 4 January 2017. https://qz.com/830774/rupee-notes-in-india-narendra-modi-just-banned-rs500-and-rs1000-notes-to-fight-corruption-and-terrorism/.

[102] Japan to set up skill development institutes in three Indian states, The New Indian Express (Tokyo) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 23 January 2017. http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2016/nov/11/japan-to-set-up-skill-development-institutes-in-three-indian-states-1537537.html.

On 7 December 2016, the Reserve Bank of India decided to maintain its key lending rate, the repo rate at 6.25 per cent.[103]

On 19 December 2016, Prime Minister Modi laid the foundation of the first 'Indian Institute of Skills' in the country and launched several skill development initiatives for the youth, including including Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKKs) and Drivers' Training Institutes.[104]

On 24 December 2016, Prime Minister Modi kicked of INR1.06 lakh crore worth of infrastructure projects. These projects include the country's longest sea bridge and two metro lines in the city.[105]

On 8 January 2017, Prime Minister Modi said his government will soon launch a skill development programme, Pravasi Kaushal Vikas Yojana, for Indian youth seeking overseas employment.[106]

On 1 February 2017, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley presented the Union budget, which included several infrastructure reforms including INR55,000 crore for railways and INR64,900 crore for highways. It also reduced the income tax for companies with annual turnover upto INR50 crore to 25 per cent to promote micro, small and medium enterprises.[107]

India has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as the infrastructure development fund. India has made progress in implementing structural policies, such as opening model career centers. India has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies decreasing market volatility. Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Isra Batool

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Indonesia has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Improving infrastructure investment policy framework (Adjusted Brisbane Commitment).
- Improving market competition to support investment and trade activities (Adjusted Antalya Commitment).
- Enhancing employment policy reform (Adjusted Brisbane Commitment).
- Strengthening the financial system (New Commitment).
- Promoting more inclusive growth (New Commitment).[108]

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[103] RBI keeps key rates unchanged: Full text of monetary policy statement, The Indian Express (New Delhi) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 6 February 2017. http://indianexpress.com/article/business/banking-and-finance/rbi-keeps-key-lending-rates-unchanged-full-text-of-monetary-policy-statement-4415112/.

[104] PM Modi unveils initiatives for skill development, The Indian Express (Kanpur) 19 December 2016. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://indianexpress.com/article/india/pm-modi-unveils-initiatives-for-skill-development/.

[105] PM Modi kicks off Rs 1.06 lakh crore worth infrastructure projects for Mumbai, The Times of India (Mumbai) 24 December 2016. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/pm-modi-kicks-off-rs-1-06-lakh-crore-worth-infrastructure-projects-for-mumbai/articleshow/56158227.cms.

[106] PM Modi announces skill development programme for youths seeking jobs abroad, India Today (Bengaluru) 8 January 2017. Access Date: 23 January 2017. http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/pm-narendra-modi-pravasi-bhartiya-divas-jobs-youth-abroad/1/852215.html.

[107] Union Budget 2017-18, India Brand Equity Foundation 1 February 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. https://www.ibef.org/economy/union-budget-2017-18.

[108] 2016 Growth Strategy: Indonesia, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 12 December 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-indonesia.pdf.

On 26 October 2016, Indonesia's House of Representatives approved the government's 2017 State Budget. It is expected to keep the deficit under control. The budget also increases allocation to infrastructure development.[109][110][111]

On 31 October 2016, Indonesia's central bank adopted new regulation that requires banks to attach supporting documents detailing the purpose of every transfer of foreign currencies of more than USD100,000 to increase transparency and "the amount of information available regarding foreign exchange traffic."[112]

On 17 November 2016, Indonesia's central bank announced that it will increase the time period over which central banks must hold the required per centage (6.5 per cent) of total deposits from one day to a period of one to two weeks. This will enable banks to absorb liquidity shocks and "not inflict excessive volatility in interest rates." The Governor of the Central Bank of Indonesia Agus Martowardojo announced that this measure will be introduced in the second half of 2017.[113]

On 23 May 2017, Indonesia and Canada launched an economic development program in the provinces of Gorontalo and Southeast Sulawesi. The project will focus on broadening work areas by developing a micro-middle economy sector in the selected regions.[114]

Indonesia has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, as well as structural changes such as increasing transparency. Indonesia has not made progress towards implementing fiscal policies or monetary policies. Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Theodora Mladenova & Miguel Martins

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Italy has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Promote economic activity to increase real gross domestic product (GDP) by 1.4 per cent in 2017, 1.5 per cent in 2018 and 1.4 per cent in 2019 by implementing rigorous yet employment based fiscal policy
- Review the public budget composition to free resources which can be better devoted to promote investment, jobs, and general growth

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[109] State Budget for Fiscal Year 2017, Ministry of Finance (Jakarta), 26 October 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. https://www.kemenkeu.go.id/sites/default/files/pdf-peraturan/REGARDING%20STATE%20BUDGET%20FOR%20FISCAL%20YEAR%202017.pdf

[110] Indonesia Raised to Investment Grade by S&P on Budget Curbs, Bloomberg Markets, 19 May 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-05-19/s-p-upgrades-indonesia-to-investment-grade-amid-stronger-growth

[111] Infrastructure Budget Indonesia Rises in 2017 State Budget, Indonesia Investments, 29 October 2016. Access Date: 6 June 2017. https://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/infrastructure-budget-indonesia-rises-in-2017-state-budget/item7318

[112] Indonesia c.bank Beefs up Requirements for Large Outgoing Forex Transfers, Reuters (Jakarta). 31 October 2016. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/indonesia-forex-banks-idUSL4N1D132G.

[113] Indonesian Central Bank to Ease Reserve Requirement Rules in 2017 — Governor, Reuters (Jakarta) 22 November 2016. Access Date: 15 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-cenbank-idUSKBN13H1ER.

[114] Indonesia, Canada launch local economy development program, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia (Ottawa). 23 May 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.indonesia-ottawa.org/2017/05/indonesia-canada-launch-local-economy-development-program/

- Leverage budgetary flexibility as per European rules to support comprehensive structural reform plans to increase potential GDP and achieve a budget balance in the medium-term and to support investment expenditure
- Refrain from implementing restrictive policies to avoid other economic issues including deflation, stagnation, inadequate eurozone fiscal policies coordination, higher public debt ratio, and short term cost of structural reform
- Reduce tax burden and introduce tax incentives under 2016 Stability Law.
- Revise public spending and increase fiscal compliance while reducing margins for tax avoidance and evasion.
- Neutralize 'safeguard clauses' under Stability Law by including deficit reduction measures.
- Continue the implementation of the multi-year structural reform agenda.[115]

On 27 September 2016, the Government of Italy increased its target for its 2017 budget deficit to 2.0 per cent from 1.8 per cent and cut its economic growth forecasts for 2017 to 1.0 per cent from 1.4 per cent.[116]

On 15 October 2016, Prime Minister Matteo Renzi announced the 2017 budget plan, which "raises health spending and sets aside EUR7 billion over three years for measures relating to pensions."[117] In the budget, the tax credit available to companies for research and development will increase from 25 per cent to 50 per cent and the maximum tax credit will increase from EUR5 million to EUR20 million per company.[118]

In December 2016, Italian lawmakers created a EUR20 billion fund to recapitalize some of Italy's banks, Rome rushed to approve the fund after Monte dei Paschi di Siena failed to attract enough fresh private capital to satisfy regulators. Italy is currently in talks with Brussels about using the same mechanism for an EUR8.8 billion rescue of Monte dei Paschi di Siena. Italy is also currently considering a EUR5 billion state rescue of two struggling regional banks.[119]

On 7 December 2016, the Italian parliament approved the government's 2017 budget.[120] The 2017 Budget Law includes a corporate income tax rate reduction from 27.5 per cent to 24 per cent, and other measures "aimed at rendering Italy more attractive for foreign investments, supporting domestic investments by Italian companies, and promoting economic growth in general."[121] This is in line with Italy's Growth Strategy commitments to the 2016 Stability Law. Under the Law, Italy launched a broad plan to reduce the tax burden on workers, households and businesses, "including -among other measures- the abolition of taxation on main primary residential properties ("TASI" and "IMU"), the reduction of

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[115] 2016 Growth Strategy: Italy, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 16 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-italy.pdf.

[116] Italy cuts growth outlook, hikes deficit, reverses debt pledge, Reuters (Rome) 27 September 2016. Access Date: 8 January 2016. http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-italy-budget-idUKKCN11X1Z4.

[117] Italy's Renzi presents 2017 budget, seeks compromise with Brussels, Reuters (Rome) 15 October 2016. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://www.wsj.com/articles/italy-unveils-2017-budget-plan-1476558935.

[118] Italy: budget 2017 cut corporate tax rate, offer business tax incentives, Multinational Tax and Transfer Pricing News 20 October 2016. Access Date: 8 January 2017. http://mnetax.com/italy-budget-2017-italy-corporate-tax-17732.

[119] Italy considers €5bn state bailout of regional banks, Financial Times 14 February 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2017. https://www.ft.com/content/b7b55e26-f2a1-11e6-95ee-f14e55513608

[120] Italy passes 2017 budget, paving way for PM Renzi's resignation, Reuters (Rome) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-budget-approval-idUSKBN13W1OP.

[121] Italy: Tax News for 2017, Lexology (Italy) 3 January 2017. Access Date: 23 January 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=86aad38a-c697-4ee8-9ebe-7d6a6741353c.

corporate income taxation (the "IRES" rate was reduced from 27.5 per cent to 24 per cent starting from 1 January 2017)."[122]

On 24 April 2017, Italy announced that it was increasing taxes on tobacco and gambling, and cracking down on evasion of value added tax in order to reduce its budget deficit.[123]

Italy has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as increased public spending. Italy has made progress in implementing structural policies, such as reducing the corporate income tax rate. Italy has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies, such as decreasing negative spillovers. Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Isra Batool

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Japan has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Facilitating the Fourth Industrial Revolution: IoT, Big Data, Robot
- The new or adjusted policy action- Creating new growing markets
- Introduction of "Quantitative and Qualitative Monetary Easing (QQE) with a Negative Interest Rate"
- Strengthening local economies ("Local Abenomics")
- Working Style Reform.[124]

On 21 September 2016, the Bank of Japan said in a meeting that it would make yield-curve control a centrepiece of its new policy framework; buy ten-year Japan government bonds (JGBs) so that the yield would hover around 0 per cent while keeping a lid on short-term rates; and continue making JGB purchases more or less in line with the current JPY80 trillion annual pace of expansion of its holdings.[125]

On 11 October 2016, Japan's parliament approved a JPY4.11 trillion supplementary budget, most of which will be used to fund Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's JPY28 trillion stimulus package announced in August 2016. Under this extra budget, JPY710 billion will be used to improve welfare services, JPY1.41 trillion will be used for infrastructure development, and JPY430 billion will be allocated to support small and medium-sized companies and to revitalize local economies.[126]

On 25 November 2016, the Council on Economic and Fiscal Policy approved guidelines for the fiscal 2017 budget with a spending target of around JPY97 trillion. Prime Minister Abe "called for particular

[122] 2016 Growth Strategy: Italy, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 16 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-italy.pdf.
[123] Italy hikes taxes to rein in 2017 budget deficit, Reuters 24 April 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-budget-idUSKBN17Q22S.
[124] 2016 Growth Strategy: Japan, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 12 December 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-japan.pdf.
[125] Bank of Japan announces major policy overhaul in latest bid to goose economy, CNBC (Singapore) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2016. http://www.cnbc.com/2016/09/21/bank-of-japan-decides-to-modify-policy-framework-keeps-deposit-rate-steady-sets-long-term-rate-target.html.
[126] Japan parliament approves 40-bln-dollar supplementary budget to boost economy, Xinhua News Agency (Tokyo) 11 October 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-10/11/c_135746281.htm.

focus on such policy priorities as child care and nursing care as well as research and development spending" when planning the budget.[127]

On 8 December 2016, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe unveiled a fiscal 2017 tax reform plan that seeks to expand spousal tax breaks. Previously, a dependent spouse of a household's main earner can trim their taxable annual income by JPY380 thousand but this benefit is lost if the dependent spouse earns more than JPY1.03 million a year. The new fiscal plan raises the threshold to JPY1.5 million.[128]

On 20 December 2016, the Japanese government said it plans to review drug prices annually instead of biannually in an attempt to curb rising health care spending. The government also plans to "expand the scope of the review to all prescription drugs on the domestic market, although not all drugs would see their prices cut each year."[129]

On 20 December 2016, the central bank said it would keep overnight interest rates at minus 0.1 per cent and its ten-year bond yield target around zero. Furthermore, it will continue to purchase government bonds at a pace of JPY80 trillion a year, equities at a pace of JPY6 trillion annually and corporate bonds at a pace of JPY3.2 trillion.[130]

On 22 December 2016, Japan's cabinet approved a USD830 billion spending budget for fiscal 2017 that counts on low interest rates and a weak yen to limit borrowing. The budget marks an increase of JPY733 billion from this year's initial plan due to a rising social security bill to fund the cost of services for a fast-ageing society.[131]

On 22 December 2016, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe set aside JPY7 billion in the budget to launch government scholarships in the year starting next April in an effort to make higher education affordable.[132]

On 24 February 2017, the government launched the Premium Friday campaign which encourages employees to leave work early on the last Friday of each month. The purpose of this initiative is to boost weak consumer spending by urging people to leave work earlier through taking paid hours off or using a flextime program.[133]

On 16 March 2017, the Bank of Japan left its monetary policy unchanged after the Federal Reserve raised its key interest rate. The central bank maintained its short-term policy rate on some bank reserves at 0.1

[127] Japan aims to curb new debt in fiscal 2017 as spending edges up, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 26 November 2016. Access Date: 26 December 2016. http://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Economy/Japan-aims-to-curb-new-debt-in-fiscal-2017-as-spending-edges-up.

[128] Tax reform proposal targets spousal income credit, irregular beer tax structure, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 8 December 2016. Access Date: 25 December 2016. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/12/08/business/tax-reform-proposal-targets-spousal-income-credit-irregular-beer-tax-structure/#.WF-SF6J95WM.

[129] Japan to review drug prices more frequently to curb rising healthcare costs, The Indian Express (Tokyo) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 26 December 2016. http://indianexpress.com/article/world/japan-to-review-drug-prices-more-frequently-to-curb-rising-healthcare-costs-4436466/.

[130] BoJ Leaves Monetary Policy Unchanged, Trading Economics (Tokyo) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 23 December 2016. http://www.tradingeconomics.com/japan/interest-rate.

[131] Japan plans record $830 billion spending in financial year 2017/18, budget-balancing goal elusive, Reuters (Tokyo) 22 December 2016. Access Date: 25 December 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-japan-economy-budget-idUSKBN14B02R.

[132] Japan's students face uncertain future under cloud of debt, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 29 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2016. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/12/29/national/social-issues/japans-students-face-uncertain-future-cloud-debt/#.WHf13aIrJWM.

[133] 'Premium Friday' drive kicks off to energize weary workers, feeble economy, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 24 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/02/24/national/premium-friday-drive-kicks-off-energize-weary-workers-feeble-economy/#.WS9vBxMrIWI.

per cent and left its target for 10-year government bond yields at around zero per cent. In addition, the central bank kept asset purchases unchanged at JPY80 trillion annually.[134]

On 27 March 2017, the Japanese Diet enacted changes to the fiscal budget and tax code to increase state support for the elderly, children, and women. One of these measures included raising the amount that those aged 70 and older contribute toward their medical care, including raising the monthly cap on co-pays from JPY12,000 to JPY18,000 for households with annual incomes less than JPY3.7 million per year.[135]

On 6 May 2017, the Government of Japan announced that it will donate USD40 million over two years to a High-Level Technology Fund at the Asian Development Bank to promote the integration of high level technology and innovative solutions in the design and implementation of projects in the Asia-Pacific region.[136]

On 30 May 2017, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe debuted a draft of a strategic growth plan at a meeting of the Council on Investments for the Future. This plan includes concentrating political resources into lengthening life spans, revolutionizing transportation, creating new supply chains, developing financial technology, and focusing on infrastructure building and urban planning.[137]

On 31 May 2017, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced that the government will create 220,000 new day care spots. For the current fiscal year, the government is spending JPY1.15 trillion on day care support. In addition, the government increased the monthly base pay by JPY6,000 for all nursery workers in the start of this fiscal year.[138]

Japan has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as the supplementary budget. Japan has made progress in implementing structural policies, such as the 2017 tax reform plan. Japan has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies increasing transparency. Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Di An (Dion) Hu

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Korea has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Reorganizing the tax system to nurture new industries
- Supporting new industries
- Providing tax supports to underpin restructuring

[134] BOJ stays the course, leaves monetary policy unchanged after Fed hike, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 16 March 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/03/16/business/economy-business/boj-stays-course-leaves-monetary-policy-unchanged-fed-hike/#.WS9ldBMrIWI.
[135] Japan's new budget puts focus on women, children, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 28 March 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Policy-Politics/Japan-s-new-budget-puts-focus-on-women-children.
[136] ADB Establishes Funds to Promote High-Level Technology — Japan First Donor, Asian Development Bank (Yokohama) 9 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.adb.org/news/adb-establishes-fund-promote-high-level-technology-japan-first-donor.
[137] Japan's draft growth strategy forgoes far-reaching form, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 31 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Policy-Politics/Japan-s-draft-growth-strategy-forgoes-far-reaching-reform.
[138] Prime Minister Abe unveils government push to solve day care crunch, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 31 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/05/31/national/prime-minister-abe-unveils-government-push-solve-day-care-crunch/#.WS7otRMrIWI.

- Implementing the second phase of financial reform
- Reforming the public sector
- Reforming the education sector
- Aggressive macroeconomic policy
- Reviving the housing market
- Enhancing the support for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)
- Boosting infrastructure investment[139]

On 7 September 2016, the Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning said it will create KRW40 billion in special funds to foster the virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) industries. The ministry will invest KRW12 billion annually into the fund for the next two years and the rest of the KRW20 billion will be supplemented from private funds.[140]

On 30 October 2016, the government unveiled plans to spend about KRW11 trillion on the shipbuilding industry. It intends to order more than 250 vessels and provide about KRW6.5 trillion in financing support to strengthen shipping companies' efficiency through the end of 2020.[141]

On 28 December 2016, the Ministry of Strategy and Finance released its 2016 revision to 19 tax enforcement decrees, which includes an increase of up to 30 per cent in the Research & Development (R&D) tax credit rate on new growth sectors for large and medium-sized companies; a restructure of tax incentives for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) companies engaged in high-tech businesses to boost investment in new growth sectors; a tax deferral for domestic companies in overseas mergers of full subsidiaries; and measures to strengthen tax measures on financial instruments.[142]

On 29 December 2016, the Bank of Korea said that it plans to "keep its monetary policy accommodative next year to support economic recovery and to push inflation to reach the bank's target of 2 per cent.."[143]

On 5 January 2017, the Financial Services Commission (FSC) outlined in its Financial Policy Direction for 2017 a series of policies regarding household debt management, corporate restructuring, support for SMEs with KRW128.2 trillion, and support for funding start-ups and tech companies.[144]

On 10 January 2017, the Ministry of Strategy and Finance said it will seek changes in tax incentives to promote marriage. It will also offer additional tax deductions for SMEs and conglomerates based on employment and investment.[145]

On 12 January 2017, the FSC announced its financial reform plan for 2017 that includes plans to revise regulations that oversee trust funds and enact a new trust investment law. The FSC plans to draft the bill by June 2017 and submit it to the National Assembly around October.[146]

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[139] 2016 Growth Strategy: Korea, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 16 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-korea.pdf.

[140] Gov't to create funds for VR, AR industries, Yonhhap News (Seoul) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2016/09/07/0200000000AEN20160907005300320.html.

[141] Korea to Spend $9.6 Billion by 2020 to Support Shipbuilding, Bloomberg (Seoul) 30 October 2016. Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-10-31/korea-to-spend-9-6-billion-by-2020-to-support-shipping-industry.

[142] Press Release — 2016 Revision to Tax Enforcement Decree, Ministry of Strategy and Finance (Seoul) 28 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://english.mosf.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4223.

[143] Bank of Korea to keep policy easy in 2017, sees output gap persisting, Reuters (Seoul) 29 December 2016. Access Date: 6 February 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/southkorea-economy-cenbank-idUSL4N1EO0F3.

[144] Press Release — Financial Policy Direction for 2017, Financial Services Commission (Seoul) 5 January 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.fsc.go.kr/eng/new_press/releases.jsp?menu=01&bbsid=BBS0048&selYear=2017.

[145] Tax breaks eyed for marriage, jobs, investment, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 10 January 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20170110000629.

On 8 May 2017, the Ministry of Strategy and Finance lowered capital requirements for financial technology (FinTech) companies offering foreign currency exchange services to allow smaller businesses to enter the South Korean remittance market. Effective 18 July 2017, FinTech companies' required holdings will decrease from KRW2 billion to KRW1 billion.[147]

On 25 May 2017, Korea's central bank kept interest rates steady for the 11th month at 1.25 percent.[148]

Korea has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as increased funding for new industries. Korea has made progress in implementing structural policies, such as tax reform. Korea has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies decreasing market uncertainty. Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ce Shang

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Mexico has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive growth strategy:

- Increase productivity, boost employment and create wealth in less developed regions through the creation of Special Economic Zones.
- Improving the rule of law to lift potential growth by strengthening the legal framework to realize the reforms' full potential.
- Implementation of a multi-year public spending adjustment plan to secure fiscal sustainability and preserve macroeconomic stability in the current adverse environment.[149]

On 4 October 2016, the President of Inadem, the National Institute of Entrepreneurs, announced that the Youth Credit Program would be extended to entrepreneurs up to the age of 35, rather than the previous limit of 30 years.[150]

In November 2016, the Mexican Peso falls as much as 13 per cent in largest drop since 1994 devaluation crisis. The Mexican central bank and finance ministry called a joint pre-market press conference, raising expectations that they would move to market intervention. Instead, they did not, leaving the currency alone. Finance Minister José Antonio Meade, said Mexico did not need to rush to act and was "in a position of strength to face the new environment" because of fiscal stability; solid public and private institutions; USD175.1 billion in central bank reserves; and a flexible credit line from the International

[146] Korean govt to promote trust business to expand asset management options, Pulse (Seoul) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2017&no=29030.
[147] Seoul to ease equity capital criteria for bitcoin-mediated foreign currency transfer service, Pulse (Seoul) 8 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?sc=30800020&year=2017&no=307960.
[148] South Korea central bank on hold as growth outlook upgraded, fiscal stimulus expected, Reuters (Seoul) 25 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20170601000185
[149] 2016 Growth Strategy: Mexico, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 17 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-mexico.pdf
[150] Amplían programa Crédito Joven", in Elfinanciero, 04 October 2016, Access Date : 3 January 2017. http://www.elfinanciero.com.mx/economia/amplian-programa-credito-joven.html.

Monetary Fund (IMF) worth USD86.2 billion. He said, however, that the authorities stood ready to act and would remain vigilant.[151]

On 11 November 2016, Mexico's lower house of Congress approved the 2017 budget and sent the package to Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto for him to sign into law. The budget cut planned spending by MXN239.7 billion and targets a primary surplus of 0.4 per cent of gross domestic product in 2017. It also included a MXN100 billion reduction in funding for the state owned oil company Pemex.[152]

On 15 December 2016, the central bank raised its benchmark interest rate to 5.75 per cent.[153]

On 10 February 2017, Minister of Finance José Antonio Meade Kuribreña announced the creation of special economic zones (ZEEs) in Michoacán and Guerrero (Lázaro Cárdenas), Oaxaca and Veracruz (Corredor Transístmico) and Chiapas. Legal entities and individuals with entrepreneurial activities that invest in a ZEE would enjoy certain tax benefits.[154]

In March 2017, the Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores (CNBV) presented a draft bill to the Congress designed to regulate the country's ballooning financial technology industry. The law will allow the government to monitor crowdfunding and the circulation of virtual assets, such as bitcoins. The bill has the additional goal of ending money laundering and banking fraud.[155]

Mexico has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as reducing funding for Pemex. Mexico has made progress in implementing structural policies, such as extending the Youth Credit Program Mexico has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies decreasing market uncertainty. Thus, Mexico receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Marwan Bennis

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Russia has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Inflation targeting implementation
- Capital increase of the Industry Development Fund
- Support sustainability of regional labour markets
- Establish Agency for Technological Development
- Improve and strengthen the financial system[156]

On 26 September 2016, President Vladimir Putin announced that there would be no tax increases other than in the oil industry until 2019.[157]

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[151] Mexican peso hit as Trump takes US presidency, Financial Times 9 November 2016. Access Date: 17 February 2017. https://www.ft.com/content/e70025d2-a628-11e6-8898-79a99e2a4de6

[152] Mexico's lower house approves 2017 budget, sends it to president, Reuters (Mexico) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 23 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/mexico-economy-idUSL1N1DC0MU.

[153] Mexico's central bank hikes interest rate by more than US Fed, Reuters 15 December 2016. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/mexico-economy-rates-idUSZXN0FWG00.

[154] Mexico: creation of special economic zones — announced, EY 1 March 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/mexico--creation-of-special-economic-zones---announced.aspx.

[155] Fitch: Mexico Fintech Law Could Mitigate Operational Risks, Reuters 10 April 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/fitch-mexico-fintech-law-could-mitigate-idUSFit995552.

[156] 2016 Growth Strategy: Russia, G20 Hangzhou 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/2016-growth-russia.pdf

On 31 October 2016, the Russian Central Bank (Bank of Russia) announced that it would not be cutting interest rates any further for the year and keep its benchmark interest rate at 10 per cent in a bid to control inflation.[158]

On 11 November 2016, President Vladimir Putin said that the federal budget deficit for 2016 could slightly exceed 3.7 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and that although the government should target a figure of 3.7 per cent, a deficit of 3.8 to 3.9 per cent of GDP would "not be a disaster."[159]

On 16 December 2016, the Board of Directors of the Russian Central Bank decided to keep the key rate at 10 per cent per annum. The Board of Directors noted that "the dynamics of inflation and economic activity are overall in line with the forecast and inflation risks have subsided somewhat." The Bank of Russia forecasted that "considering that the moderately tight monetary policy is maintained" inflation will slow to the 4 per cent target in late 2017.[160]

On 10 January 2017, the Ministry of Finance of Russia reported on the results of the Reserve Fund and the National Welfare Fund (NWF) investments management in 2016. In December 2016, the Russian federal budget received the sum of RUB10.51 billion and RUB8.76 billion as a result of the Reserve Fund and NWF assets deposition in the foreign currencies in the Bank of Russia.[161] It helped to stabilize the federal budget and lower the budget deficit.

On 28 April 2017, the Bank of Russia cut its key rate to 9.25 per cent, citing inflation on track to hit goal levels and an emergence from recession.[162]

Russia has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as funding for the National Technology Initiative. Russia has made progress in implementing structural policies, such as its tax policies. Russia has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies decreasing market uncertainty. Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Qasim Sheikh & Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Saudi Arabia has outlined the following fiscal, structural and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- National program for occupational health and safety (OSH)
- National Labour Gateway Program (Taqat)
- Employment Development Program

[157] Russian Finance Ministry Delays Tax Raise, Hopeful on Oil Price, The Moscow Times (Moscow) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 22 November 2016. https://themoscowtimes.com/articles/russian-promises-not-to-raise-taxes-hopes-oil-will-rise-above-40-55477.
[158] Russia All Done Cutting Interest Rates This Year, Forbes 31 October 2016. Access Date: 22 November 2016. http://www.forbes.com/sites/kenrapoza/2016/10/31/russia-all-done-cutting-interest-rates-this-year/#2f89659966a7.
[159] Russia's Putin sees budget deficit exceeding 3.7per cent of GDP, Reuters (Moscow) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 22 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-russia-budget-putin-idUSKBN13618S.
[160] The Bank of Russia decides to keep the key rate at 10.00% p.a., Russian Central Bank 16 December 2016. http://www.cbr.ru/eng/press/pr.aspx?file=16122016_133003eng_keyrate2016-12-16T13_22_22.htm
[161] Information on the Results of Management of Reserve Fund and the National Welfare Fund, Russian Ministry of Finance 10 January 2017. http://minfin.ru/ru/perfomance/reservefund/news/?id_57=117098&page_id=692&popup=Y&area_id=57
[162] Russian central bank cuts interest rates to 9.25%, Financial Times 28 April 2017.https://www.ft.com/content/72b68cc6-a2ff-3954-8301-ef3d0743e608

- Improve business environment
- Boost female labor force participation
- Enhance logistics Services — Building a unique Regional Logistical Hub.
- Improve government efficiency

On 26 September 2016, the Saudi cabinet announced it would cut ministers' salaries by 20 per cent and housing and car allowances for members of the appointed Shoura Council by 15 per cent.[163]

On 13 November 2016, Mohammed bin Ali al-Abbar, an Emirati businessman, reported Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund will invest in a stake of 50 per cent to the largest platform of e-commerce in the Arab world named "Noon.com," in which all investors have put a total of USD1 billion. The platform will launch operations in the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia in January.[164]

On 23 November 2016, Saudi Arabian Mining Co. announced it plans on doubling its gold production by 2020 as the country seeks to diversify its economy. The government aims for mining to contribute SAR96 billion to its economy by 2020, and create 90,000 jobs as a result.[165]

On 16 January 2017, Energy Minister Khalid al-Falih said Saudi Arabia would launch a renewable energy program in coming weeks. The program is expected to involve investment of between USD30 billion and USD50 billion by 2023.[166]

On 19 January 2017, Saudi Arabia's central bank Governor Ahmed Alkholifey said a cash shortage, that stressed commercial lenders last year is over and that he's open to more foreign financial institutions operating. The Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority sees no need for further steps to boost banking liquidity, Alkholifey said in an interview. In 2016, with falling revenue, the government drew down on its deposits in the banking system, causing a cash shortage that sent a key measure used to price loans to the highest level since 2008. Policy makers responded by injecting billions of riyals into the banking system and deploying other monetary policy tools to ease the strain. Authorities also sold the biggest ever bond from an emerging market in October 2016 and cut weekly domestic debt issuance. According to Alkholifey, stability has been retained and negative spillovers avoided.[167]

On 15 March 2017, the Labor Ministry backed teleworking (work done remotely outside a company's office) and working from home to increase female labour participation.[168]

On 24 April 2017, Saudi Arabia reinstated financial allowances for civil servants and military personnel after better-than-expected budget figures.[169]

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[163] Saudi Arabia Slashes ministers' pay, cuts public sector bonuses, Reuters (Dubai) 26 September 2016. Access: 22 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-economy-idUSKCN11W1VS?il=0.
[164] Dubai businessman Alabar, Saudi SWF launch $1billion e-commerce platform, Reuters (Dubai) 13 November 2016. Access: 22 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-tech-alabbar-idUSKBN1380JG.
[165] Saudi Arabia Mining Expands As Kingdom Chases Grozth Beyond Oil, Bloomberg 24 November 2016. Access: 31 January 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-11-24/saudi-arabia-mining-expands-as-kingdom-chases-growth-beyond-oil.
[166] Saudi Arabia Says It's About to Launch a $30-$50 Billion Renewable Energy Program, Fortune (Saudi Arabia) 16 January 2017. Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://fortune.com/2017/01/16/saudi-arabia-renewable-energy-program/.
[167] Saudi Central Banker Says Crunch That Squeezed Banks Is Over, Bloomberg 19 january 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-01-19/saudi-central-bank-sees-no-need-for-liquidity-boosting-steps-now
[168] Saudi Arabia to Boost 'Decent and Proper' Jobs for Women, Newsweek Pakistan 15 March 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://newsweekpakistan.com/saudi-arabia-to-boost-decent-and-proper-jobs-for-women/.
[169] Saudi Arabia restores perks to state employees to fend off unrest, The Guardian 24 April 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/24/saudi-arabia-restores-perks-to-state-employees-to-fend-off-unrest.

Saudi Arabia has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as investing in renewable energy. Saudi Arabia has made progress in implementing structural policies, such as reducing public sector salaries. Saudi Arabia has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Karam Shahrour

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

South Africa has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Restoring confidence, boosting investment and improving policy certainty (new policy)- Measures to improve environment for private sector investment and improve cooperation between the public and private sectors.
- Streamline regulatory regime (adjusted policy)- Measures to improve the regulatory regime and to reduce red tape.
- Stimulate employment (adjusted policy): Measures to unblock obstacles to faster employment growth in eight key sectors and SMEs.
- Fiscal reform measures: Reprioritise spending and reduce budgets for non-essential goods and services in national government departments.[170]

On 22 September 2016, the National Treasury announced the postponement of the implementation of the environmental tyre levy to 1 February 2017. Previously, Minister of Finance Pravin Gordhan announced that an environmental levy on tyres will become effective on 1 October 2016 but the Minister has decided on the postponement to allow further consultation between the South African Revenue Service and all affected parties.[171]

On 30 September 2016, South Africa placed USD3 billion in new notes maturing in 2028 and 2046 in the international capital markets through an innovative one-day new issue and tender switch transaction.[172]

On 26 October 2016, Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan released the Medium-term Budget Policy statement. In this statement, Gordhan said that students at South African universities and higher education institutions will receive an extra ZAR17 billion over the next three years.[173]

On 26 October 2016, the National Treasury announced the launch of "Municipal Money," which is an open local government budget data portal that provides citizens and other stakeholders with access to comparable, verified information on the financial performance of each municipality. This launch is a

[170] 2016 Growth Strategy: South Africa, G20 Hangzhou 2016. Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/201609/P020160926606153047971.pdf.

[171] Postponement of the Implementation Date of the Environmental Tyre Levy, National Treasury (South Africa) 22 September 2016. Access Date: 7 November 2016. http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2016/2016092201per cent20Levy.pdf.

[172] South Africa issues two new bonds and conducts switch and tender offer, National Treasury (South Africa) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2016/20160930per cent20SAissues2newbonds.pdf.

[173] South African universities get an extra $1.2 billion to improve student enrollment, Reuters 26 October 2016. Access Date: 7 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-safrica-budget-fees-idUSKCN12Q1KI.

response to the commitment made in the 2016 Budget speech to launch a data portal that will provide stakeholders with municipal financial information to stimulate citizen involvement in local governance.[174]

On 3 November 2016, the National Treasury invited taxpayers, tax practitioners and members of the public to provide tax proposals of a technical nature to be considered for possible inclusion in Annexure C of the 2017 Budget Review.[175]

On 20 November 2016, Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa said South Africa have credit ratings agencies "positive news" in recent meetings after announcing a proposal for a national minimum wage. A government advisory panel suggested a national minimum wage of ZAR3,500 per month, or around ZAR20 an hour.[176]

On 21 November 2016, the National Treasury and Telkom through Business Connexion concluded negotiations on the existing contract for fixed-line telecommunications services to government for national and provincial departments. This renegotiated contract is expected to save hundreds of millions of rand per year, in the next two years.[177]

On 20 January 2017, the National Treasury revised the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2017, to benefit micro, small and medium enterprises, co-operatives, and Township and rural enterprises. Some of these revisions include the introduction of a pre-qualification criteria that allows the advancement of certain categories of people, acknowledgement of the fact that the high value tender in the region of ZAR30 million tended to be awarded to established companies, and addressing the outcry of categorised groups who felt that the threshold of ZAR1 million was too significant for them to grow to the level of established companies.[178]

On 22 February 2017, Minister of Finance Pravin Gordhan delivered his Budget Speech. He announced a few main tax proposals that included a new top personal income tax rate of 45 per cent for those with taxable incomes above ZAR1.5 million, an increase in the dividend withholding tax rate from 15 per cent to 20 per cent, an increase in the excise duties for alcohol and tobacco, an increase in the tax threshold from ZAR75,000 to ZAR75,750 to limit bracket creep relief, and an increase of 30c/litre in the general fuel levy and 9c/litre in the road accident fund levy.[179]

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[174] National Treasury Launches Open Local Government Financial Data Portal – "Municipal Money", National Treasury (South Africa) 26 October 2016. Access Date: 7 November 2016. http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2016/2016102601per cent20Mediaper cent20Releaseper cent20-per cent20Portalper cent20Launch.pdf.

[175] Inviting Technical Tax Proposals for Annexure C for the 2017 Budget Review, National Treasury (South Africa) 3 November 2017. Access Date: 8 November 2017. http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2016/Invitingper cent20Technicalper cent20Taxper cent20Proposalsper cent20forper cent20Annexureper cent20Cper cent20ofper cent20theper cent202017per cent20Budgetper cent20Review/20161103per cent20Taxper cent20Proposal.pdf.

[176] UPDATE 1- South Africa's Ramaphosa says has given rating agencies positive news, Reuters Africa (Johannesburg) 20 November 2016. Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://af.reuters.com/article/southAfricaNews/idAFL8N1DL0KS.

[177] Telkom and Government Cooperation Saves Government Hundreds of Millions of Rands per year, National Treasury (South Africa) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2016/2016112101per cent20Telkomper cent20andper cent20Governmentper cent20Cooperation.pdf.

[178] Treasury revises Preferential Procurement Regulations, South African Government News Agency (Pretoria) 24 January 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.sanews.gov.za/business/treasury-revises-preferential-procurement-regulations.

[179] Minister Pravin Gordhan: 2017 Budget Speech, South African Government 22 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.gov.za/SPEECHES/MINISTER-PRAVIN-GORDHAN-2017-BUDGET-SPEECH-22-FEB-2017-0000.

On 12 April 2017, Minister of Finance Malusi Gigaba reaffirmed that the treasury is committed to fiscal consolidation plans outlined in the 2017 budget despite a downgrade in South Africa's credit rating by Standard & Poor's.[180]

On 29 April 2017, President Jacob Zuma signed the anti-money laundering bill FICA. This bill should allow increased scrutiny of the bank accounts of "prominent individuals."[181]

On 23 May 2017, Minister of Finance Malusi Gigaba delivered his Budget Vote Speech in which he committed to reducing the budget deficit. He said the National and Provincial Treasuries have agreed to improve the capacity and financial performance of municipalities. This will be done through certain measures like the implementation of the Municipal Standard Chart of Accounts, an improved revenue management framework, improved asset management, and an improved supply chain management.[182]

On 25 May 2017, South Africa's central bank kept interest rates steady at 7 per cent.[183]

On 31 May 2017, President Jacob Zuma delivered an address during the Presidency Budget Vote Debate. In his address, he pledged support to SMEs for employment creation and economic growth through the National Informal Business Upliftment Strategy and the National Gazelles programme.[184]

South Africa has made some progress in implementing fiscal policies, such as increased funding to universities. South Africa has made some progress in implementing structural policies, such as reducing public sector expenses. South Africa has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies decreasing market volatility. Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Di An (Dion) Hu

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to implement monetary, fiscal, and structural policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

Turkey has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Minimum wage hike
- Reduce the share of young people who are most at risk of being permanently left behind in the labor market by 15 per cent by 2025
- National Transportation Master Plan (2015-2018)
- Establishment of fund of funds for early stage investing in innovation-driven enterprises, as well as crowdfunding and co-financing mechanisms, and strengthening the legal infrastructure on microfinance
- Meetings with Chambers of Commerce and Universities
- Industry Reports
- Improving the Private Pension System[185]

[180] South Africa's finmin Gigaba committed to fiscal consolidation after downgrades, Reuters Africa (Johannesburg) 21 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://af.reuters.com/article/southAfricaNews/idAFJ8N1H801D.
[181] South Africa's Zuma signs anti money-laundering bill FICA into law, Reuters Africa (Johannesburg) 29 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://af.reuters.com/article/southAfricaNews/idAFL8N1I103Q.
[182] South Africa: Government Remains Committed to Reducing Budget Deficit, All Africa News (Cape Town) 24 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://allafrica.com/stories/201705240394.html.
[183] South African central bank holds rates, no cut in prospect, Reuters (Pretoria) 25 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.reuters.com/article/safrica-rates-idUSL8N1IR43Q.
[184] Address By President Jacob Zuma During The Presidency Budget Vote Debate, The Huffington Post (Cape Town) 31 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.huffingtonpost.co.za/jacob-zuma/address-by-president-jacob-zuma-during-the-presidency-budget-vot_a_22119332/.

On 22 September 2016, the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey (CBRT) cut the marginal funding rate by 25 basis points (bps) from 8.50 per cent to 8.25 per cent and left the one-week repo rate at 7.50 and the overnight borrowing rate at 7.25 per cent.[186]

On 19 October 2016, the Monetary Policy Board (PPK) meeting saw the CBRT leave key interest rates unchanged. The benchmark one-week repo rate was held at 7.5 per cent and the "upper band of the interest rate corridor (marginal funding rate) at 8.25 per cent while keeping the borrowing rate at 7.25 per cent." This decision followed the US dollars' record high at 3.1055 on 13 October 2016.[187]

On 13 November 2016, the CBRT announced its decision to simplify its monetary policy, citing a switch to a "single interest rate policy" that does not change often from its current "interest rate corridor." Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Şimşek stated that the CBRT will be able to better focus on its main tasks and look at more data with the new policy. The CBRT also reduced the number of annual Monetary Policy Committee meetings in order to foster efficiency.[188]

On 8 December 2016, the Turkish government announced a large fund aimed at "[accelerating] the credit volume" and creating 600,000 new jobs. Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım outlined measures to achieve this end that included cheaper funding for companies, easier loan restructuring for banks, and a tighter lid on public spending. This will also take in the form of a credit line up to TRY250 billion particularly aimed for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) as a means to "ease the cash flow problem under the Treasury."[189]

On 16 March 2017, the CBRT left its overnight lending rate at 9.25 per cent and its benchmark one-week repo rate at 8 per cent.[190]

Turkey has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as increased funding for jobs. Turkey has not made some progress in implementing structural policies. Turkey has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies decreasing market volatility. Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Hivda Ates

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to implement fiscal, structural, and monetary policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

The United Kingdom has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

[185] 2016 Growth Strategy: Turkey, G20 Hangzhou 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/201609/P020160926606376361435.pdf.

[186] Turkey: Central Bank cuts the marginal rate in September, Focus Economics (Istanbul) 22 September 2016. Access Date: 20 November 2016. http://www.focus-economics.com/countries/turkey/news/monetary-policy/central-bank-cuts-the-marginal-rate-in-september.

[187] Turkey's central bank leaves key interest rates unchanged, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 20 November 2016 http://www.dailysabah.com/d/business/2016/10/21/turkeys-central-bank-leaves-key-interest-rates-unchanged.

[188] Turkey's Central Bank to simplify interest rate policy, Hurriyet Daily News (Ankara) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 20 November 2016 http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkeys-central-bank-to-simplify-interest-rate-policy.aspx?pageID=238&nID=106089&NewsCatID=344.

[189] Turkish businesses welcome new economic measures, Hurriet Daily News (Ankara) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/Default.aspx?pageID=238&nid=107104.

[190] Turkey central bank hikes liquidity window, but keeps other rates on hold, Reuters 16 March 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/turkey-cenbank-idUSEONH3D0RZ.

- Tax-free personal allowance and higher rate threshold
- National Insurance contributions
- Abolition of Class 2 National Insurance contributions
- Reduction in Corporation Tax Rate
- Major Rail Projects in London
- Transport in the North of England
- Devolution: Devolving powers over transport, planning and skills, as well as control over investment funds to boost economic growth, to areas which choose to have elected mayors.
- Business impact target: Cut at least GBP10 billion of red tape on business.[191]

On 12 October 2016, the Public Accounts Committee reported that the government achieved less than GBP1 billion for its Business Impact Target, which aims to reduce the total cost of business regulation by GBP10 billion between 2015 and 2020. This includes the mandatory GBP0.05 plastic bag charge as a 'saving' for retailers because of the additional revenue it brings them.[192]

On 17 November 2016, the government announced an additional GBP10 million to help strengthen the resilience of the railway line from Exeter to Newton Abbot via Dawlish.[193]

On 21 November 2016, Prime Minister Theresa May promised to maintain "lowest corporate tax rate in the G20."[194]

On 23 November 2016, Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Hammond said his government had raised the tax-free personal allowance from around GBP6,000 to GBP11,000 and now to GBP12,500.[195]

On 13 January 2017, Transport Minister Andrew Jones allocated GBP1.2 billion in local roads funding to councils across England to "improve roads, cut congestion and improve journey times."[196]

On 17 February 2017, it was reported that for the very first time the Bank of England is publishing monthly data revealing the amount of gold it holds on behalf of other central banks. As a leading custodian of gold, with one of the largest vaults in the world, the World Gold Council says the Bank of England's decision is highly significant. A report from the World Gold Council states: "Not only will it enhance the transparency of the Bank's own gold operations; it will also support the drive towards greater transparency across the gold market." The new data reveals the total weight of gold held within the Bank of England's vaults and includes five years of historical data.[197]

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[191] 2016 Growth Strategy: United Kingdom, G20 Hangzhou 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/201609/P020160926606240758545.pdf.
[192] Plastic bag 'saving' cannot conceal slow progress on cutting regulation costs, Parliament (London) 12 October 2016. Access Date: 24 November 2016. https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/public-accounts-committee/news-parliament-2015/better-regulation-report-published-16-17/.
[193] Government announces £10 million funding for rail resilience in the South West, Department for Transport (London) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 24 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-10-million-funding-for-rail-resilience-in-the-south-west.
[194] Business wary over further cuts to UK corporation tax, Financial Times 21 November 2016. Access Date: 24 January 2017. https://www.ft.com/content/245bde5a-affa-11e6-9c37-5787335499a0.
[195] Autumn Statement 2016 – Workers will now be able to earn £12,500 before having to pay income tax, The Sun (London) 23 November 2016. Access Date: 24 November 2016. https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/2247229/autumn-statement-2016-workers-will-now-be-able-to-earn-12500-before-having-to-pay-income-tax/.
[196] Government allocates £1.2 billion roads funding to councils, Department for Transport (London) 13 January 2017. Access Date: 24 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-allocates-12-billion-roads-funding-to-councils.
[197] Bank of England aids greater transparency across gold market, Professional Jeweler 17 February 2017. Access Date: 17 February 2017. http://www.professionaljeweller.com/bank-england-leads-way-gold-market-transparency/

On 11 May 2017, the Bank of England held interest rates at 0.25 per cent and capped its quantitative easing programmes GBP435 billion.[198]

The UK has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as increased funding for infrastructure. The UK has made some progress in implementing structural policies such as increasing the personal tax-free allowance. The UK has made some progress towards implementing monetary policies increasing transparency. Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kelly Yang

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to implement fiscal, structural, and monetary policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

The United States has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- The new or adjusted policy action- 21st Century Clean Transportation Plan.
- Implement an omnibus spending package of USD80 billion sequestration cap over two years, with USD31 billion in additional funding, which incorporates funding to new areas include accounting for risk through natural disasters, and tax cuts for renewable energy to put the United States back on track for sustainable public finance of the national debt;
- Retain a commitment through the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) for a flexible and stable monetary policy;
- Boost incomes of low-wage workers and address inequality by raising the minimum wage and expanding selected individual tax credits;
- Undertake comprehensive immigration reform by continuing to press for passage of comprehensive immigration reform legislation in Congress and by implementing executive actions to streamline the legal immigration system and promote naturalization;
- Secure sustained and strong economic expansion through the implementation of cross-border trade agreements such as the ratification of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP);
- Affirms its prior commitment to create a robust labour market through comprehensive immigration reform, increase the federal minimum wage, and through business tax reform;
- Boost employment and labor force participation by investing in education, training, and skills, and by promoting female labor force participation.[199]

On 23 January 2017, President Donald Trump formally withdrew the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership.[200]

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[198] Bank of England stays on hold in May, hints that a 'smooth' Brexit could see rates increase, Business Insider (London) 11 May 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://uk.businessinsider.com/bank-of-england-interest-rate-decision-inflation-report-may-2017-5.

[199] 2016 Growth Strategy: United States, G20 China 2016 (Hangzhou) Access Date: 25 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/growth-strategies.html.

[200] Trump signs executive order to formally withdraw the US from the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal, CNBC 23 January 2017. Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://www.cnbc.com/2017/01/23/trump-signs-executive-order-to-formally-withdraw-the-us-from-the-trans-pacific-partnership-trade-deal.html.

On 27 January 2017, President Trump signed the Executive Order: Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States, halting immigration to nationals of Countries of Particular Concern.[201]

On 1 February 2017, the Federal Open Market Committee held its benchmark overnight lending rate target steady at a range of 0.5 per cent to 0.75 per cent.[202]

On 15 March 2017, the US Federal Reserve raised the interest rate to 1 per cent.[203]

The US has made some progress towards implementing fiscal and monetary policies, but has not worked to implement structural changes in line with its commitments. Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Kyle Van Hooren

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to implement fiscal, structural, and monetary policies as laid out in its Growth Strategy.

The European Union has outlined the following fiscal, structural, and monetary strategies in its comprehensive Growth Strategy:

- Expand and extend large-scale purchasing programme
- Single Market Strategy
- Collaborative economy
- Anti-Tax Avoidance Package and Financial Transparency
- A New and Comprehensive Skills Agenda for Europe
- European Open Science Cloud
- European Pillar of Social Rights
- Integration of Third-Country Nationals
- A New Global Climate Agreement
- Advance multilateral trade liberalisation and rulemaking and the EU bilateral trade and investment agenda.[204]

On 30 October 2016, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) was signed at the EU-Canada Summit. The free trade agreement will "remove customs duties, end restrictions on access to public contracts, open-up the services market, offer better conditions for investors and help prevent illegal copying of EU innovations and traditional products."[205]

[201] Executive Order: Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States, The White House (Washington) 27 January 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/27/executive-order-protecting-nation-foreign-terrorist-entry-united-states.
[202] Fed sees 'improved' sentiment, but no interest rate hike, CNBC (Washington) 1 February 2017. Access Date: 6 February 2017. http://www.cnbc.com/2017/02/01/fed-leaves-rates-unchanged-at-february-meeting.html.
[203] US Federal Reserve raises interest rates to 1% in bid to hold off inflation, The Guardian 15 March 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/business/2017/mar/15/us-federal-reserve-raises-interest-rates-to-1.
[204] 2016 Growth Strategy: European Union, G20 Hangzhou 2016 (Hangzhou). Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/201609/P020160926606636309477.pdf.
[205] Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). European Commission, Trade. Oct 30, 2016. Access: Nov 4, 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/

On 1 December 2016, the European Commission launched the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition to reduce the digital skills gap and "help meet the high demand for digital skills in Europe."[206] The Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition is one of the ten key initiatives proposed by the Commission under the New Skills Agenda for Europe, presented in June 2016.[207]

On 5 December 2016, the European Commission organized its first European Vocational Skills Week to "inspire people to discover, use and improve their talents and abilities through vocational training."[208]

On 8 December 2016, the European Central Bank announced it would cut asset buys from April 2017. Monthly purchases will decrease from EUR80 billion to EUR60 billion until the end of 2017.[209]

On 23 January 2017, the European Commission held a conference in Brussels to further establish a European Pillar of Social Rights.[210]

On 7 February 2017, the European Parliament, the Member States, and the European Commission reached an agreement as part of the Digital Single Market strategy, that would allow Europeans to use their online subscriptions to films, sports events, e-books, video games or music services when travelling within the EU.[211]

On 21 February 2017, the European Commission reached an agreement on new rules to help prevent tax avoidance via non-EU countries, which will prohibit multinational companies from escaping corporate tax by exploiting differences between the tax systems of Member States and those of non-EU countries.[212]

On 26 April 2017, the European Commission presented the final version of the European Pillar of Social Rights.[213]

On 27 April 2017, the European Central Bank kept its stimulus program and interest rates unchanged.[214]

On 2 June 2017, the European Union rejected President Trump's offer to renegotiate the Paris Climate Agreement and pledged to work directly with US business leaders and state governors to implement the agreement's commitments.[215]

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[206] Commission launches Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition to help Europeans in their career and daily life, European Commission (Brussels) 1 December 2016. Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4081_en.htm.

[207] Commission launches Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition to help Europeans in their career and daily life, European Commission (Brussels) 1 December 2016. Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4081_en.htm.

[208] Commission organises first European Vocational Skills Week, European Commission (Brussels) 5 December 2016. Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4097_en.htm.

[209] ECB unexpectedly cuts, extends bond-buying program: 'We're going to see a taper tantrum', BNN (Frankfurt) 8 December 2016. Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://www.bnn.ca/ecb-unexpectedly-cuts-extends-bond-buying-program-we-re-going-to-see-a-taper-tantrum-1.626657.

[210] Commission prepares next steps towards European Pillar of Social Rights, European Commission (Brussels) 23 January 2017. Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-114_en.htm.

[211] Digital Single Market: EU negotiators agree on new rules allowing Europeans to travel and enjoy online content services across borders, European Commission (Brussels) 7 February 2017. Access Date: 5 June 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-225_en.htm.

[212] Fair Taxation: Commission welcomes new rules to prevent tax avoidance through non-EU countries, European Commission (Brussels) 21 February 2017. Access Date: 5 June 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-305_en.htm.

[213] Europe Sticks With Socialism, Bloomberg. 26 April 2017. Access Date: 5 June 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/view/articles/2017-04-26/europe-sticks-with-socialism.

[214] Eurozone economy strengthens while interest rate stays put, The Star (Frankfurt) 27 April 2017. Access Date: 5 June 2017. https://www.thestar.com/business/economy/2017/04/27/eurozone-economy-strengthens-while-interest-rate-stays-put.html.

The European Union has made some progress towards implementing fiscal policies, such as funding innovation coalitions. The EU has made some progress in implementing structural policies such as signing CETA and towards implementing monetary policies. Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Doris Li & Kelly Yang

[215] EU to bypass Trump administration after Paris climate agreement pullout, The Guardian (Brussels) 2 June 2017. Access Date: 5 June 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/jun/02/european-leaders-vow-to-keep-fighting-global-warming-despite-us-withdrawal.

2. Innovation

"To achieve innovation-driven growth and the creation of innovative ecosystems, we support dialogue and cooperation on innovation, which covers a wide range of domains with science and technology innovation at its core."

G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
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			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.90		

Background

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, Chinese President Xi emphasized the importance of innovation for economic growth and chose to focus on an "innovative, invigorated, interconnected and inclusive world economy."[216] At the summit, innovation emerged as one of the priorities of the G20 for the first time.[217] With 90 per cent of global gross domestic product, more than 80 per cent of global research and development (R&D) and 70 per cent of the global patent applications, the G20 is in a unique position to encourage innovation-driven growth.[218]

Technological breakthroughs and the New Industrial Revolution, provide new opportunities for the G20 to lead and advance international economic cooperation in cooperation with the international community.

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[216] Message from President Xi Jinping on 2016 G20 Summit in China, G20 (Beijing) 1 December 2015. Access date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/China2016/G202016/201512/P020151210392071823168.pdf
[217] G20 Innovation Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-innovation.html
[218] G20 Innovation Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-innovation.html

Innovation is a fundamental means to an inclusive world economy and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including the eradication of hunger and extreme poverty.[219]

Following the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, the G20 released the G20 Innovation Plan. The Innovation Plan outlines ways in which the G20 will encourage innovation to promote sustainable economic growth. It further advances innovation and assists members in creating innovative ecosystems.[220] The G20's Blueprint on Innovative Growth defines innovation-driven growth as a concept that "encompasses actions in support of innovation, the New Industrial Revolution and the digital economy."[221] The New Industrial Revolution is characterized by the "intelligent interconnectedness of people, machine and resources driven by the convergence of Next Generation Information Technology and advanced manufacturing."[222] It provides new possibilities for economic growth by harnessing modern technologies and has the potential to create more efficient and environmentally friendly business processes.[223] The digital economy refers to "a broad range of economic activities that include using digitized information and knowledge as the key factor of production, modern information networks as an important activity space, and the effective use of information and communication technology (ICT) as an important driver of productivity growth and economic structural optimization."[224] The Blueprint on Innovative Growth also encourages the creation of innovative ecosystems that "catalyze creativity and support the combination of creative ideas with entrepreneurship, science and technology for innovative growth and job creation."[225]

Commitment Features

The G20 committed "To achieve innovation-driven growth and the creation of innovative ecosystems, we support dialogue and cooperation on innovation, which covers a wide range of domains with science and technology innovation at its core." There are two parts to this commitment, both paying particular attention to science and technology; 1) commitment to support dialogue on innovation and 2) commitment to support cooperation on innovation. Support is defined as- the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.

The G20's Innovation Action Plan defines innovation as "the embodiment of an idea in a technology, product, or process that is new and creates value. An innovation is the implementation of a new or significantly improved product (good or service), or process which derives from creative ideas, technological progress, a new marketing method or a new organizational method in business practices, workplace organization or external relations. Innovation covers a wide range of domains with science and technology innovation as the core."[226]

Part One: Support dialogue on innovation

The G20 committed to support dialogue on innovation to achieve innovation-driven growth and the creation of innovative ecosystems. Dialogue can be, but is not limited to, meetings, conferences,

[219] G20 Innovation Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-innovation.html
[220] G20 Innovation Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-innovation.html
[221] G20 Blueprint on Innovative Growth, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-innovation.html
[222] G20 New Industrial Revolution Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-industrial.html
[223] G20 New Industrial Revolution Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-industrial.html
[224] G20 Digital Economy Development and Cooperation Initiative, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160908736971932404.pdf
[225] G20 Blueprint on Innovative Growth, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-innovation.html
[226] G20 Innovation Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-innovation.html

symposiums, panels, consultations, and other exchanges of discourse on innovation In the G20's Innovation Action Plan members specifically commit to stimulate dialogue among governments, businesses and other stakeholders, including Think 20 (T20), universities, research institutes and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on topics related to innovation[227] G20 members must therefore, must support dialogue internally, within the G20, on platforms such as the T20, Business 20 (B20) or with other members, as well as support dialogue externally, such as with members of the private sector, or NGOs. Members must also specifically support dialogue related to science and technology innovation.

Part Two: Support cooperation on innovation

The G20 committed to support cooperation on innovation to achieve innovation-driven growth and the creation of innovative ecosystems. Cooperation in defined by the G20's Innovation Action Plan as policy coordination, sharing best practices and experience, and promoting collaboration to address common challenges.[228] Cooperation includes partnerships between G20 members and other states. The G20 also recognizes the specific importance of cooperation with the business sector in areas such as entrepreneurship, and between large companies and small and medium enterprises (SMEs).[229] The G20's Innovation Action Plan specifically commits to supporting innovation cooperation regarding science and research activities. This includes open science which is voluntary knowledge diffusion and technology transfer as well as appropriate access to publicly-funded research results on Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Re-usable (FAIR) principles. Therefore, cooperation must specifically include business as well as science, research and technology.

To achieve full compliance, G20 members must comply with all aspects of both parts of the commitment. The G20 member must support innovation dialogue that specifically addresses science and technology innovation within the G20 and externally, as well as support innovation cooperation that addresses research, science and technology, specifically with business. Partial compliance is achieved if the G20 member complies with all aspects of one part but not the other. No compliance is achieved when the G20 member complies with some aspects of both parts or no aspects of both parts.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	The G20 member does not support dialogue AND cooperation on innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.
0	The G20 member support dialogue OR cooperation on innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.
+1	The G20 member supports dialogue AND cooperation on innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

Lead Analyst: Mridvika Sahajpal

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 12 September 2016, Minister of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation Lino Barañao signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Italian company Leonardo — Finmeccanica

[227] G20 Innovation Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-innovation.html
[228] G20 Innovation Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-innovation.html
[229] G20 Innovation Action Plan, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-innovation.html.

regarding cooperation on defense and safety technology.[230] The MoU promotes government-commercial cooperation in aerospace safety and defense activities through high technology solutions and abilities, with special emphasis on airships, helicopters, and safety and defense solutions for the control of frontiers and territory. The MoU is "intended to regulate the terms and conditions for the development of business opportunities and cooperation in common interest areas and/or joint companies in defense and safety activities, especially in high technology abilities and solutions in order to develop joint research and development programs."[231]

On 13 September 2016, President Mauricio Macri delivered the keynote address at the inaugural Argentina Business and Investment Forum.[232] Launched by President Mauricio Macri and hosted by the Argentine Investment and Trade Promotion Agency, the forum brought together 1,900 global and local business leaders and 400 government representatives for the first time in Buenos Aires and promoted sectors such as agribusiness, conventional and renewable energies, mining, tourism and value-added services, biotechnology, and other top industrial services and investors.[233]

On 14 September 2016, the Foreign Ministry issued a joint communiqué with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom reaffirming the agreement regarding scientific dialogue at the ministerial level following a series of Argentine-UK bilateral meetings which took place on 12 and 13 September 2016.[234] At the meetings, Argentine Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos Foradori and UK Minister of State for Europe and the Americas Alan Duncan welcomed the increase in bilateral links, including areas for scientific exchange such as agri-technology, advanced materials and nanotechnology, information and communications technology, life sciences, and the development of opportunities for students via the Beca en Ciencia y Tecnología -Argentina (BEC.AR) scholarship program in collaboration with British universities, the Argentine National Scientific and Technical Research Council, and the Royal Society. Additionally, areas of possible cooperation were evaluated on the subject of Antarctica including exchanges, joint work and agreements between scientific programs of the Argentine Antarctic Institute and the British Antarctic Survey.[235]

On 15 September 2016, the Argentina Business and Investment Forum held Innovation Day, a day dedicated to showcasing government policies supporting innovation and entrepreneurship.[236]

From 13-14 October 2016, the Ministry of Science and Technology, Universidad Nacional del Litoral, and the Ministry of Science of the Province of Santa Fe held the First International Conference on Technological Marketing at Research and Development (R & D) Institutions in collaboration with the

[230] Agreement for cooperation on defense and safety technology entered into with an Italian firm, Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation 12 September 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016 http://en.mincyt.gob.ar/news/agreement-for-cooperation-on-defense-and-safety-technology-entered-into-with-an-italian-firm-9629

[231] Agreement for cooperation on defense and safety technology entered into with an Italian firm, Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation 12 September 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016 http://en.mincyt.gob.ar/news/agreement-for-cooperation-on-defense-and-safety-technology-entered-into-with-an-italian-firm-9629.

[232] Macri bets on CEOs to revive economy, Buenos Aires Herald 13 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.buenosairesherald.com/article/221505/macri-bets-on-ceos-to-revive-economy.

[233] President Mauricio Macri to open the Argentina Business and Investment Forum, Argentina Business and Investment Forum 12 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.argentinaforum2016.com/en/node/545.

[234] UK and Argentina Joint Communiqué, Foreign and Commonwealth Office 14 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/communique-between-argentina-and-the-united-kingdom/uk-and-argentina-joint-communique.

[235] UK and Argentina Joint Communiqué, Foreign and Commonwealth Office 14 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/communique-between-argentina-and-the-united-kingdom/uk-and-argentina-joint-communique.

[236] Innovation Day, Argentina Business and Investment Forum, No Date. Access Date: 11 December 2016. https://argentinaforum2016.com/en/innovation_day

National Council of Scientific and Technical Research and the Secretariat of University Policies of the Ministry of Education and Sports.[237] The conference focused on policies, tools, and best practices for technological marketing, and included the validation of a best practices manual developed from a regional perspective and supported by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).[238]

On 19 October 2016, the National Scientific and Technical Research Council announced its intention to host the 2016 America Regional Meeting of the Global Research Council (GRC), comprised of the main scientific institutions in the continent, on 25-26 October 2016.[239] According the to the announcement, at the meeting, the Global Research Council will announce a joint regional vision for developing capabilities and connections between financial institutions around the world and the dynamic interaction between basic research and innovation. The GRC will present conclusions drawn from the America Regional Meeting at the 2017 Annual GRC meeting in Ottawa, Canada.[240]

On 2 November 2016, President of the National Communications Agency of Argentina (ENACOM) Miguel De Godoy met with United States Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy Ambassador Daniel A. Sepulveda in a joint Working Group meeting to discuss concrete steps needed to advance cooperation under the Global Connect Initiative (GCI). The Working Group also included United States Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Thomas Wheeler, Argentine Secretary of State for Investment Promotion Clarisa Estol, and non-governmental stakeholders from the communications sector. The meeting addressed the specific steps that parties could take to "increase deployment of Argentina's Internet and broadband infrastructure as part of the GCI goal of bringing 1.5 billion people worldwide online by 2020."[241] Following the meeting, on 2 November 2016, the US-Argentina Digital Economy Working Group released a joint statement announcing the implementation of the Global Connect Initiative Work Plan.[242]

On 4 April 2017, the head of the Argentine Ministry of Science and Technology, Lino Barañao and the Executive Director of Rothamsted Research Limited Ralf Achim Dobermann, signed a Memorandum of Understanding in order to identify opportunities for cooperation and to foster common activities in research and investigation projects.[243] This cooperation agreement will also serve to "encourage the organization of scientific and technological symposiums, workshops and meetings which may favor the interchange among public bodies, universities, companies and laboratories from both countries."[244]

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[237] Technological marketing conferences, Ministry of Science, Technology, and Productive Innovation 18 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://en.mincyt.gob.ar/news/technological-marketing-conferences-9636.
[238] Technological marketing conferences, Ministry of Science, Technology, and Productive Innovation 18 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://en.mincyt.gob.ar/news/technological-marketing-conferences-9636.
[239] CONICET is going to hold the 2016 America Regional Meeting of the Global Research Council, CONICET National Scientific and Technical Research Council 19 October 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.conicet.gov.ar/conicet-is-going-to-hold-the-2016-america-regional-meeting-of-the-global-research-council/?lan=en.
[240] CONICET is going to hold the 2016 America Regional Meeting of the Global Research Council, CONICET National Scientific and Technical Research Council 19 October 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.conicet.gov.ar/conicet-is-going-to-hold-the-2016-america-regional-meeting-of-the-global-research-council/?lan=en.
[241] Joint Statement of the US-Argentina Digital Economy Working Group Announcing Implementation of the Global Connect Initiative Work Plan, US Department of State 2 November 2016. Access Date: 9 November 2016. http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/11/264034.htm.
[242] Joint Statement of the US-Argentina Digital Economy Working Group Announcing Implementation of the Global Connect Initiative Work Plan, US Department of State 2 November 2016. Access Date: 9 November 2016. https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/11/264034.htm.
[243] The Ministry of Science signed a Cooperation Agreement with Rothamsted Research, Ministry of Science and Technology 26 April 2017. Access Date: 17 May 2017. http://en.mincyt.gob.ar/news/the-ministry-of-science-signed-a-cooperation-agreement-with-rothamsted-research-9639.
[244] The Ministry of Science signed a Cooperation Agreement with Rothamsted Research, Ministry of Science and Technology 26 April 2017. Access Date: 17 May 2017. http://en.mincyt.gob.ar/news/the-ministry-of-science-signed-a-cooperation-agreement-with-rothamsted-research-9639.

Argentina has promoted dialogue on innovation growth by leading meetings, forums, and conferences on science and technology innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kamara Jeffrey

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at it core.

In 2016, the Australian Prime Minister launched Australian Cyber Security Strategy[245] The Strategy includes a goal to "improve interaction between the private and public sectors" as well as with the academic community.[246] It also seeks to partner with business and education providers to address the causes of low participation by women in cyber security careers.[247]

On 20 September 2016, the Government of Australia launched the Incubator Support Initiative, which will work to "increase innovation capacity in Australia's urban areas." The initiative will invest AUD23 million into the creation of start-up companies and give them access to capital, advice, and connections. The Incubator Support Initiative emphasises the importance of increasing knowledge exchange and collaboration between groups of entrepreneurs, university precincts, and urban and rural regions. Applicants will be able to apply for grants between AUD10,000 and AUD500,000.[248]

On 28 September 2016, the Australian government published a Review of the Research and Development Tax Incentive with an opportunity for further submissions and public consultations until 28 October 2016. The Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science Greg Hunt and Assistant Minister Laundy conducted an online survey, feedback sessions and roundtable discussions in all state and territory capital cities to facilitate dialogue during this period.[249]

On 13 October 2016, the Australian government passed the Innovation and Science Australia Bill. The bill highlighted the importance of research and development, and created the Innovation and Science Australia, an organization that will help the government complete its National Innovation and Science Agenda. The organization will help to guide the government's AUD10.1 billion investment in innovation, science and research and work to collaborate with national, international, and business sectors in order to "improve the overall performance of the national innovation and science system."[250]

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[245] Australia's Cyber Security Strategy: Enabling innovation, growth and prosperity, 2016, Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. https://cybersecuritystrategy.dpmc.gov.au
[246] A National Cyber Partnership, 2016, Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. https://cybersecuritystrategy.dpmc.gov.au/a-national-cyber-partnership/index.html
[247] Australia's Cyber Security Strategy: Enabling innovation, growth and prosperity, 2016, Australia Government. Date of Access 31 March 2017. https://cybersecuritystrategy.dpmc.gov.au/assets/img/PMC-Cyber-Strategy.pdf
[248] Building better incubators to support new Australian start-ups (Canberra) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/hunt/media-releases/building-better-incubators-support-new-australian-start-ups
[249] Review of the R&D Tax Incentive (Canberra) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 23 January 2017. https://www.business.gov.au/assistance/research-and-development-tax-incentive/review-of-the-randd-tax-incentive
[250] Innovation and Science Australia Bill passes parliament (Canberra) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/hunt/media-releases/innovation-and-science-australia-bill-passes-parliament

In November 2016 the Australian government executed the second and third phase of the Review of the Research and Development Tax Incentive consultation, as part of a larger National Innovation and Science Agenda.[251]

On 24-27 October 2016, the Secretary of the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science Glenys Beauchamp led an Australian science and innovation delegation to Europe. The delegation held officials-level meetings with the governments of Germany, Switzerland, France, and the EU. The meetings provided a platform to reinforce principles of cooperation, discuss broad policies, and identify opportunities to integrate and improve science and innovation collaboration.[252]

On 4 November 2016, the Australian Ministry of Industry, Innovation and Science announced an investment of AUD3.2 million under the National Innovation and Science Global Innovation Strategy to increase collaboration between Australian researchers and other researchers within the Asia-Pacific region. The Regional Collaborations Programme is administered by the Australian Academy of Science, and will support collaborative research and solutions to "regional challenges like food and energy security, aging populations, biosecurity, disaster resilience, and environmental threats." Universities, research organizations, and businesses will be encouraged to apply for funding. The initiative is a part of the National Innovation and Science Agenda.[253]

On 6 December 2016, the Ministry for Industry, Innovation and Science "announced $3.9 million in funding for projects that will encourage women's participation in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) education and careers."[254]

On 2 February 2017, the Australian Government's Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, opened the Cyber Security Challenge Australia. Students and women are encouraged to apply.[255]

On 20 March 2017, Innovation and Science Australia released a document outlining a Strategic Plan for the year 2030. The program outlines a long term strategy to boost innovation in Australia. One facet of the plan is to boost collaboration between academics and industry.[256] A second goal is to support global engagement and international communication, focusing on building on Australia's strengths and filling gaps in the country's research capabilities.[257]

On 10 April 2017, the Minister for Industry Innovation and Science Arthur Sinodinos announced AUD8.69 million in funding for the Global Innovation Linkages programme. The funding is part of the National Innovation and Science Agenda. The aim is to promote global collaboration in Australian businesses and research groups and to "build Australia's research capacity, [forge] strategic alliances and

[251] Review of the R&D Tax Incentive (Canberra) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 23 January 2017. https://www.business.gov.au/assistance/research-and-development-tax-incentive/review-of-the-randd-tax-incentive
[252] Australian Government science and innovation delegation to Europe: outcomes from meetings (Canberra) 16 December 2016. Access Date:23 January 2017. http://science.gov.au/international/International-science-news-and-events/Pages/Australian-Government-science-and-innovation-delegation-to-Europe-outcomes-from-meetings.aspx
[253] $3.2 million to support Asia-Pacific industry and research collaboration (Canberra) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/hunt/media-releases/32-million-support-asia-pacific-industry-and-research-collaboration
[254] New grants announced for Women in STEM and Entrepreneurship (WISE) projects, 6 December 2016, Australian Government. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. http://www.science.gov.au/scienceGov/news/Pages/New-grants-announced-for-Women-in-STEM-and-Entrepreneurship-WISE-projects.aspx
[255] Registrations open for the Cyber Security Challenge Australia, 2 February 2017, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. https://www.dpmc.gov.au/news-centre/cyber-security/cyber-security-challenge-australia-2017
[256] 2030 Strategic Plan: Issues Paper, Innovation and Science Australia (Canberra) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. (Page 9) https://www.industry.gov.au/Innovation-and-Science-Australia/Documents/2030-Strategic-Plan-Issues-Paper.pdf.
[257] 2030 Strategic Plan: Issues Paper, Innovation and Science Australia (Canberra) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. https://www.industry.gov.au/Innovation-and-Science-Australia/Documents/2030-Strategic-Plan-Issues-Paper.pdf.

[increase] commercialization and application of research outcomes."[258] Grant recipients are in the field of manufacturing, agriculture, medical technology, and energy sectors.

On 5 May 2017, the Australian Research Council announced AUD3.7 million in additional funding to the Linkage Projects scheme. The grants announced will boost collaboration between industry and university researchers.[259]

Australia has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kaira Jakobsh

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation on innovation, with science and technology at its core.

On 20-23 September 2016, Brazil hosted a conference with the European Union during Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Week. The Director of the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications (MCTIC) José Gontijo, stated that the seminar aimed to build ties between industries, universities, and companies in the EU and Brazil. Panels discussed topics such as the Internet of Things, cyber security, 5G technology, Over The Top services, and development strategies in each of these sectors.[260]

On 8 October 2016, the fourth meeting of the ministers responsible for science, technology and innovation from Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) held in Jaipur to reinforce cooperation and collaboration amongst the BRICS countries.[261]

On 15-16 October 2016, Brazil attended the eighth BRICS summit with a theme of Building Responsive Inclusive, and Collective Solutions to enhance people to people contacts of BRICS member countries. Innovation was one of the focuses of the summit.[262]

On 4 November 2016, the United Kingdom announced a Collaborative Research and Development Programme, co-funded by the Brazilian government and Innovative UK, and administered by the Newton Fund. The competition will provide funding for collaborative technological solutions for issues in Brazil's urban areas. The Brazilian Development Bank, the Ministry of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services, and the Brazilian Agency for Industrial Research and Innovation (Embrapii) will all be involved

[258] $8.69 million to help Australian businesses boost global collaboration (Canberra) 10 April 2017. Access Date: 14 May 2017. http://minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/sinodinos/media-releases/869-million-help-australian-businesses-boost-global-collaboration.

[259] New ARC Linkage Projects to boost collaboration on research. (Canberra) 5 May 2017. Access Date: 14 May 2017. http://www.arc.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/new-arc-linkage-projects-boost-collaboration-research

[260] In partnership with the European Union, MCTIC seminar on Internet of Things and 5G technology (Brasília) 9 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.mcti.gov.br/noticia/-/asset_publisher/epbV0pr6eIS0/content/em-parceria-com-uniao-europeia-mctic-promove-seminario-sobre-internet-das-coisas-e-tecnologia-5g

[261] 4th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting at Jaipur, Department of Science and Technology (New Delhi) 10 October 2016. Access Date:12 January 2017. http://www.dst.gov.in/pressrelease/4th-brics-science-technology-and-innovation-ministerial-meeting-jaipur

[262] 8th BRICS Summit, India 2016. Building Responsive, Inclusive, and Collective Solutions, BRICS India 2016 (New Delhi) (2016) Access Date:10 November 2016. http://brics2016.gov.in/content/innerpage/8th-summit.php

in facilitating the competition. The competition will sponsor solutions focusing on integration and governance of city systems, infrastructure, smart mobility, and sustainable urban environments.[263]

On 10 November 2016, MCTIC held a seminar to evaluate the Technical Cooperation Project (Prodoc), and announced a new cooperative agreement. Prodoc is a collaborative project between MCTIC and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which began in 2010. The assessment found that since 2010, BRL29 million has been invested in Prodoc, directly resulting in the funding of 850 studies. The director of Prodoc Flavio Bittencourt said that a new agreement between MCTIC and UNESCO is being prepared, and will take into account the successes and failures of the current agreement. The seminar noted that the current and upcoming agreements are important in expanding knowledge bases and developing national and international policy.[264]

On 17 November 2016, Iran and Brazil agreed on a joint agenda for technological research and development. The aim of the agreement is to facilitate cooperative research and communication in biotech, drugs, agriculture, nanotech, and cognitive science research.[265] This agenda demonstrates the goal of the Brazilian government to support international collaboration and dialogue on technological development.

On 21 November 2016, Brazil and France signed a cooperation agreement which aims to drive collaboration in research and development between the two countries, as well as between start-ups and larger industries. The agreement includes a BRL50 million investment into initiatives that help bring start-ups to an international level.[266] One of its goals is to drive joint actions in research, development, and innovation.

On 24 January 2017, the Brazilian Government announced a cooperation agreement with the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) aimed at boosting scientific research within the country. The IADB works to achieve sustainable development, with one of their key targets is productivity and innovation.[267] The IADB will invest USD1.5 billion into projects relating to health, infrastructure, and safety, as well as research in the chemical, mining, and biofuel industries.[268]

On 30 March 2017, the Brazilian government announced a 44 per cent cut to the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovations and Communications (MCTIC) budget. This leaves MCTIC with its lowest budget in 12 years, at BRE2.8 billion.[269] The federal budget includes cuts to other sectors as well, as a

[263] Competition brief: urban innovation in Brazil (London) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-urban-innovation-in-brazil/competition-brief-urban-innovation-in-brazil

[264] Cooperation between MCTIC and Unesco has produced more than 850 studies in science and telecommunications (Brasília) 11 November 2016. Access Date:13 November 2016. http://www.mcti.gov.br/noticia/-/asset_publisher/epbV0pr6eIS0/content/cooperacao-entre-mctic-e-unesco-ja-produziu-mais-de-850-estudos-em-ciencia-e-telecomunicacoes

[265] Brazil and Iran deepen cooperation in science and technology (Brasília) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/11/brazil-and-iran-deepen-cooperation-in-science-and-technology

[266] Brazil signs cooperation agreement with France to internationalise start-ups (Brasília) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/11/brazil-signs-cooperation-agreement-with-french-government-to-internationalise-start-ups

[267] About Us, Inter-American Development Bank (Washington). Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://www.iadb.org/en/about-us/about-the-inter-american-development-bank,5995.html

[268] Cooperation agreement will inject US$ 1.5 billion in scientific research in Brazil (Brasília) 24 January 2017. Access Date: May 20 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/01/cooperation-agreement-will-inject-us-1-5-billion-in-scientific-research-in-brazil

[269] Brazilian scientists reeling as federal funds slashed by nearly half, Nature International Journal of Science (London) 12 May 2016. Access Date: May 24. http://www.nature.com/news/brazilian-scientists-reeling-as-federal-funds-slashed-by-nearly-half-1.21766

response to the "worst recession in its history.[270] Brazil has recently implemented major budget cuts which limit opportunities in research and development. However, the government has promoted dialogue on innovation through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kaira Jakobsh

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 21 September 2016, German Parliamentary Secretary to the Federal Minister of Economy and Energy Iris Gleicke and Canadian Minister of Science Kristin Duncan signed a declaration to strengthen innovative collaboration. This collaboration aims to increase scientific and industrial research and development projects between Canada and Germany. Moreover, this collaboration enables both countries to build on existing partnerships to expedite the development of new innovations that have a high potential for commercialization.[271]

On 23 September 2016, Minister Duncan gave the opening remarks at "From Basic to Applied Research," a conference organized by ERA-Can+.[272] ERA-Can+ stands for Advancing EU-Canada Research and Innovation Collaboration and is a 3-year project, funded by the EU Seventh Framework Programme, to promote bilateral Science, Technology and Innovation cooperation between Canada and Europe.[273]

On 30 September 2016, Member of Parliament for London North Centre Peter Fragiskatos announced CAD45 million of federal funding to support Western University's Interdisciplinary Research Building and The Three C+ (Connect, Collaborate, and Create) Innovation Centre. The new building will be the location of the Research Cluster for Cognitive Neuroscience, including the Brain & Mind Institute, the Rotman Institute of Philosophy, and mixed-use spaces. The Three C+ Innovation Centre will provide practical working spaces for students in Engineering. The federal funding comes from the Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund, a CAD2 billion federal investment fund seeking to create "state-of-the-art facilities" in Canadian universities to spark innovation.[274]

On 12 October 2016, the Canadian government published the Declaration between the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development of Canada and the Ministry of the Economy and Finance of the French Republic on cooperation in innovation for 2016-2018. The purpose of the declaration is to

[270] Brazilian scientists reeling as federal funds slashed by nearly half, Nature International Journal of Science (London) 12 May 2016. Access Date: May 24. http://www.nature.com/news/brazilian-scientists-reeling-as-federal-funds-slashed-by-nearly-half-1.21766

[271] Germany Signs Innovation and Collaboration Declaration with Canada, Government of Canada, (Ottawa) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1127289

[272] AGENDA EU-Canada cooperation in science, technology and innovation, ERA-CAN+ (Munich) 23 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.era-can.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/ERA-Can-Info-Session_Munich_Agenda_draft.pdf

[273] The Canada-EU Science, Technology and Innovation Landscape, the Canadian Trade Commissioner (Rome) September 15 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.era-can.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/9_Canada-EU-STI-Lanscape-ERA-Can-15-Sep-2016-final.pdf

[274] Fed investment backs new facilities, collaboration, Western News (London) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://news.westernu.ca/2016/09/feds-back-new-facilities-45-million-investment/

support bilateral cooperation by enhancing partnerships between government bodies, knowledge-based institutions, and businesses in the areas of technology, innovation and commercialization.[275]

On 13 October 2016, the federal government published the "Canada-France Enhanced Cooperation Agenda." It reaffirmed that Canada and France will continue to cooperate in innovation, promoting areas of mutual priority through the France-Canada Research Fund.[276]

On 13 October 2016, the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Navdeep Bains, announced USD9 million of federal funding for Confederation College's new Technology Education and Collaboration Hub (TEC Hub). The TEC Hub will have new workshop and lab space for the College's technology programs.[277]

On 20 October 2016, the meeting of the Canada-Japan Joint Economic Committee, "cooperative working group led by Global Affairs Canada and Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs" convened in Ottawa.[278] The working group aims to promote progress within the areas of "infrastructure, energy, science and technology cooperation, improving the business environment and promoting investment, and tourism and youth exchanges."[279] Their commitments included "enhanced partnerships on clean technologies," increased government investment in clean energy innovation, explore bilateral collaboration on research and development, and to "build on the outcomes from the Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation," among others.[280]

On 21 November 2016, Minister Kirsty Duncan announced USD18.4 million of federal funding for the construction of a new aerospace campus at Centennial College. The USD72 million project will also be financed by the Ontario government, Centennial College, and the College's donors. The Downsview Aerospace Innovation and Research consortium of educational institutions and companies holds that the new campus is a first step for the creation of a hub for aerospace activity in the area, which will create 14,400 jobs and USD2.3 billion in economic activity over 20 years. This new campus is also part of the Strategic Investment Fund Federal Policy.[281]

[275] Declaration between the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development of Canada and the Ministry of the Economy and Finance of the French Republic on cooperation in innovation for 2016-2018 (Ottawa) 12 October 2016. Access Date: 23 January 2017. http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/france/bilateral_relations_bilaterales/cooperation_in_innovation-cooperation_en_innovation.aspx?lang=eng
[276] Canada-France Enhanced Cooperation Agenda, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (Ottawa) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/10/13/canada-france-enhanced-cooperation-agenda
[277] Canada and Ontario invest in post-secondary infrastructure in Thunder Bay and region, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Thunder Bay) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1137259
[278] Canada-Japan Joint Economic Committee Meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.international.gc.ca/asia_pacific-asie_pacifique/japan_canada_japon.aspx?lang=eng. Japan-Canada Joint Economic Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs ofJapan (Tokyo) 17 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001310.html.
[279] Canada-Japan Joint Economic Committee Meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2016. http://www.international.gc.ca/asia_pacific-asie_pacifique/japan_canada_japon.aspx?lang=eng.
[280] Canada-Japan Joint Economic Committee Meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2016. http://www.international.gc.ca/asia_pacific-asie_pacifique/japan_canada_japon.aspx?lang=eng.
[281] Centennial College to create aerospace campus at Downsview Park 21, Toronto Star (Toronto) November 2016. https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2016/11/21/centennial-college-to-create-aerospace-campus-at-downsview-park.html

On 12 January 2017, India and Canada launched the 2017 Request for Proposal for a program that aims to promote collaboration on research and development in areas of technology and innovation.[282]

On 20 January 2017, Minister of Science Kirsty Duncan, officially launched the cross-Canada Innovation150 tour. A suite of programming including over 600 events in more than 60 communities will travel the country celebrating Canadian ingenuity and inspiring youth to harness their own creativity, innovative thinking, and collaborative spirit in building a brighter future for all. The tour is in part sponsored by the government, international organizations and is organized by five partner organizations.[283]

On 6-10 February 2017, request for proposals were accepted to the Smart Cities program initiated by Government of India in collaboration with High Commission of Canada located in New Delhi. This initiative aims to develop new cities and redevelop existing cities through the use of smart technology and innovative solutions, that partnering Canadian technology companies can offer.[284]

On 2 March 2017, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Navdeep Bains announced that McGill and its related hospitals would receive CAD70.7 million of federal funding as part of the Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund. The main project is the reconstruction of the Stewart Biology Building with new laboratories to host biodiversity and ecology research.[285]

Canada has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alejandra Bellatin

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 23 September 2016, the United Kingdom Science & Technology Facilities Council (STFC) visited China to develop a research and innovation relationship, including an extension on an existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the establishment of the 11th annual UK-China Space Workshop, and a new agreement between the STFC and the Open University and the Centre for Excellence in Advanced Materials in Dongguan.[286]

[282] India-Canada Collaborative Industrial Research & Development Programme 2017, Global Innovation & Technology Alliance (New Delhi) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://gita.org.in/OnlineRfp/ProgramInfo.aspx?ProgramId=21

[283] About, Innovation150 (2017) Access Date: 20 January 2017. https://innovation150.ca/about

[284] Smart Cities Mission to India – Request for Expression of Interest, The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service (New Delhi) 25 November 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://tradecommissioner.gc.ca/funding-financement/ciip-pcii/rei-dmi.aspx?lang=eng

[285] McGill to get $75M for infrastructure upgrade, McGill Reporter (Montreal) 2 March 2017. Access Date: 11 March 2017. http://publications.mcgill.ca/reporter/2017/03/mcgill-to-get-75m-for-infrastructure-upgrade/

[286] STFC strengthens UK-China research and innovation relationships, Science & Technology Facilities Council (London) 23 September 2016. Access Date:11 November 2016. http://www.stfc.ac.uk/news/stfc-strengthens-uk-china-research-and-innovation-relationships/.

On 8 October 2016, the fourth Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting was held in Jaipur to reinforce cooperation and collaboration amongst the BRICS countries in areas of science, technology and innovation.[287]

On 14 October 2016, more than 300 scholars, experts, businesses, and political leaders from over 50 countries gathered in Chongqing for the 2016 Communist Party of China (CPC) in Dialogue with the World Conference under the theme of "Innovation in Global Economic Governance."[288] Sponsored by the International Department of the CPC Central Committee, the annual dialogue connects the CPC, China's leadership, and other countries. The conference aimed to address issues regarding global economic governance and cooperation by "translating public wisdom into the theory and guidelines for national development."[289] At the conference, many participating country representatives also urged for increased action on global sustainable development.

On 15-16 October 2016, President Xi Jingping attended the eighth Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) summit in Goa, India, themed "Building Responsive, Inclusive and Collective Solutions."[290] In his speech, President Xi mapped out a shared development vision to "combine the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and outcomes from the G20 Hangzhou Summit and enhance ... cooperation to push for the robust, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth of the global economy."[291]

On 24 October 2016, the State Council released new agricultural modernization initiatives for the next five years as part of the 13th Five-Year Plan. It highlights the need for innovative technological reform in agriculture and rural Chinese areas.[292] The plans included specific targets to promote innovation, coordination, green development, transparency, and farmers' welfare,[293] such as "70 percent of mechanization rate in farming, and 40 percent of land under moderately large-scale operation by 2020."[294] According to the plan, by 2020 food security will be effectively guaranteed as a result of the government's agricultural modernization commitments.[295]

[287] 4th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting at Jaipur, Department of Science and Technology (New Delhi) 10 October 2016. Access Date:12 January 2017. http://www.dst.gov.in/pressrelease/4th-brics-science-technology-and-innovation-ministerial-meeting-jaipur

[288] 'The CPC in Dialogue with the World 2016' kicks off in Chongqing, China.org.cn (Chongqing) 14 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://china.org.cn/china/2016-10/14/content_39489263.htm.
CPC in Dialogue with the World 2016 opens in Chongqing, Xinhua (Chongqing) 14 October 2016. Access Date:11 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-10/14/c_135755219.htm.

[289] 'The CPC in Dialogue with the World 2016' kicks off in Chongqing, China.org.cn (Chongqing) 14 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://china.org.cn/china/2016-10/14/content_39489263.htm.
CPC in Dialogue with the World 2016 opens in Chongqing, Xinhua (Chongqing) 14 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-10/14/c_135755219.htm.

[290] Xi Jinping Attends the 8th BRICS Summit and Delivers Important Speech, Stressing to Cement Confidence and Seek Common Development and Announcing China to Host the 9th BRICS Summit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 17 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1406785.shtml.

[291] Xi Jinping Attends the 8th BRICS Summit and Delivers Important Speech, Stressing to Cement Confidence and Seek Common Development and Announcing China to Host the 9th BRICS Summit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 17 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1406785.shtml.

[292] New period of tasks for agricultural modernization, The State Council (Beijing) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/policies/policy_watch/2016/10/24/content_281475473994569.htm.

[293] China lays out plan for agricultural modernization by 2020, China Daily (Beijing) 21 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2016-10/21/content_27126232.htm

[294] New period of tasks for agricultural modernization, The State Council (Beijing) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/policies/policy_watch/2016/10/24/content_281475473994569.htm.

[295] Harvest of reform to modernize agriculture, China Daily (Beijing) 25 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2016-10/25/content_27169652.htm

On 5 November 2016, the fifth Summit of China and Central and Eastern European Countries (CEECs) provided a platform for political leaders from China and CEECs to speak about enhancing "the scope and magnitude of cooperation among the 17 countries,"[296] also known as 16+1 Cooperation. The participating countries reaffirmed the intention to build an open, inclusive, and mutually beneficial partnership around the theme of "Connectivity, Innovation, Inclusiveness, and Common Development."[297] The summit confirmed the date for the 2017 China-CEEC Conference on Innovation Cooperation. The Riga guidelines focuses primary on economic cooperation opportunities, but outlines mutual support for environmental protection authorities, knowledge sharing in sustainable practices, and the 2nd China-CEEC Conference on Innovation Cooperation.[298]

On 5 November 2016, Premier Li Keqiang presented a six-pronged proposal for innovative development and production capacity and a joint communique for enhanced practical cooperation on security, economic development, and production capacity at the 15th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) meeting.[299] As part of his six prong proposal, Premier Li proposed that SCO members should follow a common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security concept, further strengthen cooperation in security as well as improve capacity cooperation, and explore opportunities for innovation cooperation.[300]

On 8 November 2016, China hosted the first China-Central and Eastern European countries (CEEC) Conference on Innovation Cooperation as per initiatives outlined in the 5 November 2016 Riga Guidelines.[301] The conference "effectively open[s] up new channels for technological innovation cooperation and exchanges between China and CEEC."[302] More than 300 representatives from China and CEEC attended the cooperation forum in Jiangsu which was under the theme of "Open Innovation along the Belt and Road, Long-term Collaboration Featured by Connectivity."[303] They released the Nanjing Declaration on China-CEEC Innovation Cooperation and jointly inaugurated the China-CEEC Virtual Technology Transfer Center.[304]

On 16-18 November 2016, the Cyberspace Administration of China and Zhejiang Provincial People's government hosted the third annual World Internet Conference, an international forum that showcases

[296] The Riga Guidelines for Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries, The State Council (Beijing) 6 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.english.gov.cn/news/international_exchanges/2016/11/06/content_281475484363051.htm.
[297] Full Text of The Riga Guidelines for Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries, Xinhua Published 11 November 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1016143.shtml.
[298] The Riga Guidelines for Cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European Countries, The State Council (Beijing) 6 November 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.english.gov.cn/news/international_exchanges/2016/11/06/content_281475484363051.htm.
[299] Li makes six-pronged proposal, charting course for SCO's future development, Xinhua (Beijing) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.china.org.cn/world/2016-11/04/content_39633333.htm.
[300] Premier Li promotes SCO bank, free trade, The State Council (Beijing) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.english.gov.cn/premier/news/2016/11/04/content_281475482467675.htm.
[301] 1st China-CEEC conference on innovation cooperation held in Nanjing, JS China (Beijing) 9 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.english.jschina.com.cn/TodayJiangsu/201611/t3088903.shtml.
[302] Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC) Conference on Innovation Cooperation & 3rd China-CEEC Seminar on Innovation, Cooperation in Technology and International Transfer of Technology", Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information (Nanjing) 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2016. www.nptt.cvtisr.sk/sk/podujatia/1st-china-central-and-eastern-european-countries-ceec-conference-on-innovation-cooperation-3rd-china-ceec-seminar-on-innovation-cooperation-in-technology-and-international-transfer-of-technology.html?page_id=4462.
[303] 1st China-CEEC Conference on Innovation Cooperation Opens in Nanjing, Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 2016.Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.most.gov.cn/eng/pressroom/201612/t20161202_129309.htm.
[304] 1st China-CEEC Conference on Innovation Cooperation Opens in Nanjing, Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.most.gov.cn/eng/pressroom/201612/t20161202_129309.htm.

new technologies and state-of-the-art devices.[305] The conference, under the theme "Innovation-driven Internet Development for the Benefit of All — Building a Community of Common Future in Cyberspace," had more than 1200 worldwide guest in attendance.[306]

On 14-16 December 2016, the State Council and the Central Committee of the Communist Party hosted the annual Central Economic Work Conference which set out the national agenda for the economy of China and its financial and banking sectors.[307] Six main points for the country's economic direction were concluded, such as "adopting the concept of innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development."[308]

On 18 January, the State Council issued a circular that encouraged measures to boost foreign investment, especially in the "implementation of China's innovation-driven development strategy."[309]

On 5 March 2017, the Chinese government furthered its commitment to "strengthen its capability for making technological innovations," by accelerating R&D and other technological advancements at the 12th National People's Congress (NPC). Premier Li Keqiang stated the need to "speed up its [China's] transformation and upgrading."[310]

On 20 March 2017, Premier Li Keqiang met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Beijing to work on advancing innovation cooperation. Both Parties signed cooperation agreements in economy, science and technology, commerce, and civil aviation.[311]

On 28 March, Premier Li Keqiang visited a Chinese-owned R&D centre in Auckland, New Zealand to call for closer bilateral cooperation on innovation. He stated that "the two countries should work together to explore third-party markets, so as to realize common benefits for each party."[312]

On 5 April 2017, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China released the "Joint Declaration between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Finland on Establishing and Promoting the Future-oriented New-type Cooperative Partnership." The declaration between the Finnish President and Chinese President outlined bilateral cooperation on innovation, increased bilateral dialogues, and other measures.[313]

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[305] Agenda of the 3rd World Internet Conference, Third World Internet Conference (Wuzhen) 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.wuzhenwic.org/.
[306] 3rd World Internet Conference, Word Internet Conference (Wuzhen) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.wuzhenwic.org/2016-10/13/c_58795.htm.
[307] Six directions of the Central Economic Work Conference, China Daily (Beijing) 20 December 2016.Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2016top10/2016-12/20/content_27715917.htm.
[308] Six directions of the Central Economic Work Conference, China Daily (Beijing) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2016top10/2016-12/20/content_27715917.htm.
[309] China lays out plan to boost foreign investment, CCTV (Beijing) 18 January 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. english.cctv.com/2017/01/18/ARTIvbz5eX64T3F8Uoy2Tdln170118.shtml.
[310] China pledges to transform, upgrade real economy through innovation, Xinhua (Beijing) 5 March 2016. Access Date: 29 May 2017.news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-03/05/c_136103096.htm.
[311] China, Israel agree to advance innovation cooperation, Xinhua (Beijing) 21 March 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-03/21/c_136143586.htm.
[312] Chinese premier calls for closer innovation cooperation with New Zealand, Xinhua (Auckland) 28 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-03/28/c_136165272.htm.
[313] Joint Declaration between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Finland on Establishing and Promoting the Future-oriented New-type Cooperative Partnership, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Helsinki) 5 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1451732.shtml.

On 12 April 2017, the Australian National University (ANU) and the University of South China (USC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on research collaboration on fusion energy technology.[314]

On 24 April 2017, the Ministry of Sciences and Technology said that the country will "increase its annual per capita spending on research and development (R&D) to YEN500,000 by 2020 from YEN370,000 in 2014."[315]

On 5 May 2017, China's first home-grown large passenger jet C919 made its maiden flight during the same week that Chinese scientists built the world's first quantum computing machine. These government supported projects are part of a larger national goal to boost innovation-driven development in the country.[316]

On 23 May 2017, China committed to launch 18 Beidou navigation satellites by 2018, Chairman of China Satellite Navigation System Committee Wang Li, said that the "Beidou satellite navigation system will be able to provide services for countries participating in the Belt and Road Initiative by 2018."[317]

On 23 May 2017, the Chinese and Australian governments partnered together to open an ocean research center in Australia's Tasmania state, called the Centre for Southern Hemisphere Oceans Research. Two national research organizations will collaborate on this project, China's Qingdao National Laboratory for Marine Science and Technology and Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.[318]

China has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jessica Li

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 28 September 2016, France expanded its French-American Innovation Day to include Boston, Massachusetts as well as Houston, Texas. This annual program is aimed to foster constructive dialogue on

[314] Chinese, Australian universities signs MoU on fusion energy researches, Xinhua (Canberra) 12 April 2017. Access Date:: 29 May 2017. news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-04/12/c_136202913.htm.
[315] China to raise annual per capita R&D spending to 500,000 yuan by 2020, Xinhua (Beijing) 24 April 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-04/24/c_136232504.htm.
[316] China Focus: China stepping closer to "innovative nation", Xinhua (Beijing) 5 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/05/c_136260598.htm.
[317] China to form global satellite navigation system by 2020, Xinhua (Shanghai) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/23/c_136308609.htm.
[318] China partner with Australia to open state of the art ocean research center in Tasmania, Xinhua (Hobart) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017.
news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/23/c_136307053.htm.

innovation between the two countries by bringing together French and American experts on specific topics of research, science, technology, and industry.[319]

On 12 October 2016, the Canadian government published the Declaration between the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development of Canada and the Ministry of the Economy and Finance of the French Republic on cooperation in innovation for 2016-2018. The purpose of the declaration is to support bilateral cooperation by enhancing partnerships between government bodies, knowledge-based institutions, and businesses in the areas of technology, innovation and commercialization.[320]

On 13 December 2016, French Ministers Michel Sapin and Axelle Lemaire met with German Ministers Wolfgang Schaüble and Sigmar Gabriel in Berlin to promote stronger Franco-German cooperation on digital technology innovation. The two countries aim to make Europe a global leader in the digital economy through increased cooperation and dialogue on digital technology innovation.[321]

From 27 February to 2 March 2017, Business France along with the French Agency for International Business Development hosted the French Tech Pavilion at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Spain. New innovations from more than 100 French exhibitors will be showcased at the French Tech Pavilion.[322]

On 27 March 2017, President of the French Republic François Hollande and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore Lee Hsien Loong signed a joint declaration agreeing to strengthen cooperation and dialogue on innovation between the two countries. As part of this agreement, innovative French technology companies will consolidate to form a French Tech Hub in Singapore. The new French Tech Hub will facilitate dialogue and cooperation on innovation between French and Singaporean small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and researchers. This initiative will also promote research and development, as well as support entrepreneurship in innovative sectors.[323]

On 9 May 2017, the French government announced the formation of a research group to explore the current applications and future potential of blockchain technology. The research group is led by France Stratégie, which reports directly to the Prime Minister. The research group brings together government agencies as well as innovative private corporations and SMEs.[324]

France has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members,

[319] France Expands French-American Innovation Day to Houston, Office for Science & Technology at the Embassy of France in the United States, (Washington) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. https://www.france-science.org/-French-American-Innovation-Day-.html

[320] Declaration between the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development of Canada and the Ministry of the Economy and Finance of the French Republic on cooperation in innovation for 2016-2018 (Ottawa) 12 October 2016. Access Date: 23 January 2017. http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/france/bilateral_relations_bilaterales/cooperation_in_innovation-cooperation_en_innovation.aspx?lang=eng

[321] Franco-German Ministers' Meeting on Digital Technology Innovation, Government of France, (Berlin) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/franco-german-cooperation-for-a-europe-at-the-forefront-of-the-digital-economy

[322] French Tech Pavilion at 2017 Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Business France, (Paris) 2016. Access Date: 26 November 2016. http://mwc.businessfrance.fr/

[323] Joint Declaration on Innovation between France and Singapore, Prime Minister's Office Singapore (Singapore) 2017. Access Date: May 2 2017. http://www.pmo.gov.sg/newsroom/joint-declaration-innovation-between-france-and-singapore

[324] French Government Convenes Blockchain Research Group, France Stratégie (Paris) 2017. Access Date: May 20 2017. http://www.strategie.gouv.fr/sites/strategie.gouv.fr/files/atoms/files/cp_lancement_blockchain_def.pdf

sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elie Atieh

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 21 September 2016, German Parliamentary Secretary to the Federal Minister of Economy and Energy Iris Gleicke and Canadian Minister of Science Kristin Duncan signed a declaration to strengthen innovative collaboration. This collaboration aims to increase scientific and industrial research and development projects between Canada and Germany. Moreover, this collaboration enables both countries to build on existing partnerships to expedite the development of new innovations that have a high potential for commercialization.[325]

On 28 September 2016, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research introduced the new KMU-NetC grant program, which is designed to aid small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in moving innovative products into local and global markets. A key role of cluster and network management is to contribute strategic and organizational capabilities to establish lasting cooperation and coordinate the goals of the SMEs through a joint innovation strategy.[326]

On 5 October 2016, the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), with the sponsorship of the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research, and the American technology company NVIDIA, announced an expansion in their cooperation in innovative deep learning and artificial intelligence research. The goal of this collaboration is to promote the innovative work of researchers at DFKI and NVIDIA, and to broaden the exchanges and cooperation among the leading scientists in the area of deep learning.[327]

On 7 December 2016, the German government joined the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and attended the fourth global summit in Paris from 7-9 December 2017. The OGP summit involved 30000 representatives from 70 countries sharing their experiences and pushing forward an open government agenda. The German OGP working group's open draft paper, which allowed for comments and feedback in the months prior to the summit, included innovation management and open innovation as a key thematic area.[328]

On 13 December 2016, French Ministers Michel Sapin and Axelle Lemaire met with German Ministers Wolfgang Schaüble and Sigmar Gabriel in Berlin to promote stronger Franco-German cooperation on

[325] Germany Signs Innovation and Collaboration Declaration with Canada, Government of Canada, (Ottawa) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1127289

[326] German Federal Ministry of Education and Research Introduces KMU-NetC grant program, Export Initiative for the German Healthcare Industry, (Berlin) 28 September 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016.http://www.exportinitiative-gesundheitswirtschaft.de/EIG/Redaktion/EN/Kurzmeldungen/News/2016/2016-09-27-bmbf-cnet.html

[327] The German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence and NVIDIA Announce Expansion in Collaboration, German Embassy in Australia, (Canberra) 5 October 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. https://germanylandofinnovation.com/2016/10/05/deep-learning-cooperation-german-research-centre-for-artificial-intelligence-joins-the-nvidia-ai-lab/

[328] Germany joins the OGP with Government and Civil Society on Board (Washington) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 23 January 2017. http://www.opengovpartnership.org/blog/johanna-zum-felde/2016/12/20/germany-joins-ogp-government-and-civil-society-board

digital technology innovation. The two countries aim to make Europe a global leader in the digital economy through cooperation and dialogue on digital technology innovation.[329]

On 10 March 2017, Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy announced a funding initiative aimed at promoting innovation in the field of alternative electricity-based fuels and integrating new technologies into the energy sector. The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy will provide innovative energy companies and SMEs with EUR130 million in funding over the next 3 years.[330]

Germany has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elie Atieh

India: +1

India has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 8 September 2016, India participated in a dialogue with Canada's Minister of Natural Resources Jim Carr in order to strengthen the relationship and collaboration on clean energy and innovation.[331]

On 21 September 2016, India hosted the European Union — India Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Cooperation Days. The event focused on "bio-economy, including marine and maritime research, in order to maximize future scientific and business collaboration in these fields."[332]

On 8 October 2016, the fourth Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting was held in Jaipur to reinforce cooperation and collaboration amongst the BRICS countries in areas of science, technology and innovation.[333]

From 15 to 16 October 2016, India chaired the eighth BRICS Summit with a theme of Building Responsive Inclusive, and Collective Solutions to enhance people to people contacts of BRICS member countries. Innovation was one of the focuses of the summit.[334]

On 12 January 2017, India and Canada launched the 2017 request for proposal for a program that aims to promote collaboration on research and development in areas of technology and innovation.[335]

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[329] Franco-German Ministers' Meeting on Digital Technology Innovation, Government of France, (Berlin) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/franco-german-cooperation-for-a-europe-at-the-forefront-of-the-digital-economy

[330] Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy announces new funding initiative, German Embassy in Canberra (Canberra) 10 March 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. https://germanylandofinnovation.com/2017/03/10/new-funding-initiative-energy-transition-in-the-transport-sector/

[331] Government's First Official Visit to India Results in New Partnerships, Renewed Commitment to Clean Energy Collaboration, National Resources Canada (Mumbai) 9 September 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1122189

[332] EU-India Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation Days 2016, European Commission (Brussels) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=india

[333] 4th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting at Jaipur, Department of Science and Technology (New Delhi) 10 October 2016. Access Date:12 January 2017. http://www.dst.gov.in/pressrelease/4th-brics-science-technology-and-innovation-ministerial-meeting-jaipur

[334] 8th BRICS Summit, India 2016. Building Responsive, Inclusive, and Collective Solutions, BRICS India 2016 (New Delhi) (2016) Access Date:10 November 2016. http://brics2016.gov.in/content/innerpage/8th-summit.php

On 6-10 February 2017, request of proposals were accepted to the Smart Cities program initiated by Government of India in collaboration with High Commission of Canada located in New Delhi. The initiative aims to develop new cities and redevelop existing cities through the use of smart technology and innovative solutions, that partnering Canadian technology companies can offer.[336]

On 6 April 2017, the Department of Science and Technology and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Bengaluru India, alongside the Government of Karnataka as the State Partner, and Russia as the country partner, organized the Global R&D Summit 2017. The aim was to explore the potential of research and development in catalysing economic cooperation, social development, innovation, and efforts being made to establish India as an research and development hub.[337]

On 17 April 2017, The Department of Biotechnology and Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology collaborated with The India-Canada Centre for Innovation Multidisciplinary Partnerships to Accelerate Community Transformation and Sustainability (IC-IMPACTS), to further advance multidisciplinary research partnerships. Five projects addressing the issue of Clean Water Technologies are implemented by the Departments with matched funding from Canada, these technologies and initiatives include developing biosensors for detection of toxins; heavy metal detection and removal; elastic cartridges for color based test monitoring kit for detection of multiplex heavy metal; biorecovery from waste water (waste to wealth); survey to identify and explore alternatives in domestic water management.[338]

India has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Diva Turial

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 11 October 2016, Indonesian Director General for Innovation Enhancement in Jakarta signed an agreement with the United Kingdom Minister for Asia.[339] The UK Royal Academy of Engineering will

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[335] India-Canada Collaborative Industrial Research & Development Programme 2017, Global Innovation & Technology Alliance (New Delhi) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://gita.org.in/OnlineRfp/ProgramInfo.aspx?ProgramId=21

[336] Smart Cities Mission to India – Request for Expression of Interest, The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service (New Delhi) 25 November 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://tradecommissioner.gc.ca/funding-financement/ciip-pcii/rei-dmi.aspx?lang=eng

[337] Global R&D Summit 2017 Paves Way to Nurturing R&D and Innovation Ecosystem in the Country, Ministry of Science & Technology Government of India (Bengaluru) 6 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.dst.gov.in/pressrelease/global-rd-summit-2017-paves-way-nurturing-rd-and-innovation-ecosystem-country

[338] Indo-Canadian Science Programme on Clean Water Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology Government of India (New Delhi) 17 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.dst.gov.in/pressrelease/indo-canadian-science-programme-clean-water-technology

[339] Alok Sharma to launch "technopreneur" project in Indonesia, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (Jakarta) 11 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/alok-sharma-to-launch-technopreneur-project-in-south-east-asia

provide funded training for Indonesia's "technopreneurs" and innovation grants for joint technological projects worth GBP800,000.[340]

On 11 November 2016, the Indonesian government published the 14th Economic Policy Package on the e-Commerce Road Map[341] with incentives to e-commerce and creative industries.[342] The package aims to coordinate state bodies "to better support digitally focused businesses" to support Indonesia's transition to a digitally focused economy.[343] With initiatives such as decreased corporate income tax for new businesses in technology with turnovers of less than IDR4.8 billion per year, the framework hopes to "boost creative innovation and invention of new economic activities."[344]

On 14-15 November 2016, the Indonesian government hosted the third annual Indonesian Economic Forum (IEF) under the theme of "Driving Innovation."[345] As the country's premier economic forum, it aims to address issues such as "financial inclusion through fintech, geospatial intelligence and health care," and to host workshops for business leaders and policymakers to discuss Indonesia's socio-economic challenges.[346]

On 24 April 2017, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) and Indonesia's Otoritas Jasa Keuangan (OJK) announced a Cooperation Agreement to promote innovation in financial services. The Agreement established a cooperation framework between the two countries, including information-sharing on market trends and regulatory issues.[347]

On 2 March 2017, the government of Indonesia's Investment Coordinating Board welcomed a USD700 million investment over four years from ride-hailing platform Grab to "support [the board's] goal of becoming Southeast Asia's largest digital economy by 2020." The Grab 4 Indonesia 2020 master plans aims to help the Indonesian market move into a digital economy, including opening R&D centres to develop tech innovation.[348]

Indonesia has supported dialogue on innovation domestically with businesses and policy-makers. Indonesia has supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships

[340] UK and Indonesia to sign agreements on technology and innovation, British Embassy Jakarta (Jakarta) 11 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/uk-and-indonesia-to-sign-agreements-on-technology-and-innovation.
[341] Main Points of 14th Economic Policy Package, Sekretariat Kabinet Republik Indonesia (Jakarta) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. www.setkab.go.id/en/main-points-of-14th-economic-policy-package/.
[342] Indonesia's 14th Economic Policy Package to Kick-Start E-Commerce Industry Global Business Guide Indonesia (Jakarta) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. www.gbgindonesia.com/en/main/business_updates/2016/indonesia_s_14th_economic_policy_package_to_kick_start_e_commerce_industry_11682.php.
[343] Indonesia's 14th Economic Policy Package to Kick-Start E-Commerce Industry Global Business Guide Indonesia (Jakarta) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. www.gbgindonesia.com/en/main/business_updates/2016/indonesia_s_14th_economic_policy_package_to_kick_start_e_commerce_industry_11682.php.
[344] Indonesia's 14th Economic Policy Package to Kick-Start E-Commerce Industry Global Business Guide Indonesia (Jakarta) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. www.gbgindonesia.com/en/main/business_updates/2016/indonesia_s_14th_economic_policy_package_to_kick_start_e_commerce_industry_11682.php.
[345] Introduction, Indonesia Economic Forum 2013. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://indonesiaeconomicforum.com/conference.
[346] Indonesia Economic Forum Returns to Jakarta, Jakarta Globe (Jakarta) 30 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.jakartaglobe.id/business/indonesia-economic-forum-returns-jakarta/.
[347] Australia's ASIC and Indonesia's OJK sign agreement to promote financial innovation across respective markets, Open Gov (Jakarta), 24 April 2017. Accessed 30 May 2017. www.opengovasia.com/articles/7540-australias-asic-and-indonesias-ojk-sign-agreement-to-promote-financial-innovation-across-respective-markets.
[348] Gov't welcomes Grab's $700-M investment in Indonesia, Enterprise Innovation (Jakarta), 2 March 2017. Accessed 29 May 2017. https://www.enterpriseinnovation.net/article/govt-welcomes-grabs-700-m-investment-indonesia-759441614.

with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Indonesia has not supported dialogue externally. Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Jessica Li

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 21 September 2016, the Italian Ministry of Economic Development introduced the "Industria 4.0" National Plan for 2017-2020. The aim of the Industria 4.0 National Plan is to promote private investment in technologies, increase financial support for research, development and innovation, promote investment in venture capital and innovative small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), and support large investments in innovation.[349]

On 18 October 2016, the Italian Trade Agency attended a conference at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to promote collaboration between innovative Italian and American companies in the field of advanced manufacturing. The conference was attended by Italian Trade Agency President Michele Scannavini, Automobili Lamborghini Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Stefano Domenicali, Federmacchine Board Member and former President Alberto Maria Sacchi, and MIT Technology Review Chief Operating Officer Elizabeth Bramson-Boudreau.[350]

On 25-27 October 2016, the Italian Trade Association, with the sponsorship of the Italian Ministry of Economic Development, held the Italia ReStartsUp 2016 conference. The Italia ReStartsUp initiative brought together innovative Italian and international start-ups and investors in order to stimulate dialogue and cooperation between Italian and international innovators.[351]

On 21-22 November 2016, the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Singapore held a two day conference titled the Italian Innovation Days. The aim of this conference was to promote 60 Italian companies that have created innovative applications in the fields of aerospace, cleantech, information and communications technology, fintech digital, green power, meditech and smart cities to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, in order to increase cooperation and dialogue between innovative Italian and Southeast Asian companies and entrepreneurs.[352]

On 23 February 2017, China Daily reported Italian president Sergio Mattarella and Chinese President Xi Jinping signed 13 cooperative documents in Beijing showcasing a shared pursuit of boosting local innovation and cooperating in a China-Italy design innovation base.[353]

On 2-5 May 2017, the Italian Trade Agency (ITA) organized a participation of Italian start-ups and innovative small and medium sized enterprises at Innovfest Unbound 2017 in Singapore as part of the "Technological Innovation in Asia" 2017 Program. The ITA sought to facilitate access to innovative

[349] "Industria 4.0" National Plan, Italian Embassy in the United Kingdom, (London) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 4 January 2017. http://www.amblondra.esteri.it/Ambasciata_Londra/resource/doc/2016/11/industria_4.0_national_plan.pdf
[350] Italian Trade Agency Attends MIT Conference, Italian Trade Agency, (Boston) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 4 January 2017. http://www.italtrade.com/news/67881.htm
[351] Italian Trade Association Holds Italia ReStartsUp 2016 Conference, Innovation Italy, (Milan) 25 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.innovationitaly.it/en/news-uk/314-italia-restartsup-2016
[352] Italian Innovation Days in Singapore, Innovation Italy, (Singapore) 22 November 2016. Access Date: 4 January 2017. http://www.singaporeinnovationdays.it/
[353] China, Italy pursue innovation, China Daily (Beijing) 23 February 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2017-02/23/content_28310795.htm

markets by scheduling dialogue between investors, decision-makers, research centres, and local companies.[354]

On 19-20 April 2017, the Italian Minister of Education, University and Research Valeria Fedeli and the Iranian Minister of Science, Research and Technology Mohammad Farhadi participated in the first Iran-Italy Science, Technology and Innovation Forum in Tehran. They signed a joint declaration to implement collaboration in the science and technology sector and facilitate the transfer of new technologies and innovative products. More than 600 Italian and Iranian delegates, researchers, and entrepreneurs attended.[355]

On 26-27 May 2017, Italy hosted the Taormina G7 Summit with one of the fundamental pillars being "innovation, skills and labour in the age of the Next Production Revolution." The Italian government sought to highlight Italian innovation at the international level, linked to G7 Innovation Week.[356]

Italy has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, Italy receives a score of +1

Analyst: Elie Atieh

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 19-21 October 2016, the Japan Robot Association and NikkanKogyo Shinbun hosted the annual Japan Robot Week supported by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.[357] Taking place in Tokyo, Robot Week is part of the Japanese government's 2015 Robot Strategy to "significantly increase growth in the robot industry,"[358] and to "focus on robotics innovation"[359] within the country. The convention, focusing primarily on service robotics, aims to "stimulate business negotiations, industry cooperation, and technology exchange."[360]

On 19-20 October 2016, the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Japan Sports Agency, and the Agency for Cultural Affairs hosted the World Forum on Sport and

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[354] Innovfest Unbound 2017, Innovation Italy (Milan) 2 May 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.innovationitaly.it/en/news-uk/342-innovfest-unbound-2017-call-for-participation-2

[355] Iran-Italy Science, Technology & Innovation Forum, Cittadella Scienza (Naples) 19 April 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.cittadellascienza.it/iran/en/the-first-edition/

[356] The Taormina G7 Summit, G7 2017 Italia. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.g7italy.it/en/the-taormina-g7-summit

[357] Japan races to become the robot capital of the world, Japan Times (Tokyo) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/life/2016/11/11/digital/japan-races-become-robot-capital-world/#.WCjM5S0rLIU.

[358] Japan races to become the robot capital of the world, Japan Times (Tokyo) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/life/2016/11/11/digital/japan-races-become-robot-capital-world/#.WCjM5S0rLIU.

[359] Domo Arigato Mr. Roboto: Japan Robot Week, The Sun (London) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/2007036/japan-robot-week-event-robotic-servants-revolutionise-the-world/.

[360] Japan Robot Week 2016 Gearing up to Welcome Visitors from October 19th to 21st, Robotics Tomorrow (Tokyo) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. www.roboticstomorrow.com/article/2016/10/japan-robot-week-2016-gearing-up-to-welcome-visitors-from-october-19th-to-21st/8918.

Culture.[361] Government officials and business representatives in sports and culture from over 50 counties participated in workshops focused on innovation, digital revolution, and future Tokyo, such as "Innovation for 2020 and beyond," "Future Tokyo as Innovative City," "Sustainable Management."[362]

On 20 October 2016, the meeting of the Canada-Japan Joint Economic Committee, "cooperative working group led by Global Affairs Canada and Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs" convened in Ottawa.[363] The working group aims to promote progress within the areas of "infrastructure, energy, science and technology cooperation, improving the business environment and promoting investment, and tourism and youth exchanges."[364] Their commitments included "enhanced partnerships on clean technologies," increased government investment in clean energy innovation, explore bilateral collaboration on research and development, and to "build on the outcomes from the Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation," among others.[365]

On 5 January 2017, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry issued a news release on the "HIYAKU Next Enterprise" program, which is part of the "Silicon Valley-Japan Bridge Project" announced by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on 30 April 2015. The "HIYAKU Next Enterprise" program sent 55 small and medium size enterprises with cutting-edge technologies and excellent ideas to the world's leading innovation ecosystems, such as Silicon Valley, New York, Austin, and Singapore, from January to March 2017. The project is intended to bridge the Japanese start-up ecosystem with those in Silicon Valley, hence continuously create innovations that are globally influential.[366]

On 14 January 2017, the Australian and Japanese governments committed to strengthening their bilateral relations, highlighting the critical role and natural partnership area of innovation for the two countries.[367]

On 9 March 2017, the Financial Services Agency of Japan and the United Kingdom's Financial Conduct Authority partnered for a cooperation framework to support fintech companies. The deal aims to "provide a regulatory referral system for "innovator businesses" from Japan and the UK seeking to enter the other's market."[368]

On 14 March 2017, the Monetary Authority of Singapore and the Financial Services Agency of Japan partnered for a cooperation framework to encourage financial technology links between the two countries. The framework aims to "help reduce regulatory uncertainty and barriers to market."[369]

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[361] World Forum on Sport and Culture, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Japan) 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.wfsc2016.mext.go.jp/en/overview/.

[362] An excellent opportunity to kick-start industry growth, Japan Times (Tokyo) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/10/19/national/excellent-opportunity-kick-start-industry-growth/#.WCjOSi0rLIU.

[363] Canada-Japan Joint Economic Committee Meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.international.gc.ca/asia_pacific-asie_pacifique/japan_canada_japon.aspx?lang=eng. Japan-Canada Joint Economic Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs ofJapan (Tokyo) 17 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001310.html.

[364] Canada-Japan Joint Economic Committee Meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2016. http://www.international.gc.ca/asia_pacific-asie_pacifique/japan_canada_japon.aspx?lang=eng.

[365] Canada-Japan Joint Economic Committee Meeting, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2016. http://www.international.gc.ca/asia_pacific-asie_pacifique/japan_canada_japon.aspx?lang=eng.

[366] "Japan Startup Selection" delegated to the world's leading innovation ecosystem under "HIYAKU Next Enterprise" program, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 5 January 2017. Access Date: 23 January 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/0105_001.html

[367] Shinzo Abe's visit will strengthen Australia's ties with Japan, The Australian, 14 January 2017. Accessed 29 May 2017. www.theaustralian.com.au/news/inquirer/shinzo-abes-visit-will-strengthen-australias-ties-with-japan/news-story/cd5cd6364922fd0696a6e132b11d8e5c.

[368] UK and Japan regulators partner for innovation, Banking Technology, 9 March 2017. Accessed 29 May 2017. www.bankingtech.com/761392/uk-and-japan-regulators-partner-for-innovation/.

[369] New framework to help set up fintech firms in S'pore and Japan, The Strait Times, 14 March 2017. Accessed 29 May

Japan has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jessica Li

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 15 December 2016, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Joo Hwan and the United Kingdom Secretary of Business and Energy Greg Clark emphasized their continued commitment to working together on research, innovation and technology. The two parties signed a memorandum of understanding to trigger greater partnership in areas of research and innovation.[370]

On 20 December 2016, Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se and Canadian Ambassador to Korea Eric Walsh signed the Science, Technology and Innovation Agreement for bilateral cooperation and partnership in science, technology and innovation.[371]

On 19 April 2017, The Ministry of Science, Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) and Future Planning South Korea held the third meeting of the "Korea-Australia Joint Science & Technology Committee Meeting" in Seoul. The meeting highlighted discussions on both countries' science and technology innovation systems and global partnership, and reviewed current technology issues in industry and preparations for holding a joint workshop on technology R&D[372].

On 25 April 2017, The Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning South Korea and the Danish Agency for Science and Higher Education held the first meeting of the Joint Science & Technology Committee in Copenhagen, Denmark, where the two parties agreed to strengthen its strategic partnership in the field, building the first official channel for cooperation in S&T between Korea and Denmark.[373]

On 18-19 May 2017, the Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning, the Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism and the Ministry of Small and Medium Business Administration of the Korean government collaborated to support 31 tech startups to advance into the European market under the name of K-Startup during the The Next Web Conference Europe 2017 held in Amsterdam, Netherlands. Within the conference, the Korean government operated K-Startup Pavilion displaying products and services from various fields. In particular, the Korean government co-hosted Investor Dinner with The Next Web

2017. www.straitstimes.com/business/banking/new-framework-to-help-set-up-fintech-firms-in-spore-and-japan.

[370] UK and South Korea underline commitment to joint working on science and innovation, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-south-korea-underline-commitment-to-joint-working-on-science-and-innovation

[371] Canada, Korea to collaborate in science, technology and innovation, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 26 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20161226000244

[372] Ministry, Australia Hold 3rd Joint S&T Committee Meeting. Partnership established for developing new growth drivers between Korea and Australia, Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning (Seoul) 19 April 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017. http://english.msip.go.kr/english/msipContents/contents.do?mId=Mjc0

[373] 1st Korea-Denmark Joint S&T Committee Meeting Held, Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning (Copenhagen) 26 April 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017. http://english.msip.go.kr/english/msipContents/contents.do?mId=Mjc0

Conference, where it fostered networking of global investors. In the venue, around 80 promising investors along with some Korean startups participated.[374]

Korea has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Diva Turial

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 18 November 2016, the European Union and Mexico launched a joint geothermal research project worth EUR20 million. The project aims to find innovative ways to access new resources of geothermal energy in Mexico. 29 partners from Belgium, Germany, Greece, France, Iceland, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, and the United Kingdom will collaborate in the three year project.[375]

On 14-15 November 2016, Germany-Mexico Science, Technology and Innovation Forum was held in Mexico City. A number of government officials, industry official and researchers were gathered for the event to discuss the present situation and future of German-Mexican collaboration in science, technology and innovation.[376]

On 9-10 November 2017, the 19th International Conference on Administrative Science, Technology and Innovation Management was held in Mexico with an aim to gather academic scientists, research scholars and researchers on a platform in order to share their experiences, exchange scientific research results, and to discuss the current trends, innovations, challenges and solution in areas of administrative science, technology and innovation management.[377]

On 7 February 2017, a partnership between the government of Mexico and Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) facilitated the launch of the International Centre of Regulatory Excellence (ICORE). ICORE is designed to provide a training, collaboration in best practices, and innovation hub for innovators from around the world. It was originally created under a memorandum of understanding between AER and National Hydrocarbon Commission of Mexico.[378]

[374] Innovative Korean Tech Startups Expand into the European Market, Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning (Amsterdam) 16 May 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017. http://english.msip.go.kr/english/msipContents/contents.do?mId=Mjc0

[375] Key joint EU – Mexico geothermal research project kicks off, European Commission (Brussels) 18 November 2016.Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/news-events/newsroom/key-joint-eu-%E2%80%93-mexico-geothermal-research-project-kicks

[376] Germany – Mexico: Science, Technology and Innovation Forum in Mexico City, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (Bonn) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.dfg.de/en/dfg_profile/head_office/dfg_abroad/latin_america/reports/2016/161124_forum_wti/index.html

[377] ICASTIM 2017 : 19th International Conference on Administrative Science, Technology and Innovation Management, World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology (Cancun) *No date on the website. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.waset.org/conference/2017/11/cancun/ICASTIM/home

[378] A new Canadian/Mexican regulatory institute aims to establish best practices internationally, JWN Energy (Edmonton) 6 February 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.jwnenergy.com/article/2017/2/new-canadianmexican-regulatory-institute-aims-establish-best-practices-internationally/

On 14 March 2017, Ambassador of Mexico to the US Geronimo Gutierrez spoke at the US-Mexico Bilateral Forum on Higher Education, Innovation, and Research Roundtable with participation from the US Department of State, representatives from private industry, academic institutions, government officials, and non-governmental organizations. The forum is an example of public-private partnerships stimulating innovation dialogue on both sides of the border.[379]

On 6-7 June 2017, government delegates from Mexico participated in the second Mission Innovation global forum in Beijing with 22 member countries and the European Union in attendance. Mission Innovation is "a commitment to accelerate innovation and make clean energy accessible and affordable worldwide." Also in attendance were private sector investors, thought-leaders, and innovators with the common aim to explore collaborative opportunities with government towards a low-carbon future.[380]

Mexico has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, Mexico receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Diva Turial

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation on innovation, with science and technology at its core.

On 20 September 2016, the city of Moscow hosted the International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation 2016 Conference.[381] Arkady Dvorkovich, the Deputy Prime Minister of Russia, led the organizing committee.[382] The Moscow City Government, the Russian Venture Company, the Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises, Skolkovo Innovation Center, Lomonosov Moscow State University Science Park, and Technopark "STROGINO" sponsored the conference.[383]

On 8 October 2016, the fourth meeting of the ministers responsible for science, technology and innovation from Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) was held in Jaipur to reinforce cooperation and collaboration amongst the BRICS countries.[384]

On 15-16 October 2016, Russia attended the eighth BRICS summit with a theme of Building Responsive Inclusive, and Collective Solutions to enhance people to people contacts of BRICS members. Innovation was one of the focuses of the summit.[385]

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[379] Roundtable: U.S.-Mexico Bilateral Forum on Higher Education, Research & Innovation, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 14 March 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2017/03/268439.htm

[380] Second Mission Innovation Ministerial Reaffirms Commitment to Accelerate Global Clean Energy Innovation, Mission Innovation (Beijing) 8 June 2017. Access date: 8 June 2017. http://mission-innovation.net/2017/06/08/second-mi-ministerial/

[381] 33rd IASC 2016 World Conference (Moscow) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. http://government.ru/en/news/24585/

[382] About the Conference, IASP 2016 Moscow. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://iasp2016moscow.ru/company/

[383] About the Conference, IASP 2016 Moscow. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://iasp2016moscow.ru/company/

[384] 4th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting at Jaipur, Department of Science and Technology (New Delhi) 10 October 2016. Access Date:12 January 2017. http://www.dst.gov.in/pressrelease/4th-brics-science-technology-and-innovation-ministerial-meeting-jaipur

[385] 8th BRICS Summit, India 2016. Building Responsive, Inclusive, and Collective Solutions, BRICS India 2016 (New Delhi) (2016) Access Date:10 November 2016. http://brics2016.gov.in/content/innerpage/8th-summit.php

On 26-28 October 2016, the Skolkovo Technopark hosted "Open Innovation," an annual forum dedicated to new technologies and prospects for international cooperation in the field of innovation.[386] The Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, the Government of Moscow, the Skolkovo Foundation, the Bank for Development and Foreign Economic Affairs (Vnesheconombank), JSC RVC, RUSNANO Group, and the Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises in Science and Technology co-organized the forum.[387]

On 24 November 2016, the Trade Representation of the Russian Federation in Sweden held the sixth annual Russian-Swedish Economic Forum in cooperation with the Russian Ministry for Economic Development to demonstrate the potential of Russian innovation and investment projects, and establish Swedish partnerships.[388]

On 24 March 2017, Minister of Education and Science of Russia Olga Vasilyeva and Minister of Science, Technology, and Research of Sri Lanka Susil Premajayantha signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of science, technology, and innovation between the two countries.[389]

On 7 April 2017, the Russian Federation's Ministry of Economic Development and India's Department of Science and Technology signed a joint declaration to promote innovation and the R&D ecosystem during the Global R&D Summit 2017.[390] As part of this declaration, the two countries have agreed to implement joint projects in innovation, and exchange information and best practices in the innovation space.[391]

Russia has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration.

Therefore, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bushra Ebadi

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation on innovation.

On 16-20 October 2016, the Ministry of Interior showcased its electronic and smart services for citizens and residents at GITEX Technology Week 2016.[392] The official spokesperson of the National

[386] About Forum, Open Innovations. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://forinnovations.ru/en/about
[387] About Forum, Open Innovations. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://forinnovations.ru/en/about
[388] VI Russian-Swedish Economic Forum "New Investment Potential: Ideas and Opportunities," Trade Representation of the Russian Federation in Sweden (Stockholm) 25 November 2016. Access Date: 28 January 2017. http://rysslandshandel.se/en/2423-2/
[389] MOU on cooperation in science, technology and innovation signed between Sri Lanka and Russia, Embassy of Sri Lanka in the Russian Federation (Moscow) 10 April 2017. Access Date: 15 May 2017. http://www.srilankaembassy.ru/en/news/319-mou-on-cooperation-in-science-technology-and-innovation-signed-between-sri-lanka-and-russia
[390] India, Russia team up to promote innovation, R&D, The HIndu BusinessLine (Bengaluru) 9 April 2017. Access Date: 12 May 2017. http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/india-russia-team-up-to-promote-innovation-rd/article9625556.ece
[391] India, Russia team up to promote innovation, R&D, The HIndu BusinessLine (Bengaluru) 9 April 2017. Access Date: 12 May 2017. http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/india-russia-team-up-to-promote-innovation-rd/article9625556.ece
[392] Saudi Ministry of Interior Showcases Innovation, Opens Collaboration Channels at GITEX Tech '16, Saudi Gazette (Jeddah) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. (http://saudigazette.com.sa/business/saudi-ministry-interior-showcases-innovation-opens-collaboration-channels-gitex-tech-16/)

Information Centre from the Saudi Ministry of Interior stated that the government had opened channels of communications with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) counterparts to build a secure electronic collaboration system across national identification.[393]

On 4 November 2016 the President of King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology (KACST), Prince Turki bin Saud bin Mohammed Al Saud, met with the Chinese Minister of Science and Technology, Wan Gang during the G20 Science, Technology and Innovation Ministers' Meeting in Beijing to discuss boosting cooperation between the two countries in the areas of water, energy and materials, biotechnology, space and aviation technologies, innovation, technology incubators, and the creation of small- and medium-sized enterprises.[394]

On 4 May 2017, the Saudi Ministry of Communication and Information Technology announced a plan to launch SAP Cloud Hub (public Cloud Data Centre) in collaboration with SAP. His Majesty King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and German Chancellor Angela Merkel attended the event during her trade mission to the kingdom. SAP will invest SAR285 million in order to support Saudi Vision 2030 and help meet digital transformation goals.[395]

On 19 May 2017, the General Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises collaborated with King Abdullah University for Science and Technology to lead a Saudi-US discussion panel titled "Innovation to Impact" on Science and Technology Opportunities. This is part of the ongoing preparations for the first Saudi-US CEO's Forum 2017, to be hosted in Riyadh. The panel aimed to develop Saudi capabilities in the field of scientific innovation, research and entrepreneurship in line with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030.[396]

On 20 May 2017, GE and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia signed Memorandums of Understanding outlining USD15 billion in investments in innovation, including USD7 billion in GE technology and solutions, to support Saudi Vision 2030.[397]

Saudi Arabia has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bushra Ebadi

[393] Saudi Ministry of Interior Showcases Innovation, Opens Collaboration Channels at GITEX Tech '16, Saudi Gazette (Jeddah) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://saudigazette.com.sa/business/saudi-ministry-interior-showcases-innovation-opens-collaboration-channels-gitex-tech-16/

[394] Wider Sino-Saudi Cooperation in Innovation, Technology Sought, Arab News (Riyadh)8 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1007821/saudi-arabia

[395]His Majesty King Salman Bin Abdulaziz al Saud and German Chancellor Angela Merkel Witness MoU between Saudi Government and SAP to Launch SAP Cloud Hub in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, SAP News (Berlin) 4 May 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://news.sap.com/mena/2017/05/04/king-salman-angela-merkel-ksa-sap-cloud/

[396] KAUST to Host Saudi-US Panel "Innovation to Impact" Tomorrow, Saudi Press Agency (Jeddah) 18 May 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.spa.gov.sa/viewfullstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1631221

[397] In support of Saudi Vision 2030: Saudi Arabia and GE announce raft of MoUs and agreements worth $15 billion in industrial project development and cross-sector capacity building, GE News 20 May 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. https://www.genewsroom.com/press-releases/support-saudi-vision-2030-saudi-arabia-and-ge-announce-raft-mous-and-agreements-worth

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 8 October 2016, the fourth Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting was held in Jaipur to reinforce cooperation and collaboration amongst the BRICS countries in areas of science, technology and innovation.[398]

From 15 — 16 October 2016, South Africa attended the eighth BRICS Summit with a theme of Building Responsive Inclusive, and Collective Solutions to enhance people to people contacts of BRICS member countries. Innovation was one of the focuses of the summit.[399]

On 2 November 2016, the South African Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the Economic Commission of Africa (ECA) co-hosted the third Annual Senior Experts Dialogue on Science, Technology and the African Transformation Agenda to improve knowledge and understanding of how Africa's emerging cities can be transformed into innovation hubs.[400] At the dialogue, DST Director General Phil Mjwara pledged that South Africa will dedicate 5 per cent of its Gross Domestic Product towards science, technology and innovation.[401]

On 11 November 2016, the Department of Small Business Development officially launched the 2016 South African Chapter of the Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), which took place from 14-20 November 2016.[402] A collaboration between several high level private and public sector stakeholders, GEW is the largest gathering of innovators and entrepreneurs from over 160 countries through local, national and global activities designed to unleash the potential of entrepreneurs and innovators.[403]

On 11 November 2016, Minister of Small Business Development Ms. Lindiwe Zulu delivered a speech at the South African GEW launch stating that the event was an opportunity to hold a dialogue between the world of business, academia, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), research organizations and government.[404] Minister Zulu also stressed the need for stakeholders to "collaborate with various organizations to ensure that entrepreneurship remains on the centre of our stakeholder engagement in South Africa and the continent."[405]

South Africa has supported dialogue on innovation through meetings, conferences, and dialogues among government, businesses, and other stakeholders. South Africa, however, has not demonstrated support for

[398] 4th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting at Jaipur, Department of Science and Technology (New Delhi) 10 October 2016. Access Date:12 January 2017. http://www.dst.gov.in/pressrelease/4th-brics-science-technology-and-innovation-ministerial-meeting-jaipur

[399] 8th BRICS Summit, India 2016. Building Responsive, Inclusive, and Collective Solutions, BRICS India 2016 (New Delhi) (2016) Access Date:10 November 2016. http://brics2016.gov.in/content/innerpage/8th-summit.php

[400] Experts Dialogue on Science, Technology, Innovation, and African Cities Begins in South Africa, African Business 2 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://africanbusinessmagazine.com/latest/experts-dialogue-on-science-technology-innovation-and-african-cities-begins-in-south-africa/.

[401] Experts Dialogue on Science, Technology, Innovation, and African Cities Begins in South Africa, African Business 2 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://africanbusinessmagazine.com/latest/experts-dialogue-on-science-technology-innovation-and-african-cities-begins-in-south-africa/.

[402] Global Entrepreneurship Week Officially Kicks off in South Africa, 26 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://za.gew.co/south-africa-global-entrepreneurship-week/global-entrepreneurship-week-officially-kicks-south-africa.

[403] Global Entrepreneurship Week Officially Kicks off in South Africa, 26 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://za.gew.co/south-africa-global-entrepreneurship-week/global-entrepreneurship-week-officially-kicks-south-africa.

[404] South Africa: Minister Lindiwe Zulu – Global Entrepreneurship Week Launch, AllAfrica 11 November 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://allafrica.com/stories/201611140660.html.

[405] South Africa: Minister Lindiwe Zulu – Global Entrepreneurship Week Launch, AllAfrica 11 November 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://allafrica.com/stories/201611140660.html.

innovation cooperation that addresses policy coordination, sharing best practices, and promoting collaboration to address common challenges. Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Kamara Jeffrey

Turkey: +1

Turkey has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation on innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

From 9-13 October 2016, Istanbul hosted the 23rd World Energy Congress with the theme of "Embracing New Frontiers" in new and innovative ways. The event brought together over 100 government ministers, heads of states, and 10,000 senior energy leaders, as well as media, universities, business and finance. The format of the programme featured keynotes and panel sessions ensuring a narrative to the event based on sharing best practice and identifying solutions for the key issues facing the sector. Day two, specifically, focused on business opportunities, technologies, and innovation to ensure a secure and reliable energy system.[406]

From 8-10 December 2016, the Turkish Exporters Assembly in coordination with the Ministry of Economy organized Turkey's fifth Innovation Week in Istanbul. Innovation Week provided a platform for thousands of people from state and international organizations, the business world, industry, and academia, to start a dialogue on an innovation-focused Turkey, exhibiting research and development centres, technology centers, workshops and training seminars, and start-up projects. Additionally, the Minister of Science, Technology and Industry Faruk Özlü delivered an opening speech stressing the role of youth in innovation driven growth.[407]

Turkey has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, Turkey receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bushra Ebadi

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 12 September 2016, Innovate UK opened a call for applications for projects "addressing technical or commercial challenges in health and life sciences." Innovate UK will provide GBP15 million worth of funding for several GBP100,000 projects.[408] Innovate UK is a government agency that works with partner organizations in order to drive science and technology, and create growth in the UK economy.

On 23 September 2016, UK Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation Jo Johnson, and a delegation of senior British researchers, attended the Puijang Innovation Forum in

[406] World energy congress starts in Istanbul, Hurriyet Daily News (Istanbul) 9 October 2016. Access Date: 24 January 2016. http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/world-energy-congress-starts-in-istanbul--------.aspx?pageID=238&nID=104761&NewsCatID=348
[407] 5th Innovation Week starts in Istanbul, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 8 December 2016. Access Date: 24 January 2016. http://www.dailysabah.com/technology/2016/12/09/5th-innovation-week-starts-in-istanbul
[408] Funding competition: innovation in health and life sciences round 1, GOV.UK (London) 12 September 2016 . Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-innovation-in-health-and-life-sciences-round-1

China.[409] The UK Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) and the Chinese Academy of Sciences extended their Memorandum of Understanding for five more years. As a result, the "STFC now has agreements with two major Chinese Funding Agencies."[410]

On 23 September 2016, the United Kingdom Science & Technology Facilities Council (STFC) visited China to develop a research and innovation relationship, including an extension on an existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the establishment of the 11th annual UK-China Space Workshop, and a new agreement between the STFC and the Open University and the Centre for Excellence in Advanced Materials in Dongguan.[411]

On 11 October 2016, UK Minister for Asia Alok Sharma signed agreements with the Indonesian Director General for Innovation Enhancement in Jakarta. The UK Royal Academy of Engineering will provide funded training for Indonesian "technopreneurs" and innovation grants for joint technological projects worth BRP800,000.[412]

On 19 October 2016, the British Chamber of Commerce co-hosted the UK-China Business Innovation Seminar. The event brought UK companies to China to explore innovation opportunities.[413]

On 15 December 2016, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Joo Hwan and the United Kingdom Secretary of Business and Energy Greg Clark emphasized their continued commitment to working together on research, innovation and technology. The two parties signed a memorandum of understanding to trigger greater partnership in areas of research and innovation.[414]

On 2-3 November 2016, Innovate UK hosted Innovate 2016: The Global Spotlight on UK Innovation.[415] The event gathered more than 2,500 innovators, investors, and business leaders to discuss research on health, technology, and manufacturing.

On 4 November 2016, the United Kingdom announced a Collaborative Research and Development Programme, co-funded by the Brazilian government and Innovative UK, and administered by the Newton Fund. The competition will provide funding for collaborative technological solutions for issues in Brazil's urban areas. The Brazilian Development Bank, the Ministry of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services, and the Brazilian Agency for Industrial Research and Innovation (Embrapii) will all be involved

[409] Research Councils' announcements strengthen UK-China research and innovation relationship, Research Councils UK (London) 23 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/media/news/160923/

[410] STFC strengthens UK-China research and innovation relationships, Research Councils UK (London) 23 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.stfc.ac.uk/news/stfc-strengthens-uk-china-research-and-innovation-relationships/

[411] STFC strengthens UK-China research and innovation relationships, Science & Technology Facilities Council (London) 23 September 2016. Access Date:11 November 2016. http://www.stfc.ac.uk/news/stfc-strengthens-uk-china-research-and-innovation-relationships/.

[412] UK and Indonesia to sign agreements on technology and innovation, GOV.UK (London) 11 October 2016 . Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/uk-and-indonesia-to-sign-agreements-on-technology-and-innovation

[413] UK-China Business Innovation Seminar, British Chamber of Commerce in China (Tianjin) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.britishchamber.cn/content/uk-china-business-innovation-seminar-tianjin

[414] UK and South Korea underline commitment to joint working on science and innovation, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-south-korea-underline-commitment-to-joint-working-on-science-and-innovation

[415] Innovate 2016: The Global Spotlight on UK Innovation, Department of International Trade (London) Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.events.trade.gov.uk/innovate-uk-2016/

in facilitating the competition. The competition will sponsor solutions focusing on integration and governance of city systems, infrastructure, smart mobility, and sustainable urban environments.[416]

On 24 March 2017, Innovate UK and the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey announced the winners of an ongoing agri-food innovation competition for small and medium sized enterprises and co-funded their project. This fund forms a part of the UK's official development assistance and aims to develop economy and spur innovation with bilateral cooperation.[417]

On 8 March 2017, the UK released its research and innovation budget of GPB270 million from 2017 to 2018. The fund's first three priority areas are developing revolutionising battery technology, providing innovative medicines to patients more quickly and developing robots for use in hazardous environments.[418] On 24 March 2017, Innovate UK and the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey announced the winners of an ongoing agri-food innovation competition for small and medium sized enterprises and co-funded their project. This fund forms a part of the UK's Official Development Assistance and aims to develop economy and spur innovation with bilateral cooperation.[419]

On 10 April 2017, Innovate UK and the Jiangsu Science and Technology Department announced a GBP5 million grant to invest in UK businesses working on collaborative research and development projects with partners in Jiangu province in China. The projects must address the challenges faced by infrastructure owners, cities, towns and users through innovation in infrastructure systems. They must demonstrate the benefits of cooperation between the UK and China for both countries.[420]

On 12 April 2017, Innovate UK announced GBP8.5million in grants and venture capital investment to bring private investors into Innovate UK grant-funded innovative companies. The fund is for innovative high-risk projects in the fields of smart infrastructure, energy, urban living, connected transport, agriculture, biosciences and health.[421]

On 12 April 2017, Innovate UK in collaboration with the Science and Technology Commission Department of Shanghai Municipality announced that it will invest in collaborative research and development projects. Up to GBP5 million is available for UK partners from Innovate UK. The Science and Technology Commission Department of Shanghai Municipality will allocate funding for Shanghai-registered companies. This programme is delivered according to the memorandum of understanding signed between Innovate UK and the Science and Technology Commission Department of Shanghai Municipality in 2016. Projects must involve collaboration between the UK and Shanghai and address the challenges brought on by rapid urbanisation, demographic and social change, resource scarcity and

[416] Competition brief: urban innovation in Brazil (London) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-urban-innovation-in-brazil/competition-brief-urban-innovation-in-brazil
[417] Funding competition: agri-food innovation in Turkey, Gov.UK (London) 10 March 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-agri-food-innovation-in-turkey/agri-food-innovation-in-turkey-competition-brief
[418] UK's research and innovation bodies welcome budget, (London) 8 March 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-research-and-innovation-bodies-welcome-budget
[419] Funding competition: agri-food innovation in Turkey, Gov.UK (London) 10 March 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-agri-food-innovation-in-turkey/agri-food-innovation-in-turkey-competition-brief
[420] Industrial innovation in Jiangsu and the UK: apply for funding, Gov.UK (London) 10 April 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/industrial-innovation-in-jiangsu-and-the-uk-apply-for-funding
[421] Accelerating innovation with public and private investment: apply, Gov.UK (London) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/accelerating-innovation-with-public-and-private-investment-apply

climate change or the areas of healthcare and life sciences, advanced manufacturing and green technology.[422]

On 12 April 2017, Innovate UK announced that innovative UK businesses could apply for a share of up to GBP3 million to work with Malaysian partners on solving urban challenges in the country. This competition is jointly funded by the Malaysian government. The project is part of the UK-Malaysia Newton-Ungku Omar Fund. The UK's Newton Fund uses science and innovation partnerships to promote economic development and social welfare of partner countries.[423]

On 18 April 2017, Innovate UK announced a GBP15 million investment in innovative businesses across the UK to "identify and invest in new technologies with the potential to unlock billions of pounds of value to UK industry and disrupt existing markets."[424]

On 19 April 2017, Innovate UK announced the Energy Catalyst competition cofunded by the the Department for International Development, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. Businesses can apply for a share of GBP13 million for innovative projects that address the issues of cost, emissions and security of supply.[425]

On 21 April 2017, Business Secretary Greg Clark announced the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund, committing over GPB1 billion over the next 4 years. The funding focuses on six areas: healthcare and medicine, robotics and artificial intelligence, batteries for clean and flexible energy storage, self-driving vehicles, manufacturing and materials of the future, satellites and space technology. The government will bring together the UK's world leading research with the ambitions of business to meet these challenges head-on.[426]

The UK has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, the UK receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alejandra Bellatin

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to support dialogue and cooperation in innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

[422] Funding competition: Shanghai-UK industrial challenge programme, Gov.UK (London) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-shanghai-uk-industrial-challenge-programme
[423] Urban challenges in Malaysia: apply for business funding, Gov.UK (London) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/urban-challenges-in-malaysia-apply-for-business-funding
[424] £15 million investment in new technologies of the future, Gov.UK (London) 18 April 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/15-million-investment-in-new-technologies-of-the-future
[425] Making energy clean, affordable and secure: apply for funding, Gov.UK (London) 19 April 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/making-energy-clean-affordable-and-secure-apply-for-funding
[426] Business Secretary announces Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund investments, Gov.UK (London) 21 April 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/business-secretary-announces-industrial-strategy-challenge-fund-investments

On 26 September 2016, the White House announced a USD80 million federal investment in the White House Smart Cities Initiative.[427] The Smart Cities Initiative aims to increase technological solutions to urban issues through collaboration between cities, universities, government agencies, and industry. Key areas of research and development include climate, transportation, public safety, and transforming city services. A large focus in funding and research is developing smart cities through the Internet of Things, ICT, and other technological advancements. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) also announced an international coalition to further global collaboration towards smart cities. The Smart Cities Initiative also includes the launch of the Urban Innovation Council, which will be comprised of start-ups, cities, and corporate stakeholders from countries around the world. The council will attempt to ease the transition to becoming a smart city through entrepreneurship.[428]

On 28 September 2016, the White House, the US Small Business Administration, the General Services Administration, and the Data Foundation co-hosted the Open Data Innovation Summit to assess and highlight the Obama Administration's efforts to open up accessibility to government data. The summit focused on how open data has had an effect on efficiency and effectiveness, health and wellness and innovation, job growth, and economic opportunity.[429] Government representatives, entrepreneurs, companies, and innovators discussed how Federal open data is being used within their fields.[430]

On 13 October 2016, President Obama hosted the White House Frontiers Conference. The conference aims to bring together top American innovators from the government, academia, industry, civil service, and other sectors to discuss cross sector collaboration, education innovation, health care, job creation, and equity. The scope of the discussions ranges from personal, local, national, global, and interplanetary frontiers.[431]

On 17 October 2016, the European Commission and the US government signed an agreement to facilitate cooperation in research and innovation. The agreement, called "Implementing Arrangement" will enable American researchers and selected European researchers from the Horizon 2020 project to work together in US funded projects.[432]

On 16 March 2017, the White House, under newly inaugurated President Donald J. Trump, released its first 2017 budget proposal. The budget outlined major cuts to health and clean energy sectors. It proposed a USD5.8 million cut to the National Institute of Health (NIH), USD900 million from the Department of Energy's Office of Science, and intends to eliminate the Environmental Protection Agency

[427] FACT SHEET: Announcing Over $80 million in New Federal Investment and a Doubling of Participating Communities in the White House Smart Cities Initiative (Washington) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/09/26/fact-sheet-announcing-over-80-million-new-federal-investment-and

[428] FACT SHEET: Announcing Over $80 million in New Federal Investment and a Doubling of Participating Communities in the White House Smart Cities Initiative (Washington) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/09/26/fact-sheet-announcing-over-80-million-new-federal-investment-and

[429] FACT SHEET: Announcing Over $80 million in New Federal Investment and a Doubling of Participating Communities in the White House Smart Cities Initiative (Washington) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/09/26/fact-sheet-announcing-over-80-million-new-federal-investment-and

[430] The White House Open Data Innovation Summit and Solutions Showcase (Washington) Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://www.data.gov/event/white-house-open-data-innovation-summit/

[431] FACT SHEET: Harnessing the Possibilities of Science, Technology, and Innovation (Washington) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/13/fact-sheet-harnessing-possibilities-science-technology-and-innovation

[432] EU-US agreement offers new opportunities for research cooperation, European Commission (Brussels) 17 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2016&na=na-171016

(EPA).[433] Most of NIH's budget goes to research grants. Hence, the proposed budget would mean "virtually no funding for new awards in fiscal year of 2018."[434] During a series of demonstrations on 22 April 2017 American participants in the March for Science displayed concern with the budget cuts.[435]

On 27 March 2017, the White House announced a new initiative called the Office of American Innovation (OAI) headed by Jared Kushner. The OIA aims to bring together government representatives and representatives of the private sector in order to improve the President strategies to in governance, American quality of life, and job creation.[436] Areas of focus will include Veterans Affairs, technological infrastructure of federal agencies, public infrastructure like Internet service, and opioid abuse.[437] Entrepreneurs such as Tim Cook, Bill Gates, Elon Musk, and Mark Benioff are involved in the OAI, along with other "leaders and government officials." Some members say that the office will help to "find efficiencies" despite budget cuts across departments.[438]

On 23 May 2017, the Trump administration released its official budget, which included major cuts in scientific research. The budget includes a USD7.6 billion cut to the National Institute of Health, which will reduce government funding for research in universities.[439] The Fogarty International Center, an organization for international research collaboration, will be eliminated.[440] The budget also includes a cut to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Carbon Monitoring System (CMS), which works internationally to develop carbon monitoring technology.[441] Other departments such as the National Cancer Institute and the National Sciences Foundation will take cuts as well.[442]

On 8 May 2017, the White House announced the re-entry of the US into the Bureau of International Expos (BIE).[443] International expos provide a platform of international communication and collaboration in a number of fields. The BIE works at "sharing innovation, promoting progress and fostering cooperation. It is organized by a host country that invites other countries, companies, international

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[433] Scientists Bristle at Trump Budget's Cuts to Research, The New York Times (New York) 16 March 2017. Access Date: 17 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/16/climate/trump-budget-science-research.html.
[434] A grim budget day for U.S. science: analysis and reaction to Trump's plan, Science (Washington) 16 March 2017. Access Date: 17 May 2017. http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/03/trumps-first-budget-analysis-and-reaction
[435] A grim budget day for U.S. science: analysis and reaction to Trump's plan, The Guardian (London) 22 April 2017. Access Date: 17 May 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/apr/22/march-for-science-earth-day-climate-change-trump
[436] Presidential Memorandum on The White House Office of American Innovation (Washington) 27 March 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/27/presidential-memorandum-white-house-office-american-innovation
[437] Trump taps Kushner to lead a SWAT team to fix government with business ideas, The Washington Post (Washington) 26 March 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2017. https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-taps-kushner-to-lead-a-swat-team-to-fix-government-with-busin
[438] Trump taps Kushner to lead a SWAT team to fix government with business ideas, The Washington Post (Washington) 26 March 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2017. https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-taps-kushner-to-lead-a-swat-team-to-fix-government-with-business-ideas/2017/03/26/9714a8b6-1254-11e7-ada0-1489b735b3a3_story.html
[439] What's in Trump's 2018 budget request for science? Science (Washington) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/05/what-s-trump-s-2018-budget-request-science.
[440] What's in Trump's 2018 budget request for science? Science (Washington) 23 May 2017. Access Date:26 May 2017. http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/05/what-s-trump-s-2018-budget-request-science.
[441] What's in Trump's 2018 budget request for science? Science (Washington) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/05/what-s-trump-s-2018-budget-request-science.
[442] Trump budget seeks huge cuts to science and medical research, disease prevention, The Washington Post (Washington) 23 May 2017. Access Date:26 May 2017. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/to-your-health/wp/2017/05/22/trump-budget-seeks-huge-cuts-to-disease-prevention-and-medical-research-departments/.
[443] President Donald J. Trump Signs H.R. 534 into Law, (Washington) 8 May 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/05/08/president-donald-j-trump-signs-hr-534-law

organisations, the private sector, the civil society and the general public to participate."[444] The US government will also make a bid to host the 2023 World's Fair.[445]

As of 30 May 2017, President Trump has not appointed anyone to the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology.[446] NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) also remain without nominees and are currently headed by acting administrators.[447] The staff of the Chief Technology Officer has moreover been reduced from 24 to one.[448] Similarly, "scores of departures by scientists and Silicon Valley technology experts who advised President Trump's predecessor have all but wiped out the larger White House Office of Science and Technology Policy."[449]

The US has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. However, in recent months the new administration has made major changes to the budget and structure of science related offices that will make it difficult to further pursue the goals of the Hangzhou conference. Thus, the US receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Kaira Jakobsh

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support international cooperation on innovation, with science and technology innovation at its core.

On 20-23 September 2016, Brazil hosted a conference with the European Union during Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Week. The Director of the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications José Gontijo, stated that the seminar aimed to build ties between industries, universities, and companies in the EU and Brazil. Panels discussed topics such as the Internet of Things, cyber security, 5G technology, Over The Top services, and development strategies in each of these sectors.[450]

On 21 September 2016, the European Commission and the Indian Ministry of Science and Technology co-hosted the EU-India Science Technology and Innovation Cooperation Days. The event brought

[444] What is an Expo? Bureau International des Expositions (Paris). Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.bie-paris.org/site/en/expos/about-expos/what-is-an-expo
[445] Press Release: Congress authorizes U.S. to rejoin the Burea of International Expositions (BIE), paving the way for the United States to host its first World's Fair in more than thirty years (Minneapolis and Washington) 8 May 2017. Date of Access 17 May 2017. http://expo2023.info/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/USA-to-Rejoin-BIE-EXPO-2023-Press-Release.pdf
[446] How the White House Lost Its Brains, Foreign Policy (Washington) 30 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://foreignpolicy.com/2017/05/30/how-the-white-house-lost-its-brains/
[447] NASA Leadership: Acting Administrator Robert M. Lightfoot Jr. (Washington) 16 February 2017. Access Date:31 May 2017. https://www.nasa.gov/nasa-leadership
[448] Trump leaves science jobs vacant, troubling critics, The New York TImes (New York) 30 March 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/30/us/politics/science-technology-white-house-trump.html
[449] Trump leaves science jobs vacant, troubling critics, The New York TImes (New York) 30 March 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/30/us/politics/science-technology-white-house-trump.html.
[450] In partnership with the European Union, MCTIC seminar on Internet of Things and 5G technology (Brasília) 9 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.mcti.gov.br/noticia/-/asset_publisher/epbV0pr6eIS0/content/em-parceria-com-uniao-europeia-mctic-promove-seminario-sobre-internet-das-coisas-e-tecnologia-5g

together over 200 policymakers, investors, funding agencies, non governmental organizations, and other relevant actors for two days of networking and discussion on marine and maritime research.[451]

On 23 September 2016, Minister Duncan gave the opening remarks at "From Basic to Applied Research," a conference organized by ERA-Can+.[452] ERA-Can+ stands for Advancing EU-Canada Research and Innovation Collaboration and is a three-year project, funded by the EU Seventh Framework Programme, to promote bilateral science, technology and innovation cooperation between Canada and Europe.[453]

On 17 October 2016, the European Commission and the US government signed an agreement to facilitate cooperation in research and innovation. The agreement, called "Implementing Arrangement" will enable American researchers and selected European researchers from the Horizon 2020 project to work together in US funded projects.[454]

On 20 October 2016, the European Commission launched the public stakeholder consultation on Horizon 2020, which is "the EU's EUR77 billion research and innovation funding scheme running from 2014 to 2020."[455] The public consultation is open to all citizens and organizations and aims to receive feedback particularly from researchers and entrepreneurs.[456]

On 20 October 2016, the European Commission launched the public consultation on Euratom Research and Training Programme. The public consultations will be used for interim evaluations of both programmes.[457]

On 2-8 November 2016, the European Commission co-hosted the 11th EU-China Business & Technology Cooperation Fair. The event brought together 1,500 from companies, governments, universities, research and development institutions, and other relevant actors.This event fosters cooperation in innovation between the EU and China, by bringing together researchers from the two countries.[458]

On 7-9 November 2016, the European Commission and several companies hosted Bio-Europe: the 22nd Annual International Partnering Conference, a networking event to expand innovation in the life sciences industry.[459]

On 10 November 2016, the European Investment Fund signed a loan guarantee deal with Iceland's Arion Bank. The loan is part of a larger plan to generate EUR107 million in innovative companies over two

[451] EU-India Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation Days 2016, European Commission (Brussels) 23 September 2016. Access Date:13 November 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=india

[452] AGENDA EU-Canada cooperation in science, technology and innovation, ERA-CAN+ (Munich) 23 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.era-can.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/ERA-Can-Info-Session_Munich_Agenda_draft.pdf

[453] The Canada-EU Science, Technology and Innovation Landscape, the Canadian Trade Commissioner (Rome) September 15 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.era-can.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/9_Canada-EU-STI-Lanscape-ERA-Can-15-Sep-2016-final.pdf

[454] EU-US agreement offers new opportunities for research cooperation, European Commission (Brussels) 17 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2016&na=na-171016

[455] Public consultation: have your say on Horizon 2020, European Commission (Brussels) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016 http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?&na=na-191016&pg=newsalert&year=2016

[456] Public stakeholder consultation – interim evaluation of Horizon 2020, European Commission (Brussels) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016 http://ec.europa.eu/research/consultations/interim_h2020_2016/consultation_en.htm

[457] Public stakeholder consultation on the Euratom Research and Training Programme, European Commission (Brussels) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016 http://ec.europa.eu/research/consultations/euratom_rt_programme/consultation_en.htm

[458] The 11th EU China Business & Technology Cooperation Fair, EU Project Innovation Center (Chengdu) Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://www.eu-china.org.cn/

[459] 22nd Annual International Partnering Conference BIOEUROPE, EBD Group (Cologne) Access Date: 21 November 2016. https://ebdgroup.knect365.com/bioeurope/sponsors

years. Loans are expected to reach small and medium-sized companies for the development of innovative ideas. The loan is meant to increase risk and innovation, as losses will be guaranteed by 50% by the EU.[460]

On 18 November 2016, the EU and Mexico launched a joint geothermal research project worth EUR20 million. The project aims to find innovative ways to access new resources of geothermal energy in Mexico. Twenty-nine partners from Belgium, Germany, Greece, France, Iceland, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland and the United Kingdom will collaborate in the three-year project.[461]

On 23 November 2016, the EU co-hosted the "Spreading Excellence and Crossing the Innovation Divide" Conference in Brussels. The conference provided a platform for actors to discuss opportunities for European research and Innovations, and possibilities to close the innovation gap between countries and institutions. At the end of the conference, participants wrote a paper on recommendations to increase innovation in low performing states. The other organizers were the Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information, the Slovak Liaison Office for Research and Development, the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and the Slovak Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The project received funding from the EU's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program.[462]

On 20 January 2017, the European Commission announced the 15 members of the High Level Group that will advise the commission on Horizon 2020 and future research and innovation programmes. The Panel will help the EU manage its EUR2.5 billion innovation budget.[463]

On 15 February 2017, the European Parliament adopted a proposal to put forward the Innovation Fund for clean energy projects.[464]

On 28 March 2017, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) announced the re-launch of the EIT Manufacturing initiative. It is Europe's largest innovation network and brings together leading business, universities and research labs to form dynamic cross-border partnerships that develop innovative products and services, start new companies, and train a new generation of entrepreneurs.[465]

In May 2017, Carlos Moedas, the EU Commissioner for Research Science and Innovation, launched a competition to award a prize of EUR1 million to the European city that has "most successfully experimented with new and innovative citizen-driven initiatives proving itself as a 'test-bed' for potential solutions to relevant societal challenges."[466]

[460] Innovative firms in Iceland to benefit from EU-guaranteed loans, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2016&na=na-101116
[461] Key joint EU – Mexico geothermal research project kicks off, European Commission (Brussels) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/news-events/newsroom/key-joint-eu-–-mexico-geothermal-research-project-kicks
[462] About the Conference, SECID (Brussels). Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://secid2016.eu/en/conference
[463] Commission brings in top innovators to advise on a potential European Innovation Council, European Commission (Brussels) 20 January 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2017&na=na-200117
[464] EU Innovation Fund steps closer to realization, TidalEnergy Today 16 February 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://tidalenergytoday.com/2017/02/16/eu-innovation-fund-steps-closer-to-realization/
[465] Competition for new Innovation Communities: EIT Manufacturing and EIT Urban mobility, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Budapest) 28 March 2017. Date of Access: 8 June 2017. https://eit.europa.eu/newsroom/competition-new-innovation-communities-manufacturing-urban-mobility
[466] The European Capital of Innovation Award, European Commission (Brussels) May 2017. Access date: 8 June 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/research/prizes/icapital/index.cfm

On 6 May 2017, the European Parliament held an "Innovation across Borders" conference to highlight the cooperation between the EU and Israel on innovation.[467]

From 10-12 May 2017, the EU held the European Economic Congress with representatives of EU administration, national and European parliaments, ministers and deputy ministers from the world, chairmen of the largest companies, experts and leaders of opinions. During 132 sessions, 700 speakers and 9 000 participants discussed innovation, digitalisation and innovative technologies.[468]

From 17 to 19 May 2017, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) held an Urban Transitions Workshop in Bologna with participants across municipal authorities, private sector corporations, the start-up and SME communities, academia and civil society groups for discussion, knowledge sharing and networking — on financing low carbon projects, to scaling up projects for impact through alliances.[469]

On 17 May 2017, the EU Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, Carlos Moedas, met Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Minister of Economy and Industry Eli Cohen to discuss Israel's successful participation in Horizon 2020, European Union's research and innovation funding programme. The current programme, Horizon 2020 has a budget of nearly EUR77 billion for 2014-2020, and is the leading source of competitive public funding for research in Israel.[470]

From 18 to 19 May 2017, EIT and the European Economic and Social Committee held a conference on "Responsible Research and Innovation in the Health and Industry."[471]

On 19 May 2017, EIT launched a call for applications for the EIT Climate-KIC's Greenhouse programme for budding entrepreneurs to help future entrepreneurs to grow their climate innovation business ideas.[472]

On 29 May 2017, IT signed a Memorandum of Collaboration with Estonia to "help the Estonian innovation ecosystem develop during Estonia's EU presidency and also play an increasingly important role in the international digital landscape."[473]

On 29 May 2017, EIT and Paragon Europe in collaboration with Malta organized a conference around green urban centres, circular economy and green finance. The conference showcased the Smart

[467] http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/230693
[468] EIT InnoEnergy: Innovations and R&D sector at European Economic Congress, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Budapest) 17 May 2017. Date of Access: 8 June 2017. https://eit.europa.eu/newsroom/eit-innoenergy-innovations-and-rd-sector
[469] Join EIT Climate-KIC's third Urban Transitions Workshop in Bologna, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Budapest) 17 May 2017. Date of Access: 8 June 2017. https://eit.europa.eu/newsroom/eit-innoenergy-innovations-and-rd-sector
[470] EU Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation visits the Start-Up Nation, Delegation of the European Union to Israel (Tel Aviv) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/israel/26342/eu-commissioner-research-science-and-innovation-visits-start-nation_en
[471] EIT Health CEO to speak at conference promoting socially responsible research and innovation for health, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Budapest) 19 May 2017. Date of Access: 8 June 2017. https://eit.europa.eu/newsroom/eit-health-ceo-speak-conference-promoting-socially-responsible-research-and-innovation
[472] Want to become an entrepreneur? Join EIT Climate-KIC's Greenhouse programme, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Budapest) 19 May 2017. Date of Access: 8 June 2017. https://eit.europa.eu/newsroom/join-eit-climate-kics-greenhouse
[473] EIT Digital and Startup Estonia join forces to boost Estonian startup ecosystem, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Budapest) 25 May 2017. Date of Access: 8 June 2017. https://eit.europa.eu/newsroom/eit-digital-startup-estonia-join-forces

Sustainable Districts, an EIT Climate-KIC programme that works closely with highly ambitious districts across Europe to identify innovative solutions to their sustainability and climate change challenges.[474]

On 6 June 2017, EIT announced a call for start-ups across Spain and Portugal, offering support worth up to EUR500,000 to the most innovative entrepreneurs and small businesses working towards a sustainable energy future.[475]

The EU has promoted dialogue on innovation growth through public consultations and leading bilateral communication on science and innovation collaboration. It has also taken steps towards supporting national and international business and research cooperation on innovation. It has also supported innovation cooperation through securing bilateral agreements and partnerships with G20 members, sharing best practices, and addressing common challenges through collaboration. Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alejandra Bellatin

[474] Towards a Zero Carbon Economy Beyond 2030 - Sustainable Urban Centres, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Budapest) 29 May 2017. Date of Access: 8 June 2017. https://eit.europa.eu/newsroom/eit-innoenergy-500k-iberian-startstartups
[475] EIT InnoEnergy backs Iberian sustainable energy innovation with start-up support worth up to €500k, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Budapest) 6 June 2017. Date of Access: 8 June 2017. https://eit.europa.eu/newsroom/eit-innoenergy-500k-iberian-startstartups

3. Development: Tax Administration

"[We will continue our support for international tax cooperation to achieve a globally fair and modern international tax system and to foster growth, including advancing] tax capacity-building of developing countries"

G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
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			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.95	

Background

Following the 2008 financial crisis, the G20 recognized that narrowing the development gap and reducing poverty were essential to fulfilling its core objective of strong, sustainable and balanced growth.[476]

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, the G20 determined that the exchange of information and experience was fundamental to securing a healthy global economy.[477] The G20 supported the expansion of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information to include the participation of developing countries. The Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information focused on improving tax transparency and exchange of information so that countries can effectively enforce their tax laws and protect their tax base.[478]

[476] About group, G20 Development Working Group Information Exchange Facility. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20dwg.org
[477] Leader's Statement The Pittsburgh Summit (Pittsburgh) 24 — 25 September 2009. Access Date: 7 November 2016. http://www.g20dwg.org/static/2009_G20_Framework_for_Strong_Sustainable_and_Balanced_Growth.pdf
[478] Leader's Statement The Pittsburgh Summit (Pittsburgh) 24 — 25 September 2009. Access Date: 7 November 2016. http://www.g20dwg.org/static/2009_G20_Framework_for_Strong_Sustainable_and_Balanced_Growth.pdf

During the 2010 Seoul Summit, the G20 launched its development agenda with the Multi-Year Action Plan on Development (MYAP).[479] The MYAP established nine pillars in which G20 actions were identified as necessary to resolving the largest obstacles to inclusive, sustainable and resilient growth in developing countries. The eighth pillar, domestic resource mobilization, stressed the importance of strengthening "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."[480] As a framework for fulfilling the eighth pillar, the MYAP recommended two actions: support the development of more effective tax systems and support work to prevent erosion of domestic task revenues.[481] The Action Plan called on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Task Force on Tax and Development, United Nations, International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank and regional organizations to support the G20's initiative to improve domestic resource mobilization by reporting back to the G20 at the next summit.

The results were presented to the G20 at the 2011 Cannes Summit in a report entitled, Supporting the Development of More Effective Tax Systems. According to the report, tax system design is closely linked to domestic and international investment decisions, including in terms of transparency and fairness. Thus, a strong tax administration is essential to strengthening domestic resource mobilization. Despite this, in 2013, the median tax ratio in low-income countries (LICs) was around 13 percent, with 16 LICs having ratios below 15 percent.[482]

During the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, the G20 affirmed that developing countries would benefit from a more transparent tax system that would allow them to "enhance their revenue capacity, as mobilizing domestic resources is critical to financial development."[483] As a result, the OECD was invited to submit a report to the G20 DWG on the impact of Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) on developing countries and to determine what type of assistance they may need.

On 6 October 2016, the fourth G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting of 2016 was held in Washington DC. The meeting was the last G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting under the Chinese Presidency.[484] The Finance Ministers reaffirmed commitment to issues concerning Global Economy, Tax, Beneficial Ownership and Anti-Money Laundering.[485]

Commitment Features

The G20 committed to "continue our support for international tax cooperation to achieve a globally fair and modern international tax system and to foster growth, including advancing] tax capacity-building of developing countries." In Supporting the Development of More Effective Tax Systems two broad ways in which the G20 can work with developing countries to support the efforts for strengthening developing

[479] Annex 2: Multi-Year Action Plan on Development, The Seoul Summit Document (Seoul) 12 November 2010. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20dwg.org/documents/pdf/view/323/
[480] Annex 2: Multi-Year Action Plan on Development, The Seoul Summit Document (Seoul) 12 November 2010. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20dwg.org/documents/pdf/view/323/
[481] Annex 2: Multi-Year Action Plan on Development, The Seoul Summit Document (Seoul) 12 November 2010. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20dwg.org/documents/pdf/view/323/
[482] 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: 7 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/enhancing-the-effectiveness-of-external-support-in-building-tax-capacity-in-developing-countries.pdf
[483] Part 1 of a Report to G20 Development Working Group on the Impact of BEPS in Low Income Countries, OECD (Paris) July 2014. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/part-1-of-report-to-g20-dwg-on-the-impact-of-beps-in-low-income-countries.pdf
[484] G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting, The G20 (Washington) 6 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Dynamic/201610/t20161019_3512.html.
[485] G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting, The G20 (Washington) 6 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Dynamic/201610/t20161019_3512.html.

economies' engagement in the international tax agenda were identified 1) leading by example in addressing common issues and furthering common interests, and 2) act as shareholders or members of the international organisations most closely concerned with taxation and development.

Part One: Common issues, common interests — leading by example and developing partnerships

To be considered as leading by example in addressing common issues and furthering common interests, the G20 member must take action in two or more of the following ways:

1. Estimate and publish tax expenditures, and the cost of special provisions, in regular tax expenditure and budgets. G20 members could lead and encourage a more rigorous assessment of the costs and benefits of such provisions.

2. Develop analytical frameworks, suitable to the varying needs and circumstances of different countries, to assess the costs and benefits of preferential tax treatments, including in particular tax incentives aimed at foreign direct investment (FDI), and provide guidelines for members which use such incentives.

3. Disclose and consider reducing the scope of tax exemptions required by G20 members from country recipients of aid-funded projects.

4. Undertake "spillover" analyses of proposed changes to tax law in G20 members, for example in trade and international taxation — which could have effects on the fiscal circumstances of developing countries.

Part Two: Acting as shareholders or members in international organizations

To be considered as acting as shareholders or members in international organizations most closely concerned with taxation and development the G20 member must take action in two or more of the following ways:

1. Encourage international organizations to more thoroughly assess and act upon linkages of tax and expenditure policies in their technical assistance to developing countries.

2. Encourage the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, working with other international and regional organizations as appropriate, to further develop and make publicly available consistent and detailed revenue data sets for the developing countries.

3. Encourage the international organizations, including the Forum on Tax Administrations, to develop a toolkit of measures to counter tax evasion and avoidance, based on best practices and guidelines adapted to the needs of developing countries.

4. Promote the Multilateral Convention on Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters. The Multilateral Convention on Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters was developed jointly by the OECD and the Council of Europe in 1988. It is the most comprehensive instrument available for all forms of tax co-operation and to tackle tax evasion and avoidance.

To achieve full compliance, the G20 member must comply with both parts of the commitment. Partial compliance is achieved when the G20 member complies with one part in two or more ways. No compliance is achieved if the G20 member does not fully comply with either part of the commitment. Actions that were initiated outside of the compliance period (before 6 September 2016) and continued throughout the compliance period until 17 February 2017 will be considered for compliance, as the commitment states 'we will continue to…'

Scoring Guidelines

−1	Member does not lead by example in addressing common issues and furthering common interests AND does not act as a shareholder or member of the international organisations most closely concerned with taxation and development.
0	Member takes significant action to EITHER lead by example in addressing common issues and furthering common interests OR to act as a shareholder or member of the international organisations most closely concerned with taxation and development.
+1	Member does lead by example in addressing common issues and furthering common interests AND does act as a shareholder or member of the international organisations most closely concerned with taxation and development.

Lead Analyst: Jiyoon Han

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

As of December 2016, Argentina continues to publish monthly tax collection reports on its Federal Administration of Public Revenue (AFIP) tax administration website.[486]

On 9 September 2016, the tax administrations of Argentina and Uruguay met to discuss issues of mutual interest in international taxation. Both parties reaffirmed commitment to the Agreement for the Exchange of Tax Information and Method for Avoidance of Double Taxation.[487]

On 21-23 September 2016, Argentina sent a delegation to the Regional Meeting of the Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in Montevideo, Uruguay. The meeting, organized by Uruguay in partnership with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the World Bank Group, the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations, and the Inter-American Development Bank served as a discussion on the implementation of the BEPS Package following the first meeting of the Inclusive Framework in Kyoto, Japan on 29 June — 1 July 2016.[488]

On 26 September 2016, the Minister of the Economy Alfonso Prat-Gay met with United States Treasury Secretary Jack Lew in Buenos Aires regarding cooperation on exchanging fiscal data to fight tax evasion and doubling joint efforts to fight against money laundering.[489] US Treasury Secretary Jack Lew announced that the US and Argentina will begin negotiations on a tax treaty on the exchange of information.[490]

From 26-27 September 2016, Argentina held the sixth Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) Fiscal Policy Forum in Buenos Aires which aimed to promote tax reform, share best practices on international

[486] Tax Breakdown December 2016, Federal Administration of Public Revenue (Buenos Aires) 2 January 2017. Date of Access: 2 January 2017. https://servicios1.afip.gov.ar/genericos/prensa/VerGacetilla.aspx?id=140
[487] Declaration, Federal Administration of Public Revenue (Buenos Aires) 11 September 2016. Date of Access: 12 November 2016. https://servicios1.afip.gov.ar/genericos/prensa/VerGacetilla.aspx?id=94
[488] Regional Meeting of the Inclusive Framework on BEPS for Latin America & the Caribbean, Co-Chair's Summary (Montevideo) 23 September 2016. Date of Access: 12 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/beps-regional-meeting-co-chairs-summary-lac-september-2016-montevideo.pdf
[489] Argentina and the United States accelerate the process of sharing fiscal data to fight against tax evasion, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 26 September 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.economia.gob.ar/en/argentina-and-the-united-states-accelerate-the-process-of-sharing-fiscal-data-to-fight-against-tax-evasion/
[490] Report on recent US international tax developments – 30 September 2016, Ernst & Young Tax Insights. 5 October 2016. Date of Access: 11 November 2016. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/report-on-recent-us-international-tax-developments-30-september-2016.aspx

tax developments and domestic tax reforms, and to improve the effectiveness of tax systems. The forum was part of the LAC Fiscal Initiative and OECD programme that promotes cooperation on taxation and public expenditure policies in the LAC region.[491]

On 11 October 2016, the Tax Treaty for the Avoidance of Double Taxation with Respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital and to Prevent Fiscal Evasion and Tax Avoidance entered into force between Argentina and Chile after the Argentine Congress notified the Chilean government that its internal requirements were satisfied.[492]

On 2-4 November 2016, the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, of which Argentina is a member, held its ninth annual meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia to further the shared goal of improving tax transparency. This meeting marked the completion of the first round of the Forum's peer review process, and resulted in the publication of a second phase of reviews on the Exchange of Information on Request standards.[493]

On 16 November 2016, Argentina signed a joint declaration with Switzerland on the introduction of automatic exchange of information in tax matters on a reciprocal basis.[494]

As of January 2017, Argentina remains under tax amnesty, which came into force on 25 July 2016.[495] The amnesty allows Argentinians to disclose previously undeclared funds and be taxed at 0 per cent or preferable rates if they invest them in the country. Gabriel Martino, president of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) Argentina, estimated that the amnesty could provide up to USD80 billion.[496]

On 31 March 2017, Argentina's tax amnesty ended. The tax amnesty, which had come into force on 25 July 2016, allowed Argentinians to disclose previously undeclared funds and be taxed at 0 per cent or preferable rates if they invested them into the country.[497] On 4 April 2017, the Argentine government announced that $116.8 billion in assets were declared, and $10 billion was collected in taxes.[498]

Argentina has supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization and has taken actions to address common issues and interests. Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Katie Fettes

[491] Sixth meeting of the LAC Fiscal Policy Forum, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Buenos Aires) 27 September 2016. Date of Access: 12 November 2016. https://www.oecd.org/ctp/tax-global/summary-sixth-meeting-of-the-lac-fiscal-policy-forum.pdf.
[492] Argentina – Chile tax treaty enters into force, Ernst & Young Tax Insights 21 October 2016. Date of Access: 12 November 2016. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/argentina-chile-tax-treaty-enters-into-force.aspx.
[493] Statement of Outcomes – Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Tbilisi) 2-4 November 2016. Date of Access 13 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/statement-of-outcomes-GF-plenary-2016.pdf.
[494] Argentina, Switzerland agree to automatically exchange financial account information for tax purposes, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News 17 November 2016. Date of Access: 2 January 2017. http://mnetax.com/argentina-switzerland-agree-automatically-exchange-financial-account-information-tax-purposes-18140
[495] Argentina: Tax Amnesty Regime, Tax & Legal News — KPMG Switzerland 5 December 2016. Date of Access: 2 January 2017. https://blog.kpmg.ch/tax-legal-news/argentina-tax-amnesty-regime.
[496] Argentina sees tax amnesty boosting economy (Buenos Aires) 10 August 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-argentina-summit-pratgay-idUSKCN10L1DR.
[497] Argentina: Tax Amnesty Regime, Tax & Legal News - KPMG Switzerland 5 December 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. https://blog.kpmg.ch/tax-legal-news/argentina-tax-amnesty-regime.
[498] Argentina collects nearly $10 bln in tax amnesty, $116.8 bln declared, Reuters (Buenos Aires) 4 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/argentina-tax-amnesty-idUSE6N1AD02I

Australia: +1

Australia has partially complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

The Australian Government's Framework for supporting tax policy and administration, dated March 2016, states: "[The Addis Tax Initiative] commits Australia to doubling its investments to support tax systems in developing countries by 2020."[499]

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) 2016 Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes progress report states that Australia wa fully compliant (rather than "largely," "partialy," or "non-compliant") completed in 2016 (no specific date given). Australia's second review was scheduled for the third quarter of 2016. The Global Forum is a coalition of 137 countries and jurisdication "working together to fight international tax evasion through improved international standards of transparency and exchange of information." This effort includes the Common Reporting Standard (CRS) for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (the AEOI Standard. It comprises 101 jurisdications that have agreed to exchange tax information beginning in 2017 and 2018. Argentina is committed to undertaking its first exchange in September 2018.[500]

Argentina's 2016-17 Budget includes tax provisions in line with BEPS, such as combating tax avoidance by multinational corporations.[501]

On 26 September 2016, the Australian Taxation Office issued guidance material on Australia's participation in automatic exchange of information regimes.[502] It also released clarification material about exemptions for multinational groups from local filing requirements in Australia in relation to country-by-country (CbC) reporting.[503,504]

On 17 October 2016, Australia announced that it will redefine rules for determining whether structures create debt or equity interest. This decision was based on advice provided by its Board of Taxation over concerns of uncertainty and over the possibility of taxpayers artificially manipulating schemes to create favourable tax outcomes.[505]

On 7 December 2016, Australia and Germany exchanged instruments of ratification for the Australia-Germany tax treaty that was signed on 12 November 2015. It includes three overarching provisions: to "modernize arrangements between Australia and Germany in line with changes to commercial practices, domestic tax systems and recent treaty policies and practices in both countries," "align with recent OECD tax treaty developments, including new provisions recommended by the OECD/G20 that are intended to minimize tax avoidance opportunities and create a more certain business environment for taxpayers" and

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[499] Framework for supporting tax policy and administration through the aid program, March 2016, Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs. Date of Access: 30 March 2017. http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/framework-supporting-tax-policy-administration-through-aid-program.pdf

[500] Tax Transparency Report on Progress, 2016, OECD Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes. Date of Access: 30 March 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/GF-annual-report-2016.pdf

[501] Budget overview, Government of Australia. Date of Access: 30 March 2017. http://budget.gov.au/2016-17/content/glossies/overview/html/

[502] Global Tax Update October 2016, PwC Australia 3 October 2016. Date of Access: 25 November 2016. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=3b0f0ebd-3721-4894-9679-b43f7dd8d7da.

[503] Australia: Country-by-Country Reporting Exemption Guidance Offers Relief to MNEs, MNE Tax 18 October 2016. Date of Access: 26 November 2016. http://mnetax.com/australia-country-country-reporting-exemption-guidance-offers-relief-mnes-17666.

[504] The Latest On BEPS — 10 October 2016, EY 10 October 2016. Date of Access: 25 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---10-october-2016.

[505] Australia Targets Tax Integrity for Debt Equity Rules, Bloomberg & The Bureau of National Affairs 18 October 2016. Date of Access: 26 November 2016. http://www.bna.com/australia-targets-tax-n57982078758/.

"enhance the exchange of information and assistance in the collection of outstanding tax debts between our tax officials, with these provisions"[506]

On 27 March 2017, the Australian Parliament legislated a diverted-profits tax (DPT). As the most expansive cross-border tax change in generations, the DPT will impose a penalty rate of 40% to profits diverted offshore through related party arrangements. This tax will apply for income years starting on or after 1 July 2017.[507]

On 9 May 2017, the Australian government released budget documents announcing the introduction of hybrid mismatch provisions applicable to banks and insurance companies and the tightening of multinational anti-avoidance law (MAAL). These measures will be applicable on 1 January 2018 or six months after the Royal Assent of legislation.[508]

Australia has led by example and has supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization. Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Yuliya Gorelkina

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 3 and 13 October 2016, the Brazilian Revenue Service (RFB) published Normative Instructions 1,662 (NI 1662) and 1,664 (NI 1664), amending the current rules related to withholding income tax on transactions between Brazilian residents and non-residents.[509]

On 21 October 2016, Brazil signed the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement to increase transparency of multinational enterprises (MNEs) through the annual automatic exchange of country-by-country reports and to ensure that the confidentiality of such information is safeguarded.[510]

On 6 December 2016, Brazil pledged to share tax information automatically and adopt global standards on tax transparency to check cross border tax evasion. It also resolved to support other developing nations in increasing their tax administrations' capacity to implement the Organization for Economic Cooperation (OECD)/G20's standard on Automatic Exchange of Information.[511]

[506] Tax treaty between Australia and Germany, Australian Taxation Office (Canberra) 23 February 2017. Access Date: 30 March 2017. https://www.ato.gov.au/General/New-legislation/In-detail/Other-topics/International/Tax-treaty-between-Australia-and-Germany/

[507] Diverted Profits Tax: Australia passes new law to combat multinational tax avoidance, PwC Australia (Canberra) 29 March 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=43b46644-3c08-472e-b946-194c9f49b982

[508] Budget 2017-2018, Government of Australia (Canberra) 9 May 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.budget.gov.au

[509] Brazil amends regulations regarding taxation of capital gains earned by non-residents and cross-border remittances for rental/lease of aircrafts (Brasília) 20 October 2016. Date of Access: 8 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--brazil-amends-regulations-regarding-taxation-of-capital-gains-earned-by-nonresidents-and-cross-border-remittances-for-rental-lease-of-aircrafts.

[510] Next step towards transparency in international tax matters: Five new jurisdictions sign tax co-operation agreement to enable automatic sharing of country-by-country information (Paris) 21 October 2016. Date of Access: 8 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/brazil/five-new-jurisdictions-sign-tax-co-operation-agreement-to-enable-automatic-sharing-of-country-by-country-information.htm.

[511] BRICS nations vow to automatic sharing of tax information, 6 December 2016. Access date: 10 January 2017. http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/economy/brics-nations-vow-to-automatic-sharingtax-information_8072201.html.

On 4 January 2017, Brazil had established the Tax Regularization Program (PRT), which allows individuals and corporations to settle their tax debts accrued up to 30 November 2016.[512]

On 20 February 2017, RFB amended Normative Instruction n. 1,689 regarding the compulsory exchange of information on tax rulings to align its process with the OECD's BEPS project.[513]

On 27 January 2017, RFB issued Normative Instruction RFB 1681 which requires annual country-by-country report for Brazilian entities that part of multinational enterprise groups. This report must contain information regarding their profits, taxes and other indicators of economic activities and is part of of Brazil's BEPS initiative.[514]

Brazil has supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda through national actions that address common issues and common concerns and as a member of international organizations Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sangeetha Ganesh

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 16 September 2016, the Canadian Department of Finance released new draft legislative proposals regarding technical amendments to the Income Tax Act and Income Tax Regulations. These amendments are part of an effort by the Department of Finance to "improve the accuracy and consistency of the income tax legislation and regulations."[515]

On 21 September 2016, the Government of Canada signed a new Convention with the Government of the State of Israel. The Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income includes provisions reflecting the standard developed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development for the exchange of information for tax purposes.[516]

On 7 October 2016, the Government of Canada announced that it will begin negotiations for the conclusion of a tax treaty between Canada and the Republic of San Marino. The tax treaty will seek to resolve issues such as double taxation.[517]

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[512] Brazil establishes Tax Regularization Program for the settlement of tax debts (Brasília) 19 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/Brazil_establishes_Tax_Regularization_Program_for_the_settlement_of_tax_debts/$FILE/2017G_00264-171Gbl_BR%20establishes%20Tax%20Regularization%20Program%20for%20the%20settlement%20of%20tax%20debts.pdf

[513] Brazil's tax authority provides clarity on business tax matters, 28 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.internationaltaxreview.com/Article/3665421/Brazil-Country-Briefing/Brazil-Brazil-releases-guidance-on-applying-withholding-tax-on-payments-for-software-licences.html

[514] Brazilian rules on country-by-country reporting (Brasilia) 02 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.internationaltaxreview.com/Article/3713934/Brazilian-rules-on-country-by-country-reporting.html

[515] Finance Canada Releases Draft Income Tax Technical Amendments, EY 22 September 2016. Date of Access: 25 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--finance-canada-releases-draft-income-tax-technical-amendments.

[516] Tax Convention Signed Between Canada and the State of Israel, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 23 September 2016. Date of Access: 25 November 2016. http://www.fin.gc.ca/treaties-conventions/notices/israel_1-eng.asp.

[517] Tax Treaty Negotiations with San Marino, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 7 October 2016. Date of Access: 25 November 2016. http://www.fin.gc.ca/treaties-conventions/notices/rsm-eng.asp.

On 24-25 November 2016, the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Project ad hoc Group, of which Canada is a member, adopted a multilateral instrument that will allow countries to easily amend their tax treaties to implement tax treaty-related BEPS recommendation.[518]

On 23 February 2017, the Department of Finance released its annual report on federal tax expenditures. According to the Department of Finance, one of the motivations behind this report is to "foster government budgetary and fiscal transparency."[519,520]

On 22 March 2017, Canada's government issued its 2017 Federal Budget before Parliament. The Budget contains an international tax legislative proposal that would extend Canada's anti-avoidance rules to foreign branches of Canadian life-insurance companies. The Budget also emphasizes Canada's intentions to ensure that its tax rules meet the four minimum standards of the BEPS project.[521]

From 12-13 May 2017, G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank governors met in Bari, Italy. In a communiqué, they stated that they looked forward to the June 7 signing of the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent BEPS. They also called upon all jurisdictions to sign and ratify the multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters and to implement the Common Reporting Standard on automatic exchange of financial account information.[522]

On 25 May 2017, Finance Minister Bill Morneau addressed the Toronto Region Board of Trade and its guests on the topic of tax fairness. He discussed the government's plan to maintain the integrity of Canada's tax system as part of its long-term plan to grow the economy, create jobs, and strengthen the middle class. He specifically acknowledged taking action against tax loopholes to instill confidence in Canada's middle class and to drive economic growth.[523]

Canada has supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization and has taken actions to address common issues and interests. Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Yuliya Gorelkina

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 28 September 2016, China's State Administration of Taxation (SAT) issued the Announcement on Further Improving the Administration for the Export Tax Rebate (Exemption) of Comprehensive Service Enterprises in Foreign Trade Industry to improve the measures for the exemption of comprehensive

[518] Multilateral Instrument for BEPS Tax Treaty Measures: The Ad hoc Group, OECD (Paris) 24 November 2016. Date of Access: 26 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/treaties/multilateral-instrument-for-beps-tax-treaty-measures-the-ad-hoc-group.htm.

[519] Department of Finance Canada Releases Annual Report on Federal Tax Expenditures, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 23 February 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.fin.gc.ca/n17/17-006-eng.asp

[520] Report On Federal Tax Expenditures: Concepts, Estimates and Evaluations, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 23 February 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.fin.gc.ca/taxexp-depfisc/2017/taxexp-depfisc17-eng.pdf.

[521] Canada's 2017 Federal Budget Does Not Contain New BEPS Measures, Thomson Reuters 29 March 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/checkpoint/canadas-2017-federal-budget-does-not-contain-new-beps-measures/.

[522] G7 finance ministers open to tackling tax challenges of digitalization, MNE Tax 15 May 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://mnetax.com/g7-ministers-consider-tax-digitalization-21180

[523] Minister Morneau Brings Message of Tax Fairness to Toronto Region Board of Trade, Department of Finance Canada (Toronto) 25 May 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.fin.gc.ca/n17/17-049-eng.asp

service enterprises in the foreign trade industry and boost the stability and development of foreign trade industry.[524]

On 18 October 2016, China announced the Pilot Program on Qualifying Enterprises inside the Special Customs Supervision Zones for General Value Added Tax (VAT) Taxpayers to promote tax equality, eliminate double taxation, and provide more favorable tax environment for investment decisions.[525]

On 24 October 2016, China and Cambodia signed an agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.[526] The agreement included methods for elimination of double taxation in both countries.[527]

On 29 November 2016, China sent delegates to the first regional meeting of the Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit shifting (BEPS) in the Asia-Pacific region in Manila, and discussed the latest developments on the implementation work on BEPS.[528]

On 5 December 2016, China, as a member of the BRICS group of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, participated in a meeting in Mumbai to discuss possible areas of cooperation as laid out in the Goa Declaration.[529] China agreed to help promote international tax cooperation and exchange relevant knowledge and experience in these areas: combating base erosion and profit shifting, implementing the automatic exchange of information, extending the reach of tax cooperation and building capacity, international tax cooperation.[530]

On 28 March 2017, the SAT of China released the Announcement on Special Tax Investigations, Adjustments and Mutual Agreement Procedures ("Announcement 6").[531] Announcement 6 integrates some of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) BEPS work, particularly in relation to intangibles, into domestic regulations.[532] It also consolidates previous regulations on self-adjustments and outbound payments, and writes into regulation some of the existing practices adopted for transfer pricing audits.[533]

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[524] Improve the Classified Administration of Export Tax Rebate and Support the Development of Comprehensive Service Enterprises in Foreign Trade Industry, State Administration of Taxation of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 7 November 2016. Access date: 7 January 2017. http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/2013/n2925/n2957/c2342551/content.html.

[525] New VAT Policy Piloted in Special Customs Supervision Zones, State Administration of Taxation of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 12 December 2016. Access date: 7 January 2017. http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/2013/n2925/n2957/c2406627/content.html.

[526] Cambodia, State Administration of Taxation of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 24 October 2016. Access date: 13 November 2016. http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/2013/n2925/n2955/c2301630/content.html.

[527] Cambodia, State Administration of Taxation of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 24 October 2016. Access date: 13 November 2016. http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/2013/n2925/n2955/c2301630/content.html.

[528] OECD holds regional meeting of the Inclusive Framework on BEPS for the Asia-Pacific region, OECD (Paris) 1 December 2016. Access date: 7 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/oecd-holds-regional-meeting-of-the-inclusive-framework-on-beps-for-the-asia-pacific-region.htm.

[529] Communiqué of BRICS Heads of Revenue Meeting Issued in Mumbai on December, 6th 2016, State Administration of Taxation of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 26 December 2016. Access date: 7 January 2017. http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/2013/n2925/n2957/c2422197/content.html.

[530] Communiqué of BRICS Heads of Revenue Meeting Issued in Mumbai on December, 6th 2016, State Administration of Taxation of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 26 December 2016. Access date: 7 January 2017.http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/2013/n2925/n2957/c2422197/content.html.

[531] China Tax Alert, KPMG (Netherlands), March 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://assets.kpmg.com/content/dam/kpmg/cn/pdf/en/2017/03/china-tax-alert-10.pdf

[532] China Tax Alert, KPMG (Netherlands), March 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://assets.kpmg.com/content/dam/kpmg/cn/pdf/en/2017/03/china-tax-alert-10.pdf

[533] China Tax Alert, KPMG (Netherlands), March 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017 https://assets.kpmg.com/content/dam/kpmg/cn/pdf/en/2017/03/china-tax-alert-10.pdf

On 18 March 2017, the Development Research Center of the State Council of China hosted organized the annual session of China Development Forum 2017.[534] OECD Chief of Staff Gabriela Ramos is a special guest of the forum.[535]

On 19 May 2017, the SAT of China along with the Ministry of Finance, Peoples' Bank of China, China Banking Regulatory Commission, China Insurance Regulatory Commission and China Securities Regulatory Commission jointly released to the public the "Measures on the Due Diligence of Non-resident Financial Account Information in Tax Matters."[536] This tax and regulatory circular provides the overall framework for implementing the Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Information in Tax Matters in China that was formulated by the OECD.[537]

China has supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization by encouraging the international organizations to develop a tool kit of measures to counter tax avoidance, based on best practices and guidelines adapted to the needs of developing countries. Also, China has taken actions to address common issues and interests by publishing tax revenues and undertaking "spillover" analyses of proposed changes to lax law in G20 countries, which could have effect on the fiscal circumstances of developing countries. Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ze Chen

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 1 October 2016, the French government published a decree on implementing the provisions of the General Tax Code on Country-by-Country (Cbc) reporting which was introduced by the Finance Law for 2016.[538] The decree makes recommendations in accordance with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) standards on what information needs to be included in the CbC report. Additionally, it requires that companies meeting the CbC reporting requirements will need to communicate this through an electronic support provided by the French Public Finances General Directorate.[539]

From 18-20 October 2016, France Expertise, alongside partners in the Dutch Ministry of Finance, Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF), and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) delivered a course

[534] China Development Forum 2017 General Information, China Development Forum (Beijing), 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://cdf-en.cdrf.org.cn/ltjs.jhtml#content
[535] China Development Forum 2017 General Information, China Development Forum (Beijing), 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://cdf-en.cdrf.org.cn/ltjs.jhtml#content
[536]Measures on the Due Diligence of Non-resident Financial Account Information in Tax Matters, KPMG (Netherlands), 23 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017
https://home.kpmg.com/xx/en/home/insights/2017/05/china-tax-alert-16.html.
[537] Measures on the Due Diligence of Non-resident Financial Account Information in Tax Matters, KPMG (Netherlands), 23 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://home.kpmg.com/xx/en/home/insights/2017/05/china-tax-alert-16.html
[538] Country-by-Country Reporting – Finance Law 2016, French Government and Ministry of Finance (Paris) 1 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---10-october-2016.
[539] Country-by-Country Reporting – Finance Law 2016, French Government and Ministry of Finance (Paris) 1 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---10-october-2016.

on Supporting Capacity Development of Tax Administrations in South East Europe in Ljubljana Slovenia.[540]

On 21 November 2016, the French government proposed a diverted profits tax in the draft Finance Bill for 2017. A newly created diverted profits tax (DPT) would apply to the portion of profits realized by a legal entity domiciled or established outside of France and related to an activity carried out either through a permanent establishment in France, or by a legal person or individual where it can be legally established that the activity of such legal person or individual aims at avoiding or reducing the tax burden that should be due in France, by not declaring therein a permanent establishment.[541]

On 20 December 2016, the French government approved the Finance Bill for 2017. The bill includes articles on diversion of profits outside of France, decreases to the French Corporate Income Tax (CIT) rate, increases of the fourth CIT installment due by large entities, strengthening of the Tax Credit for Competitiveness and Employment (CICE), changes affecting the French Transactional Tax (FFT), extension of the French start-up regime until 31 December 2019, acquired software no longer subject to a favorable tax amortization regime, and extension of the French impatriate tax regime.[542]

On 24 January 2017, the French Parliament changed the value-added tax provisions (VAT) to include giving the French Tax Authority (FTA) the right to perform an on-site audit, and the deductible portion of input VAT incurred on gasoline for motor vehicles, progressively increases from 2017 to 2022.[543]

On 21 February 2017, as a member of the EU Economic and Financial Affairs Council, France agreed on amendments to the Anti-Tax Avoidance Directive (ATAD) to provide for minimum standards for hybrid mismatches involving third countries.[544]

On 13 April 2017, France hosted other members of the G20 for a special project meeting of the Joint International Tax Shelter Information and Collaboration (JITSIC) Network in Paris, France.[545] Senior tax administration officials discussed cooperation and information sharing in light of the Panama Papers.[546]

On 25 April 2017, the French Tax Authority amended their guidelines related to the withholding tax exemption set forth by Article 119 bis 2 of the French tax code (FTC) on French dividends paid to certain foreign regulated collective investment vehicles (CIVs).[547]

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[540] Supporting Capacity Development of Tax Administrations in South East Europe, Dutch Ministry of Finance, Center of Excellence in Finance, International Monetary Fund, France Expertise (Ljubljana) 18-20 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.cef-see.org/cooperative-compliance-programs-2016.

[541] Proposed Diverted Profits Tax (DPT), French Government and Parliament (Paris) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--france-includes-proposed-diverted-profits-tax-in-draft-finance-bill-for-2017-and-releases-draft-amending-finance-bill-for-2016.

[542] Finance Bill 2017, French Government and Parliament (Paris) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--french-parliament-approves-finance-bill-for-2017.

[543] French Parliament VAT Amendments for 2017. Ernst & Young Société d'Avocats (Paris) Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--france-implements-vat-law-changes-for-2017

[544] Hybrid Miss-matches with Non-EU Countries. The Economic and Financial Affairs Council, Ernst & Young Global Tax Desk (New York), 21 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--ecofin-agrees-on-directive-addressing-hybrid-mismatches-with-non-eu-countries

[545] Joint International Tax Shelter Information and Collaboration (JITSIC) Network (Paris) 13 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/tax-administrations-meet-on-panama-papers.htm

[546] Joint International Tax Shelter Information and Collaboration (JITSIC) Network (Paris) 13 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/tax-administrations-meet-on-panama-papers.htm

[547] French Tax Authorities amend Withholding Tax. Global Tax Alert, Ernst & Young Financial Services Desk (New York) 25 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--french-tax-authorities-amend-administrative-guidelines-on-dividend-withholding-tax-exemption-related-to-foreign-collective-investment-vehicles

On 13 May, 2017, G7 Finance Ministers, including Michel Sapin of France, issued a communique on global growth during their meeting in Bari, Italy.[548] G7 Ministers, and Central Bank Governors reaffirmed the need for more inclusive tax policies between the Euro Zone and the developing world.

On 22 May 2017, The French Government implemented anti-fraud measures requiring certain VAT registered businesses to use certified software or systems to record payments.[549]

France has supported the efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization and has taken action to address common issues and interests. Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Erwin Voloder

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 6 September 2016, Minister of Finance Wolfgang Schäuble spoke at the Bundestag, the National Parliament of the Federal Republic of Germany regarding the presentation of the draft federal budget for 2017. Germany reaffirmed its commitment to exchange information on income from savings and investments globally.[550] Within the G20 framework, Germany continued to uphold the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) initiative, which Germany implemented in European and national law.[551]

On 21 November 2016, Germany signed a convention with Panama on the Avoidance of Double Taxation with respect to taxes on income derived from the use of ships and aircrafts.[552]

On 1 December 2016, Germany announced it will host the G20 Africa Partnership Conference as well as the ITC/ATI Tax and Development Conference in June 2017, which is seen as addressing common issues and furthering common interests in order to strengthen developing economies.[553] Moreover, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Kenya, Italy and Germany have launched the pilot Africa Academy Programme for Tax and Financial Crime Investigation at the G20 Africa Partnership Conference.[554]

[548] G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Communique (Bari) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--g7-finance-ministers-and-central-bank-governors-issue-communique--pledge-to-make-global-growth-more-inclusive
[549] Anti-Fraud Measures and VAT Registered Businesses. Indirect Tax Alert, Ernst & Young Société d'Avocats (Lyon) 22 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--france-implements-anti-fraud-measures-requiring-certain-vat-registered-businesses-to-use-certified-software-or-systems-to-record-payments
[550] German Federal Draft Budget, Bundestag (Berlin) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Reden/2016/2016-09-26-Accept-challenges-maintain-stability-security.html.
[551] German Federal Draft Budget, Bundestag (Berlin) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Reden/2016/2016-09-26-Accept-challenges-maintain-stability-security.html.
[552] Avoidance of Double Taxation between Germany and Panama for Shipping. Global Tax Alert, Ernst & Young German and Panamanian Tax Desk (New York and Panama City) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--panama-and-germany-sign-convention-for-avoidance-of-double-taxation-in-international-transport.
[553] Calendar. Access Date: 6 July 2017. https://www.g20.org/Webs/G20/EN/G20/Calendar/calendar_node.html
[554] Pilot Africa Academy Programme for Tax and Financial Crime Investigation, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Access Date: 6 July 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/crime/africa-academy-programme-for-tax-and–financial-crime-investigation.htm,

On 7 December 2016, Germany ratified an Agreement with Australia for the Elimination of Double Taxation with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion and Avoidance.[555] The revised treaty replaces the existing 1972 treaty and reflects much of the updated wording in the current OECD Model Convention as well as recommendations in the OECD final reports in its Action Plan on BEPS (2015 BEPS Reports).[556]

On 13 April 2017, Germany met with other members of the G20 for a special project meeting of the Joint International Tax Shelter Information and Collaboration Network in Paris, France.[557] Senior tax administration officials discussed cooperation and information sharing in light of the Panama Papers.[558]

On 22 April 2017, German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäubel spoke before the International Monetary and Finance Committee in Washington DC, reaffirming Germany's commitment within the G20, and OECD to new global standards for tax transparency.[559]

On 27 April 2017, the German Federal Parliament adopted the Act against Harmful Tax Practices with regard to Licensing of Rights.[560] The main part of the draft legislation is the implementation of a new section, 4j Income Tax Act (ITA), restricting the tax deduction of royalties and similar payments made to related parties if such payments are subject to a OECD compliant preferential tax regime and are taxed at an effective rate below 25 percent.[561]

On 3 May 2017, Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany spoke at the G20 dialogue forum with business associates (B20) in Berlin, Germany, calling for fair, reliable, and transparent taxation systems.[562] Chancellor Merkel is reaffirming Germany's commitment in curbing BEPS measures worldwide.

On 13 May, 2017, G7 Finance Ministers, including Wolfgang Schäubel of Germany issued a communique on global growth during their meeting in Bari, Italy.[563] G7 finance ministers and central bank governors reaffirmed the need for more inclusive tax policies between the eurozone and the developing world.

[555] Germany and Australia Tax Treaty, Global Tax Alert, Ernst & Young German and Australian Tax Desk (New York and Sydney) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January, 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--new-australia-germany-tax-treaty-enters-into-force.

[556] Germany and Australia Tax Treaty, Global Tax Alert, Ernst & Young German and Australian Tax Desk (New York and Sydney) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January, 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--new-australia-germany-tax-treaty-enters-into-force.

[557] Joint International Tax Shelter Information and Collaboration (JITSIC) Network (Paris) 13 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/tax-administrations-meet-on-panama-papers.htm

558 Joint International Tax Shelter Information and Collaboration (JITSIC) Network (Paris) 13 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/tax-administrations-meet-on-panama-papers.htm

[559] International Monetary and Finance Committee (Washington) 22 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.imf.org/External/spring/2017/imfc/statement/eng/deu.pdf

[560] German Parliament. Act Against Harmful Tax Practices, Global Tax Alert, Ernst & Young (GmbH) Germany 27 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--german-parliament-adopts-legislation-on-limitation-of-tax-deduction-of-royalties-and-tax-exemption-of-restructuring-gains

[561] German Parliament. Act Against Harmful Tax Practices, Global Tax Alert, Ernst & Young (GmbH) Germany 27 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--german-parliament-adopts-legislation-on-limitation-of-tax-deduction-of-royalties-and-tax-exemption-of-restructuring-gains

[562] Speech by Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel (Berlin) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May, 2017. https://www.g20.org/Content/EN/Reden/2017/2017-05-03-bk-merkel-b20_en.html

[563] G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Communique (Bari) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--g7-finance-ministers-and-central-bank-governors-issue-communique--pledge-to-make-global-growth-more-inclusive

On 13 May 2107, the heads of 44 tax administrations, including Germany, met in Beijing, China for the 10th meeting of the OECD Forum on Tax Administration (FTA).[564] Germany alongside its OECD partners is committing to building stronger tax administrations in an increasingly digital world.[565]

On 17 May 2017, the German Federal Ministry of Finance issued draft guidance for consultation, addressing the question of whether a German (withholding) taxing right exists on cross-border payments for software, cloud or database use transactions.[566] The draft guidance contains 13 examples and covers situations where a domestic (German) customer obtains the temporary use right for software or database applications from a foreign vendor/licensor and uses this right in its (domestic) business.[567]

Germany has supported the efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization and has taken action to address common issues and interests Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Erwin Voloder

India: +1

India has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 29 September 2016, the Protocol Amending the Convention between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of India for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income was signed. On 29 October 2016, the Protocol had entered into force.[568]

On 25-30 September 2016, an official from the Indian Revenue Department (IRS) reaffirmed India's work towards the Base Erosion Profit Shifting (BEPS) Project.[569]

On 30 September 2016, the four month window for tax evasion amnesty in India uncovered INR652.5 billion in undisclosed wealth.[570]

On 8 November 2016, INR500 and INR1000 notes were removed from circulation to reduce tax evasion.[571]

[564] 10TH Meeting of the OECD Forum on Tax Administration (Beijing) 13 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/administration/fta-communique-2016.pdf
[565] 10TH Meeting of the OECD Forum on Tax Administration (Beijing) 13 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/administration/fta-communique-2016.pdf
[566] German Federal Ministry of Finance, draft guidance on withholding tax. Global Tax Alert, Ernst & Young German Tax Desk (New York) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--germany-issues-draft-guidance-on-classification-of-cross-border-software-and-database-use-payments-for-withholding-tax-purposes
[567] German Federal Ministry of Finance, draft guidance on withholding tax. Global Tax Alert, Ernst & Young German Tax Desk (New York) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--germany-issues-draft-guidance-on-classification-of-cross-border-software-and-database-use-payments-for-withholding-tax-purposes
[568] Protocol Amending Tax Convention with India will Enter into Force (Tokyo) 30 September 2016. Date of Access: 8 November 2016. http://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20160930in.htm.
[569] Indian tax official sees expanded role for BEPS inclusive framework, addresses transfer pricing local file (New Delhi) 29 September 2016. Date of Access: 8 November 2016. http://mnetax.com/indian-tax-official-sees-expanded-role-beps-inclusive-framework-addresses-transfer-pricing-local-file-17364.
[570] India's Tax Evasion Amnesty Uncovers Over $10 Billion Of Black Money (New Delhi) 2 October 2016. Date of Access: 8 November 2016. http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2016/10/01/tax-evasion-amnesty-uncovers-over-10-billion-usd-of-black-money/.

On 6 December 2016, India, as a member of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) pledged to share tax information automatically and adopt global standards on tax transparency to check cross border tax evasion. They also resolved to support other developing nations in increasing their tax administrations' capacity to implement the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/G20 standard on Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI).[572]

On 30 December 2016, India and Singapore signed a protocol to limit abuse of their double taxation avoidance agreement.[573]

On 17 May 2017, the Union Cabinet of India approved the signing of OECD's Multilateral Convention to implement tax treaty related measures to prevent BEPS. The Convention implements two minimum standards regarding treaty abuse and dispute resolution through mutual agreement procedures.[574]

India has supported the efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda through national actions that address common issues and common concerns and as stakeholders or members of international organizations. Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sangeetha Ganesh

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 30 September 2016, the first phase of Indonesia's tax amnesty program ended.[575] The aim of the tax amnesty program is to increase tax compliance in the country, boost tax revenue, and encourage repatriation of offshore assets into Indonesia.[576]

As of 16 October 2016, a total of IDR3,842.9 trillion worth of assets has been claimed to Indonesian tax authorities by more than 420,000 people.[577]

On 24 October 2016, a meeting was held between Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Secretary General Angel Gurria and President of Indonesia Joko Widodo during which President Widodo iterated that Indonesia would implement tax reforms soon.[578]

On 31 December 2016, the second phase of Indonesia's tax amnesty program ended. As of this date, a total of IDR4,295.9 trillion worth of assets has been declared. Additionally, IDR 140.5 trillion of overseas

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[571] India withdraws 500 and 1,000 rupee notes in effort to fight corruption (New Delhi) 8 November 2016. Date of Access: 8 November 2016. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/nov/08/india-withdraws-500-1000-rupee-notes-fight-corruption.
[572] BRICS nations vow to automatic sharing of tax information, 6 December 2016. Access date: 10 January 2017. http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/economy/brics-nations-vow-to-automatic-sharingtax-information_8072201.html.
[573] India, Singapore Revise Tax Treaty (Hong Kong) 5 January 2017. Date of Access: 10 January 2017. http://www.tax-news.com/news/India_Singapore_Revise_Tax_Treaty____73132.html.
[574] India's Union Cabinet approves signing of multilateral convention 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/indiasunion-cabinet-approves-signing-of-multilateral-convention.aspx
[575] Tax Amnesty Program Indonesia, Indonesia-Investments (Jakarta). Date of Access: 14 November 2016. http://www.indonesia-investments.com/finance/tax-system/tax-amnesty-program/item7124.
[576] Tax Amnesty Program Indonesia, Indonesia-Investments (Jakarta). Date of Access: 14 November 2016. http://www.indonesia-investments.com/finance/tax-system/tax-amnesty-program/item7124.
[577] Tax Amnesty Indonesia: Regulations for Asset Repatriations Eased, Indonesia-Investments (Jakarta) 17 October 2016. Date of Access: 14 November 2016. http://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/tax-amnesty-indonesia-regulations-asset-repatriation-eased/item7274.
[578] Indonesia must tell its taxpayers its amnesty is the last – OECD, Reuters (London) 24 October 2016. Date of Access: 16 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-tax-oecd-idUSKCN12O0WN.

assets were reclaimed. Asset repatriation remains unsuccessful as the goal of of IDR1,000 trillion has yet to be reached.[579]

On 31 March 2017, Indonesia ended the final phase of its tax amnesty program. A total of IDR 4,865.7 trillion worth of assets has been declared to Indonesia's Tax Office under the program. This surpassed the program target of IDR 4,000 trillion. The program also collected IDR 114 trillion in redemption payments. This did not meet the program target of IDR 165 trillion. Finally, asset repatriation under the program was unsuccessful. IDR 147 trillion worth of assets were repatriated, although the target was IDR 1,000 trillion.[580]

On 17 May 2017, President of Indonesia Joko Widodo signed a regulation granting tax authorities access to information on accounts held at financial institutions. The regulation calls on financial institutions to report client information for tax collection purposes and for the purpose of Indonesia's Tax Office sharing the information with authorities abroad.[581]

Indonesia has supported the efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda through national actions that address common issues and common concerns and as stakeholders or member of international organizations. Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alyssa Atef

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 30 November 2016, Italy published their Consumption Tax Trends for 2016 It provides information on value added tax/goods and services tax (VAT/GST) and excise duty rates. It also contains information about indirect tax topics such as international aspects of VAT/GST developments and its efficiency.[582]

On 30 November 2016, Italy published data on government sector receipts, and on taxes in particular.[583]

On 1 February 2017 as a member of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Italy released key documents, approved by the Inclusive Framework on BEPS, which will form the basis of the peer review of Action 13 Country-by-Country (CbC) Reporting and for the peer review of the Action 5 transparency framework. These are two of the four BEPS minimum standards that require peer review to ensure timely and accurate implementation.[584]

On 8 March 2017, the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance released the Ministerial Decree with implementation details of the CbC reporting process for Italian entities belonging to Multinational

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[579] 2nd Phase Indonesia's Tax Amnesty Program Ended, What's the Score? 2 January 2017. Indonesia-Investments (Jakarta). Date of Access: 13 January 2017. http://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/2nd-phase-indonesia-s-tax-amnesty-program-ended-what-s-the-score/item7482?.

[580] Tax Amnesty Program Indonesia Ended, What are the Results?, Indonesia-Investments (Jakarta) 3 April 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.indonesia-investments.com/finance/financial-columns/tax-amnesty-program-indonesia-ended-what-are-the-results/item7719?

[581] Indonesia gives tax office access to accounts at financial institutions, Reuters (London) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-tax-banks-idUSKCN18D0K1

[582] Consumption Tax Trends 2016 — Italy, Organization for the Economic Cooperation and Development 30 November 2016. Date of Access: 11 January 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/consumption/consumption-tax-trends-italy.pdf.

[583] Revenue Statistics 2016 — Italy, Organization for the Economic Cooperation and Development 30 November 2016. Date of Access: 11 January 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/revenue-statistics-italy.pdf.

[584] OECD releases peer review documents for assessment of BEPS minimum standards (Actions 5 and 13), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development 1 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps/oecd-releases-peer-review-documents-for-assessment-of-beps-minimum-standards-actions-5-and-13.htm

Enterprises, introduced by the 2016 Budget Law. The requirements of the Italian CbC reporting rule are generally in line with the Organisation OECD guidance and the 2016 European Union directive on reporting.[585]

On 6 April 2017, as an OECD member of the OECD, Italy released additional guidance to provide essential information that will give certainty to tax administrations and MNE Groups alike on implementation of CbC reporting.[586]

On 4 May 2017, as a member of the OECD, Italy activated automatic exchange relationships under the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on the Exchange of CbC Reports.[587]

On 8 March 2017, the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance released the Ministerial Decree with implementation details of the CbC reporting process for Italian multinational enterprises, introduced by the 2016 Budget Law. The requirements of the Italian CbC rule are generally in line with the OECD guidance and the 2016 European Union directive on CbC.[588]

On 29 May 2017, as a member of the OECD, Italy released the key document that will form the basis of the peer review of the Action 6 minimum standard. It is one of the four minimum standards subjected to peer review to ensure timely and accurate implementation.[589]

Italy has supported efforts to implement national actions that address common issues and common interests but Italy has not implemented actions to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization. Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Italy has led by example however, has not acted as a shareholder or member of an international organization. Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Sonja Dobson

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 4 November 2016, Japan attended the Ninth Meeting of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes.[590] At the Global Forum, Japan pledged technical assistance for developing countries.[591]

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[585] Italy issues Ministerial Decree implementing Country-by-Country Reporting, EY 10 March 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--italy-issues-ministerial-decree-implementing-country-by-country-reporting.

[586] OECD releases further guidance for tax administrations and MNE Groups on Country-by-Country reporting (BEPS Action 13), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development 6 April 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps/oecd-releases-further-guidance-for-tax-administrations-and-mne-groups-on-country-by-country-reporting-beps-action-13.htm

[587] BEPS Action 13: OECD releases CbC reporting implementation status and exchange relationships between tax administrations, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development 4 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps/beps-action-13-oecd-releases-cbc-reporting-implementation-status-and-exchange-relationships-between-tax-administrations.htm

[588] Italy issues Ministerial Decree implementing Country-by-Country Reporting, EY 10 March 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--italy-issues-ministerial-decree-implementing-country-by-country-reporting

[589] OECD releases peer review document for assessment of the BEPS Action 6 minimum standard, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development 29 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps/oecd-releases-peer-review-document-for-assessment-beps-action-6-minimum-standard.htm

On 29 November 2016, Japan sent delegates to the first regional meeting of the Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit shifting (BEPS) in the Asia-Pacific region in Manila, and discussed the latest developments on the implementation work on BEPS.[592]

On 8 December 2016, Japan issued the 2017 Tax Proposal, which included amendments consistent with the BEPS recommendations with the stated purpose to support the healthy expansion of Japanese companies into growing global markets while limiting tax avoidance.[593]

On 1 January 2017, the increase in scope of taxation for Non-Permanent Resident taxpayers of Japan became effective.[594] The new rule on income from the sale of other personal property will still apply given that 2017 Japan Tax Reform Proposal provides a potential exemption on capital gains on foreign-transacted securities for Non-Permanent Residents.[595]

On 30 January 2017, representatives of Japan and Austria signed a revised income tax treaty (the Revised Treaty) and protocol which will replace the existing 1963 treaty.[596] The Revised Treaty eliminates barriers for cross-border collaboration and offers various opportunities for both countries. The revisions are also meant to align the Revised Treaty with the current OECD Model Convention as well as with the recommendations in the OECD's final reports in its Action Plan on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (2015 BEPS Reports).[597]

On 8 December 2016, the Japan ruling party coalition (LDP and Komeito) issued the 2017 Tax Reform Proposal with the objective to help expand the Japanese economy.[598] The 2017 Tax Reform Proposal includes amendments consistent with the BEPS recommendations with the stated purpose to support healthy expansion of Japanese companies into growing global markets while limiting tax avoidance.[599]

Japan has supported efforts to implement national actions that address common issues and common interests and has implemented actions to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization. Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ze Chen

[590] Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, OECD (Paris) 4 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/statement-of-outcomes-GF-plenary-2016.pdf.

[591] Global Forum Annual Report 2016, 4 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/GF-annual-report-2016.pdf.

[592] OECD holds regional meeting of the Inclusive Framework on BEPS for the Asia-Pacific region, OECD (Paris) 1 December 2016. Access date: 7 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/oecd-holds-regional-meeting-of-the-inclusive-framework-on-beps-for-the-asia-pacific-region.htm.

[593] 2017 Tax Reform Proposal, EY (London) December 2016. Date of Access: 11 January 2017 http://www.pwc.com/jp/en/taxnews/pdf/jtu-20161222-en-126.pdf.

[594] Japan Non-Permanent Residents to be Taxed on Sale of Personal Property Outside of Japan, EY(London) December 2016. Date of Access: 11 January 2017. http://www.pwc.com/jp/en/taxnews-international-assignment/assets/gms-20161215-en.pdf.

[595] Japan Non-Permanent Residents to be Taxed on Sale of Personal Property Outside of Japan, EY(London) December 2016. Date of Access: 11 January 2017. http://www.pwc.com/jp/en/taxnews-international-assignment/assets/gms-20161215-en.pdf.

[596] Japan signs revised income tax treaty with Austria, EY (London), 6 February 2017. Access Date: May 29 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/japan-signs-revised-income-tax-treaty-with-austria.aspx

[597] Japan signs revised income tax treaty with Austria, EY (London), 6 February 2017. Access Date: May 29 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/japan-signs-revised-income-tax-treaty-with-austria.aspx

[598] 2017 Tax Reform Proposal, PWC(London), December 2016. Access Date: May 29, 2017. http://www.pwc.com/jp/en/taxnews/pdf/jtu-20161222-en-126.pdf.

[599] 2017 Tax Reform Proposal, PWC(London), December 2016. Access Date: May 29, 2017. http://www.pwc.com/jp/en/taxnews/pdf/jtu-20161222-en-126.pdf.

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 12 September 2016, the new income tax treaty signed between India and Korea entered into force.[600] This treaty is designed to prevent avoidance or evasion of taxes.[601]

On 27 September 2016, the income tax treaty between Hong Kong and Korea, signed on 8 July 2014, entered into force.[602] The treaty included exemption or reduction of tax on dividends, interest and royalties.[603]

On 14 October 2016, Korea signed an agreement on the automatic exchange of financial account information to improve international tax compliance with Singapore.[604]

On 29 November 2016, Korea sent delegates to the first regional meeting of the Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting in the Asia-Pacific region in Manila, and discussed the latest developments on the implementation work on BEPS.[605]

On 20 December 2016, Korea enacted the 2017 tax reform bill (the 2017 Tax Reform).[606] The 2017 Tax Reform includes draft country-by-country (CbC) reporting rules and requires CbC reporting by the ultimate Korean parent of a multinational consolidated group, if the consolidated group's revenue for the preceding year exceeds KRW1 trillion.[607] CbC reports will be exchanged between countries that have entered into the multilateral agreement on the exchange of CbC reports.[608]

On 28 December 2016, the Korean Ministry of Strategy and Finance announced the draft presidential decree under the Law for Coordination of International Tax Affairs, which includes advance notification requirements for CbC reporting.[609]

On June 7, 2017, Korea signed the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting ("Multilateral Instrument" or "MLI") at a signing ceremony hosted by the OECD in Paris. The purpose of the MLI is to enable jurisdictions to swiftly modify their

[600] New India-Korea Income Tax Treaty Enters into Force, EY (London) 21 October 2016. Date of Access: 11 November 13, 2016. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/new-india-korea-income-tax-treaty-enters-into-force.aspx.
[601] New India-Korea Income Tax Treaty Enters into Force, EY (London) 21 October 2016. Date of Access: 11 November 13, 2016. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/new-india-korea-income-tax-treaty-enters-into-force.aspx.
[602] Hong Kong-Korea Income Tax Treaty Enters into Force, EY (London) 5 October 2016. Date of Access: 11 November 13, 2016. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/hong-kong-korea-income-tax-treaty-enters-into-force.aspx.
[603] Hong Kong-Korea Income Tax Treaty Enters into Force, EY (London), 5 October 2016. Date of Access: 11 November 13, 2016. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/hong-kong-korea-income-tax-treaty-enters-into-force.aspx.
[604] Agreement between the Competent Authorities of Singapore and the Republic of Korea on the Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information to Improve International Tax Compliance, Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (Singapore) 14 October 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. https://www.iras.gov.sg/irashome/uploadedFiles/IRASHome/Quick_Links/International_Tax/Singapore-Korea%20CAA%20(Not%20in%20force)%20(14%20Oct%202016)%20(002).pdf.
[605] OECD holds regional meeting of the Inclusive Framework on BEPS for the Asia-Pacific region, OECD (Paris) 1 December 2016. Date of Access: 7 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/oecd-holds-regional-meeting-of-the-inclusive-framework-on-beps-for-the-asia-pacific-region.htm.
[606] Korea Enacts 2017 Tax Reform Bill, EY (London), 30 December 2016. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/korea-enacts-2017-tax-reform-bill.aspx
[607] Korea Enacts 2017 Tax Reform Bill, EY (London), 30 December 2016. Access date: 29 May 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/korea-enacts-2017-tax-reform-bill.aspx
[608] Korea Enacts 2017 Tax Reform Bill, EY (London), 30 December 2016. Access date: 29 May 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/korea-enacts-2017-tax-reform-bill.aspx
[609] The Latest On BEPS - 30 January 2017, EY (London), 1 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/the-latest-on-beps-30-january-2017.aspx

bilateral tax treaties to implement measures under the BEPS Project endorsed by G20 Summit held in November 2015. A total of 68 jurisdictions (including 33 OECD members, China, and India) signed the MLI. However, the United States did not participate in the signing.[610]

Korea has supported efforts to implement national actions that address common issues and interests and has implemented actions to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization. Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ze Chen

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 26-30 September 2016, Mexico held a conference on Transfer Pricing Documentation and Country-by-Country Reporting, as part of the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Action Plan, through its Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) Multilateral Tax Centre.[611]

On 10-11 October 2016, the OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría and the Director-General of the Mexican Social Security Institute, Mikel Arreola, signed a cooperation agreement on regulatory policy aiming at simplifying formalities and making them readily available for the benefit of citizens and businesses.[612]

On 14 October 2016, Mexico and the United States announced an agreement on a transfer pricing framework for US multinational enterprises that have maquiladora operations in Mexico, which will require US firms to accept Mexico's tax administration's advance pricing agreements at arm's length. This represents Mexican efforts to address corporate tax avoidance, one of the major challenges outlined in the BEPS framework and a major risk to the tax base of developing countries.[613]

On 27 October 2016, the Mexican Congress approved the 2017 Bill, which includes amendments to the Mexican tax legislation, including incentives to multinational companies in terms of corporate income tax and value added tax (VAT).[614]

On 2-4 November 2016, the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, of which Mexico is a member, held its 9th annual meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia to further the shared goal of improving tax transparency. This meeting marked the completion of the first round of the

[610] Korea Signs Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent BEPS, 14 June 2017. Access Date: 6 July 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=0d4a290c-1802-470c-9c03-c9f03b3a24ba

[611] Transfer Pricing Documentation and Country-by-Country Reporting, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Mexico City) 26 September 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/tax-global/mtc-mexico-event-tp-documentation-and-cbc-reporting-september-2016.pdf.

[612] Mr. Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD, in Mexico on 10-11 October 2016, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Mexico City) 11 October 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. https://www.oecd.org/mexico/oecd-secretary-general-in-mexico-on-10-11-october-2016.htm.

[613] US, Mexico agree to transfer pricing framework for maquiladoras, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News 14 October 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://mnetax.com/us-mexico-agree-transfer-pricing-framework-maquiladoras-17647.

[614] Mexico approves 2017 tax reform measures, PricewaterhouseCoopers News (Mexico City) 7 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.pwc.com/us/en/tax-services/publications/insights/mexico-approves-2017-tax-reform-measures.html.

Forum's peer review process, and resulted in the publication of a second phase of reviews on the Exchange of Information on Request standards.[615]

On 18 November 2016, Mexico signed a joint declaration with Switzerland on the introduction of automatic exchange of informationin tax matters.[616]

On 23 December 2016, Mexico issued the Miscellaneous Tax Resolution, adopting transfer pricing adjustment rules that apply to transactions determined to not be at arm's length, adjusting the taxable profit of multinational enterprises.[617]

On 10 February 2017, Mexico announced the creation of special economic zones in Michoacán and Guerrero, Oaxaca and Veracruz, and Chiapas, with the goal of attracting foreign and domestic investment. This announcement included a description of tax benefits to investors, including tax holidays, a reduction on social security contributions, a special VAT treatment, and a special customs regime. This announcement has resulted in investment greater than $7 billion.[618]

On 16 March 2017, Mexico signed an agreement with Hong Kong on the introduction of AEOI in tax matters on a reciprocal basis.[619]

On 3 April 2017, the Mexican Tax Ombudsman released the final administrative rules to implement the transfer pricing documentation and country-by-country reporting scheme set out in Action 13 of the OECD/G20 BEPS plan agreements.[620]

Mexico has supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization and has taken actions to address common issues and interests. Thus, Mexico receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Katie Fettes

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 6 December 2016, Russia with other Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) nations pledged to share tax information automatically and adopt global standards on tax transparency to check cross border tax evasion. They also resolved to support other developing nations in increasing their tax

[615] Statement of Outcomes – Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Tbilisi) 2-4 November 2016. Date of Access 13 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/statement-of-outcomes-GF-plenary-2016.pdf.

[616] Switzerland agrees to automatic exchange of information with Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News 21 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. http://mnetax.com/switzerland-agrees-automatic-exchange-information-brazil-mexico-uruguay-18180.

[617] Mexico: transfer pricing adjustment rules adopted, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News (Mexico City) 9 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://mnetax.com/mexico-transfer-pricing-adjustment-rules-adopted-19497

[618] Mexico: creation of special economic zones - announced, Ernst & Young Tax Insights (Mexico City) 10 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/mexico--creation-of-special-economic-zones---announced.aspx

[619] Hong Kong signs AEOI pacts with Belgium, Canada, Guernsey, Italy, Mexico and Netherlands, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News. 20 March 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://mnetax.com/hong-kong-signs-aeoi-pacts-belgium-canada-guernsey-italy-mexico-netherlands-20177

[620] Mexico's Tax Ombudsman issues final transfer pricing regulations, Ernst & Young Tax Insights 3 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/mexicos-tax-ombudsman-issues-final-transfer-pricing-regulations.aspx

administrations' capacity to implement the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/G20 standard on Automatic Exchange of Information.[621]

Russia is a signatory to the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information and intends to implement first information exchange in September 2018.[622]

On 12 December 2016, the Government of Russia decided to sign the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on the Exchange of Country-by-Country Reports (CbC MCAA).[623]

On 1 January 2017, the Agreement between Russia and China on Avoidance of Double Taxation entered into force.[624]

According to the Main Directions for Tax Policy in 2017 and 2018-2019 Period, published by the Russian Ministry of Finance on 30 November 2016, Russia will continue to conduct new agreements on avoidance of double taxation with other countries.[625]

On 26 January 2017, Russia signed the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement for Country-by-Country Reporting (MCAA) during the OECD meeting in Paris on the implementation of the OECD/G20 BEPS package. Russia joining the MCAA CbCR was performed as part of implementation of Action 13 of the BEPS Action Plan.[626]

On 3 March 2017, the Russian Ministry of Finance proposed a draft decree establishing the procedure of how cross-border advance pricing agreements can be signed. The procedure includes the conclusion of cross-border agreements on foreign trade transactions.[627]

On 6 March 2017, the Russian Finance Ministry presented a new version of the draft law aimed at the introduction of documentation requirements for multinational enterprise inaccordance with the OECD's BEPS Action 13 on Country-by-Country Reporting.[628]

[621] BRICS nations vow to automatic sharing of tax information, 6 December 2016. Date of Access: 10 January 2017. http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/economy/brics-nations-vow-to-automatic-sharingtax-information_8072201.html.

[622] Signatories of the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information and Intended First Information Exchange Date, OECD 2 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/automatic-exchange/international-framework-for-the-crs/MCAA-Signatories.pdf

[623] Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on the Exchange of Country-By-Country Reports, Government of Russia 12 December 2016. http://government.ru/docs/25626/

[624] List of International Agreements on Avoiding Double Taxation between Russia and Other Countries, Ministry of Finance of Russia 30 December 2016. http://minfin.ru/ru/perfomance/tax_relations/international/?id_57=117045&page_id=179&popup=Y&area_id=57

[625] Main Directions for Tax Policy in 2017 and 2018-2019 Period, Ministry of Finance. http://minfin.ru/ru/?id_65=116206&page_id=1&popup=Y&area_id=65

[626] Russia joins Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement for Country-by-Country Reporting (Paris) 30 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/Russia_joins_Multilateral_Competent_Authority_Agreement_for_Country-by-Country_Reporting/$FILE/2017G_00380-171Gbl_TP_Russia%20joins%20Multilateral%20Competent%20Authority%20Agreement%20for%20CbC%20Reporting.pdf

[627] Russia issues draft Procedure on multilateral APAs (Moscow) 10 March 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--russia-issues-draft-procedure-on-multilateral-apas

[628] Russia revises draft law on BEPS Action 13 CbCR implementation 10 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/Russia_revises_draft_law_on_BEPS_Action_13_CbCR_implementation/$FILE/2017G_01125-171Gbl_TP_Russia%20revises%20draft%20law%20on%20BEPS%20Action%2013%20CbCR%20implementation.pdf

Russia has supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda through national actions that address common issues and common concerns and as a member of international organizations Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Sangeetha Ganesh & Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 11 October 2016, the Council of Ministers authorized the minister of finance or his deputy to discuss two draft uniform agreements on the value added tax and selective tax agreements for the Gulf Cooperation states.[629]

On 15 November 2016, Saudi Arabia signed a Model 1 intergovernmental agreement with the United States. On this day, Saudi Arabia also signed an understanding regarding the treatment under Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act of securities registered in the Securities Depository Centre within the Saudi Stock Exchange.[630]

On 30 January 2017, the Cabinet of the Saudi Arabian government passed legislation on VAT and selective taxes in the GCC member states.[631]

On 28 May 2017, the General Authority of Zakat and Tax announced that a selective tax will be implemented on June 10 and will apply to certain goods.[632]

Saudi Arabia has implemented national actions that address common issues and common interests but has not supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

Saudi Arabia has partially supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement on the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization. However, it has not any implemented national actions that address common issues and common interests. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Alyssa Atef

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

As of November 2016, South Africa is the co-chair, along with the Netherlands, of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Task Force on Tax and Development.[633]

[629] GCC uniform deal on VAT, selective tax a step closer, Saudi Gazette (Jeddah) 11 October 2016. Date of Access: 16 November 2016. http://saudigazette.com.sa/saudi-arabia/gcc-uniform-deal-vat-selective-tax-step-closer/.
[630] Saudi Arabia FATCA IGA Signed with US, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News (Vienna) 16 November 2016. Date of Access: 17 November 2016. http://mnetax.com/saudi-arabia-fatca-iga-signed-us-18108.
[631] Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Chairs Cabinet's Session 4, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 30 January 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1587205
[632] Selective Tax from June 10, Saudi Gazette (Jeddah) 28 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://saudigazette.com.sa/saudi-arabia/selective-tax-june-10/
[633] Work on Taxation Brochure – Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, Organization for Economic Co-operation Development 26 October 2016. Date of Access: 12 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/administration/centre-for-tax-policy-and-administration-brochure.pdf.

On 7 September 2016, the South African Standing Committee on Finance officially approved several international agreements. These include the Amending protocol to the South Africa-Brazil double taxation agreement (DTA), the South Africa-United Arab Emirates DTA, the South Africa-Singapore DTA, the South Africa-Zimbabwe DTA, the South Africa-Uruguay Exchange of Information Agreement (EIA), the South Africa-Turks and Caicos Islands EIA, and the South Africa-St. Kitts and Nevis EIA.[634]

On 9 September 2016, the South African Revenue Service (SARS) announced that the South Africa-Chile DTA was approved by Parliament.[635]

On 25 September 2016, SARS and the National Treasury published a second round of the 2016 Draft Taxation Laws Amendment Bill, which includes proposals to extend the Employment Tax Incentive until 28 February 2019 in order to promote youth employment, and the Learnership Tax Incentive until 31 March 2022 in order to provide support to training and skills development.[636]

From 3-7 October 2016, South Africa hosted the 4th General Assembly meeting of the African Tax Administration Forum in Durban, in order to further the shared goals of strengthening the capacity of African tax administrations to achieve their revenue objectives and developing partnerships between African countries with regards to the role of taxation in governance and state-building.[637]

From 2-4 November 2016, Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, of which South Africa is chair, held its 9th annual meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia to further the shared goal of improving tax transparency. This meeting marked the completion of the first round of the Forum's peer review process, and resulted in the publication of a second phase of reviews on the Exchange of Information on Request standards.[638]

On 24 November 2016, South Africa signed a joint declaration with Switzerland on the introduction of automatic exchange of information (AEOI) in tax matters on a reciprocal basis.[639]

On 30 November 2016, South Africa entered signed a new tax treaty with Singapore. On 16 December 2016, the treaty came into force.[640]

On 6 December 2016, during a two day meeting of the heads of Revenue of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) countries, South Africa pledged to share tax information automatically, adopt

[634] South African Finance Committees approve several international agreements, Ernst & Young Tax Insights 19 September 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/south-african-finance-committees-approve-several-international.aspx.

[635] South Africa – Chile double taxation agreement enters into force, Ernst & Young Tax Insights 15 September 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/south-africa-chile-double-taxation-agreement-enters-into-force.aspx.

[636] 2016 Draft Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (Second Batch), Department of National Treasury (Pretoria) 25 September 2016. Date of Access: 12 November 2016. http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2016/2016092501%20-%20Tax%20Laws%20Amendment%20Bill%20(Second%20Batch).pdf.

[637] Logistics Note: Welcome to the 4th ATAF General Assembly at the Fairmont Zimbali Resort in Durban South Africa from the 3rd to the 7th of October 2016, African Tax Administration Forum (Pretoria) 3-7 October 2016. Date of Access: 12 November 2016. http://www.ataftax.org/en/Conferences/Documents/LOGISTICAL%20NOTE%20Eng.pdf.

[638] Statement of Outcomes – Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Tbilisi) 2-4 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/statement-of-outcomes-GF-plenary-2016.pdf.

[639] South Africa, Switzerland agree to automatic exchange of information, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News 26 November 2016. Date of Access: 2 January 2017. http://mnetax.com/south-africa-switzerland-agree-automatic-exchange-information-18241.

[640] Singapore-South Africa tax treaty enters into force, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News. 22 December 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. http://mnetax.com/singapore-south-africa-tax-treaty-enters-force-18772.

global standards on tax transparency to check cross border tax evasion, and support other developing nations to increase the capacity of their tax administrations to implement the global standard on AEOI.[641]

On 11 January 2017, South African President Jacob Zuma signed the Tax Laws Amendment Act, introducing several changes in the tax laws that will apply after 1 March 2017. The Act includes a rise in the interest rate on loans made to trusts from 8% to 20%, which aims to limit the ability of taxpayers to transfer wealth to their trusts without being subject to tax; an extension of the anti-avoidance rules with regards to conversion of employee remuneration into lower-taxed dividends; the imposition of a controlled foreign company (CFC) regime; and incentives for employers to hire young workers.[642]

On 22 February 2017, South Africa's Minister of Finance, Pravin Gordhan, delivered the 2017 Budget Review. During this address, the Minister set out South Africa's position on the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Action Plan, including 15 action items.[643] Gordhan also announced, among other proposals, that the domestic dividends tax rate will increase from 15% to 20%, effective 22 February 2017.[644]

On 3 April 2017, South Africa and Hong Kong announced an agreement to introduce AEOI in tax matters.[645]

South Africa has supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization and has taken actions to address common issues and interests. Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Katie Fettes

Turkey: +1

Turkey has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 8 October 2016, Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Şimşek issued a statement at the thirty-fourth meeting during of the International Monetary and Financial Committee of the International Monetary Fund calling upon the need for the council member states to adopt tax reform in addition to implementing other economic reform measures.[646]

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[641] BRICS nations vow to automatic sharing of tax information, Money Control 6 December 2016. Date of Access: 2 January 2017. http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/economy/brics-nations-vow-to-automatic-sharingtax-information_8072201.html.

[642] South Africa: South Africa tax amendments become effective in 2017, International Tax Review (Pretoria) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 31 May, 2017. http://www.internationaltaxreview.com/Article/3656672/South-Africa-South-Africa-tax-amendments-become-effective-in-2017.html.

[643] South Africa sets forth position on OECD BEPS Action Plan, Ernst & Young (Pretoria) 24 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--south-africa-sets-forth-position-on-oecd-beps-action-plan.

[644] South Africa increases dividends tax rate to 20%, Ernst & Young Tax Insights (Pretoria) 22 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/south-africa-increases-dividends-tax-rate.aspx.

[645] Hong Kong agrees to automatic exchange of tax information with South Africa and Portugal, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News. 5 April 2017. Date of Access 31 May 2017. http://mnetax.com/hong-kong-agrees-automatic-exchange-tax-information-south-africa-portugal-20458

[646] International Monetary and Financial Committee: Thirty-Fourth Meeting, International Monetary Fund (Washington) 8 October 2016. Date of Access: 17 November 2016. http://www.imf.org/External/AM/2016/imfc/statement/eng/tur.pdf.

On 20 October 2016, Turkish Finance Minister Naci Ağbal stated that Turkey will introduce tax breaks for regular contributors in 2017, whereby those who have declared their taxes within the last three to five years and paid on time will receive a discount.[647]

On 25 October 2016, Turkey implemented a range of tax reforms for their tax inspections, the Tax Inspection Board, and Tax Commissions. The reforms included investigations by the Tax Inspection Board being categorized as administrative, the legal obligation of Tax Inspectors to notify authorities of any acts which may constitute as crime, and tax inspections being conducted relative to the subject and period outlined on the notice among others.[648]

On 30 October 2016, the Finance Minister of Turkey extended the deadline for the law on Restructuring Certain Public receivable or "Tax Amnesty" from 31 October 2016 to 25 November 2016. This law dictates the restructuring of outstanding tax and other public receivables and allows for Turkish companies to close their accounts when faced with potential tax audits through voluntary tax base increases.[649]

In April 2017, Turkey signed the Organisation for Co-operation and Economic Development (OECD) Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information and thereby reconfirmed their commitment to implement automatic exchange of financial account information among the signatories of the agreement.[650]

On 5 May 2017, Deputy Prime Minister Nurettin Canikli reaffirmed the country's commitment to implementing tax reforms in a speech given at the Coordination Board for Improving Investment Climate meeting in Ankara.[651]

On 29 May 2017, Turkish Finance Minister Naci Ağbal stated that LIR16.7 billion were restructured through the program in 2016, with a total of LIR21 billion having been restructured through the plan.[652]

On 30 May 2017, Turkey ended their tax and public receivable restructuring plan that began in August 2016.

Turkey has supported the efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda through national actions that address common issues and common concerns and as stakeholders or member of international organizations. Thus, Turkey receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alyssa Atef

[647] Turkey reveals tax incentives for regular contributors, Hurriyet Daily News (Istanbul) 20 October 2016. Date of Access: 17 November 2016. http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-reveals-tax-incentives-for-regular-contributors--.aspx?pageID=238&nID=105173&NewsCatID=344.

[648] Turkey: Turkey Streamlines Tax Inspection Processes And Ends Tax Inspection Board's Reporting Powers, Mondaq 18 November 2016. Date of Access: 18 November 2016. http://www.mondaq.com/turkey/x/545788/tax+authorities/Turkey+Streamlines+Tax+Inspection+Processes+And+Extends+Tax+Inspection+Boards+Reporting+Powers.

[649] Receivable restructuring applications hit record high levels: Finance minister, Hurriyet Daily News (Istanbul) 31 October 2016. Date of Access: 17 November 2016. http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/receivable-restructuring-applications-hit-record-high-levels-finance-minister-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=105577&NewsCatID=346.

[650] International Framework for the CRS, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/automatic-exchange/international-framework-for-the-crs/

[651] Turkey to realize key tax, financial and production reforms in short run: Deputy PM, Hurriyet Daily News (Istanbul) 5 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-to-realize-key-tax-financial-and-production-reforms-in-short-run-deputy-pm.aspx?pageID=238&nID=112781&NewsCatID=345

[652] Turkey collects 21 bln liras through debt restructuring plan: Minister, Hurriyet Daily News (Istanbul) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-collects-21-bln-liras-through-debt-restructuring-plan-minister.aspx?pageID=238&nID=113679&NewsCatID=344

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 15 September 2016, the UK Finance Act 2016 received Royal Assent enacting legislation. It requires large businesses to publish their UK tax strategy publicly.[653] This will require any multinational group with a turnover of over GBP750 million and at least one UK subsidiary or a UK private equity to publish its UK tax strategy.[654]

On 11 October 2016, as a member of the Council of the European Union, the United Kingdom issued a press release setting out the Council's conclusions on Tax Transparency. It outlined the intention of the Commission to explore possibilities for Mandatory Disclosure Rules which was inspired by Action 12 of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) project.[655]

On 13 October 2016, HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), the UK's tax, payments and customs authority published a draft that will form part of the Criminal Finances Bill on legislation and guidance for a corporate offence of failure to prevent the criminal facilitation of tax evasion.[656]

On 13 October 2016, as a member of the European Court of Auditors, the UK gave the EU annual accounts of a clean bill of health for the 9th year in a row.[657]

On 17 October 2016, the UK HMRC released updated guidance on Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Schemes (DOTAS). The guidance supplements the DOTAS rules on tax disclosure.[658]

On 25 October 2016, as a member of the European Commission, the UK announced plans to refurbish the way in which companies are taxed in the Single Market, creating a growth-friendly and fair corporate tax system. This plan is part of a broader package of corporate tax reforms, the Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB), a plan first created in 2011 as a tool against tax avoidance. Pierre Moscovici, Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs said: "With the rebooted CCCTB proposal, we're addressing the concerns of both businesses and citizens in one fell swoop. The many conversations I've had as Taxation Commissioner have made it crystal-clear to me that companies need simpler tax rules within the EU. At the same time, we need to drive forward our fight against tax avoidance, which is delivering real change."[659]

On 25 October 2016, as a member of the European Commission, the UK announced a new package of corporate tax reforms. This package includes; a two stage proposal towards a Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base; a Directive on Double Taxation Dispute Resolution MEchanism in the EU; and

[653] Large businesses: publish your tax strategy, 24 June 2016, UK Government. Date of Access: 03 April.2017. https://www.gov.uk/guidance/large-businesses-publish-your-tax-strategy

[654] The Latest On BEPS — 7 November 2016, EY 7 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---7-november-2016.

[655] The Latest on BEPS — 24 October 2016, EY 24 October 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---24-october-2016.

[656] Tackling tax evasion: legislation and guidance for a corporate offence of failure to prevent the criminal facilitation of tax evasion, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 13 October 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016.https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/560118/Tackling_tax_evasion-legislation_guidance_corporate_offence_of_failure_to_prevent_criminal_facilitation_tax_evasion-Summary_Responses.pdf.

[657] European Court of Auditors signs off the EU accounts for 9th year in a row, European Commission (Brussels) 13 October 2016. Date of Access: 11 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3343_en.htm.

[658] The Latest On BEPS — 7 November 2016, EY 7 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---7-november-2016.

[659] Commission proposes major corporate tax reform for the EU, European Commission (Strasbourg) 25 October 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3471_en.htm.

amendments to the Anti-Tax Avoidance Directive agreed in June 2016, as regards hybrid mismatches with third countries. It is proposed that Member States should transpose these proposals by 31 December 2017 at the latest, and that it shall apply from 1 January 2019. These rules are modelled on the rules contained in the OECD Action Plan on BEPS report.[660]

On 2 November 2016, the UK Financial Secretary to the Treasury Jane Ellison signed a double taxation agreement with the Colombian Finance Minister Mauricio Crdenas. This agreement includes provisions which will help both countries work together to tackle tax avoidance and evasion.[661] This agreement will not enter into force until both countries have completed their legislative procedures and exchanged diplomatic notes.[662]

On 3 November 2016, the UK government signed a double taxation agreement with the Lesotho government. This agreement aims to avoid double taxation and prevent fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital gains. This agreement will not enter into force until both countries have completed their legislative procedures and exchanged diplomatic notes.[663]

On 8 November 2016, as a member of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council (ECOFIN) of the EU, the UK agreed on the criteria and the process for the establishment of an EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions that do not respect the tax good governance standards. This is a goal of the External Strategy for Effective Taxation as part of the Anti-Tax Avoidance Package introduced in January 2016.[664]

On 10 November 2016, as a member of the European Commission, the UK launched a public consultation to gather feedback on the war forward for EU action on advisers and intermediaries who facilitate tax evasion and tax avoidance. This reflects the goal of the Commission to shed more light on the activities of tax advisers laid out in the Communication on Further Measures to Enhance Transparency and Fight Against Tax Evasion and Avoidance. This is apart of the Commission's interest in gathering views on how a mandatory disclosure scheme for tax advisers could be implemented, which reflects the goals of the OECD's non-binding guidelines (BEPS Action 12) for the disclosure of aggressive tax planning strategies.[665]

On 24 November 2016, as a member of the OECD, the UK and more than 100 other jurisdictions have concluded negotiations on the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent BEPS. It will implement minimum standards to counter treaty abuse and to improve dispute resolution mechanism while providing flexibility to accommodate specific tax treaty policies. It will also

[660] The Latest on BEPS — 7 November 2016, EY 7 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---7-november-2016.

[661] UK and Columbia Sign Double Taxation Agreement, HM Revenue & Customs 2 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.govwire.co.uk/news/hm-revenue-and-customs/uk-and-colombia-sign-double-taxation-agreement-6106.

[662] UK/Columbia Double Taxation Agreement, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 2 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/565499/columbia_dta_not_in_force.pdf.

[663] UK and Columbia Sign Double Taxation Agreement, HM Revenue & Customs 2 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.govwire.co.uk/news/hm-revenue-and-customs/uk-and-colombia-sign-double-taxation-agreement-6106.

[664] European Council agrees on criteria for screening of third country jurisdictions, EY 10 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--european-council-agrees-on-criteria-for-screening-of-third-country-jurisdictions.

[665] Commission gathers views on future rules to deter promoters of aggressive tax planning scheme, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3618_en.htm.

allow governments to strengthen their tax treaties with other tax treaty measures developed in the OECD/G20 BEPS project.[666]

On 30 November 2016, the UK published their Consumption Tax Trends for 2016 It provides information on value added tax/goods and services tax (VAT/GST) and excise duty rates. It also contains information about indirect tax topics such as international aspects of VAT/GST developments and its efficiency.[667]

On 30 November 2016, the UK published data on government sector receipts, and on taxes in particular.[668]

On 5 December 2016, as a member of the OECD, the UK released two new documents to support the global implementation of country-by-country (CbC) reporting. It includes key details of jurisdiction's domestic legal frameworks for CbC reporting and additional interpretive guidance on the CbC reporting standard. These documents will provide essential information that will give certainty to tax administrations and multinational enterprises on the implementation of CbC reporting.[669]

On 5 December 2016, as a member of the OECD, the UK released its annual statistical publication on the Mutual Agreement Procedure caseloads of all OECD member countries and partner economies for the 2015 reporting period.[670]

On 6 December 2016, as a member of the European Council, the UK agreed to a draft directive aimed at closing down 'hybrid mismatches' with the tax systems of third countries. The issue agreed upon will prevent corporate tax payed from exploiting disparities between tax jurisdictions and allow tax authorities to access information held by authorities responsible for the prevention of money laundering.[671]

On 6 December 2016, the UK Government is proceeding with its planned reform of the corporation tax loss rules. It includes an expansion of the type of profits against which brought forward losses incurred on or after 1 April 2017 can be offset and a restriction, in relation to profits incurred on or after 1 April 2017, of the utilization of brought forward losses to 50 per cent of profits (above a GBP 5 million allowance per group).[672]

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[666] Countries adopt multilateral convention to close tax treaty loopholes and improve functioning of international tax system, Organization for the Economic Cooperation and Development 24 November 2016. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/countries-adopt-multilateral-convention-to-close-tax-treaty-loopholes-and-improve-functioning-of-international-tax-system.htm.

[667] Consumption Tax Trends 2016 — the United Kingdom, Organization for the Economic Cooperation and Development 30 November 2016. Date of Access: 11 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/consumption/consumption-tax-trends-united-kingdom.pdf.

[668] Revenue Statistics 2016 — the United Kingdom, Organization for the Economic Cooperation and Development 30 November 2016. Date of Access: 11 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/revenue-statistics-united-kingdom.pdf.

[669] OECD releases further BEPS guidance on Country-by-Country reporting and country-specific information on implementation, Organization for the Economic Cooperation and Development 5 December 2016. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/oecd-releases-further-beps-guidance-on-country-by-country-reporting-and-country-specific-information-on-implementation.htm.

[670] OECD releases 2015 Mutual Agreement Procedure statistics, EY 7 December 2016. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--oecd-releases-2015-mutual-agreement-procedure-statistics.

[671] Economic and Financial Council, European Council (Brussels) 6 December 2016. Date of Access: 11 January 2017. http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/ecofin/2016/12/06/.

[672] UK reforms corporation tax loss relief rules, EY 12 December 2016. Date of Access: 11 January 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--uk-reforms-corporation-tax-loss-relief-rules.

On 12 December 2016, the UK introduced an online, digital system for anti-money laundering supervision through HM Revenue and Customs, which will be launched in 2017.[673]

On 22 December 2016, as a member of the OECD, the UK released an updated version of Action 4 of the BEPS Action Plan. It includes further guidance on the design and operation of the group ratio rule as well as approaches to deal with risks posed by the banking and insurance sectors.[674]

On 1 January 2017, the comprehensive Double Taxation Convention between the UK and Uruguay has taken effect. It entered into force on 14 November 2016 and has taken effect for taxes withheld at source, and in respect of other taxes, for taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January 2017.[675]

On 1 January 2017, the UK has put into effect a law that will allow HR Revenue and Customs, for the first time, to charge civil penalties on the facilitators of the tax evasion who provide planning, advice or other professional services or physically move funds offshore.[676]

On 1 January 2017, the comprehensive Double Taxation Convention between the UK and Uruguay has taken effect. It entered into force on 14 November 2016 and has taken effect for taxes withheld at source, and in respect of other taxes, for taxable periods beginning on or after 1 January 2017.[677]

On 1 January 2017, the UK has put into effect a law that will allow HR Revenue and Customs, for the first time, to charge civil penalties on the facilitators of the tax evasion who provide planning, advice or other professional services or physically move funds offshore.[678]

On 1 February 2017 as a member of the OECD, the UK released key documents, approved by the Inclusive Framework on BEPS, which will form the basis of the peer review of Action 13 Country-by-Country Reporting and for the peer review of the Action 5 transparency framework. These are two of the four BEPS minimum standards that require peer review to ensure timely and accurate implementation.[679]

On 6 April 2017, as a member of the OECD, the UK released additional guidance to provide essential information that will give certainty to tax administrations and mulitinational enterprises alike on implementation of CbC reporting.[680]

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[673] HMRC anti-money laundering supervision goes online, HM Revenue and Customs 12 December 2016. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hmrc-anti-money-laundering-supervision-goes-online.

[674] OECD releases additional guidance on Action 4 of the BEPS Action Plan to curb international tax avoidance, Organization for the Economic Cooperation and Development 22 December 2016. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/oecd-releases-additional-guidance-on-action-4-of-the-beps-action-plan-to-curb-international-tax-avoidance.htm.

[675] UK — Uruguay Double Taxation Convention now in force, Foreign and Commonwealth Office 12 January 2017. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-uruguay-double-taxation-convention-now-in-force.

[676] New Year brings in new penalties for enablers of offshore tax evasion, HM Treasury 1 January 2017. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-year-brings-in-new-penalties-for-enablers-of-offshore-tax-evasion.

[677] UK - Uruguay Double Taxation Convention now in force, Foreign and Commonwealth Office 12 January 2017. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-uruguay-double-taxation-convention-now-in-force.

[678] New Year brings in new penalties for enablers of offshore tax evasion, HM Treasury 1 January 2017. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-year-brings-in-new-penalties-for-enablers-of-offshore-tax-evasion.

[679] OECD releases peer review documents for assessment of BEPS minimum standards (Actions 5 and 13), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development 1 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps/oecd-releases-peer-review-documents-for-assessment-of-beps-minimum-standards-actions-5-and-13.htm

[680] OECD releases further guidance for tax administrations and MNE Groups on Country-by-Country reporting (BEPS Action 13), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development 6 April 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps/oecd-releases-further-guidance-for-tax-administrations-and-mne-groups-on-country-by-country-reporting-beps-action-13.htm

On 19 April 2017, the UK announced that on 26 June 2017 changes will be made to UK anti money laundering measures. It will increase the transparency of who owns and controls companies in the UK.[681]

On 4 May 2017, as a member of the OECD, the UK activated automatic exchange relationships under the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on the Exchange of CbC Reports.[682]

On 29 May 2017, as a member of the OECD, the UK released the key document that will form the basis of the peer review of the Action 6 minimum standard. It is one of the four minimum standards subjected to peer review to ensure timely and accurate implementation.[683]

The UK has supported the efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda through national actions that address common issues and common concerns and as stakeholders or member of international organizations. Thus, the UK receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sonja Dobson

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 22 September 2016, United States Representative Mark Pocan introduced the Corporate Transparency and Accountability Act. This legislation seeks mandatory disclosure of country-by-country and bottom line information about companies' taxes in order to increase transparency for investors and the public and to increase awareness of tax avoidance and profit-shifting activities.[684]

On 26 September 2016, the Minister of the Economy Alfonso Prat-Gay met with United States Treasury Secretary Jack Lew in Buenos Aires regarding cooperation on exchanging fiscal data to fight tax evasion and doubling joint efforts to fight against money laundering.[685] US Treasury Secretary Jack Lew announced that the US and Argentina will begin negotiations on a tax treaty on the exchange of information.[686]

On 6-8 October 2016, the United States hosted the 2016 Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Group in Washington DC. During the meeting of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, the Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Angel Gurría, delivered remarks regarding international co-

[681] Changes to UK Anti Money Laundering Measures, GovWire 19 April 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.govwire.co.uk/news/companies-house-/changes-to-uk-anti-money-laundering-measures-9453

[682] BEPS Action 13: OECD releases CbC reporting implementation status and exchange relationships between tax administrations, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development 4 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps/beps-action-13-oecd-releases-cbc-reporting-implementation-status-and-exchange-relationships-between-tax-administrations.htm

[683] OECD releases peer review document for assessment of the BEPS Action 6 minimum standard, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development 29 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps/oecd-releases-peer-review-document-for-assessment-beps-action-6-minimum-standard.htm.

[684] Rep. Pocan Introduces Bill to Strengthen Corporate Tax Disclosure and Transparency, Office of United States Representative Mark Pocan (Washington, DC) 22 September 2016. Date of Access: 25 November 2016. https://pocan.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-pocan-introduces-bill-to-strengthen-corporate-tax-disclosure-and

[685] Argentina and the United States accelerate the process of sharing fiscal data to fight against tax evasion, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 26 September 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.economia.gob.ar/en/argentina-and-the-united-states-accelerate-the-process-of-sharing-fiscal-data-to-fight-against-tax-evasion/

[686] Report on recent US international tax developments – 30 September 2016, Ernst & Young Tax Insights. 5 October 2016. Date of Access: 11 November 2016. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/report-on-recent-us-international-tax-developments-30-september-2016.aspx

operation on tax matters.[687] He addressed issues pertaining to tax transparency, the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) project, and the formulation of tax policy to support structural reforms and to enhance certainty.[688]

On 8 October 2016, the United States hosted the Millennium Challenge Corporation-OECD event "Joining Forces to Catalyse Investments in the Developing World" in Washington, D.C. Leaders identified five areas for reform, made 83 recommendations, and outlined 370 actions to help transform Côte d'Ivoire into an emerging economy by 2020. During the event, leaders identified "modernising the tax system by broadening and simplifying the tax base and streamlining tax administration to strengthen the level and management of public finances" as one of the priorities of the project.[689]

On 14 October 2016, the United States Internal Revenue Service announced that American taxpayers seeking unilateral advance pricing agreements with Mexico for maquiladora operations will not be subject to double taxation as long as intercompany pricing complies with the framework previously established by American and Mexican authorities.[690]

On 24-25 November 2016, the BEPS Project ad hoc Group, of which the United States is a member, adopted a multilateral instrument that will allow countries to easily amend their tax treaties to implement tax treaty-related BEPS recommendations.[691]

On 24 February 2017, the IRS published draft instructions on filing country-by-country reports in the United States.[692]

From 5-6 June 2017, the US hosted the 2017 OECD International Tax Conference in Washington, D. C. This conference focused on the OECD's new international tax initiatives. It also facilitated interaction among key representatives from the OECD Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, senior tax officials from the United States, and other countries involved in the OECD's international tax work.[693]

The United States has supported efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda as a member of an international organization and has taken actions to address common issues and interests. Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Yuliya Gorelkina

[687] Mr. Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD, in Washington from 6 to 8 October 2016, OECD (Paris) 8 October 2016. Date of Access: 24 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/unitedstates/oecd-secretary-general-in-washington-from-6-to-8-october-2016.htm.

[688] October 2016 G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting: Remarks on Taxation, OECD (Paris) 6 October 2016. Date of Access: 24 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/g20/topics/taxation/october-2016-g20-finance-ministers-and-central-bank-governors-meeting-remarks-on-taxation.htm.

[689] Remarks at Millennium Challenge Corporation-OECD event: Joining Forces to Catalyse Investments in the Developing World, OECD (Paris) 8 October 2016. Date of Access: 24 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/development/joining-forces-to-catalyse-investments-in-the-developing-world.htm.

[690] US taxpayers seeking unilateral APAs with Mexico for maquiladoras will not be subject to double taxation as long as certain requirements are met, EY 20 October 2016. Date of Access: 24 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--us-taxpayers-seeking-unilateral-apas-with-mexico-for-maquiladoras-will-not-be-subject-to-double-taxation-as-long-as-certain-requirements-are-met.

[691] Multilateral Instrument for BEPS Tax Treaty Measures: The Ad hoc Group, OECD (Paris) 24 November 2016. Date of Access: 26 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/treaties/multilateral-instrument-for-beps-tax-treaty-measures-the-ad-hoc-group.htm.

[692] U.S. IRS Issues Draft Instructions for Filing Country-by-Country Reports, Thomson Reuters 1 March 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/checkpoint/us-irs-issues-draft-instructions-for-filing-country-by-country-reports/.

[693] 2017 OECD Tax Conference, United States Council for International Business (USCIB) 24 May 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.uscib.org/oecd-tax-conference-ud-3647/.

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to help strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda.

On 11 October 2016, the Council of the EU issued a press release setting out the Council's conclusions on Tax Transparency. It outlined the intention of the Commission to explore possibilities for Mandatory Disclosure Rules which was inspired by Action 12 of the Organisation for the Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) project.[694]

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On 25 October 2016, the European Commission announced a new package of corporate tax reforms. This package includes; a two stage proposal towards a Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base; a Directive on Double Taxation Dispute Resolution MEchanism in the EU; and amendments to the Anti-Tax Avoidance Directive agreed in June 2016, as regards hybrid mismatches with third countries. It is proposed that Member States should transpose these proposals by 31 December 2018 at the latest, and that it shall apply from 1 January 2019. These rules are modelled on the rules contained in the OECD Action Plan on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) report.[697]

On 8 November 2016, the Economic and Financial Affairs Council of the EU agreed on the criteria and the process for the establishment of an EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions that do not respect the tax good governance standards. This is a goal of the External Strategy for Effective Taxation as part of the Anti-Tax Avoidance Package introduced in January 2016.[698]

On 10 November 2016, the European Commission launched a public consultation to gather feedback on the war forward for EU action on advisers and intermediaries who facilitate tax evasion and tax avoidance. This reflects the goal of the Commission to shed more light on the activities of tax advisers laid out in the Communication on Further Measures to Enhance Transparency and Fight Against Tax Evasion and Avoidance. This is apart of the Commission's interest in gathering views on how a mandatory disclosure

[694] The Latest on BEPS — 24 October 2016, EY 24 October 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---24-october-2016.

[695] European Court of Auditors signs off the EU accounts for 9th year in a row, European Commission (Brussels) 13 October 2016. Date of Access: 11 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3343_en.htm.

[696] Commission proposes major corporate tax reform for the EU, European Commission (Strasbourg) 25 October 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3471_en.htm.

[697] The Latest on BEPS — 7 November 2016, EY 7 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---7-november-2016.

[698] European Council agrees on criteria for screening of third country jurisdictions, EY 10 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--european-council-agrees-on-criteria-for-screening-of-third-country-jurisdictions.

scheme for tax advisers could be implemented, which reflects the goals of the OECD's non-binding guidelines (BEPS Action 12) for the disclosure of aggressive tax planning strategies.[699]

On 6 December 2016, the European Council agreed to a draft directive aimed at closing down 'hybrid mismatches' with the tax systems of third countries. The issue agreed upon will prevent corporate tax payed from exploiting disparities between tax jurisdictions and allow tax authorities to access information held by authorities responsible for the prevention of money laundering.[700]

On 3 January 2017, the European Commission welcomed the entry into force of new rules to ensure that Member States have all the information they need on tax rulings given to multinational companies in other EU countries. As of 1 January 2017, Member States are obliged to automatically exchange information on all new cross-border tax rulings that they issue.[701]

On 12 January 2017, the European Parliament's Committee on Legal Affairs gave an opinion on the legal basis of the proposal to amend the European Union (EU) Directive on disclosure of income tax information, better known as public Country-by-Country (CbC) reporting. The Committee concluded that the proposal must be based on Article 50(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), instead of Article 115 of TFEU. This would mean that the introduction of public CbC reporting by amendment to the Accounting Directive is an accounting matter and therefore it requires approval by a qualified majority of Member States rather than a unanimous vote. This opinion contradicts legal advice given to the Council of Member States earlier in November 2016, wherein it was opined that the proposal to amend the Accounting Directive must be based on Article 115 of TFEU.[702]

On 9 February 2017, the European Parliament Rapporteurs put forward amendments on the European Commission's proposal for a directive amending Directive 2013/34/EU regarding disclosure of income tax information by certain undertakings and branches (public CbC reporting). The amendments increase the scope of the directive and increasing the amount of information companies are required to publish. It proposes to lower the threshold significantly.[703]

On 21 February 2017, ECOFIN agreed on amendments to the Anti-Tax Avoidance Directive to provide for minimum standards for hybrid mismatches involving third countries. It is one of a package of corporate taxation proposals presented by the Commission in October 2016.[704]

On 21 February 2017, the European Commission welcomed the agreement reached at the ECOFIN meeting to help prevent tax avoidance through non-EU countries. The latest addition to the EU's anti-tax avoidance mission will prohibit multinational companies from escaping corporate tax by exploiting

[699] Commission gathers views on future rules to deter promoters of aggressive tax planning scheme, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3618_en.htm.
[700] Economic and Financial Council, European Council (Brussels) 6 December 2016. Date of Access: 11 January 2017. http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/ecofin/2016/12/06/.
[701] Commission welcomes entry into force of new transparency rules for tax rulings, European Commission (Brussels) 3 January 2017. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4494_en.htm.
[702] European Parliament issues opinion concluding that public Country-by-Country reporting proposal would require qualified majority rather than unanimity, EY 7 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--european-parliament-issues-opinion-concluding-that-public-country-by-country-reporting-proposal-would-require-qualified-majority-rather-than-unanimity.
[703] EU Parliament members submit amendments to public County-by-Country Reporting proposal, EY 20 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--eu-parliament-members-submit-amendments-to-public-county-by-country-reporting-proposal
[704] ECOFIN agrees on Directive addressing hybrid mismatches with non-EU countries, EY 21 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--ecofin-agrees-on-directive-addressing-hybrid-mismatches-with-non-eu-countries.

differences between the tax systems of Member States and those of non-EU countries. The new rules will come into force on 1 January 2020.[705]

On 23 May 2017, the European Council agreed on a new system for resolving double taxation disputes within the EU. The proposal sets out to improve the mechanisms used for resolving disputes between member states when disputes arise from the interpretation of agreements on the elimination of double taxation. It builds on convention 90/436/EEC on the elimination of double taxation in connection with the adjustments of profits of associated enterprises.The draft directive requires dispute resolution mechanisms to be mandatory and binding, with clear time limits and an obligation to reach results. It thereby sets out to secure a tax environment where compliance costs for businesses are reduced to a minimum. Member states will have until 30 June 2019 to transpose the directive into national laws and regulations.[706]

On 29 May 2017, the European Commission welcomed the formal adoption of new EU rules to prevent tax avoidance via non-EU countries. The agreed rules will stop companies from escaping tax by exploiting the mismatches between Member States' and non-EU countries' tax systems ("hybrid mismatches"). This agreement completes the Anti Tax Avoidance Directive.[707]

The European Union has supported the efforts to strengthen developing economies' engagement in the international tax agenda through national actions that address common issues and common concerns and as stakeholders or members of international organizations. Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sonja Dobson

[705] Fair Taxation: Commission welcomes new rules to prevent tax avoidance through non-EU countries, European Commission (Brussels) 21 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-305_en.htm
[706] Double taxation: Council agrees its position on dispute resolution procedures, European Council 23 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2017/05/23-double-taxation/
[707] Commission welcomes adoption of new rules to block tax avoidance, European Commission (Brussels) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-1433_en.htm

4. Corruption

"We endorse the 2017-2018 G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity, implementing our stance of zero tolerance against corruption, zero loopholes in our institutions and zero barriers in our actions."

G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

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		0	
Japan		0	
Korea			+1
Mexico	−1		
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa	−1		
Turkey	−1		
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average		+0.35	

Background

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, the G20 endorsed the 2017-2018 Anti-Corruption Action Plan to improve public and private sector transparency, emphasizing its stance of zero tolerance against corruption, zero loopholes in its institutions, and zero barriers in its actions.[708] Leaders also endorsed the G20 High Level Principles on Cooperation on Persons Sought for Corruption and Asset Recovery, and committed to continuing the G20 Denial of Entry Experts Network.[709]

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, the G20 first introduced the crime and corruption commitment, declaring in the Pittsburgh Leaders' Communiqué that: "We are committed to maintain the momentum in dealing with tax havens, money laundering, proceeds of corruption, terrorist financing, and prudential standards."[710] At the 2010 Toronto Summit, this commitment continued to develop and the G20 agreed that corruption threatens the integrity of markets, undermines fair competition, distorts resource

[708] G20 Leaders' Communique: Hangzhou Summit, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html

[709] G20 Leaders' Communique: Hangzhou Summit, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html

[710] The G20 Pittsburgh Summit Commitments, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/commitments-09-pittsburgh.html

allocation, destroys public trust, and undermines the rule of law.[711] At the 2010 Toronto Summit, in response to such agreement, the G20 leaders called for all countries to ratify and fully implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), and to fully implement reviews in accordance with the provisions of UNCAC.[712] The G20 also agreed to establish the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG), which was tasked with making comprehensive recommendations on how member countries could engage in the international effort of combating corruption.[713]

At the 2010 Seoul Summit, the ACWG presented the first G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan. At the 2011 Cannes Summit, the G20 presented a report on its members' progress on the Action Plan.[714] The G20 also committed to accelerating the ratification and implementation of UNCAC and increasing its engagements with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Working Group on Bribery (OECD WGB).[715]

At the 2012 Los Cabos Summit. the G20 reiterated its previous two commitments mentioned above. The G20 also committed to enforcing anti-corruption legislation, and called for the publication of a guide on mutual legal assistance.[716] The G20 extended the ACWG mandate to the end of 2014 in order to prepare an updated comprehensive action plan for the 2015-16 year as well as a second monitoring report indicating G20 member progress against the previous action plan for 2013-14.[717]

At the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, the G20 endorsed its declaration of High-Level Principles on Mutual Legal Assistance, commitment to promote integrity in buy-and-sell relations between public and private sectors, and maintenance of a dialogue between the ACWG, the Business 20 (B20) and Civil 20 (C20).[718] At the 2014 Brisbane, the G20 endorsed the 2015-2016 Anti-Corruption Action Plan, and implemented the G20 High-Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency.[719] At the 2015 Antalya Summit, the G20 endorsed the G20 Anti-Corruption Open Data Principles and the G20 Principles for Promoting Integrity in Public Procurement.[720]

Commitment Features

The G20 has endorsed the 2017-18 Anti-Corruption Action Plan and committed to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity by implementing its stance of zero tolerance against corruption, zero loopholes in its institutions, and zero barriers in its actions.

[711] The G20 Toronto Summit Commitments, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communique.html

[712] The G20 Toronto Summit Commitments, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communique.html

[713] The G20 Toronto Summit Commitments, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communique.html

[714] Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html

[715] Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html

[716] G20 Leaders Declaration Los Cabos, Mexico, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 June 2012. Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2012/2012-0619-loscabos.html

[717] G20 Leaders Declaration Los Cabos, Mexico, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 June 2012. Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2012/2012-0619-loscabos.html

[718] G20 Leaders' Declaration St. Petersburg (Intensifying Fight Against Corruption), the G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html#corruption

[719] G20 Leaders' Communique Brisbane, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communique.html

[720] G20 Leaders' Communique Antalya, Turkey, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto), 16 November 2015. Access Date: 27 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communique.html

This commitment has two parts: 1) improve public sector transparency and integrity and 2) improve private sector transparency and integrity. In the 2017-2018 Anti-Corruption Action Plan, the G20 defines both of these parts.

1) Private sector integrity and transparency:

The G20 member must work closely with business and civil society in tackling corruption. The G20 member must explore means of promoting a culture of integrity and supporting private sector anti-corruption initiatives, including for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and in the non-financial professional services sector. The G20 member must encourage stronger partnerships, consistent with national law, between governments, anti-corruption authorities, regulators, law enforcement, financial intelligence units (FIUs), business and civil society.

2) Public sector integrity and transparency:

The G20 member must promote greater transparency in public sector spending, including in public contracting, budget processes and customs. This may be achieved through citizen engagement, strengthening anti-corruption authorities, public-private partnerships and the use of open data, building on the G20 Open Data Principles. The G20 member must also promote a culture of integrity and accountability in its institutions, including by preventing and resolving conflicts of interest affecting public officials. The G20 member's priorities include organising against corruption (i.e. structuring the public administration to detect and minimise corruption risks), encouraging public institutions to implement anti-corruption initiatives, building international integrity partnerships and networks, and addressing immunities. Encouraging the reporting of suspected actions of corruption is critical to deterring and detecting it. The G20 will promote this goal, including reviewing its progress in implementing legislative and institutional protections for whistleblowers.

For full compliance, the G20 member must comply with both parts of the commitment by taking action in all or almost all components of each part. Partial compliance will be received if the G20 member complies with one of the two parts or complies with only some components of both parts. Noncompliance will be received if the G20 member does not comply with either part.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	G20 member did not take actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.
0	G20 member has taken actions to improve public OR private sector transparency and integrity OR G20 member has taken few actions to improve both public AND private sector transparency and integrity.
+1	G20 member has taken actions to improve both public AND private sector transparency and integrity.

Lead Analyst: Grace Lee

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 8 September 2016, the senate unanimously approved the Access to Public Information bill, which aims to allow all citizens to request and receive information from the state in a timely and accurate manner.[721]

[721] Senate approves changes to the Project Repent and Access to Public Information, Senate of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.senado.gov.ar/prensa/14368/noticias

On 12 September 2016, the Treasury and Public Finance Minister met with the Federal Council of Fiscal Responsibility for the first time in five years to discuss improved economic coordination between all levels of government.[722] On 25 October 2016, the group reconvened and agreed on amendments to the Fiscal Responsibility Act, promising transparency in provincial public accounts.[723]

On 15 September 2016, the Minister of Treasury and Public Finance Alfonso Prat-Gay presented the 2017 draft budget to the Budget Committee of the Chamber of Deputies.[724] The budget details funding for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), investment in public social programs, and an effort to govern with transparency by limiting the "super powers" of the federal government that led to financial mismanagement in the past.[725] The budget went on to be approved on 30 November 2016 by the Argentine Senate.[726]

On 21 September 2016, the senate approved the Private Public Participation (PPP) initiative proposed by the executive branch.[727] This initiative partners the private sector and the state in public infrastructure projects and establishes set obligations and penalties for noncompliance.[728]

On 22 September 2016, the federal government introduced a new tool for citizens to voice opinions online regarding the drafting of the Converged Communications Act, which will improve the providing of feedback and services to citizens.[729]

On 27 September 2016, the Minister of Modernisation of the Nation, Andrés Ibarra announced that the regional Alliance for Open Government Summit will be held in Argentina in 2017.[730] This summit brings together government agencies, businesses, and civil society from over 60 countries with the goal of sharing ideas and putting forward commitments to more open, accountable government while promoting civic engagement and responsiveness to citizen demands.[731]

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[722] The Federal Fiscal Responsibility Council met for the first time since 2011, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 12 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.economia.gob.ar/se-reunio-el-consejo-federal-de-responsabilidad-fiscal-por-primera-vez-desde-2011/

[723] The Minister of Treasury and Public Finances agreed with provincial peers a gradual path toward balance and fiscal transparency, Ministry of the Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 25 October 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.economia.gob.ar/el-ministro-de-hacienda-y-finanzas-acordo-con-sus-pares-provinciales-un-camino-gradual-hacia-el-equilibrio-y-la-transparencia-fiscal/

[724] Alfonso Prat-Gay presented the Draft Budget 2017: "This is a budget based on the truth", Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.economia.gob.ar/alfonso-prat-gay-presento-el-proyecto-del-presupuesto-2017-este-es-un-presupuesto-que-esta-basado-en-la-verdad/

[725] Alfonso Prat-Gay presented the Draft Budget 2017: "This is a budget based on the truth", Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.economia.gob.ar/alfonso-prat-gay-presento-el-proyecto-del-presupuesto-2017-este-es-un-presupuesto-que-esta-basado-en-la-verdad/

[726] Argentina's Senate approves 2017 Budget, Reuters (Buenos Aires) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. http://www.cnbc.com/2016/11/30/reuters-america-argentinas-senate-approves-2017-budget.html

[727] Senate approves the Public Procurement System-Private, Senate of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.senado.gov.ar/prensa/14423/noticias

[728] Senate approves the Public Procurement System-Private, Senate of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.senado.gov.ar/prensa/14423/noticias

[729] The government is seeking more opinions to develop the draft Communications Act, Office of the President (Buenos Aires) 22 September 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://www.casarosada.gob.ar/gobierno-informa/37368-el-gobierno-busca-mas-opiniones-para-elaborar-el-proyecto-de-ley-de-comunicaciones

[730] Argentina will host the regional summit of the Alliance for Open Government, Office of the President (Buenos Aires) 27 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.casarosada.gob.ar/gobierno-informa/37406-la-argentina-sera-sede-de-la-cumbre-regional-de-la-alianza-para-el-gobierno-abierto

[731] Argentina will host the regional summit of the Alliance for Open Government, Office of the President (Buenos Aires) 27 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.casarosada.gob.ar/gobierno-informa/37406-la-argentina-sera-sede-de-la-cumbre-regional-de-la-alianza-para-el-gobierno-abierto

On 29 September 2016, the Supreme Court of Justice and the National Congress signed an agreement to ensure transparency in judicial processes.[732] This agreement authorizes Congress to monitor the Judicial Assistance Complex Crime and Organized Crime Judiciary, to ensure fairness and institutional collaboration and oversight against the prosecution of crimes at the national and transnational level.[733]

On 11 October 2016, President Mauricio Macri announced the Open Data Portal Justice which is a program to establish a modern national system of judicial statistics that are in line with the idea of open government and transparency in justice.[734]

On 19 October 2016, President Macri and representatives from various government agencies and private sector actors held a meeting for the Dialogue for Production and Work and introduced the National Productive Plan.[735] The plan hopes to create fiscal efficiency, de-bureaucratization, skilled workforce development, and greater cross sector partnerships.[736]

During the week of 22 October 2016, the federal government sent a series of laws to Congress that would sanction businesses found guilty of corruption involving the public sector.[737] Current laws only punish individuals and fail to hold the companies accountable as well.[738] New laws would decrease punishment for cooperative companies during investigations of corruption.[739]

On 28 October 2016, the President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Nation Emilio Monzó and the Minister of Modernization of the Nation Ibarra signed a Cooperation Agreement that introduces new information and communication technologies to administrative management.[740] The agreement will facilitate the Program for Parliamentary Modernization, Innovation, Transparency, and Democratic Strengthening approved in June 2016 by Congress.[741] The aim is to improve management, facilitate administration of information, and promote transparency.[742]

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[732] The Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation signed an agreement with Congress for greater transparency, Chamber of Deputies of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 29 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.hcdn.gov.ar/prensa/noticias/2016/noticia_0035.html

[733] The Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation signed an agreement with Congress for greater transparency, Chamber of Deputies of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 29 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.hcdn.gov.ar/prensa/noticias/2016/noticia_0035.html

[734] The President presented the Open Data Portal Justice, Office of the President (Buenos Aires) 11 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.casarosada.gob.ar/slider-principal/37521-el-presidente-mauricio-macri-presento-el-portal-de-datos-abiertos-de-la-justicia

[735] "Dialogue for Production and Work" began, Office of the President (Buenos Aires) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://www.casarosada.gob.ar/slider-principal/37590-se-inicio-hoy-el-dialogo-para-la-produccion-y-el-trabajo

[736] "Dialogue for Production and Work" began, Office of the President (Buenos Aires) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://www.casarosada.gob.ar/slider-principal/37590-se-inicio-hoy-el-dialogo-para-la-produccion-y-el-trabajo

[737] Argentina looks to battle corporate and public corruption with new laws, Reuters (London) 22 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-argentina-corruption-idUSKCN12M0NI

[738] Argentina looks to battle corporate and public corruption with new laws, Reuters (London) 22 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-argentina-corruption-idUSKCN12M0NI

[739] Argentina looks to battle corporate and public corruption with new laws, Reuters (London) 22 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-argentina-corruption-idUSKCN12M0NI

[740] The Chamber of Deputies and the Ministry of Modernization signed a Technical Cooperation Agreement, Chamber of Deputies of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 28 October 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.hcdn.gov.ar/prensa/noticias/2016/noticia_0047

[741] The Chamber of Deputies and the Ministry of Modernization signed a Technical Cooperation Agreement, Chamber of Deputies of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 28 October 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.hcdn.gov.ar/prensa/noticias/2016/noticia_0047

[742] The Chamber of Deputies and the Ministry of Modernization signed a Technical Cooperation Agreement, Chamber of Deputies of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 28 October 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.hcdn.gov.ar/prensa/noticias/2016/noticia_0047

On 29 October 2016, the National Congress approved a bill to extend benefits for whistleblowers in crimes against the public administration, corruption, and criminal offenses in relation to economics and finance.[743] The addition to the Argentine Criminal Code reduces penalties for individuals who provide reliable information, facts, or statistics in cases under investigation.[744]

On 16 November 2016, the senate voted to convert the Public Private Participation (PPP) project into law with the changes introduced by the Chamber of Deputies.[745] The changes introduced were prioritization of national industries for contracts and environmental requirements.[746]

On 21 November 2016, the President of the Senate Gabriela Michetti announced the creation of an Information Access Directorate and the application of a biometric system.[747] The biometric system is to enhance security of information, while the directorate will be created to enhance public official accountability to citizens and strengthen transparency in the Senate.[748]

On 1 December 2016, the National Congress hosted a debate on Access to Public Information of the Parliaments.[749] Led by the Coordinating Director of the Program for Modernization, Innovation, Transparency, and Democratic Strengthening, the panel sought to learn from experiences presented by a Chilean delegation to improve government transparency in terms of information access for citizens.[750] The debate centred on improvements to the Law on Access to Public Information and increased modernization of current government infrastructure.[751]

On 2 December 2016, the European Investment Bank (EIB) approved a EUR60 million line of credit for the Bank of Investment and Foreign Trade (BICE) to develop micro and SMEs.[752] The loan is intended to provide credit for SMEs, develop 200 investment projects, and lines of credit for SMEs and renewable

[743] Argentina: Benefits for whistleblowers extended to investigations related to corruption, customs crimes and economic and financial crimes, Lexology (London) 29 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=1edb660e-47f0-4eda-9e74-30758ec1241d
[744] Argentina: Benefits for whistleblowers extended to investigations related to corruption, customs crimes and economic and financial crimes, Lexology (London) 29 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=1edb660e-47f0-4eda-9e74-30758ec1241d
[745] The Private Public Participation regime is a law, Senate of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 16 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://www.senado.gov.ar/prensa/14660/noticias
[746] The Private Public Participation regime is a law, Senate of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 16 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://www.senado.gov.ar/prensa/14660/noticias
[747] Michetti announced measures to transparent the activity in Senate, Senate of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.senado.gov.ar/prensa/14675/noticias
[748] Michetti announced measures to transparent the activity in Senate, Senate of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.senado.gov.ar/prensa/14675/noticias
[749] Conference on "Access to Public Information of Parliament", Chamber of Deputies of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.hcdn.gov.ar/prensa/noticias/2016/noticia_0064
[750] Conference on "Access to Public Information of Parliament", Chamber of Deputies of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.hcdn.gov.ar/prensa/noticias/2016/noticia_0064
[751] Conference on "Access to Public Information of Parliament", Chamber of Deputies of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 1 December 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.hcdn.gov.ar/prensa/noticias/2016/noticia_0064
[752] The European Investment Bank provides a line of credit of 60 million euros for the development of SMEs, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.economia.gob.ar/el-banco-europeo-de-inversiones-otorga-una-linea-de-credito-de-60-millones-de-euros-para-el-desarrollo-de-pymes/

energy projects.[753] The loans are intended to strengthen the financial and working relationship between the government and SMEs and to foster growth and accountability in the private sector.[754]

On 23 December 2016, the Minister of Treasury and Public Finance Prat-Gay and the US Ambassador to Argentina Noah Mamet signed an agreement on information exchange.[755] This agreement is designed to combat tax evasion and promote fiscal transparency.[756] It created the legal framework to share information between Argentina and the US, promoting the ability to use information to prosecute individuals undertaking financial tax crimes and financial corruption in both countries.[757]

On 27 December 2016, a federal judge approved charges of illicit association and fraudulent administration against former Argentinian President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner.[758] The indictment is part of ongoing investigations of former officials that left the government over allegations of corruption.[759]

On 10 February 2017, Luis Caputo, Minister of the newly formed Ministry of Finance, oversaw the signing of cooperation agreements between the Financial Information Unit (UIF) and governments of the City and Province of Buenos Aires.[760] The agreement proposes developing and implementing joint action policies to address financial crime, strengthen institutions, and develop proper channels of communication.[761]

On 2 March 2017, the Argentinian National Congress launched public consultations with citizens in regards to the implementation of the Law on Access to Public Information.[762] The law was created to

[753] The European Investment Bank provides a line of credit of 60 million euros for the development of SMEs, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.economia.gob.ar/el-banco-europeo-de-inversiones-otorga-una-linea-de-credito-de-60-millones-de-euros-para-el-desarrollo-de-pymes/

[754] The European Investment Bank provides a line of credit of 60 million euros for the development of SMEs, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.economia.gob.ar/el-banco-europeo-de-inversiones-otorga-una-linea-de-credito-de-60-millones-de-euros-para-el-desarrollo-de-pymes/

[755] Argentina and the United States sign an Agreement on the exchange of tax information to combat tax evasion, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 23 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.economia.gob.ar/argentina-y-estados-unidos-firman-un-acuerdo-sobre-intercambio-de-informacion-tributaria-para-luchar-contra-la-evasion-fiscal/

[756] Argentina and the United States sign an Agreement on the exchange of tax information to combat tax evasion, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 23 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.economia.gob.ar/argentina-y-estados-unidos-firman-un-acuerdo-sobre-intercambio-de-informacion-tributaria-para-luchar-contra-la-evasion-fiscal/

[757] Argentina and the United States sign an Agreement on the exchange of tax information to combat tax evasion, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 23 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.economia.gob.ar/argentina-y-estados-unidos-firman-un-acuerdo-sobre-intercambio-de-informacion-tributaria-para-luchar-contra-la-evasion-fiscal/

[758] Judge indicts former Argentine President in corruption case, Associated Press (Buenos Aires) 27 December 2016. Access Date: 04 January 2017. http://bigstory.ap.org/article/1c322aa54c8f409aa9db91b11f83b2e2/judge-indicts-former-argentine-president-corruption-case

[759] Judge indicts former Argentine President in corruption case, Associated Press (Buenos Aires) 27 December 2016. Access Date: 04 January 2017. http://bigstory.ap.org/article/1c322aa54c8f409aa9db91b11f83b2e2/judge-indicts-former-argentine-president-corruption-case

[760] The FIU, Province and City of Buenos Aires signed agreements to prevent financial crimes, Ministry of Finance (Buenos Aires) 10 February 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www.minfinanzas.gob.ar/la-uif-provincia-y-ciudad-de-buenos-aires-firmaron-convenios-para-prevenir-delitos-financieros/

[761] The FIU, Province and City of Buenos Aires signed agreements to prevent financial crimes, Ministry of Finance (Buenos Aires) 10 February 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www.minfinanzas.gob.ar/la-uif-provincia-y-ciudad-de-buenos-aires-firmaron-convenios-para-prevenir-delitos-financieros/

[762] The Congress of the Nation carries out open consultation to the citizens on the implementation of the law of access to the public information, Chamber of Deputies of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 2 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www.hcdn.gov.ar/prensa/noticias/2017/noticia_0004.html

establish the Agency for Access to Public Information, tasked with ensuring compliance with principles and procedures established by law as well as transparency.[763]

On 22 March 2017, Nicolas Dujovne, Minister of the newly formed Ministry of the Treasury, and Finance Ministers of 21 provinces signed a new Fiscal Responsibility Law at a meeting of the Federal Council of Fiscal Responsibility (CFRF).[764] The law focuses its attention on simplifying the tax system, creating accountability for the private and public sectors, and putting controls on the increase of public employment.[765]

On 29 March 2017, Minister Ibarra launched the new Portal of Open Government of the province of Mendoza along with its Governor, Alfredo Cornejo.[766] The portal will allow citizens to access information such as government structures, salaries, budget law, debt levels, and public consultations.[767] The project was conducted through the federal government's Modernization Plan.[768]

On 18 April 2017, President Macri, Minister Ibarra, and multiple provincial governors presented the Federal Commitment for Modernization of the State plan.[769] The plan focuses on streamlining state procedures, restructuring public employment, ensuring transparency and citizen participation, and incorporating more technological infrastructure.[770]

On 25 April 2017, President Macri and Minister Ibarra announced the relaunch of the National Institute of Public Administration.[771] The renovation will focus on training public employees more effectively and

[763] The Congress of the Nation carries out open consultation to the citizens on the implementation of the law of access to the public information, Chamber of Deputies of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 2 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www.hcdn.gov.ar/prensa/noticias/2017/noticia_0004.html
[764] Nicolas Dujovne and provincial ministers signed a historic agreement for a new Fiscal Responsibility Law, Ministry of the Treasury (Buenos Aires) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www.minhacienda.gob.ar/nicolas-dujovne-y-ministros-provinciales-firmaron-un-historico-acta-acuerdo-para-una-nueva-ley-de-responsabilidad-fiscal/
[765] Nicolas Dujovne and provincial ministers signed a historic agreement for a new Fiscal Responsibility Law, Ministry of the Treasury (Buenos Aires) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www.minhacienda.gob.ar/nicolas-dujovne-y-ministros-provinciales-firmaron-un-historico-acta-acuerdo-para-una-nueva-ley-de-responsabilidad-fiscal/
[766] Ibarra and Cornejo presented the new Portal of Open Government of Mendoza, Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ibarra-y-cornejo-presentaron-el-nuevo-portal-de-gobierno-abierto-de-mendoza
[767] Ibarra and Cornejo presented the new Portal of Open Government of Mendoza, Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ibarra-y-cornejo-presentaron-el-nuevo-portal-de-gobierno-abierto-de-mendoza
[768] Ibarra and Cornejo presented the new Portal of Open Government of Mendoza, Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 29 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ibarra-y-cornejo-presentaron-el-nuevo-portal-de-gobierno-abierto-de-mendoza
[769] President Macri presented the "Federal Commitment for the Modernization of the State", Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 18 April 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-presidente-macri-presento-el-compromiso-federal-para-la-modernizacion-del-estado
[770] President Macri presented the "Federal Commitment for the Modernization of the State", Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 18 April 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-presidente-macri-presento-el-compromiso-federal-para-la-modernizacion-del-estado
[771] Macri and Ibarra presented the renovation of the National Institute of Public Administration, Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 25 April 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/macri-e-ibarra-presentaron-la-renovacion-del-instituto-nacional-de-la-administracion

according to their profile and functions.[772] The modernization will also focus on increasing transparency, and partnerships between the private and public sectors.[773]

On 3 May 2017, Argentina was ranked 20th in the Global Open Data Index published by the Open Knowledge Foundation.[774] Last year the state was ranked 54th, proving that ongoing reforms are proving effective as Argentina was the nation with the highest growth year to year (up 34 places).[775]

On 9 May 2017, Minister Ibarra presented the new Open Data Portal for Science and Technology.[776] This platform provides the public with access to publications, scientist profiles, and various science and technology projects along with information on the funding, government investments, and various institutions involved.[777]

Argentina has taken substantial actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Fernandes

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 6 September 2016, the Australian Transactions Reports Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) revealed its partnership with other agencies in the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (SFTC) to investigate over 1,000 Australian entities identified in the Panama Papers leak.[778] Paul Jevtovic, CEO of AUSTRAC, stated that the agency has been working with the private sector and financial intelligence units to "generate and share financial intelligence arising from the Panama Papers." He also stated that Australia was working to "safeguard the integrity of Australia's financial system and the economy" in regard to laundering of illicit funds.[779]

On 12 September 2016, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade published the 2016 grant agreement, Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies in the Asia Pacific Program, for the

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[772] Macri and Ibarra presented the renovation of the National Institute of Public Administration, Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 25 April 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/macri-e-ibarra-presentaron-la-renovacion-del-instituto-nacional-de-la-administracion

[773] Macri and Ibarra presented the renovation of the National Institute of Public Administration, Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 25 April 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/macri-e-ibarra-presentaron-la-renovacion-del-instituto-nacional-de-la-administracion

[774] Argentina ranked 34th in the World Transparency and Open Government Ranking, Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/la-argentina-ascendio-34-puestos-en-el-ranking-mundial-de-transparencia-y-gobierno-abierto

[775] Argentina ranked 34th in the World Transparency and Open Government Ranking, Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/la-argentina-ascendio-34-puestos-en-el-ranking-mundial-de-transparencia-y-gobierno-abierto

[776] Ibarra and Barañao presented the Open Data Portal for Science and Technology, Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 9 May 2017. Access Date: 22 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ibarra-y-baranao-presentaron-el-portal-de-datos-abiertos-de-ciencia-y-tecnologia

[777] Ibarra and Barañao presented the Open Data Portal for Science and Technology, Ministry of Modernization (Buenos Aires) 9 May 2017. Access Date: 22 May 2017. https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ibarra-y-baranao-presentaron-el-portal-de-datos-abiertos-de-ciencia-y-tecnologia

[778] AUSTRAC follows the Panama Papers' money trail, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/austrac-follows-panama-papers%E2%80%99-money-trail

[779] AUSTRAC follows the Panama Papers' money trail, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/austrac-follows-panama-papers%E2%80%99-money-trail

United Nations Development Program's (UNDP).[780] The Government of Australia will contribute AUD6,550,665 to help integrate anti-corruption mechanisms into national government policies.[781]

On 13 September 2016, Justice Minister Michael Keenan stated that the Australian government will be extending anti-money laundering laws to lawyers, accountants, real estate agents, and jewelers.[782]

On 18 October 2016, AUSTRAC published its 2015-16 annual report that revealed the agency's continuous focus on preventing money laundering.[783] Mr. Jevtovic stated that AUSTRAC's goal is not to keep up with environmental and technological changes, but to be ahead of the change "in order to protect the integrity of Australia's financial sector."[784]

On 31 October 2016, the Australian government published its first draft of the Open Government National Action Plan.[785] The final plan, released on 7 December 2016, contains 15 commitments that will promote transparency and accountability in business, open data and digital transformation, access to government information, integrity in the public sector, and public participation and engagement.[786]

On 2 November 2016, AUSTRAC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the China Anti-Money Laundering Monitoring and Analysis Centre (CAMLMAC) that will support transparency and accountability on how intelligence is used by both actors.[787]

On 3 November 2016, the AUSTRAC website provided an online contact form to make the agency more accessible for start-up businesses and FinTech operators who seek guidance on Australia's anti-money laundering framework.[788]

As of 12 November 2016, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) enacted a new law intended to remove unfair contract terms in small businesses.[789] The law is a response to a report released by the ACCC which revealed "common terms of concern" in small business contracts.[790]

[780] Grant Agreement–UNDP–Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (ACPI) in the Asia Pacific, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 12 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/grant-agreement-undp-anti-corruption-peaceful-inclusive-societies-asia-pacific-acpi.aspx

[781] Grant Agreement–UNDP–Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (ACPI) in the Asia Pacific, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 12 September 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/grant-agreement-undp-anti-corruption-peaceful-inclusive-societies-asia-pacific-acpi.pdf

[782] Australia to extend money laundering laws, Reuters (London) 14 September 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/australia-moneylaundering-regulations-idUSL3N1BP2A7

[783] AUSTRAC 2015-16 annual report released, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/austrac-2015-16-annual-report-released

[784] AUSTRAC 2015-16 annual report released, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/austrac-2015-16-annual-report-released

[785] Australia publishes first government transparency action plan, Global Government Forum (London) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.globalgovernmentforum.com/australia-publishes-first-government-transparency-action-plan/

[786] Australia's First Open Government National Action Plan 2016-18, Public Data Branch Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Canberra) October 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://ogpau.pmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/2016/10/Australias-first-Open-Government-National-Action-Plan-Draft-for-consultation-Accessible.pdf

[787] AUSTRAC signs historic MoU with China, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 2 November 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/austrac-signs-historic-mou-china

[788] AUSTRAC calls on FinTechs and start-ups to make contact about AML/CTF, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 3 November 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/austrac-calls-fintechs-and-start-ups-make-contact-about-amlctf

[789] Businesses remove unfair contract terms before new law, Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (Canberra) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/businesses-remove-unfair-contract-terms-before-new-law

On 17 November 2016, AUSTRAC announced that it is working with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) to conduct a national risk assessment on the not-for-profit sector.[791] The risk assessment aims to better understand the money laundering, as well as terrorist financing, risks faced by the not-for-profit sector.[792]

On 22 November 2016, AUSTRAC's first ever risk assessment of money laundering and terrorism financing in the country's superannuation sector identified medium risks of fraud and cybercrime.[793] Paul Jevtovic, CEO of AUSTRAC, stated that the centre will work with the superannuation sector in preventing financial crime in the future.[794]

On 24 November 2016, AUSTRAC and Jordan's counterpart, the Anti-Money Laundering Unit (AMLU), signed a MoU to permit the exchange of financial intelligence to combat serious financial crime in Australia or Jordan, as part of a global effort.[795]

On 15 December 2016, AUSTRAC published two fact sheets for pubs and clubs that outline myths about money laundering and how they can protect themselves from money laundering.[796]

On 15 December 2016, AUSTRAC became the Chair of the International Supervisors Forum (ISF).[797] ISF was created by government agencies from Australia, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and New Zealand to strengthen domestic and international compliance programs to combat financial crimes such as money laundering.[798]

On 15 December 2016, ATO published its corporate tax transparency report detailing tax information of 1,904 large companies.[799] In response to the report, Tax Commissioner Chris Jordan stated that the ATO has renewed its efforts to provide taxpayers and their advisers early warnings regarding these large companies so that taxpayers make better informed decisions.[800] Commissioner Jordan added that the

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[790] Businesses remove unfair contract terms before new law, Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (Canberra) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/businesses-remove-unfair-contract-terms-before-new-law

[791] National risk assessment on the not-for-profit sector, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.austrac.gov.au/news/national-risk-assessment-not-profit-sector

[792] National risk assessment on the not-for-profit sector, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.austrac.gov.au/news/national-risk-assessment-not-profit-sector

[793] AUSTRAC collaborates on risks in super sector, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 22 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/austrac-collaborates-risks-super-sector

[794] AUSTRAC collaborates on risks in super sector, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 22 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/austrac-collaborates-risks-super-sector

[795] Extending financial intelligence exchange in the Middle East, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/Extending-financial-intelligence-exchange-in-the-Middle-East.aspx

[796] New fact sheets for pubs and clubs on money laundering, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/new-fact-sheets-pubs-and-clubs-money-laundering

[797] AUSTRAC to lead five nation coalition on ML/TF risks, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/austrac-lead-five-nation-coalition-mltf-risks

[798] AUSTRAC to lead five nation coalition on ML/TF risks, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Sydney) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/austrac-lead-five-nation-coalition-mltf-risks

[799] ATO Publishes Corporate Transparency Report, Global Tax News (Hong Kong) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.tax-news.com/news/ATO_Publishes_Corporate_Transparency_Report____72992.html

[800] ATO Publishes Corporate Transparency Report, Global Tax News (Hong Kong) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.tax-news.com/news/ATO_Publishes_Corporate_Transparency_Report____72992.html

ATO engages with the top 100 public and foreign companies to keep a "watchful eye" on these large players.[801]

On 20 December 2016 Australia opened a consultation paper to the public for comments regarding its review of tax and corporate whistleblower protections. Submissions closed on 10 February 2017.[802]

On 21 December 2016, the Australian Securities and Investments Commissions (ASIC) accepted enforceable undertakings, alternatives to civil or administrative action, from the National Australia Bank Limited and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.[803] The undertakings concern the banks' wholesale spot foreign exchange businesses.[804] ASIC is committed to ensuring that these financial institutions establish changes to the existing systems so that all participants act "with integrity and fairness."[805]

On 13 February 2017 began a public consultation on the "details, scope and implementation of a beneficial ownership register for companies." This being done with the overall goal to increase transparency. The submission deadline is 13 March 2017.[806]

On 3 March 2017, ASIC announced that it will prohibit flex commissions in the car finance market to avoid poor outcomes for consumers and the potential for unfair operations.[807]

On 7 March 2017, the United Nations Development Programme and the governments of Australia and Singapore launched a four-year Anti-Corruption for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies project "to tackle corruption as an impediment to development."[808] Australia has pledged USD4.92 million to support the project.[809]

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[801] ATO Publishes Corporate Transparency Report, Global Tax News (Hong Kong) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.tax-news.com/news/ATO_Publishes_Corporate_Transparency_Report____72992.html

[802] Review of Tax and Corporate Whistleblower Protections in Australia, 20 December 2016, Australian Government Treasury. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. http://www.treasury.gov.au/ConsultationsandReviews/Consultations/2016/Review-of-whistleblower-protections

[803] 15-455MR ASIC accepts enforceable undertaking from NAB and CBA to address inadequacies within their wholesale spot FX businesses, Australian Securities & Investments Commission (Sydney) 21 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.asic.gov.au/about-asic/media-centre/find-a-media-release/2016-releases/16-455mr-asic-accepts-enforceable-undertaking-from-nab-and-cba-to-address-inadequacies-within-their-wholesale-spot-fx-businesses/

[804] 15-455MR ASIC accepts enforceable undertaking from NAB and CBA to address inadequacies within their wholesale spot FX businesses, Australian Securities & Investments Commission (Sydney) 21 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.asic.gov.au/about-asic/media-centre/find-a-media-release/2016-releases/16-455mr-asic-accepts-enforceable-undertaking-from-nab-and-cba-to-address-inadequacies-within-their-wholesale-spot-fx-businesses/

[805] 15-455MR ASIC accepts enforceable undertaking from NAB and CBA to address inadequacies within their wholesale spot FX businesses, Australian Securities & Investments Commission (Sydney) 21 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.asic.gov.au/about-asic/media-centre/find-a-media-release/2016-releases/16-455mr-asic-accepts-enforceable-undertaking-from-nab-and-cba-to-address-inadequacies-within-their-wholesale-spot-fx-businesses/

[806] Increasing transparency of the beneficial ownership of companies, 13 February 2017, Australian Government Treasury. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. http://www.treasury.gov.au/ConsultationsandReviews/Consultations/2017/Beneficial-ownership-of-companies

[807] ASIC acts to address unfair outcomes from flex commissions in car finance market, Australian Securities & Investments Commission (Sydney) 3 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.asic.gov.au/about-asic/media-centre/find-a-media-release/2017-releases/17-049mr-asic-acts-to-address-unfair-outcomes-from-flex-commissions-in-car-finance-market/

[808] UN Development Programme, Australia and Singapore partner to launch a major anti-corruption project, United Nations Development Programme (New York City) 7 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2017/03/07/un-development-programme-australia-and-singapore-partner-to-launch-a-major-anti-corruption-project.html

[809] UN Development Programme, Australia and Singapore partner to launch a major anti-corruption project, United Nations Development Programme (New York City) 7 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2017/03/07/un-development-programme-australia-and-singapore-partner-to-launch-a-major-anti-corruption-project.html

On 30 March 2017, the Australian parliament introduced the Crimes Legislation Amendment (Powers, Offences and Other Measure) Bill 2017.[810] The bill aims to clarify various functions of the criminal justice system including the use and disclosure of information for the purpose of dealing with fraud or corruption against the Commonwealth.[811]

On 30 March 2017, the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) offered four start-up businesses up to AUD10,000 to test the feasibility of their ideas as part of the joint AUSTRAC and Australian Criminal Intelligence (ACIC) challenge in the Business Research and Innovation Initiative program.[812] The program

aims to strengthen private-public initiatives in generating greater volumes of intelligence being collected, analysed, and shared.[813]

On 4 April 2017, the Australian government announced proposed reforms to combat bribery of foreign public officials.[814] Reforms include creating a new corporate offence for failing to prevent foreign bribery and the creation of a deferred prosecution agreement scheme to encourage companies to self-report or offer genuine cooperation regarding corporate crime.[815]

On 3 May 2017, ASIC endorsed the second stage of the research project "Whistle While They Work" that identifies and compares the levels, responses, and outcomes of whistleblowing across a wide range of institutions.[816]

Australia has taken substantial actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Keshini Mahesan

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 6 September 2016, the Brazilian Senate approved Provisional Decree 727, which established the Investment Partnership Program (PPI).[817] The program ensures public infrastructure projects outsourced to the private sector are carried out with full review and consultation from the federal government.[818]

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[810] Fighting Fraud And Corruption: Increasing the Government's Powers of Detection, Mondaq (London) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.mondaq.com/australia/x/585594/Fighting+fraud+and+corruption+increasing+the+governments+powers+of+detection

[811] Crimes Legislation Amendment (Powers, Offences and Other Measures) Bill 2017, Parliament of Australia (Canberra) 30 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Bills_Legislation/Bills_Search_Results/Result?bId=r5838

[812] Start-ups to help make intelligence products smarter, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Canberra) 30 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/joint-media-release-start-ups-help-make-intelligence-products-smarter

[813] Start-ups to help make intelligence products smarter, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (Canberra) 30 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.austrac.gov.au/media/media-releases/joint-media-release-start-ups-help-make-intelligence-products-smarter

[814] Corporate crime and corruption: new proposals announced in Australia, Lexology (Canberra) 11 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=f15db15e-01f7-4d24-9431-26dad3530f3d

[815] Corporate crime and corruption: new proposals announced in Australia, Lexology (Canberra) 11 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=f15db15e-01f7-4d24-9431-26dad3530f3d

[816] ASIC supports second-phase extension of ground breaking whistleblower research project, Australian Securities & Investments Commission (Sydney) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.asic.gov.au/about-asic/media-centre/find-a-media-release/2017-releases/17-129mr-asic-supports-second-phase-extension-of-groundbreaking-whistleblower-research-project/

On 13 September 2016, President Temer announced the Projeto Crescer (Grow Project), an offshoot of PPI that is intended to strengthen the legal certainty, regulations, and streamlining of public and private sector partnerships. Existing regulatory agencies will play a major role in project oversight and approval.[819]

On 19 September 2016, President Temer announced to a group of Japanese and Brazilian businesspeople in Tokyo that his government had approved the State Company Responsibility Act, which establishes technical regulations and oversight mechanisms for the management of state-owned enterprises.[820]

On 28 September 2016, Brazilian federal officials designated the Ministry of Justice and Citizenship (MJC) as the central authority for international legal cooperation within the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) under Decree No. 8861.[821] The department will oversee dealings within this collection of countries and investigate any criminal activity that goes against international law through its Department of Asset Recovery and International Legal Cooperation.[822] It will act as a further regulatory agency across the region and promote transparency in all domestic and international dealings.[823]

On 5 October 2016, President Temer announced a set of policies designed to foster growth for micro and small enterprises (MSEs).[824] The federal government announced R30 billion in credits to MSEs and proposed the Simple Exports project which will reduce the bureaucracies of MSEs so they are able to trade internationally under the guidance and supervision of a Logistics Operator.[825]

On 6 October 2016, the Proposal for Constitutional Amendment (PEC) no. 241/2016 was approved by a special committee of the Chamber of Deputies.[826] The amendment proposes limiting primary

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[817] Senate approves Investment Partnership Programme, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/09/senate-approves-investment-partnership-programme

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[821] Ministry of Justice to be the central authority for international cooperation in the CPLP, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/10/ministry-of-justice-to-be-the-central-authority-for-international-cooperation-in-the-cplp

[822] Ministry of Justice to be the central authority for international cooperation in the CPLP, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/10/ministry-of-justice-to-be-the-central-authority-for-international-cooperation-in-the-cplp

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[824] Government offers R30 billion in credit for micro and small enterprises, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 5 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/10/government-offers-r-30-billion-in-credit-for-micro-and-small-enterprises

[825] Government offers R30 billion in credit for micro and small enterprises, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 5 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/10/government-offers-r-30-billion-in-credit-for-micro-and-small-enterprises

[826] Chamber of Deputies Special Committee approves spending cap bill, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 7 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/10/chamber-of-deputies-special-committee-approves-public-spending-cap-bill

expenditures by the Federal Government to the previous year's expenses adjusted for inflation.[827] The goal of the amendment, according to the government, is to reign in government spending and ensure it is routed to projects that benefit public programs and projects that will boost employment.[828] The amendment passed a second round of voting in the Chamber of Deputies with a vote of 356 to 116 on 25 October 2016.[829]

On 13 October 2016, Minister of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services Marcos Pereira attended the Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) Sixth Meeting of Trade Ministers in New Delhi, India.[830] He signed a set of instruments that will open barriers to trade, limit the size of bureaucracies, and facilitate the growth of small and medium size enterprises.[831] Further, Brazil established the Special Secretariat for Small and Medium Enterprises to facilitate these instruments and private sector growth in general.[832]

On 15-16 October 2016, Brazil took part in the Eighth annual BRICS Summit in Goa, India. The summit put forward a commitment to strengthen cooperation against corruption, specifically through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group.[833]

On 21 November 2016, President Michel Temer set up the Social and Economic Development Council (CDES).[834] The CDES is a group made up of civil servants and civil society representatives created to provide direct advice to the President on public policy and measures that encourage development.[835] The council is meant to bring members of the society into public policy making and bridge the gap between citizens and the government.[836]

On 27 November 2016, President Temer drafted an agreement with the President of the Senate, Renan Calheiros, and the President of the Chamber of Deputies, Rodrigo Maia, to prevent Congress from

[827] Chamber of Deputies Special Committee approves spending cap bill, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 7 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/10/chamber-of-deputies-special-committee-approves-public-spending-cap-bill

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[831] Brazil signs trade agreements with BRICS countries, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/10/brazil-signs-trade-agreements-with-brics-countries

[832] Brazil signs trade agreements with BRICS countries, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/10/brazil-signs-trade-agreements-with-brics-countries

[833] 8th BRICS Summit Goa Declaration, BRICS (Goa) 16 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://brics2016.gov.in/upload/files/document/58038a52e09d4GoaDeclarationAdopted.pdf

[834] President Michel Temer sets up new council, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasilia) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/11/president-michel-temer-sets-up-new-council

[835] President Michel Temer sets up new council, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasilia) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/11/president-michel-temer-sets-up-new-council

[836] President Michel Temer sets up new council, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasilia) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/11/president-michel-temer-sets-up-new-council

accepting to review any bill seeking amnesty for electoral slush fund practices.[837] The leaders attempted to ensure no bill seeking amnesty for electoral crimes and corrupt practices would be considered for passing.[838]

On 30 November 2016, the House of Deputies voted to pass an anti-corruption bill that would help shield lawmakers from prosecution and weaken the authority of public prosecutors.[839] The bill passed with a vote of 450-1 despite protests from citizens and prosecutors.[840] Days earlier, the President and the leaders of both the Senate and House of Representatives agreed to halt any bill that would shield lawmakers from corruption investigations.[841] The President reiterated this position, but agreed only to consider vetoing the bill once reviewing it if it passes both house of Congress.[842]

On 3 December 2016, Transparency International awarded federal prosecutors of the Carwash Task Force the 2016 Anti-Corruption Award.[843] This task force has been investigating one of the world's largest corruption scandals, the Petrobras case.[844] To date, they have gotten 240 criminal charges and 118 convictions totalling 1,256 years in prison against high-level politicians and businesspeople previously considered untouchable.[845]

On 13 December 2016, the Senate announced the creation of a Joint Committee on Debureaucratization to reduce bureaucracy in federal public administration.[846] The Committee is made up of seven senators and seven deputies that will create a report on current administration and suggest improvements to the current legal system, specifically proposals on supervision of departments and control.[847]

On 15 December 2016, the National Congress promulgated Constitutional Amendment 95, establishing a new fiscal regime with an enforced ceiling on public spending by all three branches of government

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[843] Brazil's Carwash Task Force wins Transparency International Anti-Corruption Award, Transparency International (Panama City) 03 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017.
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http://www.transparency.org/news/pressrelease/brazils_carwash_task_force_wins_transparency_international_anti_corruption
[846] Joint Commission on Debureaucratization was set up on Tuesday, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 13 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2016/12/13/comissao-mista-da-desburocratizacao-foi-instalada-nesta-terca-feira
[847] Joint Commission on Debureaucratization was set up on Tuesday, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 13 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2016/12/13/comissao-mista-da-desburocratizacao-foi-instalada-nesta-terca-feira

(Executive, Judiciary, and Legislative).[848] Submitted by the President's cabinet, the amendment passed in two rounds of voting in both houses of Congress.[849] The amendment will control public spending, create more public accountability, and ensure growth for the country in the future.[850]

On 15 December 2016, Senate President Calheiros signed the second amendment to the technical agreement between the Senate, Chamber of Deputies, and the Court of Audit of the Union (TCU).[851] The partnership aims to better allow for exchanging information and facilitate the legislative process.[852] Moreover, it allows citizens to participate in the legislative process and allows public ombudsmen to obtain data on public policies, thus improving the transparency of all three institutions.[853]

On 30 December 2016, the Senate Economic Affairs Committee announced it was analyzing a proposal to give the Central Bank administrative, economic, and financial autonomy.[854] This move would give monetary policy more transparency and leave little intervention possibility by the federal government.[855] The proposal is expected to be discussed in the wider Senate in 2017 for potential enactment into law.[856]

On 27 January 2017, the Brazilian Senate and the Ministry of Tourism announced that they would begin an initiative in order to improve transparency under a cooperation agreement signed in December 2016.[857] The Ministry of Tourism expressed their intentions to better comply with the Legislative Transparency Index, which was designed by the Secretariat of Transparency of the Senate in a partnership with the House's Transparency and Social Control Council.[858]

[848] National Congress promulgates spending cap amendment, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/12/national-congress-promulgates-spending-cap-amendment
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[850] National Congress promulgates spending cap amendment, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/12/national-congress-promulgates-spending-cap-amendment
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[854] Project that guarantees autonomy of the Central Bank is under analysis in the CAE, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 30 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2016/12/30/projeto-que-garante-autonomia-do-banco-central-esta-em-analise-na-cae
[855] Project that guarantees autonomy of the Central Bank is under analysis in the CAE, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 30 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2016/12/30/projeto-que-garante-autonomia-do-banco-central-esta-em-analise-na-cae
[856] Project that guarantees autonomy of the Central Bank is under analysis in the CAE, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 30 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2016/12/30/projeto-que-garante-autonomia-do-banco-central-esta-em-analise-na-cae
[857] Senate and Ministry of Tourism begin cooperation to increase transparency, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 27 January 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/01/27/senado-e-ministerio-do-turismo-iniciam-cooperacao-para-ampliar-transparencia
[858] Senate and Ministry of Tourism begin cooperation to increase transparency, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 27 January 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/01/27/senado-e-ministerio-do-turismo-iniciam-cooperacao-para-ampliar-transparencia

On 13 February 2017, President Temer announced that all senior cabinet members indicted in the Car Wash Operation investigations would be removed from office.[859] The President specified that they would only be permanently removed if they became defendants in the case as opposed to only being named in the investigation.[860]

On 23 February 2017, Transparency International released a report analyzing various G20 countries and their commitment to Open Data Principles—including Brazil.[861] The report acknowledges that Brazil has made efforts to align itself with other G20 members, but needs to focus more on further utilizing these principles and enforcing anti-corruption measures more effectively.[862] The report also cites that datasets covering public sector operations had not been made available, leaving a large hole in the attempt to have open data in the public and private sector.[863]

On 22 March 2017, the Senate began discussions on a proposed amendment to the Constitution to end the privileged forum.[864] Under the current system, government authorities including the President and senators are judged in criminal investigations by the Federal Supreme Court and only arrested if convicted, whereas common citizens face a Common Court and receive significantly fewer privileges when under investigation.[865] The amendment would also remove the feasibility of the House ending criminal investigations against legislators.[866]

On 28 March 2017, Attorney General Rodrigo Janot presented proposals to PLS 280/2016, a bill defining crimes of abuse of authority.[867] The bill is on the agenda of the Senate Commission on Constitution, Justice and Citizenship (CCJ) and would implement strict rules to limit public officials' abilities to conduct corrupt practices and abuse their positions of authority.[868]

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[859] Ministers indicted in Car Wash Operation will be removed, says Temer, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 13 February 2017. Access Date: 3 May 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/02/michel-temer-ministers-indicted-in-car-wash-operation-will-be-removed

[860] Ministers indicted in Car Wash Operation will be removed, says Temer, The Press Office of the Presidency of the Republic (Brasília) 13 February 2017. Access Date: 3 May 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/02/michel-temer-ministers-indicted-in-car-wash-operation-will-be-removed

[861] Open Data and the Fight Against Corruption in Brazil, Transparency International 23 February 2017. Access Date: 3 May 2017. https://www.transparency.org/whatwedo/publication/open_data_and_the_fight_against_corruption_in_brazil

[862] Open Data and the Fight Against Corruption in Brazil, Transparency International 23 February 2017. Access Date: 3 May 2017. https://www.transparency.org/whatwedo/publication/open_data_and_the_fight_against_corruption_in_brazil

[863] Open Data and the Fight Against Corruption in Brazil, Transparency International 23 February 2017. Access Date: 3 May 2017. https://www.transparency.org/whatwedo/publication/open_data_and_the_fight_against_corruption_in_brazil

[864] PEC of the privileged forum begins to be discussed in the Senate, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/03/22/pec-do-foro-privilegiado-comeca-a-ser-discutida-no-senado

[865] PEC of the privileged forum begins to be discussed in the Senate, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/03/22/pec-do-foro-privilegiado-comeca-a-ser-discutida-no-senado

[866] PEC of the privileged forum begins to be discussed in the Senate, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/03/22/pec-do-foro-privilegiado-comeca-a-ser-discutida-no-senado

[867] Rodrigo Janot presents proposals for project on abuse of authority, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 23 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/03/28/rodrigo-janot-apresenta-propostas-para-projeto-sobre-abuso-de-autoridade-2

[868] Rodrigo Janot presents proposals for project on abuse of authority, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 23 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/03/28/rodrigo-janot-apresenta-propostas-para-projeto-sobre-abuso-de-autoridade-2

On 29 March 2017, the Senate Plenary approved a redistribution of powers providing the Commission on Transparency and Public Governance with inspection and control powers as well as renaming it the Commission for Transparency, Governance, Supervision, Control and Consumer Protection.[869]

On 30 March 2017, Senate leaders announced that a popular initiative bill that establishes measures against corruption would only be sent to Senate committees once the leaders meet to further discuss the measures.[870] The bill has undergone a long path up to this point, beginning as a campaign by the Federal Prosecutor's Office that was returned to the Senate from the House of Representatives after a two-million-person congressional referral procedure mandated by the Federal Supreme Court (STF) to ensure strong public support for the sweeping measures.[871] The bill most prominently establishes regulations regarding electoral crimes, voter-buying, political party oversight, increased penalties for corruption and more stringent transparency processes.[872]

On 26 April 2017, the Senate approved the proposed amendment to the constitution ending the privileged forum, but maintaining it for the President of the Republic and for the presidents of the Federal Supreme Court (STF), the Chamber of Deputies and the Federal Senate.[873] This first vote was met by unanimous favourable votes, and will move to a second vote, followed by deliberation by the Chamber of Deputies if it passes.[874]

On 3 May 2017, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) released a Fiscal Transparency Evaluation (FTE) regarding Brazilian fiscal transparency methods with suggestions for further improvement following multiple years of challenges with corruption.[875] The report cites the budgeting process as being a successful transparent practice, but criticized governmental relationships with p public banks and subnational governments as areas needing severe improvement.[876]

Brazil has taken substantial actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Fernandes

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[869] Senate changes powers of the Environment and Transparency and Governance committees, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 29 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/03/29/senado-muda-atribuicoes-das-comissoes-de-meio-ambiente-e-de-transparencia-e-governanca

[870] Leaders meeting to decide on draft anti-corruption measures, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 30 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/03/30/reuniao-de-lideres-decidira-caminho-de-projeto-de-medidas-contra-a-corrupcao

[871] Leaders meeting to decide on draft anti-corruption measures, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 30 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/03/30/reuniao-de-lideres-decidira-caminho-de-projeto-de-medidas-contra-a-corrupcao

[872] Leaders meeting to decide on draft anti-corruption measures, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 30 March 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/03/30/reuniao-de-lideres-decidira-caminho-de-projeto-de-medidas-contra-a-corrupcao

[873] End of the privileged forum is approved in the first round unanimously, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 26 April 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/04/26/fim-do-foro-privilegiado-e-aprovado-em-primeiro-turno-por-unanimidade

[874] End of the privileged forum is approved in the first round unanimously, Federal Senate (Brasilia) 26 April 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017. http://www12.senado.leg.br/noticias/materias/2017/04/26/fim-do-foro-privilegiado-e-aprovado-em-primeiro-turno-por-unanimidade

[875] New IMF Report Takes Stock of Brazil's Fiscal Transparency Practices, Suggests Measures for Further Improvement, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 22 May 2017. https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2017/05/03/pr17147-brazil-new-imf-report-takes-stock-of-brazils-fiscal-transparency-practices

[876] New IMF Report Takes Stock of Brazil's Fiscal Transparency Practices, Suggests Measures for Further Improvement, International Monetary Fund (Washington D.C.) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 22 May 2017. https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2017/05/03/pr17147-brazil-new-imf-report-takes-stock-of-brazils-fiscal-transparency-practices

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 7 September 2016, the Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of National Revenue announced Canada's participation in the Joint International Taskforce on Shared Intelligence and Collaboration (JITSIC) network.[877] Lebouthillier stated Canada's participation was important "in order to identify and curb tax schemes and to bring those who choose to participate in such tactics to justice."[878] Currently, the Canada Revenue Agency is conducting audits on over 750 taxpayers and investigating 20 criminal cases of tax evasion.[879]

On 16 September 2016, the National Energy Board (NEB) introduced updates to its website to improve public access to NEB's data and information.[880] Changes are intended to provide easier access to current market information, NEB's roles and responsibilities, and current initiatives and activities.[881]

From 21-24 September 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang visited Canada to strengthen economic and trade ties with Canada.[882] In their discussions, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau showed willingness to deepen cooperation with China to fight corruption. The two parties have yet to sign any extradition treaty.[883]

On 28 September 2016, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Navdeep Bains, proposed a bill labelled An Act to amend the Canada Business Corporations Act, the Canada Cooperatives Act, the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act and the Competition Act.[884] The bill will introduce amendments to improve business framework laws and increase "corporate transparency and business certainty while reducing regulatory burden."[885]

[877] Government of Canada works with International Partners to Crack Down on Offshore Tax Evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1121509&tp=1
[878] Government of Canada works with International Partners to Crack Down on Offshore Tax Evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1121509&tp=1
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[880] Transparency drives improvements to NEB website, National Energy Board (Calgary) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=11&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1125399&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=6&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=9&crtr.page=141&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=13
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[884] The Government of Canada introduces a bill to promote corporate transparency and diversity, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 28 September 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1130679
[885] The Government of Canada introduces a bill to promote corporate transparency and diversity, Innovation, Sciences and Economic Development (Ottawa) 28 September 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1130679

On 29 September 2016, the Competition Bureau provided the Canadian legal and business communities with a consent agreement template.[886] The template is intended to support transparency and predictability in the manner the Competition Bureau enforces the Competition Act.[887]

On 3 October 2016, the Honourable Diane Lebouthillier announced the launch of national consultations in order to support small and medium sized Canadian businesses, while ensuring tax fairness for the middle class.[888]

On 20 October 2016, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Jody Wilson-Raybould, put forth new measures to "increase the openness, transparency, accountability, and diversity of Canada's judiciary."[889] Reforms include reorganized committees, revised committee mandates, and an open selection process for the three members of each committee who represent the general public.[890]

On 17 November 2016, the Minister of Finance Bill Morneau presented the 2016 Annual Report of the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC), Results in the Fight Against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing, detailing the financial intelligence unit's work from 2015 to 2016.[891] The unit assisted in hundreds of money laundering investigations, provided 1,655 disclosures of actionable financial intelligence, and established public-private partnerships with Canadian banks to combat trafficking and laundering.[892]

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[886] Consent agreement template provides transparency and predictability for merger remedy negotiations, Competition Bureau (Ottawa) 29 September 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=11&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1131039&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=6&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=9&crtr.page=114&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=13

[887] Consent agreement template provides transparency and predictability for merger remedy negotiations, Competition Bureau (Ottawa) 29 September 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=11&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1131039&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=6&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=9&crtr.page=114&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=13

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[890] Government of Canada announces judicial appointments and reforms the appointments process to increase openness and transparency, Department of Justice Canada (Ottawa) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=11&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1140619&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=6&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=9&crtr.page=59&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=13

[891] Results in the Fight Against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing, Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (Ottawa) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1155589&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=98&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

[892] Results in the Fight Against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing, Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (Ottawa) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1155589&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=98&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

On 21 November 2016, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) set out appropriate practices for television service providers to support Canadians in finding the best services, and for providers to "keep their offers simple and transparent."[893]

On 24 November 2016, the Government of Canada introduced Bill C-33, An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act, with aims to increase voter participation, and improve the efficiency and integrity of Canadian elections.[894] Bill C-33 contains seven reforms on the Voter Information Card (VIC), vouching, the Chief Electoral Officer's communication mandate, the creation of a national register of future electors, the improvement of the National Register of Electors, and the relocation of the Commissioner of Canada Elections.[895]

On 27 November 2016, it was revealed that Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) will be reviewing all electronic funds transfers of more than CAD10,000 going from Canada to four foreign jurisdictions.[896] The CRA also plans to review about CAD100,000 electronic funds transfers in 2017 as part of its investigation of offshore tax havens.[897]

On 9 December 2016, Canada led the Open Government Partnership Global Summit which aims to support the global movement of improving transparency and open government.[898] President of the Treasury Board, Scott Brison, stated that Canada will adopt the International Open Data Charter and will partner with other governments to make "government data open by default."[899]

On 9 December 2016, the Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, Marie-Claude Bibeau, announced that CAD13.6 million will be invested over the next four years to combat corruption in 12 countries in Africa and the Americas.[900] Canada will work with communities, businesses, public institutions, and civil society organisations to improve anti-corruption policies, educate citizens about

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[893] The CRTC wants Canadians to take back control of their TV services, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (Ottawa-Gatineau) 21 November 2016. Access Date 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1157999&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=89&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

[894] Bill C-33: 7 Reforms to Increase Voter Participation and Electoral Integrity, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1159859&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=81&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

[895] Bill C-33: 7 Reforms to Increase Voter Participation and Electoral Integrity, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1159859&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=81&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

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[899] Government of Canada shows global leadership on open government, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (Ottawa) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1167889&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=43&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

[900] Canada announces support to fight corruption, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1167839&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=43&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

corruption, improve business standards and ethical practices, and assist civil society organisations in identifying corruption issues.[901]

On 13 December 2016, the Minister of International Trade, Chrystia Freeland, announced that Canada ratified the United Nations Convention on Transparency in Treaty-Based Investor-State Arbitration.[902] Through the ratification of the convention, Canada will update its transparency provisions regarding foreign investment, and protection and free trade agreements.[903]

On 14 December 2016, Minister Navdeep Bains delivered a message at an event focused on the advancement of women in the financial sector.[904] Minister Bains encouraged the need for publicly-traded companies to be more inclusive in their recruitment, as outlined in the proposed Bill C-25.[905] He concluded his message by calling on the corporate sector to promote diversity and inclusion in their hiring practices.[906]

On 14 December 2016, FINTRAC met with money services businesses as part of its collaboration with the International Supervisors Forum (ISF), to discuss money services businesses' role in recognizing and preventing financial crimes such as money laundering.[907]

From 16 to 17 December 2016, Canada and the European Union co-hosted a meeting in Geneva to promote transparency in international trade.[908] The first initiative of its kind, the meeting involved discussions on the establishment of a multilateral investment court.[909]

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[901] Canada announces support to fight corruption, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1167839&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=43&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

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[904] Diversity and inclusion are good for corporate Canada's bottom line, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1169519&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=33&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

[905] Diversity and inclusion are good for corporate Canada's bottom line, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1169519&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=33&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

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[908] Canada, a leader in progressive dispute-resolution mechanisms for international trade, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1169539&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=14&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=34&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=11

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On 10 January 2017, the Government of Canada announced that it will invest an additional CAD1.8 million in the pork research cluster in response to consumer concerns regarding the treatment of animals.[910] The government aims to respond to the interests of consumers while increasing healthy competition in the Canadian pork industry.[911]

On 20 January 2017, Minister Lebouthillier reaffirmed Canada's commitment to continuing its domestic efforts in combatting tax avoidance and tax evasion following a meeting with the Joint International Taskforce on Intelligence and Collaboration Network (JITSIC) in response to the Panama Papers leak.[912]

On 25 January 2017, Canada ranked as one of the top 10 countries perceived to be the least corrupt according to Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2016.[913]

On 13 April 2017, the Canadian government introduced a bill to enhance transparency and accountability in Canada's export controls, and allow accession to the Arms Trade Treaty.[914] The bill will amend the Export and Import Permits Act (EIPA) to prohibit brokering transactions that involve the movement of arms from one foreign country to another foreign country without a permit.[915] The bill also specifies other requirements regarding brokering transactions.[916]

On 20 April 2017, the Government of Canada launched a telephone tip line and online form that accepts anonymous tips from Canadians who suspect fraud, collusion, and corruption in federal government contracts and property agreements.[917]

On 20 April 2017, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) strengthened its commitment to net neutrality by stating that internet service providers should treat data traffic equally to encourage consumer choice, innovation, and the exchange of free ideas.[918]

Canada has taken substantial actions to improve both public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Keshini Mahesan

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[910] Pork research cluster gets $1.8M in new investment, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 10 January 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=tp&crtr.page=1&nid=1177609&crtr.tp1D=1

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[917] Government of Canada launches tip line to help Canadians report federal contracting fraud, Competition Bureau (Ottawa) 20 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-launches-tip-line-to-help-canadians-report-federal-contracting-fraud-619969073.html

[918] CRTC strengthens its commitment to net neutrality, consumer choice and free exchange of ideas by citizens, CRTC (Ottawa-Gatineau) 20 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/radio-television-telecommunications/news/2017/04/crtc_strengthensitscommitmenttonetneutralityconsumerchoiceandfre0.html

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 8 September 2016, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) created an online platform for the public to report any suspicious activities and spending of public officials.[919] Following this development, the CCDI publicized corrupt public officials who misused public funds for private gain.[920] Through the online reporting platform, the CCDI hoped to tighten its anti-corruption enforcement prior to Mid-Autumn Festival and the National Day, as gift-giving or abuse of public funds heightened during the holidays.[921]

On 23 September 2016, China established the G20 Research Centre on Anti-Corruption, Fugitive Repatriation and Asset Recovery, based in Beijing Normal University.[922] The research centre will focus on studying the differences in countries' extradition and asset recovery laws, aiming to provide technical support for furthering international cooperation in these areas.[923]

From 15-16 October 2016, China took part in the Eighth annual Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) Summit in Goa, India. The summit put forward a commitment to strengthen cooperation against corruption, specifically through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group.[924]

On 2 November 2016, the Sixth Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) approved two disciplinary documents aimed to guide and supervise the political life of party members- "Norms of Political Life in the Party under Current Conditions" and the "Regulation on Intra-Party Supervision."[925] The "Norms of Political Life" stresses that party members should consolidate their ideological beliefs, follow the Party's basic line, and safeguard the authority of CPC Central Committee.[926] Furthermore, the "Norms" emphasizes the need for an increase of intra-party supervision to prevent abuse of authority by party members.[927] The "Regulation on Intra-Party Supervision" aims to promote accountability and supervision of the Chinese Communist Party, such as encouraging party members to increase public transparency on party affairs.[928]

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919 Various Cities Tightening Anti-Corruption Measures Prior to Mid-Autumn Festival: Cracking Down Gift-giving on Wechat, Zhongguo Xinwen Wang (Beijing) 14 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.chinanews.com/gn/2016/09-14/8003409.shtml

920 Various Cities Tightening Anti-corruption Measures Prior Mid-Autumn Festival: Cracking Down Gift-giving on Wechat, Zhongguo Xinwen Wang (Beijing) 14 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.chinanews.com/gn/2016/09-14/8003409.shtml

921 Various Cities Tightening Anti-corruption Measures Prior Mid-Autumn Festival: Cracking Down Gift-giving on Wechat, Zhongguo Xinwen Wang (Beijing) 14 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.chinanews.com/gn/2016/09-14/8003409.shtml

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923 G20 Research Center on Anti-Corruption, Fugitive Repatriation and Asset Recovery: Providing Research Support for International Anti-Corruption Cooperation, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 24 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2016-09/24/content_40392.htm

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926 Norms of Political Life in the Party under Current Conditions, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 2 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/politics/2016-11/02/c_1119838382_5.htm

927 Norms of Political Life in the Party under Current Conditions, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 2 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/politics/2016-11/02/c_1119838382_5.htm

928 Norms of Political Life in the Party under Current Conditions, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 2 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/politics/2016-11/02/c_1119838382_5.htm

On 2 November 2016, the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) started a new round of nationwide anti-corruption inspections, allowing inspection teams to review the implementation of party disciplines and anti-corruption initiatives in judicial organs, government agencies, and state media organisations.[929] In addition, inspection teams will also conduct a second round of assessment on party officials in Beijing, Chongqing, Guangxi and Gansu. The Chief of CCDI, Wang Qishan, claimed that the new round of inspections will assess officials' political loyalty, accountability, and discipline.[930]

On 24 November 2016, the Beijing Second Intermediate People's Court began trial of the former Minister of State Administration of Work Safety Yang Dongliang for allegedly accepting bribes totalling to approximately RMB28 million from 2002 to 2015.[931] During the trial, Yang pleaded guilty and expressed regret for his wrongdoings.[932] The judge adjourned the trial for sentencing.[933]

On 30 November 2016, the CPC Central Committee of the Political Bureau Standing Committee, or Politburo Standing Committee (PSC), passed two new regulations to tighten the governance of state and party leaders—the "Regulation on Communist Party Working Institutions (Trial)," and the "Regulations on the Democratic Life Meeting of the Party Members and Leaders at the Country-Level and Above Party and State Organisations."[934] The former regulation stipulates the institutional setup and leadership of the CPC organs; whereas, the latter urges high ranking CPC members to consolidate their ideological beliefs and encourages self-criticism.[935] Both documents have expanded on the initial Eight-Point Guidelines, which was published in 2012 to improve the discipline of party members, by introducing more specific regulations, such as requiring officials to vacate their office upon retiring from the position and prohibiting officials from buying luxurious motor vehicles.[936]

On 3 January 2017, CCDI started airing a television series titled "Forging Steel Requires Strength in One's Body" making an example of convicted officials to deter corruption.[937] The television series featured a confession of a former CCDI official Zhu Mingguo, who exploited the Party's oversight system for personal financial gain.[938]

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[929] Top Graft-Buster Orders Stricter Party Discipline Supervision, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 2 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-11/02/c_135801298.htm

[930] CCDI Started the 11th Round of Anti-Corruption Inspections in 19 Municipalities and Local Government Units, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2016-11/11/content_41986.htm

[931] Court Started the Trial on the Alleged Corruption of the former Minister of State Administration of Work Safety Yang Dongliang, Tanwu an Yishen Kaiting, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 25 November 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2016-11/25/content_42519.htm

[932] Court Started the Trial on the Alleged Corruption of the former Minister of State Administration of Work Safety Yang Dongliang, Tanwu an Yishen Kaiting, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 25 November 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2016-11/25/content_42519.htm

[933] Court Started the Trial on the Alleged Corruption of the former Minister of State Administration of Work Safety Yang Dongliang, Tanwu an Yishen Kaiting, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 25 November 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2016-11/25/content_42519.htm

[934] PSC Passed "Regulation on Communist Party Working Institutions" and "Regulations on the Democratic Life Meeting of the Party Members and Leaders at the Country-Level and Above Party and State Organizations", Xinhuanet (Beijing) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/politics/2016-11/30/c_1120025506.htm

[935] PSC Passed "Regulation on Communist Party Working Institutions" and "Regulations on the Democratic Life Meeting of the Party Members and Leaders at the Country-Level and Above Party and State Organizations", Xinhuanet (Beijing) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/politics/2016-11/30/c_1120025506.htm

[936] Strict Discipline Provides Cohesion for CPC Governance, China Central Television (Beijing) 5 January 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://english.cctv.com/2017/01/05/ARTIsr0KhtXEgwrKGiiSO1K1170105.shtml

[937] China's Graft Watchdog Turns Camera on Itself in TV series, Reuters (London) 4 January 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-china-corruption-television-idUKKBN14O0B6?il=0

[938] China's Graft Watchdog Turns Camera on Itself in TV series, Reuters (London) 4 January 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-china-corruption-television-idUKKBN14O0B6?il=0

On 8 January 2017, the Seventh Plenary Session of the 18th Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) passed "Regulations on the Supervision and Discipline Enforcement of CPC Discipline Inspection Agencies (Trial)."[939] The new regulations establish specific activities that the CCDI will pursue, from incident reporting to investigating and prosecuting suspects, to increase the effectiveness and accountability of the agency.[940]

On 19 January 2017, the Dezhou Intermediate People's Court convicted Liao Yongyuan, the former general manager of the China National Petroleum Corporation, as guilty of corruption and sentenced Liao for a 15-year prison term.[941] The Court found that Liao abused his power in the state-owned enterprise to assist others in business operations and job promotion.[942] In addition, the Court found that Liao had directly or indirectly accepted bribes totally of 13.4 million yuan from 2003 to 2015.[943]

On 23 January 2017, the Jinan Intermediate People's Court handed down a life sentence to the former vice-chairman of the People's Political Consultative Conference, Su Rong, for taking bribes.[944] Su Rong accepted the verdict and will not appeal his charges.[945]

On 26 January 2017, Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) detained the former National Bureau of Statistics chief, Wang Baoan, for "suspected serious violation of discipline."[946] CCDI did not give further details on the nature of the investigation.[947]

On 16 February 2017, Tianjin Intermediate People's Court sentenced the former vice president of the Chinese Supreme Court, Xi Xiaoming, for life on corruption charges.[948] The Court found Xi guilty of receiving 115 million yuan worth of bribes from 1996 to 2015.[949] This case against Xi is one of the many on-going efforts by the Chinese government to combat graft among both senior and junior officials.[950]

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[939] Regulations on the Supervision and Discipline Enforcement of CPC Discipline Inspection Agencies (Trial), Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 21 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2017-01/21/content_44619.htm

[940] Seventh Plenary Session of the 18th CCDI passed the "Regulations on the Supervision and Discipline Enforcement of CPC Discipline Inspection Agencies (Trial), Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 8 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/politics/2017-01/08/c_1120268208.htm

[941] Former CNPC General Manager Sentenced to 15 Years for Graft, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 19 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-01/19/c_135997300.htm

[942] Former CNPC General Manager Sentenced to 15 Years for Graft, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 19 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-01/19/c_135997300.htm

[943] Former CNPC General Manager Sentenced to 15 Years for Graft, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 19 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-01/19/c_135997300.htm

[944] Former Senior Official Sentenced to Life in Jail for Bribery, Xinhuanet (Beijing) 23 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-01/23/c_136006915.htm

[945] China Jails Former Top Parliament Body Official for Graft, Reuters (New York) 23 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-corruption-court-idUSKBN1570C1

[946] China's Statistics Chief Wang Baoan Detained in Graft Investigation, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/news/china/policies-politics/article/1905778/chinas-statistics-chief-wang-baoan-detained-graft

[947] China's Statistics Chief Wang Baoan Detained in Graft Investigation, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/news/china/policies-politics/article/1905778/chinas-statistics-chief-wang-baoan-detained-graft

[948] China Jails Former Senior Judge for Life in Graft Case, Reuters (New York) 16 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-corruption-court-idUSKBN15V10W

[949] China Jails Former Senior Judge for Life in Graft Case, Reuters (New York) 16 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-corruption-court-idUSKBN15V10W

[950] China Jails Former Senior Judge for Life in Graft Case, Reuters (New York) 16 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-corruption-court-idUSKBN15V10W

On 22 February 2017, the Second Intermediate People's Court of Beijing gave a 15-year prison term to the former head of State Administration of Work Safety, Yang Dongliang, for corruption.[951] The Court announced that Yang had received 28.5 million yuan of bribes in exchange for project contracts from 2002 to 2015.[952]

On 11 February 2017, Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) arrested the president and vice-chairman of the People's Insurance Co (Group) of China, Wang Yinching, for suspected misconduct.[953] CCDI did not give further details on the nature of the investigation.[954]

On 27 February, 2017, the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party of China (CMC) launched its second-round of inspections on all major departments within the People's Liberation Army (PLA).[955] The inspection ispart of the CMC's on-going effort to root out corruption from the PLA.[956] Since the end of 2014, the CMC has conducted four rounds of inspection on its military officials.[957]

On 7 March 2017, the Fugitive Repatriation and Asset Recovery Office of China's Central Anti-Corruption Coordination Group, in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Security, launched Operation Skynet 2017 to capture corruption suspects abroad.[958] In 2016, the Chinese government successfully repatriated 1032 fugitives and 2.4 billion yuan of illicit funds.[959]

On 9 April 2017, Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) launched an investigation on the former chairman of the China Insurance Regulatory Commission, Xiang Junbo, on the suspicion of "serious disciplinary violations," which generally refers to corruption.[960] Xiang is the most senior government official under corruption investigation since 2015.[961]

On 28 April 2017, Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) published 22 foreign addresses of corruption suspects as part of Operation Skynet.[962] The suspects reside mostly in western countries,

[951] China Safety Boss Sacked over Tianjin Blasts Jailed for Corruption, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 22 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/2073003/china-safety-boss-sacked-over-tianjin-blasts-jailed-corruption

[952] China Safety Boss Sacked over Tianjin Blasts Jailed for Corruption, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 22 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/2073003/china-safety-boss-sacked-over-tianjin-blasts-jailed-corruption

[953] PICC's President Wang Yincheng under Investigation by China's Discipline Commission, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 23 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/business/companies/article/2073484/piccs-president-wang-yincheng-under-investigation-chinas

[954] PICC's President Wang Yincheng under Investigation by China's Discipline Commission, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 23 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/business/companies/article/2073484/piccs-president-wang-yincheng-under-investigation-chinas

[955] Central Military Commission Achieves Full Coverage on Second Round of Inspection, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 27 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2017-02/27/content_46176.htm

[956] Central Military Commission Achieves Full Coverage on Second Round of Inspection, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 27 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2017-02/27/content_46176.htm

[957] Central Military Commission Achieves Full Coverage on Second Round of Inspection, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 27 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2017-02/27/content_46176.htm

[958] Launch of Operation Skynet 2017, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 9 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2017-03/09/content_46584.htm

[959] Launch of Operation Skynet 2017, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 9 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2017-03/09/content_46584.htm

[960] China Anti-Graft Body Investigating Chief Insurance Regulator, Reuters (New York) 9 April 2017. Access Date 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-corruption-idUSKBN17B05A

[961] China Anti-Graft Body Investigating Chief Insurance Regulator, Reuters (New York) 9 April 2017. Access Date 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-corruption-idUSKBN17B05A

[962] China Reveals Foreign Addresses of Corruption Suspects Living in Canada, US and Beyond, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 28 April 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/news/world/united-states-canada/article/2091356/china-reveals-foreign-addresses-corruption-suspects

such as Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom.[963] Stressing that China respects the laws of other countries, CCDI has urged the listed countries to cooperate with Chinese authorities by revoking suspects' passports and visas.[964] On 1 May 2017, CCDI's Guangdong Division, in cooperation with the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film, and Television, launched a television series "The Backbone" to reinforce the public's support for the CCDI's campaign against corruption.[965]

China has taken substantial actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hei Tung Isaac Lo

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 8 November 2016, French lawmakers adopted the new Law on Transparency, the Fight against Corruption and Modernization of Economic Life.[966] Allowing for a Deferred Prosecution Agreement (DPA), French companies for the first time will be able to strike negotiated financial settlements with magistrates.[967] To alleviate concerns that these changes would lead to lack of public scrutiny, the law incorporates provisions to ensure a judge checks the legality of the settlement in a public hearing.[968]

The new law will create a dedicated Anti-Corruption Agency that is in charge of ensuring French companies implement compliance programs that are becoming mandatory under the law.[969] The legislation is expected to change the compliance landscape for French companies as, if not compiled with, this approach will make the individual head of the company liable for a fine of EUR200,000.[970] Another provision of the law is the introduction of a whistleblower program with anti-retaliation protection.[971]

[963] China Reveals Foreign Addresses of Corruption Suspects Living in Canada, US and Beyond, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 28 April 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/news/world/united-states-canada/article/2091356/china-reveals-foreign-addresses-corruption-suspects
[964] China Reveals Foreign Addresses of Corruption Suspects Living in Canada, US and Beyond, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 28 April 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/news/world/united-states-canada/article/2091356/china-reveals-foreign-addresses-corruption-suspects
[965] First Strict Party Governance Television Series named "Backbone" is Ready to be Launched, Zhongguo Jijian Jiancha Bao (Beijing) 1 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://csr.mos.gov.cn/content/2017-05/01/content_48617.htm
[966] New French Anti-Corruption Law: france Strengthens its Legislation to Combat Bribery and Corruption and Adopts U.S.-Style Anti-Corruption System, 15 November 2016, Global Compliance News. Date of Access: 01 March 2017. https://globalcompliancenews.com/new-french-anti-corruption-law-20161123/
[967] France adopts US-style anti-corruption settlement system, Reuters (London) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 9 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-corruption-idUSKBN1332G1?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews
[968] France adopts US-style anti-corruption settlement system, Reuters (London) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 9 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-corruption-idUSKBN1332G1?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews
[969] The morning risk report: France heralds new anti-corruption law, The Wall Street Journal (New York City) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 9 November 2016. http://blogs.wsj.com/riskandcompliance/2016/11/08/the-morning-risk-report-france-heralds-new-anti-corruption-law/
[970] New French Anti-Corruption Law: France Strengthens its Legislation to Combat Bribery and Corruption and Adopts US-Style Anti-Corruption System, Global Compliance News (Washington, D.C.) 15 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://globalcompliancenews.com/new-french-anti-corruption-law-20161123/
[971] New French Anti-Corruption Law: France Strengthens its Legislation to Combat Bribery and Corruption and Adopts US-Style Anti-Corruption System, Global Compliance News (Washington, D.C.) 15 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://globalcompliancenews.com/new-french-anti-corruption-law-20161123/

Whistleblowers will get a guarantee that their identities will be kept secret and there will be no financial compensation for reporting wrongdoing.[972] It also includes the following:

- an obligation to actively manage corruption risks for companies with at least 500 employees
- a penalty of mandatory compliance for companies convicted of acts of corruption

In all, the Law is designed as "part of a broader legislative package addressing transparency in economic activities," with its critical areas of focus in monitoring, detection and remediation of corruption in commercial transactions.[973]

On 7-9 December 2016, France chaired the 4th Global Summit of the Open Government Partnership (OPG). In the summit's communiqué the members committed to the "purposes and principles" stipulated in the UN Charter, as well as in the UN Declaration on Human Rights and UN Convention against Corruption. It also stated members "will continue to raise the ambition of our open government reforms, to deepen the collaboration between government and civil society."[974] This is a verbal declaration of support. More action is needed for compliance.

On 8 December 2016, former French Budget Minister Jerome Cahuzac was sentenced to three years of imprisonment for hiding a personal bank account offshore, first in Switzerland and later in Singapore.[975]

In the leadup to the 7 May 2017 French presidential election, two of the major candidates, François Fillon and Marine Le Pen, were investigated following embezzlement scandals regarding pay both candidates had improperly given to family or party members.[976] In the case of Fillon, whose support faltered significantly as a result, the scandal related to his employment of his wife Penelope as parliamentary assistant—while legal, there was little evidence that Penelope performed any work in that role while taking almost EUR1 million in pay.[977] Le Pen allegedly paid activists from her Front National party to work as parliamentary assistants in the European Parliament, where Le Pen was previously a lawmaker.[978]

The result of the 7 May French presidential election saw Emmanuel Macron, a political outsider who campaigned partially on anti-corruption promises, triumph over Le Pen in the run-off vote.[979] Macron's Justice Minister, François Bayrou, has begun talks on 27 May 2017 with Socialist lawmaker René Dosière, as well as anti-corruption organizations Transparency International and Anticor, over the drafting of a bill

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[972] The morning risk report: France heralds new anti-corruption law, The Wall Street Journal (New York City) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 9 November 2016. http://blogs.wsj.com/riskandcompliance/2016/11/08/the-morning-risk-report-france-heralds-new-anti-corruption-law/

[973] New French Anti-Corruption Law: France Strengthens its Legislation to Combat Bribery and Corruption and Adopts U.S.-Style Anti-Corruption System, 15 November 2016, Global Compliance News. Date of Access: 01 March 2017. https://globalcompliancenews.com/new-french-anti-corruption-law-20161123/

[974] Paris Declaration, 4th Global Summit of the Open Government Partnership, Open Government Partnership. Date of Access: 01 March 2017. https://www.opengovpartnership.org/about/paris-declaration

[975] French ex-budget minister Cahuzac is jailed for tax fraud, Euronews (Lyon) 8 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.euronews.com/2016/12/08/former-french-budget-minister-jerome-cahuzac-is-jailed-for-three-years-for-tax-fraud

[976] Fillon and Le Pen: A tale of two scandals, Al Jazeera (Paris) 18 April 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/04/fillon-le-pen-tale-scandals-170415215338259.htm

[977] Fillon and Le Pen: A tale of two scandals, Al Jazeera (Paris) 18 April 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/04/fillon-le-pen-tale-scandals-170415215338259.htm

[978] Fillon and Le Pen: A tale of two scandals, Al Jazeera (Paris) 18 April 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/04/fillon-le-pen-tale-scandals-170415215338259.htm

[979] France's Macron acts on pledge to clean up politics, Reuters (Paris) 22 May 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-election-ethics-idUSKBN18I27B

to combat endemic political corruption at the highest levels of government.[980] Some of the proposals include stricter definitions of political parties, publishing the names of major donors, and banning lawmakers from hiring relatives as staff.[981]

France has taken substantial actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, France receives a score of +1.

France has taken action to improve private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Christopher Sims & Rinchen-Dolma Karma

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

Per the 2015 Federal government annual corruption study, Welt Am Sonntag reported that the most common source of government corruption is the Foreign Ministry, particularly relating to the issuing of visas.[982] As of 2016, the Foreign Ministry had already penalized eleven of the fifteen officials accused, several of which were fined or forced to take significant pay cuts.[983]

On 18 October 2016, following a bilateral meeting with Panama President Carlos Varela, German Chancellor Angela Merkel stated that the two countries moved a step closer towards signing an information-sharing agreement.[984] President Varela commented that Germany and Panama would "fight side-by-side for greater transparency in the global financial sector, as tax evasion had become a global problem."[985] Negotiations between the two are expected to be completed by early 2017.[986] Negotiations between the two had not yet been completed as of publication.[987]

On 9 December 2016, the German office of Transparency International released a report identifying 105 German lawmakers who had declared sources of supplementary income as having potential conflicts of interests.[988] They included party leaders, parliamentary leaders, committee heads and deputies, and

[980] France's Macron acts on pledge to clean up politics, Reuters (Paris) 22 May 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-election-ethics-idUSKBN18I27B

[981] France's Macron acts on pledge to clean up politics, Reuters (Paris) 22 May 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-election-ethics-idUSKBN18I27B

[982] Report: 33 German officials investigated for impropriety, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 27 November 2016. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.dw.com/en/report-33-german-officials-investigated-for-impropriety/a-36542146

[983] Report: 33 German officials investigated for impropriety, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 27 November 2016. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.dw.com/en/report-33-german-officials-investigated-for-impropriety/a-36542146

[984] Germany and Panama move closer towards information-sharing agreement, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.dw.com/en/germany-and-panama-move-closer-towards-information-sharing-agreement/a-36079895

[985] Germany and Panama move closer towards information-sharing agreement, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.dw.com/en/germany-and-panama-move-closer-towards-information-sharing-agreement/a-36079895

[986] Germany and Panama move closer towards information-sharing agreement, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.dw.com/en/germany-and-panama-move-closer-towards-information-sharing-agreement/a-36079895

[987] Germany and Panama move closer towards information-sharing agreement, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.dw.com/en/germany-and-panama-move-closer-towards-information-sharing-agreement/a-36079895

[988] Transparency International calls for fuller disclosure of German politicians' supplemental income, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.dw.com/en/transparency-international-calls-for-fuller-disclosure-of-german-politicians-supplemental-income/a-36706277

ombudsmen.[989] Transparency International noted that currently these lawmakers were only required to declare their supplementary income in a series of ten levels that bracket income ranges, without having to disclose whom they were working for, the exact amount they were paid, or if they were paid monthly or yearly.[990] Transparency International called for more disclosure rules in the Bundestag, Germany's Upper House.[991]

On 11 January, 2017, the German government approved new legislation requiring companies to increase transparency around salaries paid to male and female employees, in efforts to address the gender pay gap.[992] New regulations require companies with more than 200 employees to disclose what men and women in equal positions are earning, as well as businesses with more than 500 employees to publish regular updates on salary structures.[993]

On 29 March 2017, the German Federal Cabinet authorized a bill enabling the creation of a "black list" to record companies that have been convicted of corruption in the past.[994] Companies on this list would be barred from being awarded public contracts, thereby strongly discouraging anti-competitive behaviour and penalizing companies of questionable integrity.[995] This list is an improvement on earlier efforts due to its national scope and potential for better intergovernmental cooperation.[996] Companies can remove themselves from the list by implementing tighter internal checks to prevent corruption.[997]

On 23 May 2017, German prosecutors raided the offices of auto giant Daimler AG, the parent company of Mercedes-Benz, as part of an investigation into possible evasion of emissions rules.[998] Prosecutors allege that Mercedes-Benz's BlueTec technology can be switched off when the car is not being emissions-tested, thus emitting far more highly-toxic nitrogen dioxide in day-to-day use.[999]

In May 2017, the German government began rolling out a major new international development program that it describes as a "Marshall Plan for Africa."[1000] The project will use an "integrated overall approach"

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[989] Transparency International calls for fuller disclosure of German politicians' supplemental income, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.dw.com/en/transparency-international-calls-for-fuller-disclosure-of-german-politicians-supplemental-income/a-36706277

[990] Transparency International calls for fuller disclosure of German politicians' supplemental income, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.dw.com/en/transparency-international-calls-for-fuller-disclosure-of-german-politicians-supplemental-income/a-36706277

[991] Transparency International calls for fuller disclosure of German politicians' supplemental income, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.dw.com/en/transparency-international-calls-for-fuller-disclosure-of-german-politicians-supplemental-income/a-36706277

[992] Germany seeks to close gender pay gap with salary transparency, RTE 11 January 2017. Access date: 4 February 2017. https://www.rte.ie/news/2017/0111/844158-germany-salary-transparency-gender-pay-gap/

[993] Germany seeks to close gender pay gap with salary transparency, RTE 11 January 2017. Access date: 4 February 2017. https://www.rte.ie/news/2017/0111/844158-germany-salary-transparency-gender-pay-gap/

[994] Germany-wide blacklist is coming, International Law Office (Berlin) 15 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.internationallawoffice.com/Newsletters/White-Collar-Crime/Germany/CMS/Germany-wide-blacklist-is-coming-1

[995] Germany working on nationwide corruption 'black list': draft law, Reuters (Berlin) 22 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-corruption-idUSKBN1612M3

[996] Germany-wide blacklist is coming, International Law Office (Berlin) 15 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.internationallawoffice.com/Newsletters/White-Collar-Crime/Germany/CMS/Germany-wide-blacklist-is-coming-1

[997] Germany working on nationwide corruption 'black list': draft law, Reuters (Berlin) 22 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-corruption-idUSKBN1612M3

[998] German Prosecutors Search Daimler Offices in Diesel Emissions Inquiry, New York Times (Berlin) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/23/business/daimler-diesel-emissions-germany.html?_r=0

[999] German Prosecutors Search Daimler Offices in Diesel Emissions Inquiry, New York Times (Berlin) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/23/business/daimler-diesel-emissions-germany.html?_r=0

[1000] Germany's 'Marshall Plan with Africa', Devex (Berlin) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.devex.com/news/germany-s-marshall-plan-with-africa-90152 to address a myriad of issues facing the continent, most notably its impending population explosion.[1001] A major pillar of the plan is a large increase in private development investment, and as a result, the plan calls for improvements in anti-corruption efforts alongside more traditional sectors of foreign aid, such as healthcare and education.[1002]

On 18 May 2017, the German Bundestag approved the Transparency Registry, conceived of in the wake of the Panama Papers exposé to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.[1003] The main function of the legislation is to list the real owners of German firms, but only to individuals with a "legitimate interest" including NGOs and journalists, a limitation that was criticized by many German Bundesländer.[1004] The proposed legislation was earlier criticized by many media outlets, with Süddeutsche Zeitung referring to the legislation as creating a "secrecy registry" instead.[1005] The same legislation also lowers threshold duty for firms to implement internal checks for money laundering and terrorist financing on cash payments from EUR15,000 to EUR10,000, and introduces new measures to combat these same activities in the gambling industry.[1006]

Germany has taken substantial actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Christopher Sims & Rinchen-Dolma Karma

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

From September 6 to 8, Prime Minister Theresa May visited India to strengthen the India-UK Strategic Partnership.[1007] During the visit, the prime ministers affirmed that they will increase interactions to resolve outstanding extradition cases from both sides because "fugitives and criminals should not be allowed to escape the law."[1008]

On 1 October 2016, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley announced that the Indian government had recovered USD10 billion worth of undeclared income.[1009] This was the result of an official amnesty offer which guaranteed that suspected tax evaders "would not be pursued by authorities if they came clean and paid a

[1001] Germany's 'Marshall Plan with Africa', Devex (Berlin) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.devex.com/news/germany-s-marshall-plan-with-africa-90152
[1002] Germany's 'Marshall Plan with Africa', Devex (Berlin) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.devex.com/news/germany-s-marshall-plan-with-africa-90152
[1003] Bundestag billigt Transparenzregister für Firmenkonstrukte, Beck Aktuell Nachrichten (Berlin) 19 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://rsw.beck.de/aktuell/meldung/bundestag-billigt-transparenzregister-fuer-firmenkonstrukte
[1004] Bundestag billigt Transparenzregister für Firmenkonstrukte, Beck Aktuell Nachrichten (Berlin) 19 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://rsw.beck.de/aktuell/meldung/bundestag-billigt-transparenzregister-fuer-firmenkonstrukte
[1005] Das Transparenzregister hat seinen Namen nicht verdient, Süddeutsche Zeitung (Munich) 20 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.sueddeutsche.de/wirtschaft/briefkastenfirmen-das-transparenzregister-hat-seinen-namen-nicht-verdient-1.3387170
[1006] Bundestag billigt Transparenzregister für Firmenkonstrukte, Beck Aktuell Nachrichten (Berlin) 19 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://rsw.beck.de/aktuell/meldung/bundestag-billigt-transparenzregister-fuer-firmenkonstrukte
[1007] Press Release: Joint statement between the governments of the UK and India, Prime Minister's Office (London) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-between-the-governments-of-the-uk-and-india
[1008] Press Release: Joint statement between the governments of the UK and India, Prime Minister's Office (London) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-between-the-governments-of-the-uk-and-india
[1009] Indians disclose $10 billion in hidden wealth in tax evasion amnesty, Reuters, 1 October 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-india-tax-idUSKCN12138J

penalty."[1010] Minister Jaitley also stated that the four-month long scheme, which ended on 30 September 2016, yielded 64,275 declarations equal to a 'provisional' amount of USD9.8 billion.[1011] Although there is "no public target for the initiative," officials have set an internal recovery goal of USD7.5 SD billion.[1012] After accounting for taxes owed and penalties of 45 per cent the Indian government may raise more than USD4.41 billion.[1013]

On 15-16 October 2016, India hosted the eighth annual Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) Summit in Goa. The summit put forward a commitment to strengthen cooperation against corruption, specifically through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group.[1014]

On 1 November 2016, the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Amendment Act, 2016 came into force.[1015] The act is an amendment to the original Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act, 1988 which defines a benami (nameless) purchase of property, imposes the penalties of fines and imprisonment on participants, and allows the government to confiscate these properties.[1016] A 'benami' or nameless transaction occurs when an individual buys a property using unaccounted for, untaxed money which he or she registers in another individual's name to hide the money.[1017]

On 8 November 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the demonetization of bills worth INR500 and INR1,000 in an effort "to curb the flow of counterfeit money and to take aim at terrorist organisations that rely on unaccounted-for cash."[1018] Modi continued to defend the demonetization as a purification rite to restore honesty in the transactions taking place,[1019] and acknowledged that some government officials had obstructed the transition and promised to take steps to punish them.[1020]

[1010] Indians disclose $10 billion in hidden wealth in tax evasion amnesty, Reuters, 1 October 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-india-tax-idUSKCN12138J
[1011] Indians disclose $10 billion in hidden wealth in tax evasion amnesty, Reuters, 1 October 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-india-tax-idUSKCN12138J
[1012] Indians disclose $10 billion in hidden wealth in tax evasion amnesty, Reuters, 1 October 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-india-tax-idUSKCN12138J
[1013] Indians disclose $10 billion in hidden wealth in tax evasion amnesty, Reuters, 1 October 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-india-tax-idUSKCN12138J
[1014] 8th BRICS Summit Goa Declaration, BRICS (Goa) 16 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://brics2016.gov.in/upload/files/document/58038a52e09d4GoaDeclarationAdopted.pdf
[1015] What are benami properties? All you need to know, The Indian Express (Mumbai) 25 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://indianexpress.com/article/india/what-are-benami-properties-all-you-need-to-know-modi-demonetisation/
[1016] What are benami properties? All you need to know, The Indian Express (Mumbai) 25 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://indianexpress.com/article/india/what-are-benami-properties-all-you-need-to-know-modi-demonetisation/
[1017] What are benami properties? All you need to know, The Indian Express (Mumbai) 25 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://indianexpress.com/article/india/what-are-benami-properties-all-you-need-to-know-modi-demonetisation/
[1018] Narendra Modi Bans India's Largest Currency Bills in Bid to Cut Corruption, The New York Times (New York City) 9 November 2016. Access Date: 9 November 2016. http://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/09/business/india-bans-largest-currency-bills-for-now-n-bid-to-cut-corruption.html
[1019] Full transcript of PM Narendra Modi's New Year's Eve speech, Hindustan Times (New Delhi) 31 December 2016. Access Date: 8 January 2017. http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/full-transcript-of-pm-narendra-modi-s-new-year-s-eve-speech/story-kbtxuiF2VTeL1Egntgr5mI.html
[1020] Full transcript of PM Narendra Modi's New Year's Eve speech, Hindustan Times (New Delhi) 31 December 2016. Access Date: 8 January 2017.http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/full-transcript-of-pm-narendra-modi-s-new-year-s-eve-speech/story-kbtxuiF2VTeL1Egntgr5mI.html

Nevertheless, Modi stated that demonetization in the country had successfully undermined terrorism, naxalism, maoism, counterfeit currency trade, human trafficking, and drug trade.[1021]

On 1 February 2017, the federal government announced the Union Budget, which included regulations regarding the electoral process.[1022] Specifically, the government proposed restricting cash donations from any person to a political party at INR2,000.[1023] The regulations were included to ensure transparency in political party financing and increase fairness in electoral processes.[1024]

On 29 March 2017, the Indian Parliament passed an updated Goods and Services (GST) Bill, which streamlines the tax system thereby encouraging inter-state trade and reducing opportunities for tax evasion.[1025]

On 24 May 2017, the Indian government approved the strategic partnership model for defence equipment manufacturing.[1026] In the long-awaited agreement, the government designated a system in which they will choose local companies to partner with foreign firms to manufacture defence equipment, and effectively end India's role as the world's largest arms importer.[1027] The policy hopes to boost public and private sector partnership and strengthen the Indian defence industry as a whole.[1028]

India has taken some actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Alexander Fernandes & Sonali Gill

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 17 September 2016, the Corruption Eradication Committee (KPK) arrested the Regional Representatives Council (DPD) speaker Irman Gusman for allegedly receiving bribes of RP100 million from CV Semesta Berjaya to help his company acquire a sugar importing quota of 3,000 tons.[1029]

[1021] Full transcript of PM Narendra Modi's New Year's Eve speech, Hindustan Times (New Delhi) 31 December 2016. Access Date: 8 January 2017.http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/full-transcript-of-pm-narendra-modi-s-new-year-s-eve-speech/story-kbtxuiF2VTeL1Egntgr5mI.html

[1022] Budget to ensure transparency in political funding: ICAI, The Times of India (New Delhi) 1 February 2017. Access Date: May 25, 2017. http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/budget-to-ensure-transparency-in-political-funding-icai/articleshow/56920553.cms

[1023] Budget to ensure transparency in political funding: ICAI, The Times of India (New Delhi) 1 February 2017. Access Date: May 25, 2017. http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/budget-to-ensure-transparency-in-political-funding-icai/articleshow/56920553.cms

[1024] Budget to ensure transparency in political funding: ICAI, The Times of India (New Delhi) 1 February 2017. Access Date: May 25, 2017. http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/budget-to-ensure-transparency-in-political-funding-icai/articleshow/56920553.cms

[1025] India passes 'revolutionary' bill for goods and services tax, Financial Times (New Delhi) 29 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.ft.com/content/8063ced6-1460-11e7-80f4-13e067d5072c

[1026] India cabinet approves policy for strategic partnership in defence, Hindustan Times (New Delhi) 24 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.hindustantimes.com/business-news/india-cabinet-approves-policy-for-strategic-partnerships-in-defence/story-auAbUJLr9vhoNXOobJpchJ.html

[1027] India cabinet approves policy for strategic partnership in defence, Hindustan Times (New Delhi) 24 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.hindustantimes.com/business-news/india-cabinet-approves-policy-for-strategic-partnerships-in-defence/story-auAbUJLr9vhoNXOobJpchJ.html

[1028] India cabinet approves policy for strategic partnership in defence, Hindustan Times (New Delhi) 24 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.hindustantimes.com/business-news/india-cabinet-approves-policy-for-strategic-partnerships-in-defence/story-auAbUJLr9vhoNXOobJpchJ.html

[1029] KPK Arrests DPD Member, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 17 September 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/09/17/kpk-arrests-dpd-member.html

Following the arrest, the Jakarta Corruption Court started the trial on 8 November 2016.[1030] The prosecutors charged Irman Gusman, along with the company's owners Memi and Xaveriandy Sutanto, in violation of the Corruption Law.[1031]

On 17 October 2016, the KPK initiated the Professional with Integrity Movement (PROFIT) program to engage the private sector in taking actions against corruption.[1032] The movement encouraged businesses to increase transparency and accountability, stop giving illicit funds to state officials, and report any extortion by state officials.[1033]

On 26 October 2016, Graha Sabha Pramana Gadjah Mada University, in cooperation with the KPK, held the Anti-Corruption Summit 2016.[1034] Academics from 86 universities and high-ranking government officials such as Vice President Jusuf Kalla and KPK Chairman Agus Rahardjo participated in the summit.[1035] During the summit, participants exchanged opinions on management strategies that would increase the transparency and accountability of their academic institutions.[1036] Participants vowed to actively combat corruption, maintain personal and institutional integrity during the anti-corruption movement, build anti-corruption networks among universities, and assist law enforcement officials to eradicate corruption.[1037]

On 7 November 2016, the KPK held a Joint Law Enforcement Training to enhance synergies among domestic law enforcement agencies, the Audit Board (BPK), and the Finance and Development Supervisory Agency on handling corruption cases.[1038] Participants from various government institutions, such as police and prosecutors from the Ache province, KPK investigators, and the Attorney General attended the event.[1039]

On 16 November 2016, the KPK held the 2016 International Business Integrity Conference (IBIC) in Jarkarta to engage the private sector on eradicating corruption.[1040] The conference aimed to share knowledge among participants on corruption prevention, enhance transparency and accountability in corporations, strengthen anti-corruption enforcement in the business sector, promote a culture of

[1030] DPD Former Speaker Begins Trail Over Bribery, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/11/08/dpd-former-speaker-begins-trial-over-bribery.html
[1031] DPD Former Speaker Begins Trail Over Bribery, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/11/08/dpd-former-speaker-begins-trial-over-bribery.html
[1032] Business World Ready for Picking Up Against Rasuah, Komisi Pemberansasan Korupsi (Jakarta) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.kpk.go.id/id/berita/berita-kpk-kegiatan/3732-dunia-usaha-siap-berbenah-melawan-rasuah
[1033] Business World Ready for Picking Up Against Rasuah, Komisi Pemberansasan Korupsi (Jakarta) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.kpk.go.id/id/berita/berita-kpk-kegiatan/3732-dunia-usaha-siap-berbenah-melawan-rasuah
[1034] College Commitment Against Corruption, Komisi Pemberansasan Korupsi (Jakarta) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.kpk.go.id/id/berita/berita-kpk-kegiatan/3748-komitmen-perguruan-tinggi-melawan-korupsi
[1035] College Commitment Against Corruption, Komisi Pemberansasan Korupsi (Jakarta) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.kpk.go.id/id/berita/berita-kpk-kegiatan/3748-komitmen-perguruan-tinggi-melawan-korupsi
[1036] College Commitment Against Corruption, Komisi Pemberansasan Korupsi (Jakarta) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.kpk.go.id/id/berita/berita-kpk-kegiatan/3748-komitmen-perguruan-tinggi-melawan-korupsi
[1037] College Commitment Against Corruption, Komisi Pemberansasan Korupsi (Jakarta) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.kpk.go.id/id/berita/berita-kpk-kegiatan/3748-komitmen-perguruan-tinggi-melawan-korupsi
[1038] Eradicating Corruption Commission Apgakum Capacity Aceh, Komisi Pemberansasan Korupsi (Jakarta) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.kpk.go.id/id/berita/berita-kpk-kegiatan/3754-berantas-korupsi-kpk-tingkatkan-kapasitas-apgakum-aceh
[1039] Eradicating Corruption Commission Apgakum Capacity Aceh, Komisi Pemberansasan Korupsi (Jakarta) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.kpk.go.id/id/berita/berita-kpk-kegiatan/3754-berantas-korupsi-kpk-tingkatkan-kapasitas-apgakum-aceh
[1040] Wapres Jusuf Kala Buka Gelaran IBIC, MediaIndonesia (Jarkata) 16 November 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://mediaindonesia.com/news/read/77642/wapres-jusuf-kala-buka-gelaran-ibic/2016-11-16

integrity in business transactions, and initiate corruption prevention programs in the private sector.[1041] Speakers from a range of backgrounds, including domestic and foreign government ministries, professional associations, private firms, and civil society organisations discussed trends and challenges in eradicating corruption.[1042]

On 13 December 2016, Saudi Arabia and Indonesia signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance bilateral cooperation on combating corruption.[1043] Specifically, the anti-corruption agency of the two countries will work closely "to exchange research, studies and information on anti-corruption measures and criminal methods," as well as to enhance technical cooperation through trainings and workshops.[1044]

On 21 December 2016, the Supreme Court enacted Regulation 13/2016 (Manner and Procedure for the Handling of Crimes Committed by Corporations).[1045] The newly enacted regulation provides guidance for law enforcement officials in handling corporate crime cases, including corruption.[1046] Specifically, it provides a list of tests for judges to determine whether corporations are criminally liable for its charges.[1047]

On 26 January 2017, the Corruption Eradication Committee (KPK) detained a judge of the Constitutional Court, Patrialis Akbar, for a corruption investigation.[1048] The KPK spokesperson said that they are requesting that the Indonesian president temporarily suspend the judge.[1049] If proven guilty, the judge will be permanently removed from his duties.[1050]

On 27 February 2017, the Corruption Eradication Committee (KPK) alongside other law enforcement agencies held a joint training on corruption eradication.[1051] With over 3,100 participants, the training session provided skills and knowledge for law enforcement officials to eradicate corruption.[1052]

[1041] International Business Integrity Conference (IBIC) 2016: Trends, Challenges And Collective Action in Corruption Prevention, Anti-Corruption Clearing House (Jarkata) 20 November 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://acch.kpk.go.id/id/ragam/makalah/international-business-integrity-conference-ibic-2016-trends-challenges-and-collective-action-in-corruption-prevention
[1042] International Business Integrity Conference (IBIC) 2016: Trends, Challenges And Collective Action in Corruption Prevention, Anti-Corruption Clearing House (Jarkata) 20 November 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://acch.kpk.go.id/id/ragam/makalah/international-business-integrity-conference-ibic-2016-trends-challenges-and-collective-action-in-corruption-prevention
[1043] Saudi Arabia, Indonesia Sign Anti-Corruption MoU, Thomson Reuters Zawya (Dubai) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/story/Saudi_Arabia_Indonesia_sign_anticorruption_MoU-ZAWYA20161214033003/
[1044] Saudi Arabia, Indonesia Sign Anti-Corruption MoU, Thomson Reuters Zawya (Dubai) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/story/Saudi_Arabia_Indonesia_sign_anticorruption_MoU-ZAWYA20161214033003/
[1045] Guidance on the Handling of Corporate Crimes - Supreme Court Regulation no.13 of 2016, Lexology (London) 28 April 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=14f1a85c-277c-4463-87cf-ab62d62f5ac1
[1046] Guidance on the Handling of Corporate Crimes - Supreme Court Regulation no.13 of 2016, Lexology (London) 28 April 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=14f1a85c-277c-4463-87cf-ab62d62f5ac1
[1047] Guidance on the Handling of Corporate Crimes - Supreme Court Regulation no.13 of 2016, Lexology (London) 28 April 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=14f1a85c-277c-4463-87cf-ab62d62f5ac1
[1048] Indonesian Anti-Graft Agency Detains Constitutional Court Judge, Reuters (New York) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-corruption-idUSKBN15A1E3
[1049] Indonesian Anti-Graft Agency Detains Constitutional Court Judge, Reuters (New York) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-corruption-idUSKBN15A1E3
[1050] Indonesian Anti-Graft Agency Detains Constitutional Court Judge, Reuters (New York) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-corruption-idUSKBN15A1E3
[1051] KPK, Law Enforcers Hold Joint Anticorruption Training, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 27 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/02/27/kpk-law-enforcers-hold-joint-anticorruption-training.html
[1052] KPK, Law Enforcers Hold Joint Anticorruption Training, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 27 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/02/27/kpk-law-enforcers-hold-joint-anticorruption-training.html

On 9 March 2017, the Corruption Eradication Committee (KPK) indicted Irman and Sugiharto, two high-ranking officials in the Home Ministry, for embezzling 2.3 trillion in state funds from a government electronic ID procurement project.[1053] Aside from the defendants in the court trial, prosecutors listed as many as 37 politicians in the House of Representatives as being involved in this case, including House of Representatives speaker Setya Novanto.[1054]

On 3 May 2017, the Corruption Eradication Committee (KPK) charged former deputy chairman of the Maritime Security Board, Eko Susilo Hadi, for graft.[1055] Eko had allegedly received four bribes in a satellite monitoring system procurement project. Along with Eko, Fahmi Darmawansyah, owner of the PT Melati Technofo Indonesia, as well as his subordinates Muhammad Adami Okta, and Hardy Stefanus are facing charges for allegedly offering bribes to Eko in the procurement process.[1056]

Indonesia has taken substantial actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hei Tung Isaac Lo

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

In December 2016, the Guardia di Finanza, Italy's financial crimes police, indicated that ten businessmen had been placed under house arrest as part of a larger probe of corruption in Rome's municipal government. The probe also includes 27 suspects. The charges revolve around plans to renovate public schools in the city, and the intention to steal money from renovation funding without actually updating the buildings. According to Italian daily, Il Fatto Quotidiano, one of the contracts that was never executed was worth over EUR400,000. The suspects are also accused of having evaded taxes on payments. The Guardia di Finanza has seized over EUR1 million in real estate and financial assets belonging to those in the inquiry.[1057]

On 23 December 2016, Italy's anti-corruption authority (ANAC) accused Rome mayor Virginia Raggi of being aware of Raffele Marra's conflict of interests. Marra, who was Raggi's former head of city personnel, was arrested in mid-December over bribery accusations as well as promoting his brother Renato to the position of Rome's tourism director.[1058] Raggi's political party, the Five Star Movement, who vowed to

[1053] Indonesia's House speaker Allegedly Involved in e-KTP Mega Corruption Scandal, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 9 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/03/09/indonesias-house-speaker-allegedly-involved-in-e-ktp-mega-corruption-scandal.html

[1054] Indonesia's House speaker Allegedly Involved in e-KTP Mega Corruption Scandal, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 9 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/03/09/indonesias-house-speaker-allegedly-involved-in-e-ktp-mega-corruption-scandal.html

[1055] Former Deputy of Country's Top Coast Guard Body Indicted for Corruption, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/05/03/deputy-of-countrys-top-coast-guard-body-indicted-for-corruption.html

[1056] Former Deputy of Country's Top Coast Guard Body Indicted for Corruption, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/05/03/deputy-of-countrys-top-coast-guard-body-indicted-for-corruption.html

[1057] Ten detained in Rome corruption Scandal, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 19 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017 http://www.dw.com/en/ten-detained-in-rome-corruption-scandal/a-36825343

[1058] Anti-corruption authority accuses Rome Mayor of Contradictions, Wanted in Rome (Rome) 12 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.wantedinrome.com/news/anti-corruption-authority-accuses-rome-mayor-of-contradictions/

"clean up" government and address issues of corruption and transparency have been halted after the links to Raggi and Marra have been exposed.[1059]

As of 10 January 2017, the President of ANAC Raffaele Cantone and the Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Angel Gurria have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the International Anti-Corruption Summit in London, aimed at deepening cooperation through promoting the development of the High Level Principle for the integrity, transparency and the effective control of major events and related infrastructures. More specifically, the MoU aims to analyse governance models, methodologies and practices to prevent corruption and promote transparency of state-owned enterprises.[1060]

On 25 January 2017, Italian prosecutors opened a criminal investigation into British Telecommunications' (BT) Italian business.[1061] BT is being investigated for irregularities in their accounting, with allegations of fraud and corruption being involved.[1062]

On 28 January 2017, former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi was ordered to stand trial for allegations of corruption.[1063] It was alleged that the former Prime Minister gave millions of euros in payments and gifts to witnesses in a case against him regarding paid sexual encounters, in exchange for them testifying in his favour.[1064]

On 19 May 2017, Italian prosecutors began investigating the President of Sicily's regional government, Rosario Crocetta, for alleged corruption in regards to the region's ferry services.[1065] It is alleged that senior officials ensured favours for ferry operators in return for money and gifts in a system that is considered to have corruption as the norm.[1066]

Italy has acted to improve public sector transparency and integrity, but has not taken substantial actions to address private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Alexander Fernandes & Harper Stewart

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

Japan has continued to sign further Statements of Cooperation (SCO) between the Japan Financial Intelligence Centre (JAFIC) and foreign Financial Intelligence Units (FIU) concerning information

[1059] Does corruption threaten Europe? EurActiv (London) 6 January 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.euractiv.com/section/public-affairs/opinion/does-corruption-threaten-europe/
[1060] ANAC and OECD, 'a cooperating against corruption', The Italian Insider (Rome) 10 January 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2017.http://www.italianinsider.it/?q=node/4839
[1061] Italian prosecutors open criminal investigation into BT scandal, Financial Times (London) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. https://www.ft.com/content/c1ff7616-e2f0-11e6-8405-9e5580d6e5fb
[1062] Italian prosecutors open criminal investigation into BT scandal, Financial Times (London) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. https://www.ft.com/content/c1ff7616-e2f0-11e6-8405-9e5580d6e5fb
[1063] Ex-Italian PM Silvio Berlusconi to face new trial over corruption charges, Reuters (Italy) 28 January 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. http://www.dw.com/en/ex-italian-pm-silvio-berlusconi-to-face-new-trial-over-corruption-charges/a-37316728
[1064] Ex-Italian PM Silvio Berlusconi to face new trial over corruption charges, Reuters (Italy) 28 January 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. http://www.dw.com/en/ex-italian-pm-silvio-berlusconi-to-face-new-trial-over-corruption-charges/a-37316728
[1065] Italy opens corruption probe into Sicily government head; junior minister quits, Reuters (Italy) 19 May 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-corruption-probe-idUSKCN18F2A3
[1066] Italy opens corruption probe into Sicily government head; junior minister quits, Reuters (Italy) 19 May 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-corruption-probe-idUSKCN18F2A3

exchange dealing with money laundering and terrorist financing.[1067] On 6 September 2016, JAFIC signed an SCO with Laos' Anti-Money Laundering Intelligence Office, and on 14 October 2016 JAFIC signed an SCO with the Ghana's Financial Intelligence Centre,[1068] and on 24 November 2016 with the FIU of Malawi.[1069] JAFIC has signed three more in 2017, concluding SCO's with the Vanuatu FIU and FIU-Andorra on 1 February, and with the FIU of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on 22 February.[1070]

On 27 September 2016, the Japanese government announced it would close a gap in the corporate tax code where firms operating subsidiaries in countries with corporate tax rate higher than 20 per cent pay the local rate for most revenue (excluding income from stock dividends).[1071] Instead, the Japanese rate of 29.97 per cent will be imposed regardless of the local corporate tax rate.[1072]

In December 2016, the Organisation for Small and Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation (SME Support) continued to sign Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with foreign institutions.[1073] SME Support concluded a MoU with Bpifrance, a French investment bank, on 6 December 2016 and a MoU with the Taiwanese Kaohsiung Chamber of Industry on 13 December 2016.[1074]

On 5 April 2017, the Osaka District Public Prosecutor's Office began an investigation into the heavily discounted purchase of public lands for a new private religious school operated by education firm Moritomo Gakuen in Osaka, which Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is alleged to have corruptly supported.[1075] Mr. Abe's wife was expected to become the honourary principal of the school, to which she allegedly also gave a donation of JPY1 million in 2015.[1076] Documents have also emerged showing that Japan's defense minister, Tomomi Inada, formerly acted as a lawyer for Moritomo Gakuen.[1077]

On 16 May 2017, the Tennis Integrity Unit (TIU) fined and banned Japanese professional tennis player Junn Mitsuhashi from the sport after his match-fixing activities in breach of the Tennis Anti-Corruption

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[1067] Statements of Cooperation between JAFIC and foreign FIUs, JAFIC (Tokyo) 14 October 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. https://www.npa.go.jp/sosikihanzai/jafic/en/kokusai_e/mousin_e.htm
[1068] Statements of Cooperation between JAFIC and foreign FIUs, JAFIC (Tokyo) 14 October 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. https://www.npa.go.jp/sosikihanzai/jafic/en/kokusai_e/mousin_e.htm
[1069] Statements of Cooperation between JAFIC and foreign FIUs, JAFIC (Tokyo) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. https://www.npa.go.jp/sosikihanzai/jafic/en/kokusai_e/mousin_e.htm
[1070] Statements of Cooperation between JAFIC and foreign FIUs, JAFIC (Tokyo) 22 February 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. https://www.npa.go.jp/sosikihanzai/jafic/en/kokusai_e/mousin_e.htm
[1071] Japan to tighten taxation rules on overseas dummy companies, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 27 September 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://english.kyodonews.jp/panama_papers/2016/09/japan_to_tighten_taxation_rules_on_overseas_dummy_companies.html
[1072] Japan to tighten taxation rules on overseas dummy companies, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 27 September 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://english.kyodonews.jp/panama_papers/2016/09/japan_to_tighten_taxation_rules_on_overseas_dummy_companies.html
[1073] Alliance with foreign [sic] institutions for SME measures, SME Support (Tokyo) 13 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.smrj.go.jp/english/099946.html
[1074] Alliance with foreign [sic] institutions for SME measures, SME Support (Tokyo) 13 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.smrj.go.jp/english/099946.html
[1075] Scandal-hit Moritomo Gakuen sued for ¥400 million in alleged unpaid construction costs, Japan Times (Osaka) 5 April 2017. Access Date: 4 June 2017. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/04/05/national/crime-legal/scandal-hit-moritomo-gakuen-sued-%C2%A5400-million-alleged-unpaid-construction-costs/
[1076] Shinzo Abe dragged deeper into Japan school scandal, Financial Times (Tokyo) 16 March 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. https://www.ft.com/content/32fef302-0a27-11e7-97d1-5e720a26771b
[1077] Shinzo Abe dragged deeper into Japan school scandal, Financial Times (Tokyo) 16 March 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. https://www.ft.com/content/32fef302-0a27-11e7-97d1-5e720a26771b

Program became known, which included 76 bets in two months of 2015.[1078] The Japan Tennis Association (JTA) was surprised by the swift action by the TIU, and has responded by promising to strengthen preventative measures against match-fixing and increase awareness of the issue of corruption in sports.[1079]

Japan has taken some actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Christopher Sims

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 28 September 2016, the "Act on the Prohibition of Improper Solicitations and the Receipt or Offer of Money or Things of Value" (Kim Young-Ran Act) came into effect, with the aim of combatting low-level corruption in public institutions.[1080] The Kim Young-Ran Act covers both civil servants and the employees of private-sector news organisations and educational institutions, and prohibits the giving of both money and cash equivalents such as meals and entertainment.[1081] Its only exceptions include low-value meals, gifts, and money for weddings and funerals given because of traditional cultural and social customs.[1082]

On 28 November 2016, the Financial Services Commission (FSC) announced that it would extend legislation combating money laundering to professionals in the non-finance sector, a "blind spot" in the legislation, according to FSC chair Yim Jong-yong.[1083] The previous legislation only covered financial firms and casinos.[1084]

On 9 December 2016, the Anti-corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC) joined the "Network for Integrity," a global network of public institutions aimed at "developing and promoting an international culture of integrity."[1085] The Network currently has 14 members, and adopted its first

[1078] Japan Tennis Association stunned by news of Mitsuhashi's lifetime ban for match-fixing, Japan Times (Tokyo) 17 May 2017. Access Date 27 May 2017. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/sports/2017/05/17/more-sports/tennis/japan-tennis-association-stunned-news-mitsuhashis-lifetime-ban-match-fixing/

[1079] Japan Tennis Association stunned by news of Mitsuhashi's lifetime ban for match-fixing, Japan Times (Tokyo) 17 May 2017. Access Date 27 May 2017. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/sports/2017/05/17/more-sports/tennis/japan-tennis-association-stunned-news-mitsuhashis-lifetime-ban-match-fixing/

[1080] Kim Young-ran Act Comes into Effect on Sept. 28, Business Korea (Seoul) 29 September 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/english/news/industry/16054-corruption-prevention-act-kim-young-ran-act-comes-effect-sept-28

[1081] The New Anti-Corruption Act of Korea and the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), Yoon & Yang LLC (Seoul) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=5399016f-242b-4a7d-aa9e-aa56a3bb630a

[1082] The New Anti-Corruption Act of Korea and the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), Yoon & Yang LLC (Seoul) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=5399016f-242b-4a7d-aa9e-aa56a3bb630a

[1083] S. Korea to toughen rules on anti-money laundering, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 28 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2016/11/28/67/0502000000AEN20161128005900320F.html

[1084] S. Korea to toughen rules on anti-money laundering, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 28 November 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2016/11/28/67/0502000000AEN20161128005900320F.html

[1085] ACRC became a founding member of the "Network for Integrity", Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission of Korea (Seoul) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 8 January 2017.
http://www.acrc.go.kr/eng/board.do?command=searchDetail&method=searchDetailViewInc&menuId=020501&confId=62&conConfId=62&conTabId=0&currPageNo=1&boardNum=61637

charter at the 9 December meeting, which coincided with the United Nations' "International Anti-Corruption Day."[1086]

On 9 December 2016, the parliament voted by a large margin to impeach president Park Geun-hye over corruption and cronyism resulting from Park's close association with confidante Choi Soon-sil, who has no official government role but was nonetheless viewed to be influencing government policy.[1087] Many allege that Park abused her presidential power to enable Choi to solicit large donations for her foundation.[1088] Other allegations claim that Choi's daughter Chung Yoo-ra was corruptly granted admission to the elite Ewha Womans University in 2015.[1089] Choi has also been charged with several offenses including coercion and fraud, and Chung was detained by Danish police on 2 January 2017.[1090] Park will remain president until the Korean Constitutional Court rules on whether the impeachment is valid.[1091] Chung was detained by Danish police on 1 January 2017, and was extradited to Korea on 17 March 2017.[1092] Lee Jae-yong, the acting head of technology giant Samsung, also was arrested after it emerged that Lee may have bribed a confidante of Choi to obtain government support for a deal that would have secured him the leadership of Samsung.[1093]

On 15 December 2016, the ACRC published a "Business Ethics Guide" to assist businesses in implementing measures to reduce corruption.[1094] The guide comes in the wake of the Kim Young-Ran Act, which was targeted primarily at the public sector, to address concerns that the private sector must engage in similar anti-corruption efforts.[1095]

On 10 March 2017, the Korean Constitutional Court ruled that the impeachment was valid and formally indicted Park, although at the time of writing neither Park nor Choi, who is also on trial, have been

[1086] ACRC became a founding member of the "Network for Integrity", Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission of Korea (Seoul) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 8 January 2017. http://www.acrc.go.kr/eng/board.do?command=searchDetail&method=searchDetailViewInc&menuId=020501&confId=62&conConfId=62&conTabId=0&currPageNo=1&boardNum=61637

[1087] Park Geun-hye: South Korean MPs vote to impeach president, The Guardian (London) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/dec/09/south-koreas-parliament-votes-to-impeach-president-park-geun-hye

[1088] Park Geun-hye: South Korean MPs vote to impeach president, The Guardian (London) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/dec/09/south-koreas-parliament-votes-to-impeach-president-park-geun-hye

[1089] Daughter of South Korean leader's friend arrested in Denmark amid graft probe, Reuters (London) 2 January 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-southkorea-politics-idUSKBN14M01D?il=0

[1090] South Korea scandal: Daughter of Choi soon-sil arrested, BBC News (London) 2 January 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-38487037

[1091] Park Geun-hye: South Korean MPs vote to impeach president, The Guardian (London) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/dec/09/south-koreas-parliament-votes-to-impeach-president-park-geun-hye

[1092] Denmark to extradite South Korea 'Rasputin' daughter Chung Yoo-ra, South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) 19 March 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017. http://www.scmp.com/news/asia/east-asia/article/2088990/denmark-extradite-south-korea-rasputin-daughter-chung-yoo-ra

[1093] Samsung head arrested over South Korean Choi-gate corruption scandal, The Guardian (London) 17 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2017/feb/17/choi-gate-samsung-heir-lee-jae-yong-formally-arrested-for-corruption

[1094] ACRC provides Business Ethics Guide for companies, Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission of Korea (Seoul) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.acrc.go.kr/eng/board.do?command=searchDetail&method=searchDetailViewInc&menuId=020501&confId=62&conConfId=62&conTabId=0&currPageNo=1&boardNum=61641

[1095] ACRC provides Business Ethics Guide for companies, Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission of Korea (Seoul) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://www.acrc.go.kr/eng/board.do?command=searchDetail&method=searchDetailViewInc&menuId=020501&confId=62&conConfId=62&conTabId=0&currPageNo=1&boardNum=61641

convicted.[1096] With the indictment, Park was ousted as president, with electors giving the presidency to her former rival Moon Jae-in.[1097]

On 16 May 2017, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Anti-corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC), and Inspector General of Vietnam organized a workshop to assess Vietnam's successful two-year pilot of the Provincial Anti-Corruption Assessment (PACA) Tool developed based on the ACRC's Anti-Corruption Initiative Assessment (AIA) tool, which publicly tracks the effectiveness of various organizations in meeting government anti-corruption goals.[1098] In the workshop, PACA was described as "a first step in building a national database on anti-corruption efforts" and "contributing to the establishment of an anti-corruption culture at every institution and organization at the provincial level."[1099]

On 17 May 2017, noted shareholder rights activist Kim Sang-jo was appointed to head Korea's antitrust regulator, in keeping with newly-elected president Moon Jae-in's promise to reform the *chaebol* system of hierarchical family corporations that dominates much of the Korean economy.[1100]

Korea has taken substantial actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Christopher Sims

Mexico: –1

Mexico has not complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 7 November 2016, the Selection Committee of the National Anticorruption System (SNA) called for the election of five non-partisan citizens with experience in combatting corruption and knowledge about transparency to form a Committee for Citizen Participation (CPC).[1101] The Commission announced that this Committee would propose anti-corruption policies and monitor the functioning of SNA, and would be the first collegial body of citizens in Mexican history to be elected by citizens.[1102] This action aims to

[1096] Former South Korean president Park Geun-hye on trial for corruption, The Guardian (London) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/may/23/former-south-korean-president-park-geun-hye-on-trial-for-corruption
[1097] South Korea set to change policy on North as liberal wins election, The Guardian (London) 9 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/may/09/south-korea-election-moon-jae-set-to-become-president
[1098] Korea's Anti-Corruption Assessment Piloted in 63 Provinces of Vietnam, UNDP Seoul Policy Centre (Seoul) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017.
http://www.undp.org/content/seoul_policy_center/en/home/presscenter/articles/2017/03/17/korea-s-anti-corruption-assessment-piloted-in-63-provinces-of-vietnam-.html
[1099] Korea's Anti-Corruption Assessment Piloted in 63 Provinces of Vietnam, UNDP Seoul Policy Centre (Seoul) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017.
http://www.undp.org/content/seoul_policy_center/en/home/presscenter/articles/2017/03/17/korea-s-anti-corruption-assessment-piloted-in-63-provinces-of-vietnam-.html
[1100] South Korea names 'chaebol sniper' as antitrust chief, Associated Press (Seoul) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://apnews.com/a95d6a2e560f4adb919f90ecd8b0d588/South-Korea-names-%27chaebol-sniper%27-as-antitrust-chief
[1101] Call to form the citizens committee of the National Anticorruption System, Aristegui Noticias, 7 November 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://aristeguinoticias.com/0711/mexico/convocatoria-para-conformar-el-comite-ciudadano-del-sistema-nacional-anticorrupcion-documento/
[1102] Call to form the citizens committee of the National Anticorruption System, Aristegui Noticias, 7 November 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://aristeguinoticias.com/0711/mexico/convocatoria-para-conformar-el-comite-ciudadano-del-sistema-nacional-anticorrupcion-documento/

integrate the civil society in the SNA's new governance structure to ensure its increased greater oversight.[1103]

On 14 November 2016, Undersecretary of Expenses of the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit (SHCP) Fernando Galindo announced that the sum of MXN9 billion was designated in the 2017 Expenditure Budget to implement the National Anti-corruption System (SNA) and to avoid the misuse of public resources by governors.[1104] Galindo said in a telephone interview with Formula Group that "sufficient resources to the autonomous bodies that will review exercise of public resources" are necessary to strengthen the tools of the SNA.[1105]

Mexico has taken some actions to improve public sector transparency and integrity, but has not taken actions to address private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Mexico receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Jessie Xie

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 15-16 October 2016, Russia took part in the Eighth annual Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) Summit in Goa, India. The summit put forward a commitment to strengthen cooperation against corruption, specifically through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group.[1106]

On 30 November 2016, Russian Presidential Aide Yevgeny Shkolov held a seminar on implementing Russian corruption prevention legislation. The heads of federal and regional agencies tasked with preventing corruption and other legal offences took part in the event. The participants discussed "raising the effectiveness of detecting and preventing conflict of interest in civil service at all levels, carrying out inspections to ensure anti-corruption standards are respected, anti-corruption education, and mechanisms to monitor expenses and material liability for corruption."[1107]

On 15 December 2016, President Vladimir Putin submitted to the State Duma draft Federal Law On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation to Improve State Policy in Countering Corruption. It is aimed at further improving the anti-corruption legislation of the Russian Federation. It provides for conferring "on Russian regions' heads the responsibility for verifying the accuracy and completeness of income and property information submitted by municipal officials and persons holding certain positions in the municipal services." The draft federal law also includes other changes aimed at "specifying procedures for settling a conflict of interests and the scope of persons responsible for preventing or settling such conflict."[1108]

[1103] Corruption in Mexico infects the economy: OECD, La Jornada (Mexico City) 11 January 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.jornada.unam.mx/ultimas/2017/01/11/la-corrupcion-en-mexico-contagia-a-la-economia-ocde
[1104] Mexico Will Allocate 9,000 MDP To Combat Cases Like Those of Duarte And Padres, Expansión (Mexico City) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://expansion.mx/economia/2016/11/14/mexico-destinara-9-000-mdp-para-combatir-casos-como-los-de-duarte-y-padres
[1105] Mexico Will Allocate 9,000 MDP To Combat Cases Like Those of Duarte And Padres, Expansión (Mexico City) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://expansion.mx/economia/2016/11/14/mexico-destinara-9-000-mdp-para-combatir-casos-como-los-de-duarte-y-padres
[1106] 8th BRICS Summit Goa Declaration, BRICS (Goa) 16 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://brics2016.gov.in/upload/files/document/58038a52e09d4GoaDeclarationAdopted.pdf
[1107] Seminar on Preventing Corruption and Other Legal Offences, President of Russia 30 November 2016. http://en.kremlin.ru/catalog/keywords/93/events/53391
[1108] Vladimir Putin submitted to the State Duma draft law amending certain legislative acts to improve state anti-corruption policy, President of Russia 15 December 2016. http://en.kremlin.ru/catalog/keywords/93/events/53484

On 25 May 2017, a Communist Party of China (CPC) delegation headed by deputy head of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, Zhao Hongzhu, visited Moscow, and held talks with head of the Presidential Directorate for Countering Corruption, Oleg Plokhoi.[1109] This meeting aimed to strengthen the anti-corruption cooperation between Russia and China by enhancing communication on anti-corruption issues.[1110]

Russia has taken actions to improve public sector integrity, despite not addressing private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Jessie Xie & Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency.

On 28 October 2016, the National Anti-Corruption Commission of Saudi Arabia, Nazala, was called to investigate an alleged case of corruption involving the appointment civil service minister's son to a project manager position of a higher-than-average salary. Nazala monitored social media posts regarding the hiring to "ensure the implementation of the national strategy to protect integrity and fight against corruption."[1111]

On 22 November 2016, Nazaha participated in the first annual Nazaha club meeting organized by King Saud University. Nazaha officials participated in the meeting to share experiences in the fight against corruption, and expressed hope to develop self-monitoring in the students through positive practise against corruption.[1112]

On 28 November 2016, Nazaha discovered 10 ministries that did not commit to one or more conditions in the regulatory requirements necessary for contracting which are as follow: Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Economy and Planning, Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Culture and Information, Ministry of Trade and Investment, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.[1113]

On 13 December 2016, the Form of the Anti-Corruption Day 2016 "United Against Corruption" concluded. At the beginning of the forum, the President of Nazaha Dr. Khaled Al-Muhaisen indicated that the forum brings together specialists and those interested in fighting corruption, promoting the principles of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), and that countries should

[1109] China, Russia agrees to promote anti-corruption cooperation, Xinhua Net (yan) 25 May 2017. Date of Access: 30th May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/25/c_136315327.htm

[1110] China, Russia agrees to promote anti-corruption cooperation, Xinhua Net (yan) 25 May 2017. Date of Access: 30th May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/25/c_136315327.htm

[1111] Saudi anti-corruption body probes appointment of minister's son, Arab News (Jeddah) 28 October 2016. Date of Access: 18 November 2016. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1003406/saudi-arabia

[1112] In cooperation with Nazaha: King Saud University organizes the first annual Nazaha Clubs meeting on educational institutions, Nazaha (National Anti-Corruption Commission) 22 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. http://www.nazaha.gov.sa/en/Media/News/Pages/news036.aspx

[1113] Saudi anti-corruption commission says 10 ministries broke hiring rules, GulfNews (Dubai) 28 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/saudi-arabia/saudi-anti-corruption-commission-says-10-ministries-broke-hiring-rules-1.1936342 organize regional and international conferences to strengthen cooperation and exchange of experiences in the field of fighting corruption.[1114]

On 13 December 2016, Saudi Arabia and Indonesia signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance bilateral cooperation on combating corruption.[1115] Specifically, the anti-corruption agency of the two countries will work closely "to exchange research, studies and information on anti-corruption measures and criminal methods," as well as to enhance technical cooperation through trainings and workshops.[1116]

On 22 January 2017, Nazaha (National Anti-corruption Commission) began investigating employees of the Saudi Electric Company (SEC) for corruption through the potential misuse and extortion of funds from the company of an amount up to SR80 million.[1117]

On 25 January 2017, Transparency International posted its annual Corruption Perceptions Index chart, with Saudi Arabia scoring a 46 out of 100 (rank 62), six points below their prior score of 52, and 13 ranks below their prior rank of 49.[1118] However, Saudi Arabia maintained their rank of 4th highest score out of the 22 Arab nations on the index, and their rank of 10th out of G20 countries.[1119]

On 26 January 2017, Nazaha (National Anti-corruption Commission) announced the introduction of its "Fighting Corruption Diploma", a joint anti-corruption educational program with the Institute of Public Administration, to train employees of state-owned entities in anti-corruption practices, and to encourage them to join the fight against corruption by reporting instances of bribery and abuse of power.[1120]

On 21 February 2017, the Second International Integrity Conference was held to discuss transparency and anti-corruption policies, during which Nazaha (National Anti-corruption Commission) President Khaled Al-Muhaisen stated that "under royal directives no one can claim immunity for corruption in the Kingdom".[1121]

On 22 April 2017, Minister of Civil Affairs Khaled Al-Araj was relieved of his position and is set to be investigated for nepotism by a Royal Decree following implications of abusing his power to appoint his son to a position he was not qualified for.[1122]

[1114] The conclusion of Nazaha's Forum in observing the International Anti-Corruption Day 2016, Nazaha (National Anti-Corruption Commission) 13 December 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. http://www.nazaha.gov.sa/en/Media/News/Pages/news040.aspx

[1115] Saudi Arabia, Indonesia Sign Anti-Corruption MoU, Thomson Reuters Zawya (Dubai) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/story/Saudi_Arabia_Indonesia_sign_anticorruption_MoU-ZAWYA20161214033003/

[1116] Saudi Arabia, Indonesia Sign Anti-Corruption MoU, Thomson Reuters Zawya (Dubai) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/story/Saudi_Arabia_Indonesia_sign_anticorruption_MoU-ZAWYA20161214033003/

[1117] Saudi Electricity Company staff accused in corruption case, Thomson Reuters Foundation (Riyadh) 22 January 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://news.trust.org/item/20170122155359-mjt7o/

[1118] Corruption Perceptions Index 2016, Transparency International (Berlin) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2016#table

[1119] Corruption Perceptions Index 2016, Transparency International (Berlin) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2016#table

[1120] In cooperation with IPA: the launch of Fighting Corruption Diploma for employees in government control entities, Nazaha (Riyadh) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.nazaha.gov.sa/en/Media/News/Pages/news1002.aspx

[1121] Saudi Arabia to focus on transparency to fight corruption, Arab News (Riyadh) 21 February 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1057416/saudi-arabia

[1122] Relieved civil affairs minister may get 3-10 years in prison, Saudi Gazette (Jeddah) 25 April 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://saudigazette.com.sa/saudi-arabia/relieved-civil-affairs-minister-may-get-3-10-years-prison/

On 26 April 2017, Nazaha (National Anti-corruption Commission) announced that they had completed 111 investigations of various types of corruption by high level government officials within the past year, with the subjects of investigation ranging from private entities to public ministries.[1123] However, no official report has been released for 2016, and prior reports offer little to no detail or context.[1124]

On 2 May 2017, Finance Minister Mohammed al-Jadaan announced that for that first time, Saudi Arabia would begin issuing quarterly budget reports in an effort to meet its commitments to transparency.[1125]

On 16 May 2017, Nazaha (National Anti-corruption Commission) introduced its "Country Review on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia", in order to review the level of implementation of the UNCAC in Saudi Arabia since its ratification in the Kingdom in 2013.[1126]

Saudi Arabia has taken actions to improve public sector transparency and integrity, however did not address private sector transparency and integrity. Saudi Arabia has taken actions to improve both private and public sector integrity, however little has been done to address public sector transparency, and no steps have been taken to address private sector and SOE transparency. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Jerry Zhu & Ian Stansbury

South Africa: −1

South Africa has not complied with its commitment to improve public and private transparency and integrity.

On 15-16 October 2016, South Africa took part in the Eighth annual Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) Summit in Goa, India. The summit put forward a commitment to strengthen cooperation against corruption, specifically through the BRICS Anti-Corruption Working Group.[1127]

On 31 March 2017, President Zuma abruptly dismissed Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan as part of a late night cabinet reshuffle that replaced ten of 35 cabinet ministers.[1128] Some members of government believe that Gordhan was removed for his stance against corruption.[1129]

On 29 April 2017, President Jacob Zuma signed the Financial Intelligence Centre Amendment Act (FICA) into law.[1130] The bill aims to improve the transparency and integrity of South Africa's financial

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[1123] Nazaha probes 111 corruption abuse of power cases, Saudi Gazette (Riyadh) 26 April 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://saudigazette.com.sa/saudi-arabia/nazaha-probes-111-corruption-abuse-power-cases/

[1124] Performance Summary Report Of The National Anti-Corruption Commission, Nazaha (Riyadh) 1 September 2015. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.nazaha.gov.sa/en/About/Pages/ReportsEN.aspx

[1125] Saudi Arabia aims for transparency with budget, Daily Star (Riyadh) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.dailystar.com.lb/Business/Regional/2017/May-03/404228-saudi-arabia-aims-for-transparency-with-budget.ashx

[1126] Saudi Arabia Reviews its Achievements in the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption "UNCAC", Nazaha (Riyadh) 16 May 2016. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.nazaha.gov.sa/en/Media/News/Pages/news1030.aspx

[1127] 8th BRICS Summit Goa Declaration, BRICS (Goa) 16 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. http://brics2016.gov.in/upload/files/document/58038a52e09d4GoaDeclarationAdopted.pdf

[1128] Firing of South Africa's Finance Minister Widens a Political Rift, The New York Times (New York City). 31 March 2017. Access Date: 3 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/31/world/africa/south-africa-pravin-gordhan-jacob-zuma.html

[1129] Firing of South Africa's Finance Minister Widens a Political Rift, The New York Times (New York City). 31 March 2017. Access Date: 3 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/31/world/africa/south-africa-pravin-gordhan-jacob-zuma.html

[1130] President Zuma signs FICA Bill into law, the Presidency Republic of South Africa (Pretoria). 29 April 2017. Access Date: 3 May 2017. http://www.thepresidency.gov.za/press-statements/president-zuma-signs-fica-bill-law system.[1131] The South African government will target financial crimes and "make it harder for persons who are involved in illegitimate activities or tax evasion to hide behind legal entities like shell companies and trusts."[1132]

On 2 May 2017, the Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) expressed their support of FICA in a media release and emphasized its importance in fighting financial crimes and protecting South Africa's financial market.[1133] The Finance Minister is responsible for how and when new FICA regulations will take effect.[1134] The Democratic Alliance, South Africa's opposition party, is concerned that the new Finance Minister, Malusi Gigaba, may delay implementation of FICA or that its allotted budget may be insufficient.[1135]

On 4 May 2017, a High Court Judge gave a five-day order for President Zuma to provide all documents regarding his March cabinet reshuffle and his rationale for it.[1136] The High Court is reviewing the cabinet reshuffle for constitutionality.[1137] President Zuma has filed an application to appeal the request.[1138]

South Africa has not taken substantial actions to improve public or private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, South Africa receives a score of −1.

Analysts: Elise Wagner & Tyler Kanoff

Turkey: −1

Turkey has not complied with its commitment to take action to improve public sector and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 10 February 2017, the Turkish Capital Markets Board announced that the limit on leveraged transactions for currency trading was changing from a ratio of 100:1 to 10:1 in order to limit the risks for investors.[1139] The minimum initial deposit increased to TL50,000.[1140] Some industry insiders fear the new restrictions will push investors towards less regulated off shore markets.[1141]

[1131] President Zuma signs FICA Bill into law, the Presidency Republic of South Africa (Pretoria). 29 April 2017. Access Date: 3 May 2017.
http://www.thepresidency.gov.za/press-statements/president-zuma-signs-fica-bill-law

[1132] President Zuma signs FICA Bill into law, the Presidency Republic of South Africa (Pretoria). 29 April 2017. Access Date: 3 May 2017.
http://www.thepresidency.gov.za/press-statements/president-zuma-signs-fica-bill-law

[1133] FIC Welcomes President's Signing of the FIC Act Amendments, Financial Intelligence Centre. 2 May 2017. Access Date: 6 May 2017.
https://www.fic.gov.za/Documents/Media Release_FICwelcomessigningofamendmentat.pdf

[1134] FIC Welcomes President's Signing of the FIC Act Amendments, Financial Intelligence Centre. 2 May 2017. Access Date: 6 May 2017.
https://www.fic.gov.za/Documents/Media Release_FICwelcomessigningofamendmentat.pdf

[1135] Gigaba May Delay Implementation of FICA Bill, DA Warns, News24 (Johannesburg). 29 April 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017.
http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/gigaba-may-delay-implementation-of-fica-bill-da-warns-20170429

[1136] Court Gives Zuma Five Days to Explain Cabinet Reshuffle, Times Live. 4 May 2017. Access Date: 6 May 2017.
http://www.timeslive.co.za/politics/2017/05/04/Court-gives-Zuma-five-days-to-explain-cabinet-reshuffle

[1137] Court Gives Zuma Five Days to Explain Cabinet Reshuffle, Times Live. 4 May 2017. Access Date: 6 May 2017.
http://www.timeslive.co.za/politics/2017/05/04/Court-gives-Zuma-five-days-to-explain-cabinet-reshuffle

[1138] Zuma Files Application to Appeal Court's Decision on Cabinet Reshuffle, News24(Cape Town). 10 May 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017
http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/zuma-files-application-to-appeal-courts-decision-on-cabinet-reshuffle-20170510

[1139] Turkish Markets Regulator Clamps Down on Leveraged Transactions. Reuters (London). 10 February 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017.
http://www.reuters.com/article/turkey-markets-leverage-idUSL5N1FV0G3

On 16 April 2017, the Turkish government held a constitutional referendum vote that narrowly passed amendments to end their parliamentary system in favor of an executive presidency, giving all power to the president following the next elections.[1142] Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Simsek confirmed that the government is planning to hold the next election in 2019, at which time all new changes will be placed into effect.[1143] The opposition immediately protested the results citing voter intimidation amongst other election fraud concerns.[1144] The referendum came under a state of emergency that has been in place ever since a failed coup attempt in July 2016.[1145] The President of the Turkey's Supreme Electoral Council dismissed claims of improper counting and certified the election results.[1146,1147]

On 29 April 2017, the Turkish government dismissed 3,974 employees in a government purge that has targeted individuals deemed a threat to national security.[1148] Since the failed coup which killed 240 people, a majority of them civilians, the Justice and Development Party (AKP) government has dismissed over 120,000 people and detained more than 40,000 others.[1149] The head of the Union of Turkish Bar Associations fears that the purges which have included judges is creating fear and paranoia which is affecting the integrity of Turkey's judicial system.[1150]

On 29 April 2017, the Turkish government blocked Internet access of its citizens to the popular online encyclopedia, Wikipedia.[1151] The government banned the site as a threat to national security, alleging that the site supports terrorism and runs a smear campaign on the Turkish government.[1152]

[1140] Exclusive: Turkey Cuts Forex Leverage to 1:10, Hikes Minimum Deposits. Finance Magnates. 10 February 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017.
http://www.financemagnates.com/forex/regulation/exclusive-turkey-cuts-forex-leverage-110-hikes-minimum-deposits/

[1141] Exclusive: Turkey Cuts Forex Leverage to 1:10, Hikes Minimum Deposits. Finance Magnates. 10 February 2017. Access Date: 5 May 2017.
http://www.financemagnates.com/forex/regulation/exclusive-turkey-cuts-forex-leverage-110-hikes-minimum-deposits/

[1142] Erdogan Claims Vast Powers in Turkey After Narrow Victory in Referendum, The New York Times (New York City) 16 April 2017. Access Date: 7 May 2017.
https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/16/world/europe/turkey-referendum-polls-erdogan.html

[1143] Turkey's Erdogan Declares Referendum Victory, Opponents Plan Challenge, Reuters (London). 17 April 2017. Access Date: 7 May 2017.
http://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-referendum-idUSKBN17H0CU

[1144] Erdogan Claims Vast Powers in Turkey After Narrow Victory in Referendum, The New York Times (New York City) 16 April 2017. Access Date: 7 May 2017.
https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/16/world/europe/turkey-referendum-polls-erdogan.html

[1145] New Wave of Mass Purges in Turkey Target Thousands, Kurdistan 24 (Erbil). 30 April 2017. Access Date: 7 May 2017.
http://www.kurdistan24.net/en/news/80c87679-4827-4430-a83e-5a3155c028e1/new-wave-of-mass-purges-in-turkey-target-thousands

[1146] CHP Blasts Election Board After Referendum Result, Aljazeera (Doha). 17 April 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017.
http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/04/chp-blasts-election-board-referendum-result-170417034950684.html

[1147] Turkish Supreme Electoral Body Approves Results of Constitutional Referendum, Sputnik. 27 April 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017.
https://sputniknews.com/middleeast/201704271053082834-turkey-supreme-referendum-constitution/

[1148] New Wave of Mass Purges in Turkey Target Thousands, Kurdistan 24 (Erbil). 30 April 2017. Access Date: 7 May 2017.
http://www.kurdistan24.net/en/news/80c87679-4827-4430-a83e-5a3155c028e1/new-wave-of-mass-purges-in-turkey-target-thousands

[1149] New Wave of Mass Purges in Turkey Target Thousands, Kurdistan 24 (Erbil). 30 April 2017. Access Date: 7 May 2017.
http://www.kurdistan24.net/en/news/80c87679-4827-4430-a83e-5a3155c028e1/new-wave-of-mass-purges-in-turkey-target-thousands

[1150] Turkey's Purges are Crippling its Justice System, The Economist (London). 20 May 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017.
http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21722200-president-erdogans-drive-power-includes-putting-judges-under-his-thumb-turkeys-purges-are

[1151] Turkey Purges 4,000 More Officials, and Blocks Wikipedia, The New York Times (New York City). 30 April 2017. Access Date: 7 May 2017.
https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/30/world/europe/turkey-purge-wikipedia-tv-dating-shows.html

[1152] Turkey Blocks Wikipedia for 'Not Removing Content', Aljazeera. 29 April 2017. Access Date: 8 May 2017.

Turkey has not taken substantial actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, Turkey receives a score of −1.

Analysts: Elise Wagner & Tyler Kanoff

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

From September 6 to 8, Prime Minister Theresa May visited India to strengthen the India-UK Strategic Partnership.[1153] During the visit, the prime ministers affirmed that they will increase interactions to resolve outstanding extradition cases from both sides because "fugitives and criminals should not be allowed to escape the law."[1154]

On 19 September 2016, Financial Secretary to the Treasurer, Jane Ellison, visited Singapore in support of Anti-Corruption Week.[1155] In her speech, Ellison claimed that the UK is intending to use technology to fight corruption, investigate methods of improving governance in the extractive industry, explore corruption in sports, and improve the justice system.[1156]

On 19 September 2016, the UK government announced funding of GBP1 million towards the creation of a new facility that will tackle a range of organised crimes including high value fraud.[1157] The new facility will allow for further intelligence sharing and collaboration between the agencies in tackling organised crime.[1158]

On 11 October 2016, the UK government stated that it will be adding an Inclusive Economy Unit to the Office for Civil Society in the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.[1159] The unit aims to collaborate with the public, private, and civil sectors to "build an economy and a Britain that works for everyone, not just the privileged few."[1160]

On 13 October 2016, the UK government introduced the Criminal Finances Bill intended to "tackle money laundering and corruption." The bill measures include investigating origins of unexplained wealth,

http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/04/turkey-blocks-wikipedia-removing-content-170429133716987.html

[1153] Press Release: Joint statement between the governments of the UK and India, Prime Minister's Office (London) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-between-the-governments-of-the-uk-and-india

[1154] Press Release: Joint statement between the governments of the UK and India, Prime Minister's Office (London) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-between-the-governments-of-the-uk-and-india

[1155] Address by Financial Secretary to the Treasurer Jane Ellison at Anti-Corruption Week in Singapore, HM Treasury (London) 19 September 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/britain-and-singapore-are-natural-allies-in-the-global-fight-against-corruption-says-financial-secretary

[1156] Address by Financial Secretary to the Treasurer Jane Ellison at Anti-Corruption Week in Singapore, HM Treasury (London) 19 September 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/britain-and-singapore-are-natural-allies-in-the-global-fight-against-corruption-says-financial-secretary

[1157] £1 million funding boost to fight organised crime in the North East, Home Office (London) 19 September 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-million-funding-boost-to-fight-organised-crime-in-the-north-east

[1158] £1 million funding boost to fight organised crime in the North East, Home Office (London) 19 September 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-million-funding-boost-to-fight-organised-crime-in-the-north-east

[1159] Government announces Inclusive Economy Unit, Department for Culture, Media & Sport (London) 11 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-inclusive-economy-unit

[1160] Government announces Inclusive Economy Unit, Department for Culture, Media & Sport (London) 11 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-inclusive-economy-unit increasing information sharing in public and private sectors, and better law enforcement to prevent tax evasion.[1161]

On 24 October 2016, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) launched a campaign in response to a survey conducted by the CMA which revealed that 54 per cent of UK businesses do not understand regulations regarding unfair terms for consumers.[1162] Consequently, the CMA provided guides to help businesses ensure the fairness of their terms.[1163]

On 31 October 2016, the Charity Commission partnered with the Fraud Advisory Panel to launch the Charities Against Fraud website to tackle fraud within not-for-profit sectors.[1164]

In November 2016, the Serious Fraud Office was given additional funding by the Treasury to investigate Unaoil, a company accused of corruptly securing contracts for multinationals through bribery.[1165]

On 1 November 2016, the UK government announced the addition of five standards for Tax Planning to the Professional Conduct in Relation to Tax (PCRT) in order to prevent tax avoidance and strengthen disciplinary action.[1166] The revision will come into effect in March 2017.[1167]

On 4 November 2016, the Cabinet Office revealed that its National Fraud Initiative "prevented fraud, overpayments and errors amounting to GBP198 million in England."[1168]

On 7 November 2016, the CMA began a new campaign to prevent price fixing amongst online sellers.[1169]

On 8 November 2016, the UK government's Panama Taskforce opened investigations into 22 people suspected of tax evasion alongside 43 individuals who have been placed under special review.[1170] The cross-agency taskforce has found links between the suspects and eight active Serious Fraud Office (SFO) investigations.[1171]

[1161] New legislation to attack criminal finances, Home Office & Scotland Office (London) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-legislation-to-attack-criminal-finances

[1162] Over half of business don't know unfair contract rules well, Consumer Protection (London) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/over-half-of-businesses-dont-know-unfair-contract-rules-well

[1163] Over half of business don't know unfair contract rules well, Consumer Protection (London) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/over-half-of-businesses-dont-know-unfair-contract-rules-well

[1164] Fraud Awareness Week: round up, The Charity Commission (London) 2 November 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fraud-awareness-week-round-up

[1165] Serious Fraud Office given extra funds to investigate Unaoil bribery claims, The Guardian (London) 1 November 2015. Access Date: 6 November 2016. https://www.theguardian.com/law/2016/nov/01/serious-office-given-extra-funds-to-investigate-unaoil-bribery-claims

[1166] Update to UK Code of Conduct for Tax Professionals, Tax-News (London) 3 November 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://www.tax-news.com/news/Update_To_UK_Code_Of_Conduct_For_Tax_Professionals____72661.html

[1167] Updated code of conduct will discourage number of avoidance schemes, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/updated-code-of-conduct-will-discourage-number-of-avoidance-schemes

[1168] Cabinet Office's fraud initiative has saved nearly £200 million for the taxpayer, Cabinet Office (London) 4 November 2016. Access Date 8 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cabinet-offices-fraud-initiative-has-saved-nearly-200-million-for-the-taxpayer

[1169] CMA warns online sellers about price-fixing, Competition and Markets Authority (London) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cma-warns-online-sellers-about-price-fixing

[1170] Panama Papers: UK Probe launched into 22 suspected tax evaders, Russia Today (Moscow) 9 November 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.rt.com/uk/366128-tax-evasion-panama-papers/

[1171] Panama Papers: UK Probe launched into 22 suspected tax evaders, Russia Today (Moscow) 9 November 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.rt.com/uk/366128-tax-evasion-panama-papers/

On 8 November 2016, the UK government extended legal protection for whistleblowers applying for jobs in the children's social care sector through an amendment to the Children and Social Work Bill.[1172] In addition, the government will "review the whistleblowing code for employers by the end of 2017."[1173]

On 14 November 2016, the Office of Tax Simplification (OTS) reaffirmed its commitment to reforming the existing system by creating a simpler and fairer National Insurance contributions system for businesses and taxpayers.[1174]

On 29 November 2016, the UK government launched a public consultation on measures to strengthen corporate governance.[1175] New measures proposed include strengthening the corporate governance framework for privately-held companies, identifying which types of companies need to strengthen stakeholder voices, and increasing shareholder influence by improving transparency and long-term incentives.[1176]

On 5 December 2016, Her Majesty's Treasury announced that the Finance Bill 2017 will continue "the government's commitment to tackle tax evasion and avoidance and support business through tax evasion."[1177] The draft legislation will prevent the use of disguised remuneration schemes, introduce a new penalty for those enabling tax avoidance schemes, introduce a new rule to correct past failures to pay UK tax on offshore accounts, and strengthen sanctions and penalties on illegal tobacco.[1178]

On 12 December 2016, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) announced that it will be introducing an online system for anti-money laundering supervision in 2017.[1179] The launch of the online system will make it easier for businesses to register and renew online, reduce error, and better meet customer needs.[1180]

On 15 December 2016, the Royal Charter and the accompanying Framework Agreement was published.[1181] Changes made to the Charter require the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) to

[1172] Government agrees to extend legal protections for whistleblowers in children's social care sector, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-agrees-to-extend-legal-protections-for-whistleblowers-in-childrens-social-care-sector

[1173] Government agrees to extend legal protections for whistleblowers in children's social care sector, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-agrees-to-extend-legal-protections-for-whistleblowers-in-childrens-social-care-sector

[1174] OTS calls for simpler and fairer national insurance, Office of Tax Simplification (London) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ots-calls-for-simpler-and-fairer-national-insurance

[1175] Press Release: Government launches review of corporate governance, Department Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-review-of-corporate-governance

[1176] Press Release: Government launches review of corporate governance, Department Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (London) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-review-of-corporate-governance

[1177] Finance Bill 2017: government legislates for new tax changes, HM Treasury (London) 5 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/finance-bill-2017-government-legislates-for-new-tax-changes

[1178] Finance Bill 2017: government legislates for new tax changes, HM Treasury (London) 5 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/finance-bill-2017-government-legislates-for-new-tax-changes

[1179] HMRC anti-money laundering supervision goes online, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 12 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hmrc-anti-money-laundering-supervision-goes-online

[1180] HMRC anti-money laundering supervision goes online, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 12 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hmrc-anti-money-laundering-supervision-goes-online

[1181] New BBC Charter and framework agreement published, Department for Culture, Media and Sport (London) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-bbc-charter-and-framework-agreement-published become "more open and transparent" in all its operations such as revealing the salaries of employees who earn more than GBP150, 000.[1182]

On 15 December 2016, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) concluded its study into the legal services sector and reported that legal services for individual consumers and small businesses is ineffective.[1183] As a result, the CMA set out measures to help customers to better navigate the market. Some measures include a recommendation to the Ministry of Justice to change the current framework to increase flexibility and consumer protection, and a requirement for providers to display additional information to help customers.[1184]

On 21 December 2016, the Prime Minister published a revised Ministerial Code focused on strengthening ministerial accountability and special adviser transparency.[1185] In addition, the government published an updated list of Ministers' Interests, and the annual list of special advisers and their cost.[1186]

On 27 December 2016, the UK government announced the introduction of measures to prevent electoral fraud.[1187] These measures aim to prevent intimidation and unwanted influence of voters, end the practice of postal vote harvesting, and consider nationality checking.[1188]

As of 1 January 2017, people and businesses which enable offshore tax evasion will face harsher sanctions in the UK.[1189] Individuals may face fines up to 100 per cent of the tax they helped evade or GBP3,000, whichever is higher.[1190] This year, the government will also be introducing a new corporate criminal offence for individuals failing to prevent the facilitation of tax evasion[1191]

[1182] BBC Charter to safeguard future while delivering transparency for licence fee payers, Department for Culture, Media & Sport (London) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bbc-charter-to-safeguard-future-while-delivering-transparency-for-licence-fee-payers
[1183] Press Release: CMA demands greater transparency from legal service providers, Competition and Markets Authority (London) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cma-demands-greater-transparency-from-legal-service-providers
[1184] Press Release: CMA demands greater transparency from legal service providers, Competition and Markets Authority (London) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cma-demands-greater-transparency-from-legal-service-providers
[1185] Government accountability and transparency: written ministerial statement, Cabinet Office (London) 21 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/government-accountability-and-transparency-written-ministerial-statement
[1186] Government accountability and transparency: written ministerial statement, Cabinet Office (London) 21 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/government-accountability-and-transparency-written-ministerial-statement
[1187] Press Release: Eliminating electoral fraud in polling stations, Cabinet Office (London) 27 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eliminating-electoral-fraud-in-polling-stations
[1188] Press Release: Eliminating electoral fraud in polling stations, Cabinet Office (London) 27 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eliminating-electoral-fraud-in-polling-stations
[1189] New Year brings in new penalties for enablers of offshore tax evasion, HM Treasury (London) 1 January 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-year-brings-in-new-penalties-for-enablers-of-offshore-tax-evasion
[1190] New Year brings in new penalties for enablers of offshore tax evasion, HM Treasury (London) 1 January 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-year-brings-in-new-penalties-for-enablers-of-offshore-tax-evasion
[1191] New Year brings in new penalties for enablers of offshore tax evasion, HM Treasury (London) 1 January 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-year-brings-in-new-penalties-for-enablers-of-offshore-tax-evasion

On 5 January 2017, the Ministry of Justice announced plans to introduce "a simpler and fairer pay system" for criminal defence advocates.[1192] The improved Advocates' Graduated Fee aims to increase certainty and transparency for advocates, ensure fair payment for work done, and reduce bureaucracy in the system.[1193]

On 5 January 2017, the Secretary of State James Brokenshire wrote to Northern Ireland political parties to seek views on the transparency of political donations and loans.[1194] Brokenshire aims to "implement a change to the rules as soon as possible, bringing Northern Ireland into step with the wider UK."[1195]

On 17 January 2017, the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) stated that Rolls-Royce will pay over USD600 million to settle bribery charges.[1196] The investigation began in 2012 due to alleged malpractice and Rolls-Royce was soon found guilty of corruption in the UK, the US, and Brazil.[1197]

On 21 February 2017, the Minister for the Constitution, Chris Skidmore, reaffirmed that the UK government is committed to taking a "zero tolerance approach to fraud - to defraud the government is to defraud the public" at the Reform Annual Conference.[1198]

On 2 March 2017, the Department for International Development (DFID) stated that it will support Nigeria's anti-corruption fight with a GBP20 million anti-graft program.[1199] The program is set to begin in late 2017 and the UK government will work together with Nigeria to fight corruption and "build more accountable institutions."[1200]

On 21 April 2017, the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) encouraged teachers, parents, and students to report any evidence or suspicions of cheating, malpractice, or wrongdoing.[1201] Ofqual will ensure that the message is communicated as widely as possible to ensure that "standards are maintained and to promote confidence in qualifications."[1202]

[1192] Press Release: Proposals to reform criminal defence advocates pay published, Ministry of Justice (London) 5 January 2017. Access Date 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/proposals-to-reform-criminal-defence-advocates-pay-published
[1193] Press Release: Proposals to reform criminal defence advocates pay published, Ministry of Justice (London) 5 January 2017. Access Date 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/proposals-to-reform-criminal-defence-advocates-pay-published
[1194] Press Release: Secretary of State to seek views on funding transparency, Northern Ireland Office (London) 5 January 2017. Access Date 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/secretary-of-state-to-seek-views-on-funding-transparency
[1195] Press Release: Secretary of State to seek views on funding transparency, Northern Ireland Office (London) 5 January 2017. Access Date 10 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/secretary-of-state-to-seek-views-on-funding-transparency
[1196] Rolls-Royce will pay over $800 million to settle bribery charges, CNN 17 January 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://money.cnn.com/2017/01/17/news/companies/rolls-royce-bribery-corruption-settlement/
[1197] Rolls-Royce will pay over $800 million to settle bribery charges, CNN 17 January 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://money.cnn.com/2017/01/17/news/companies/rolls-royce-bribery-corruption-settlement/
[1198] 'To govern is to serve': Chris Skidmore on countering fraud in government, Cabinet Office 21 February 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/to-govern-is-to-serve-chris-skidmore-on-countering-fraud-in-government
[1199] UK to help Nigeria's corruption fight with £20m program, Anadolu Agency (Lagos) 3 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/africa/uk-to-help-nigerias-corruption-fight-with-20m-program/762839
[1200] UK to help Nigeria's corruption fight with £20m program, Anadolu Agency (Lagos) 3 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/africa/uk-to-help-nigerias-corruption-fight-with-20m-program/762839
[1201] Report cheating, malpractice or wrongdoing, Ofqual urges, Ofqual (Coventry) 21 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/report-cheating-malpractice-or-wrongdoing-ofqual-urges
[1202] Report cheating, malpractice or wrongdoing, Ofqual urges, Ofqual (Coventry) 21 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/report-cheating-malpractice-or-wrongdoing-ofqual-urges

On 26 April 2017, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) offered a webinar explaining what anti-money laundering is, what is expected of the public in relation to addressing the challenge, and relevant next steps.[1203]

On 27 April 2017, the Criminal Finances Act 2017 received the Royal Assent.[1204] The legislation will give enforcement agencies and partners' capabilities and powers to recover the proceeds of crime, as well as tackle money laundering, tax evasion, and corruption.[1205] The act enables enforcement agencies to use wealth orders to investigate sources of funds for those suspected of crime or corruption, and creates new criminal offences for corporations that fail to prevent their staff from facilitating tax evasion.[1206]

On 15 March 2017, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury, Simon Kirby, revealed plans to create a watchdog that will tackle potential weaknesses in the supervisory system that criminals may try to exploit.[1207] The new Office for Professional Body Anti-Money Laundering Supervision (OPBAS) will work to improve the standards of supervision, and ensure that supervisors and law enforcement work together in accordance with money laundering regulations.[1208]

On 20 March 2017, the Department of Health extended protection for National Health Service (NHS) whistleblowers.[1209] The plans will prohibit discrimination against whistleblowers who seek employment in the NHS.[1210] The plan also aims to promote a culture of openness in the NHS.[1211]

On 20 March 2017, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) launched the 'Cracking down on Cartels' campaign targeting businesses that cheat their customers by agreeing not to compete with each other so that high prices are maintained.[1212] The CMA will offer whistleblowers up to GBP100,000.[1213] It will also promote the campaign through adverts to appear on social media feeds such as Twitter.[1214]

[1203] Webinars and e-learning for anti-money laundering, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 26 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/webinars-and-e-learning-for-anti-money-laundering#history
[1204] Criminal Finances Bill receives Royal Assent, Home Office (London) 27 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/criminal-finances-bill-receives-royal-assent
[1205] Criminal Finances Bill receives Royal Assent, Home Office (London) 27 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/criminal-finances-bill-receives-royal-assent
[1206] Criminal Finances Bill receives Royal Assent, Home Office (London) 27 April 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/criminal-finances-bill-receives-royal-assent
[1207] UK tightens defences against money laundering, HM Treasury (London) 15 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-tightens-defences-against-money-laundering
[1208] UK tightens defences against money laundering, HM Treasury (London) 15 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-tightens-defences-against-money-laundering
[1209] Government to extend protections for NHS whistleblowers, Department of Health (London) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-extend-protections-for-nhs-whistleblowers
[1210] Government to extend protections for NHS whistleblowers, Department of Health (London) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-extend-protections-for-nhs-whistleblowers
[1211] Government to extend protections for NHS whistleblowers, Department of Health (London) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-extend-protections-for-nhs-whistleblowers
[1212] CMA launches campaign to crack down on cartels, Competition and Markets Authority (London) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cma-launches-campaign-to-crack-down-on-cartels
[1213] CMA launches campaign to crack down on cartels, Competition and Markets Authority (London) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cma-launches-campaign-to-crack-down-on-cartels
[1214] CMA launches campaign to crack down on cartels, Competition and Markets Authority (London) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cma-launches-campaign-to-crack-down-on-cartels

On 30 March 2017, Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC) launched an investigation into a global financial institution suspected of tax evasion and money laundering.[1215] The HMRC will be investigating alongside authorities in the Netherlands, Australia, Germany, and France.[1216]

On 12 May 2017, the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) launched an investigation into Petrofac, an oilfield services provider, for bribery and corruption.[1217] The investigation is linked with SFO's ongoing investigation into the Monaco oil contractor, Unaoil.[1218]

The United Kingdom has taken substantial actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Keshini Mahesan

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity.

On 15 September 2016, the Office of Government Ethics released its open government plan for 2016-17. The plan outlines how the Office will ensure transparency in its operations for the 2016-17 year. Several key contents include: how the department handles high value data and information, Congressional requests, privacy and whistleblower protection.[1219]

On 16 September 2016, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson released a statement concerning the cybersecurity of the country's election systems. The statement outlined what services the Department of Homeland Security will provide to ensure integrity against attacks in the nation's state and local election systems.[1220]

On 13 October 2016, the United States suspended financial aid to the South Sudan government over massive corruption and human rights violations. A statement released by the US embassy disclosed one condition for US financial aid as "reducing corruption related to the extraction of oil and gas"[1221]

On 20 October 2016, Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch delivered an address on the Department of Justice's efforts to fight corruption abroad. The address covered the United States' role as a global player in the fight against corruption, and outlined the actions the US has taken. Several of these actions

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[1215] HMRC launch criminal investigation into global financial institution, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 31 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hmrc-launch-criminal-investigation-into-global-financial-institution

[1216] HMRC launch criminal investigation into global financial institution, HM Revenue & Customs (London) 31 March 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hmrc-launch-criminal-investigation-into-global-financial-institution

[1217] Britain's fraud office questions Petrofac bosses over Unaoil, Reuters 12 May 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-petrofac-probe-idUKKBN1881R4

[1218] Britain's fraud office questions Petrofac bosses over Unaoil, Reuters 12 May 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-petrofac-probe-idUKKBN1881R4

[1219] Open Government Plan, United States Office of Government Ethics (Washington, D.C.) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.oge.gov/web/oge.nsf/Open%20Government/EC17ECC25487D9368525802F004558D8/$FILE/OGE%20Open%20Government%20Plan%202016-2017%20(final).pdf?open

[1220] Statement by Secretary Johnson Concerning the Cybersecurity of the Nation's Election System, United States Department of Homeland Security (Washington, D.C.) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.dhs.gov/news/2016/09/16/statement-secretary-johnson-concerning-cybersecurity-nation%E2%80%99s-election-systems

[1221] America's Tough Conditions for Financial Aid in South Sudan, The EastAfrican, 13 October 2016. Date of Access: 18 November 2016. http://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/news/US-tough-conditions-for-financial-aid-to-South-Sudan/2558-3415992-1puq97/index.html included: the public integrity units' fight against corruption within the US government, the Foreign Corrupt Practises Act which has collected over USD4.4 billion in corporation penalties, and the Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative which detects fraud in the US financial system and returns stolen assets.[1222]

On 27 October 2016, Secretary Johnson released a statement on the department's successes indicting 61 officials involved in a multi-million dollar telemarketing fraud scheme.[1223]

On 15 November 2016, the Department of Homeland Security Acting Deputy Secretary Russell C. Deyo released a statement stating that the Department of Homeland Security has earned a clean audit opinion for the fourth year, citing financial integrity as the contributor for the good rating.[1224]

On 18 November 2016, the Office of Government Ethics amended its executive branch gift rules, now admonishing employees to decline otherwise permissible gifts for the appearance of impropriety. This was in accordance with the 14 General Principles of Ethical Conduct.[1225]

On 14 December 2016, the Department of Justice Office of Public Affairs released a statement noting that the Justice Department recovered over USD4.7 billion from false claims act cases in the fiscal year 2016, the third largest amount in recoveries from the False Claim Act in history. The statement notes that the largest fraud recoveries by the government come from the drug and healthcare sectors.[1226]

On 21 December 2016, the Department of Justice accepted the guilty pleas of Brazilian construction company Odebrecht SA and petrochemical company Braskem SA, who agreed to pay USD3.5 billion in bribery and corruption fines to American and Brazilian authorities after a series of massive bribes amounting to over USD750 million was found to have been filtered through the United States banking system.[1227][1228]

[1222] Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch Delivers Remarks on Department of Justice Efforts in the Fight Against International Fraud and Corruption, The United States Department of Justice (Washington, D.C.) 20 October 2016. Date of Access: 10 January 2017. https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/attorney-general-loretta-e-lynch-delivers-remarks-department-justice-efforts-fight

[1223] Statement by Secretary Johnson on Takedown of Multi-Million Dollar Call Center Fraud Scheme, The United States Department of Homeland Security (Washington, D.C.) 27 October 2016. Date of Access: 10 January 2017. https://www.dhs.gov/news/2016/10/27/statement-secretary-johnson-takedown-multi-million-dollar-call-center-fraud-scheme

[1224] Statement By Acting Deputy Secretary Russell C. Deyo On Sustaining Clean Audit for Fourth Year, The United States Department of Homeland Security (Washington, D.C.) 15 November 2016. Date of Access: 10 January 2016. https://www.dhs.gov/news/2016/11/15/statement-acting-deputy-secretary-russell-c-deyo-sustaining-clean-audit-fourth-year

[1225] OGE Amends the Executive Branch Gift Rules, The United States Office of Government Ethics (Washington, D.C.) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2016. https://www.oge.gov/web/oge.nsf/Director's%20Notes/CD041295FB43740F8525806F005DA97F?opendocument

[1226] Justice Department Recovers Over $4.7 Billion From False Claims Act Cases in Fiscal Year 2016, United States Department of Justice (Washington, D.C.) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2016. https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-recovers-over-47-billion-false-claims-act-cases-fiscal-year-2016

[1227] Brazilian firms to pay record $3.5 billion penalty in corruption case, Reuters (New York) 21 December 2016. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-corruption-usa-idUSKBN14A1QE

[1228] Odebrecht and Braskem Plead Guilty and Agree to Pay at Least $3.5 Billion in Global Penalties to Resolve Largest Foreign Bribery Case in History, Department of Justice (Washington, D.C.) 21 December 2016. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/odebrecht-and-braskem-plead-guilty-and-agree-pay-least-35-billion-global-penalties-resolve

On 23 December 2016, the Minister of Treasury and Public Finance Prat-Gay and the US Ambassador to Argentina Noah Mamet signed an agreement on information exchange.[1229] This agreement is designed to combat tax evasion and promote fiscal transparency.[1230] It created the legal framework to share information between Argentina and the US, promoting the ability to use information to prosecute individuals undertaking financial tax crimes and financial corruption in both countries.[1231]

On 29 December 2016, as a year-end report, the Department of Justice's US Attorney's Office released a statement noting that the US Attorney's Office collected nearly USD60 million in civil, criminal and asset forfeiture actions in the 2016 fiscal year.[1232]

On 29 December 2016, the Department of Justice completed its investigation of the United States based General Cable Corporation, and found it to be in violation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, resulting in a USD20 million criminal fine for its participation in foreign bribery.[1233]

On 9 January 2017, President Donald Trump appointed his son-in-law Jared Kushner to the position of Senior Advisor to the President, despite Kushner's lack of any political experience.[1234] The appointment did not technically violate any anti-nepotism laws, due to the fact that the powers granted to the President under 3 U.S.C § 105(a) bypass any other employment laws in Government service.[1235]

On 10 January 2017, the International Board of Directors of Transparency International formally discredited its chapter in the United States, Transparency International-USA (now known as Coalition for Integrity), on the basis of differing "philosophies, strategies, and priorities", however no further reasons were specified by Transparency International as to why the split was made.[1236]

On 11 January 2017, President Donald Trump held a news conference in which he mentioned that he would not be taking steps to address the conflict of interest issues between his status as President and his

[1229] Argentina and the United States sign an Agreement on the exchange of tax information to combat tax evasion, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 23 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.economia.gob.ar/argentina-y-estados-unidos-firman-un-acuerdo-sobre-intercambio-de-informacion-tributaria-para-luchar-contra-la-evasion-fiscal/

[1230] Argentina and the United States sign an Agreement on the exchange of tax information to combat tax evasion, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 23 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.economia.gob.ar/argentina-y-estados-unidos-firman-un-acuerdo-sobre-intercambio-de-informacion-tributaria-para-luchar-contra-la-evasion-fiscal/

[1231] Argentina and the United States sign an Agreement on the exchange of tax information to combat tax evasion, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finances (Buenos Aires) 23 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.economia.gob.ar/argentina-y-estados-unidos-firman-un-acuerdo-sobre-intercambio-de-informacion-tributaria-para-luchar-contra-la-evasion-fiscal/

[1232] US Attorney's Office Collected Nearly $60 Million in Civil, Criminal and Asset Forfeiture Actions in Fiscal Year 2016, The United States Department of Justice (Washington, D.C.) 29 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2016. https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndil/pr/us-attorney-s-office-collected-nearly-60-million-civil-criminal-and-asset-forfeiture

[1233] General Cable Corporation Agrees to Pay $20 Million Penalty for Foreign Bribery Schemes in Asia and Africa, Department of Justice (Washington, D.C.) 29 December 2016. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/general-cable-corporation-agrees-pay-20-million-penalty-foreign-bribery-schemes-asia-and

[1234] Press Release - President-Elect Donald J. Trump Names Jared Kushner Senior Advisor to the President, The American Presidency Project (New York) 9 January 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=120984

[1235] 3 U.S.C. 105 - ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES FOR THE PRESIDENT, United States Government Publishing Office (Washington, D.C.) 6 January 1997. Access Date: 29 May 2017. https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-1996-title3/pdf/USCODE-1996-title3-chap1-sec105.pdf

[1236] TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL CONFIRMS THE DISACCREDITATION OF ITS CHAPTER IN THE US, Transparency International (Berlin) 24 January 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://www.transparency.org/news/pressrelease/transparency_international_confirms_the_disaccreditation_of_its_chapter_in private businesses, saying that he would be able to "run [his] business and run government at the same time".[1237]

On 17 January 2017, the Department of Justice completed its investigation on United Kingdom-based manufacturer Rolls-Royce, which agreed to pay USD170 million in criminal charges after admitting to multiple violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act in the form of bribery and corruption.[1238]

On 25 January 2017, Transparency International posted its annual Corruption Perceptions Index chart, with the United States scoring 74 out of 100 (rank 18), two points below their prior score of 76, and one rank below their prior rank of 17.[1239]

On 28 January 2017, President Donald Trump signed into effect the Executive Order on Ethics Commitments by Executive Branch Appointees, which imposes various lobbying bans on former executive branch officials, preventing them from lobbying their former executive agencies after leaving office.[1240] In addition, the executive order imposes a lifetime foreign political entity lobbying ban on former executive branch officials.[1241] This executive order also repealed and modified some sections of the pre-existing order issued by former-President Barack Obama, most notably reducing the two year ban that existed to prevent lobbyists from joining the administration, which provides a loophole to the ban introduced by Donald Trump for former executive branch officials by allowing them to simply lobby a different agency than the one they worked in.[1242]

On 3 February 2017, US Congress approved a resolution reversing the Cardin-Lugar anti-corruption regulations under the Dodd-Frank act introduced in 2010, a law that prevented corporations from hiding taxes and fees paid to foreign governments.[1243]

On 13 February 2017, the Treasury Department added Venezuelan Vice President Tareck El Aissami to its list of economically sanctioned foreign nationals due to corruption and his involvement in Venezuela's narcotics network.[1244]

On 15 February 2017, President Donald Trump officially signed into force the reversal of the Cardin-Lugar anti corruption regulations, as part of his pledge to prioritize American businesses.[1245]

[1237] Donald Trump's News Conference: Full Transcript and Video, New York Times (New York City) 11 January 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/11/us/politics/trump-press-conference-transcript.html?_r=0

[1238] Rolls-Royce plc Agrees to Pay $170 Million Criminal Penalty to Resolve Foreign Corrupt Practices Act Case, Department of Justice (Washington, D.C.) 17 January 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/rolls-royce-plc-agrees-pay-170-million-criminal-penalty-resolve-foreign-corrupt-practices-act

[1239] Corruption Perceptions Index 2016, Transparency International (Berlin) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2016#table

[1240] Executive Order: ETHICS COMMITMENTS BY EXECUTIVE BRANCH APPOINTEES, the White House (Washington, D.C.) 28 January 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/28/executive-order-ethics-commitments-executive-branch-appointees

[1241] Executive Order: ETHICS COMMITMENTS BY EXECUTIVE BRANCH APPOINTEES, the White House (Washington, D.C.) 28 January 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/28/executive-order-ethics-commitments-executive-branch-appointees

[1242] Executive Order: ETHICS COMMITMENTS BY EXECUTIVE BRANCH APPOINTEES, the White House (Washington, D.C.) 28 January 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/28/executive-order-ethics-commitments-executive-branch-appointees

[1243] U.S. Republicans ax disclosure, emissions rules on energy, Reuters (Washington, D.C.) 5 February 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-congress-regulations-idUSKBN15I1JF

[1244] Venezuela's Vice President Brushes Off U.S. Hitting Him With Kingpin Sanctions, Bloomberg (Washington, D.C.) 13 February 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2017-02-13/venezuelan-vice-president-said-to-be-targeted-for-u-s-sanctions

On 16 February 2017, Congresswoman Norma Torres introduced a resolution that outlined the support of the United States in the fight against corruption in Central America, stating that "combating corruption in the Northern Triangle must remain a top policy priority for the United States in Central America".[1246]

On 1 March 2017, the Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs publishes its annual International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, outlining 87 countries that the department has identified as being "major money laundering countries," up from 66 countries in its 2016 report.[1247]

On 15 March 2017, United States Representative Ed Perlmutter introduced the Foreign Business Bribery Prohibition Act of 2017, which expands on the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act by authorizing private rights of action against violators of the Act.[1248]

On 29 March 2017, Transparency International published a report outlining the lack of anti-corruption and anti-money laundering provisions within American real estate regulations, enabling "corrupt individuals and other criminals to easily purchase luxurious properties anonymously and hide their stolen money".[1249]

On 5 April 2017, Senator Ben Cardin put forward a new anti-corruption bill named the Combating Global Corruption Act of 2017, which, if passed, would force the Government of the United States to rank all countries based on transparency and corruption, as well as reduce US foreign aid to corrupt governments.[1250]

On 14 April 2017, the White House announced that the public would no longer have access to its visitor logs.[1251] The decision drew in multiple lawsuits from transparency groups, who say that the withholding of the White House visitor logs is a violation of the Freedom of Information Act, and against the government's commitments to transparency.[1252]

On 24 April 2017, United States Attorney General Jeff Sessions affirmed at the annual Ethics and Compliance Initiative conference that the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act would continue to be enforced, despite prior criticisms of the Act by President Donald Trump.[1253]

On 26 April 2017, United States Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin said at an Interior Department meeting that President Donald Trump continues to have "no intention" to release his tax returns to the public, reinforcing a continued shift against White House transparency under the new presidency.[1254]

[1245] Donald Trump removes anti-corruption rules for oil and gas companies, Independent (Washington, D.C.) 15 February 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/donald-trump-oil-gas-anti-corruption-remove-rules-deregulation-energy-industry-companies-a7581691.html

[1246] H. RES. 145, United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 16 February 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-resolution/145/text/ih

[1247] International Narcotics Control Strategy Report Volume II, United States Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 1 March 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/268024.pdf

[1248] H. RES. 1549, United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 15 March 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1549/text

[1249] DOORS WIDE OPEN: CORRUPTION AND REAL ESTATE IN FOUR KEY MARKETS, Transparency International (Berlin) 29 March 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://www.transparency.org/whatwedo/publication/doors_wide_open_corruption_and_real_estate_in_four_key_markets

[1250] Combating Global Corruption Act of 2017, Ben Cardin (Washington, D.C.) 5 April 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Anti-corruption%20bill.pdf

[1251] White House to Keep Its Visitor Logs Secret, New York Times (West Palm Beach) 14 April 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/14/us/politics/visitor-log-white-house-trump.html

[1252] Groups sue to obtain White House visitor logs, Reuters (New York City) 10 April 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-foia-idUSKBN17C2J3

[1253] Sessions Vows to Enforce an Anti-Bribery Law Trump Ridiculed, New York Times (Washington, D.C.) 24 April 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/24/us/politics/jeff-sessions-anti-bribery.html

On 27 April 2017, United States Department of Justice charged former FIFA official Richard Lai with multiple criminal counts of bribery and fraud in connection with the 2015 FIFA corruption scandal, amounting to fines of over USD1.1 million.[1255]

On 27 April 2017, President Donald Trump signed into effect the Executive Order on Improving Accountability and Whistleblower Protection at the Department of Veterans' Affairs, an executive order that increases transparency within the department and provides guaranteed protection to individuals who report wrongdoings.[1256]

On 9 May 2017, the United States government suspended a direct aid investment amounting to USD21 million to the Ministry of Health in Kenya due to ongoing corruption issues in the country.[1257]

On 15 May 2017, the United States Department of the Interior posted a report on the implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), noting that the United States had fulfilled seven out of the eight requirements for compliance with the EITI.[1258]

On 17 May 2017, United States Rear Admiral Robert Gilbeau was sentenced to 18 months in prison in connection with a United States Navy bribery case that also involved multiple other navy officers.[1259]

The United States has taken actions to improve public and private sector transparency and integrity, however there have been major setbacks and gaps in both sectors since the 2016 Presidential Election. Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Jerry Zhu & Ian Stansbury

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to improve public and private sector transparency.

On 11 September 2016, President Jean-Claude Juncker announced that he had ordered a probe into Jose Manuel Barroso's new position at Goldman Sachs.[1260] Barroso was the former head of the Commission. He took the position 20 months after leaving office, which was in compliance with the EU rules that restrict former commissioners from taking new jobs for 18 months, but his new role is arguably being

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[1254] Door seems closed completely to Trump tax returns release, CTV News (Washington, D.C.) 27 April 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.ctvnews.ca/world/door-seems-closed-completely-to-trump-tax-returns-release-1.3387224

[1255] FIFA Audit And Compliance Committee Member Pleads Guilty To Corruption Charges, United States Department of Justice (Washington, D.C.) 27 April 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.justice.gov/usao-edny/pr/fifa-audit-and-compliance-committee-member-pleads-guilty-corruption-charges

[1256] Presidential Executive Order on Improving Accountability and Whistleblower Protection at the Department of Veterans Affairs, The White House (Washington, D.C.) 27 April 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/04/27/presidential-executive-order-improving-accountability-and-whistleblower

[1257] U.S. suspends aid to Kenyan health ministry over corruption concerns, Reuters (Nairobi) 9 May 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-kenya-health-corruption-idUSKBN1851RY

[1258] UNITED STATES' IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE, United States Department of the Interior (Washington, D.C.) 15 May 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.doioig.gov/sites/doioig.gov/files/AIE_EITI_FinalInspectionReport_Public.pdf

[1259] U.S. Admiral in 'Fat Leonard' Navy Scandal Sentenced to 18 Months, New York Times (Washington, D.C.) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/17/business/us-admiral-in-fat-leonard-navy-scandal-sentenced-rear-adm-robert-gilbeau.html

[1260] Amid outrage, EU Commission launches probe into Barroso's new job at Goldman Sachs, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 12 September 2016. Access Date: 7 November 2016. http://www.dw.com/en/amid-outrage-eu-commission-launches-probe-into-barrosos-new-job-at-goldman-sachs/a-19546249 seeing as a violation of the rule stipulating that commissioners are obliged to act "with integrity and discretion after their time in office."[1261]

On 28 September 2016, the European Commission proposed new legislation to strengthen the European Union's transparency rules by creating a mandatory lobbying disclosure for all three institutions — the European Commission, the European Parliament and the European Council.[1262] Currently, the Commission allows its members and top staff to meet only with lobbyists who have publically disclosed their activities on the European Union Transparency Register, the European Parliament restricts access to its buildings to lobbyists who have registered, whereas the Council has no such restrictions.[1263] The new proposal aims to unify the process so that all the institutions have the same rules to increase the European Union's transparency and win back the trust of its citizens.[1264]

On 3 January 2017, the European Commission welcomed new transparency legislations aimed to ensure that members of the European Union have all the necessary information on tax rulings given to multinational companies in other EU countries.[1265] Under these new rules, member states are required to automatically exchange information of all new cross-border tax rulings through a central depository accessible to all members.[1266]

On 13 January 2017, the European Commission granted a request by the Republic of Moldova to support its Macro-Financial Assistance (MFA) programme with up to EUR100 million.[1267] The Republic of Moldova faces many challenges, notably the need to tackle corruption and poor governance.[1268] The proposed assistance will help the country thoroughly investigate the massive banking fraud that hit the country's economy in 2014.[1269]

On 25 January 2017, the European Commission issued its latest report on the Cooperation and Verification Mechanism (CVM) applied to Bulgaria and Romania.[1270] The 2017 Report shows that Bulgaria's implementation of the national anti-corruption strategy still remains in an early stage.[1271] The

[1261] Amid outrage, EU Commission launches probe into Barroso's new job at Goldman Sachs, Deutsche Welle (Berlin/Bonn) 12 September 2016. Access Date: 7 November 2016. http://www.dw.com/en/amid-outrage-eu-commission-launches-probe-into-barrosos-new-job-at-goldman-sachs/a-19546249

[1262] Commission proposes tougher lobbying rules, Politico (Arlington County) 29 September 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.politico.eu/article/commission-proposes-tougher-lobbying-rules-transparency/

[1263] Commission proposes tougher lobbying rules, Politico (Arlington County) 29 September 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.politico.eu/article/commission-proposes-tougher-lobbying-rules-transparency/

[1264] Commission proposes tougher lobbying rules, Politico (Arlington County) 29 September 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.politico.eu/article/commission-proposes-tougher-lobbying-rules-transparency/

[1265] Commission welcomes entry into force of new transparency rules for tax rulings, Europa (Rome) 3 January 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4494_en.htm

[1266] Commission welcomes entry into force of new transparency rules for tax rulings, Europa (Rome) 3 January 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4494_en.htm

[1267] Commission proposes EUR 100 million in Macro-Financial Assistance to the Republic of Moldova, European Commission (Brussels) 13 January 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-40_en.htm

[1268] Commission proposes EUR 100 million in Macro-Financial Assistance to the Republic of Moldova, European Commission (Brussels) 13 January 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-40_en.htm

[1269] Commission proposes EUR 100 million in Macro-Financial Assistance to the Republic of Moldova, European Commission (Brussels) 13 January 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-40_en.htm

[1270] Commission outlines conditions for ending Cooperation and Verification Mechanism for Romania on judicial reform and corruption, European Commission (Brussels) 25 January 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-129_en.htm

[1271] Commission outlines conditions for ending Cooperation and Verification Mechanism for Romania on judicial reform and corruption, European Commission (Brussels) 25 January 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-129_en.htm

Commission will work closely with the Bulgarian authorities and provide support where needed, and will assess progress made towards the end of 2017.[1272]

On 22 February 2017, the World Trade Organization's Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) entered into force.[1273] The agreement will help improve transparency and reduce the scope for corruption.[1274] EU customs authorities will play a leading role in the implementation of the agreement, acting both as an example to follow and as an engine for further progress in trade facilitation within the EU and at international level, by committing EUR 400 million to assist developing countries with the reforms needed to comply with the rules set by the agreement.[1275]

On 13 March 2017, a joint report released by the European External Action Service and the European Commission highlighted a number of reforms the Republic of Moldova has adopted with extensive support from the European Union with respect to fighting against corruption, improving the independence of the judiciary, de-politicising state institutions, and investigating its recent banking fraud.[1276] However, the report also emphasizes the need for further efforts, in particular to improve the rule of law and the business environment.[1277]

On 16 March 2017, the European Commission, on behalf of the EU, adopted the decision to release the second tranche of Macro-Financial Assistance (MFA) to Ukraine, a loan which amounts to EUR600 million.[1278] This decision will allow further social assistance, including the fight against corruption among other elements.[1279]

On 27 April 2017, Members of the European Parliament gave their final approval to the EU's Structural Reform Support Programme, aimed at increasing the amount of administrative support provided by the EU to member states that are undertaking "structural reforms" to their economies.[1280] The European Commission submitted the proposal for a regulation establishing the structural reform support

[1272] Commission outlines conditions for ending Cooperation and Verification Mechanism for Romania on judicial reform and corruption, European Commission (Brussels) 25 January 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-129_en.htm
[1273] WTO Members welcome entry into force of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility (Geneva, Switzerland) February 28, 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://www.tfafacility.org/wto-members-welcome-entry-force-trade-facilitation-agreement
[1274] WTO Members welcome entry into force of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility (Geneva, Switzerland) February 28, 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://www.tfafacility.org/wto-members-welcome-entry-force-trade-facilitation-agreement
[1275] WTO Members welcome entry into force of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility (Geneva, Switzerland) February 28, 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://www.tfafacility.org/wto-members-welcome-entry-force-trade-facilitation-agreement
[1276] EU report: Further reform efforts needed from the Republic of Moldova to benefit citizens, European Union External Action (Bruxelles) 13 March 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/22567/EU%20report:%20Further%20reform%20efforts%20needed%20from%20the%20Republic%20of%20Moldova%20to%20benefit%20citizens
[1277] EU report: Further reform efforts needed from the Republic of Moldova to benefit citizens, European Union External Action (Bruxelles) 13 March 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/22567/EU%20report:%20Further%20reform%20efforts%20needed%20from%20the%20Republic%20of%20Moldova%20to%20benefit%20citizens
[1278] EU Commission approves disbursement of €600 million in assistance to Ukraine, European Commission (Brussels) 16 March 2017. Access date: 24 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-643_en.htm
[1279] EU Commission approves disbursement of €600 million in assistance to Ukraine, European Commission (Brussels) 16 March 2017. Access date: 24 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-643_en.htm
[1280] MEPs give final approval to EU's Structural Reform Support Programme, New Europe (Brussels) 27 April 2017. Access date: 24 May 2017. https://www.neweurope.eu/article/meps-give-final-approval-eus-structural-reform-support-programme/

programme in November 2015, as part of the package of documents for the 2016 European Semester.[1281] Technical support is provided towards promoting good governance, reforming the judiciary, rule of law, anti-corruption, anti-money-laundering and anti-fraud activities.[1282]

On 3 May 2017, the European Commission launched a public consultation on whistle-blower protection.[1283] European Commissioner for Justice stated, "Whistle-blowers can play a crucial role when it comes to fighting money laundering, fraud or corruption."[1284] The public consultation seeks to collect views from a broad range of stakeholders, as well as the general public, on the issue of whistle-blower protection at national and EU level.[1285] The consultation is available online and will be open until 29 May 2017.[1286]

On 16 May 2017, the EU suspended funding to a non-government organization aiding refugees in Greece pending an investigation into allegations of sexual exploitation and financial corruption.[1287]

On 22 May 2017, the "European Investigation Order" entered into force.[1288] It simplifies the work of judicial authorities when they request evidence located in another EU country.[1289] Equipping judicial authorities with the European Investigation Order will help them cooperate effectively to fight organised crime, terrorism, drug trafficking and corruption.[1290]

The European Union has taken some actions to improve public sector transparency and integrity, as well as addressed private sector transparency and integrity. Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Carol Chen & Rinchen-Dolma Karma

[1281] MEPs give final approval to EU's Structural Reform Support Programme, New Europe (Brussels) 27 April 2017. Access date: 24 May 2017. https://www.neweurope.eu/article/meps-give-final-approval-eus-structural-reform-support-programme/

[1282] MEPs give final approval to EU's Structural Reform Support Programme, New Europe (Brussels) 27 April 2017. Access date: 24 May 2017. https://www.neweurope.eu/article/meps-give-final-approval-eus-structural-reform-support-programme/

[1283] EU suspends funding to refugee NGO following claims of sexual abuse, corruption, Ekathimerini (Neo Faliro, Greece) 18 May 2017. Access date: 24 May 2017. http://www.ekathimerini.com/218513/article/ekathimerini/news/eu-suspends-funding-to-refugee-ngo-following-claims-of-sexual-abuse-corruption

[1284] EU suspends funding to refugee NGO following claims of sexual abuse, corruption, Ekathimerini (Neo Faliro, Greece) 18 May 2017. Access date: 24 May 2017. http://www.ekathimerini.com/218513/article/ekathimerini/news/eu-suspends-funding-to-refugee-ngo-following-claims-of-sexual-abuse-corruption

[1285] EU suspends funding to refugee NGO following claims of sexual abuse, corruption, Ekathimerini (Neo Faliro, Greece) 18 May 2017. Access date: 24 May 2017. http://www.ekathimerini.com/218513/article/ekathimerini/news/eu-suspends-funding-to-refugee-ngo-following-claims-of-sexual-abuse-corruption

[1286] EU suspends funding to refugee NGO following claims of sexual abuse, corruption, Ekathimerini (Neo Faliro, Greece) 18 May 2017. Access date: 24 May 2017. http://www.ekathimerini.com/218513/article/ekathimerini/news/eu-suspends-funding-to-refugee-ngo-following-claims-of-sexual-abuse-corruption

[1287] EU suspends funding to refugee NGO following claims of sexual abuse, corruption, Ekathimerini (Neo Faliro, Greece) 18 May 2017. Access date: 24 May 2017. http://www.ekathimerini.com/218513/article/ekathimerini/news/eu-suspends-funding-to-refugee-ngo-following-claims-of-sexual-abuse-corruption

[1288] As of today the "European Investigation Order" will help authorities to fight crime and terrorism, European Commission (Brussels) 22 May 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-1388_en.htm

[1289] As of today the "European Investigation Order" will help authorities to fight crime and terrorism, European Commission (Brussels) 22 May 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-1388_en.htm

[1290] As of today the "European Investigation Order" will help authorities to fight crime and terrorism, European Commission (Brussels) 22 May 2017. Access date: 23 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-1388_en.htm

5. Energy: Fossil Fuel Subsidies

"We also reaffirm our commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption over the medium term, recognizing the need to support the poor."

G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia	−1		
Brazil	−1		
Canada	−1		
China		0	
France			+1
Germany	−1		
India		0	
Indonesia		0	
Italy	−1		
Japan	−1		
Korea		0	
Mexico		0	
Russia	−1		
Saudi Arabia	−1		
South Africa	−1		
Turkey	−1		
United Kingdom	−1		
United States	−1		
European Union	−1		
Average	−0.60		

Background

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, this commitment was first introduced. National Energy and Finance Ministers committed to assess their respective national circumstances in order to develop implementation strategies and a timeframe, and G20 members asked the International Energy Agency, Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and World Bank (hereafter referred to as the IGO-4) to analyze the existing scope of energy subsidies and provide suggestions for initiative implementation.

At the 2010 Toronto Summit, 13 G20 members provided specific implementation strategies, and seven remaining members stated that they did not have inefficient fossil fuel subsidies (see Table 6). The IGO-4 presented a report with the analysis and suggestions requested by G20 members at the previous summit.[1291]

At the 2010 Seoul Summit, G20 members re-committed to rationalize and phase-out over the medium-term inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, and the IGO-4 released a second report providing 2009 data on fossil

[1291] Analysis of the Scope of Energy Subsidies and Suggestions for the G20 Initiative. IEA, OPEC, OECD, World Bank (Toronto) 16 June 2010. Access Date: 15 February 2016. http://www.oecd.org/env/45575666.pdf.

fuel consumption subsidies as well as strategies for their phase-out.[1292] At the 2011 Cannes Summit, the IGO-4 provided a third report highlighting the extent of subsidies and other support to fossil-fuel production and consumption, potential economic and environmental benefits of subsidy reform, and guidance on how countries could undertake the reforms while still protecting the poor.[1293]

At the 2012 Los Cabos Summit, G20 members requested Finance Ministers to explore options for a voluntary peer review process to assess commitment progress and report progress by the next summit. At the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, Finance Ministers presented a Methodology for G20 Voluntary Peer Reviews on Inefficient Fossil Fuel Subsidies That Encourage Wasteful Consumption.[1294]

At the 2014 Brisbane Summit, China and the United States agreed to be the first countries to engage in mutual peer reviews. As well, the World Bank Group prepared a report on transitional policies to assist the poor while rationalizing and phasing out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption.

At an Energy Ministers Meeting in 2015, a report providing updates on recent progress relating to this commitment was presented to the G20 Energy Sustainability Working Group.[1295] The same year, Germany announced it would serve on both the Chinese and American peer review teams and undergo a peer review of its own. Mexico announced that it would serve on the American peer review team and undergo a peer review as well. At the 2015 Antalya Summit, G20 leaders reiterated their commitment to rationalize and phase-out, over the medium term, inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption.

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, the G20 energy ministers "reaffirmed commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption over the medium term, recognizing the need to support the poor."[1296] On 5 September, 2016, US and China published their G20 peer reviewed assessments of their efforts to phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies.[1297] Germany, Mexico, and Indonesia have since joined China and the US in agreeing to undertake peer reviews of their own under the G20.[1298]

Table 6: Country-Specific Implementation Strategies, Delivered at the 2012 Los Cabos Summit[1299]

These summaries describe G20 members' self-reported implementation strategies pertaining to the progressive phase-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies and are not supported by material evidence. As such they will *not* be used to establish members' compliance scores, and are provided for informative

[1292] The Scope of Fossil Fuel Subsidies in 2009 and a Roadmap for Phasing out Fossil Fuel Subsidies. IEA, OECD and World Bank (Seoul) 2010. Access Date: 15 February 2016. http://www.oecd.org/env/cc/46575783.pdf.
[1293] Joint Report by IEA, OPEC, OECD and World Bank on Fossil Fuel and Other Energy Subsidies: An update of the G20 Pittsburgh and Toronto Commitments. IEA, OPEC, OECD, World Bank (Paris) 2011. Access Date: 15 February 2016. http://www.oecd.org/site/tadffss/49006998.pdf.
[1294] Methodology for G20 Voluntary Peer Reviews on Inefficient Fossil Fuel Subsidies that Encourage Wasteful Consumption. G20 (Toronto) 2010. Access Date: 15 February 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228453233373904.pdf.
[1295] Update on Recent Progress in Reform of Inefficient Fossil Fuel Subsidies that Encourage Wasteful Consumption. IEA, OECD (Istanbul) 2 October 2015. Access Date: 15 February 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228338573300315.pdf.
[1296] G20 Leader's Communiqué:Hangzhou Summit. G20 (Toronto) 5 September, 2016. Access Date: 23 October, 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html
[1297] G20 Leader's Communiqué:Hangzhou Summit. G20 (Toronto) 5 September, 2016. Access Date: 23 October, 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.ht
[1298] An overview of the G20 and APEC voluntary peer reviews of fossil-fuel subsidies, OECD 13 October 2016. Access Date: 17 Feburary 2017. https://www.iea.org/media/countries/nonmembers/IntroductoryIntervention1.pdf
[1299] G20 Initiative on Rationalizing and Phasing Out Inefficient Fossil Fuel Subsidies. G20 Research Group (Toronto) 4 September 2013. Access Date: 15 February 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2012loscabos-final/11-2012-g20-compliance-final.pdf.

purposes only. In this report, Australia, Brazil, France, Japan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the United Kingdom all claimed to have efficient fossil fuel subsidies.

Argentina	Proposes to reduce household subsidy for propane gas consumption as natural gas access is expanded.
Canada	Proposes to implement recently released draft legislation to phase-out the accelerated capital cost allowance for oil sands assets over the 2011-15 period. Previously phased-out other tax preferences applying to fossil fuel producers.
China	Proposes to gradually reduce the urban land-use tax relief for fossil fuel producers.
Germany	Proposes to discontinue subsidized coal mining in a socially acceptable manner by the end of 2018.
India	Proposes to work out implementation strategies and timetables for rationalizing and phasing out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies based on the recommendation of the Empowered Group of Ministers that has been constituted.
Indonesia	Proposes to phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies in a gradual manner in parallel with managing demand by adopting measures that will reduce fossil fuel energy consumption and by gradually narrowing the gap between domestic and international prices.
Italy	Proposes to continue with the planned expiration of subsidies for certain cogeneration plants, and negotiate on a voluntary basis with private operators of these plants the timing of their recess from the subsidy scheme.
Korea	Proposes to phase-out subsidies to anthracite coal and briquette producers.
Mexico	Proposes to continue current policies. Based on current market conditions, subsidies to gasoline, diesel, and liquid petroleum gas are expected to disappear in the medium term.
Russia	Proposes to implement the commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies through national economic and energy policy, within the framework of its Energy Strategy 2030 and the Concept of Long-Term Social and Economic Development, as well as in the context of its accession to the World Trade Organization.
Turkey	Proposes to work on a restructuring plan to rationalize the inefficient producer subsidies transferred to a stated-owned hard coal producing enterprise.
United States	Proposes to pass legislation to eliminate 12 preferential tax provisions related to the production of coal, oil and natural gas.

Commitment Features

The G20 reaffirm its commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption over the medium term, recognizing the need to support the poor.

This commitment has two parts: 1) rationalizing and phasing out fossil fuel subsidies over the medium-term and 2) providing support for the poor.

Part 1 — Rationalize and Phase out Fossil Fuel Subsidies (FFS)

While there is no universal definition of a FFS, the World Trade Organization (WTO) has developed a general definition that is accepted by 153 member states. There are various types of FFS:

- Direct financial transfers: e.g., fuel vouchers or grants to producers or consumers
- Trade instruments: e.g., tariffs on imports of crude oil and petroleum products, making domestic fuel production more lucrative, quotas and restrictions
- Regulations: e.g., gasoline prices regulated at below international market levels, regulations that prioritise the use of domestic coal for power generation, market-access restrictions
- Tax breaks: e.g,. favourable tax deductions for depletion or investment in oil and gas fields and coal deposits, excise exemptions for fuels used in international air, rail or water transport

- Credits: e.g., loan guarantees to finance energy infrastructure or preferential rates on loans to producers
- Risk transfers: e.g., insurance or indemnification provided to fossil-fuel producers at below-market levels, limitation of financial liability
- Below-full cost access to government goods and services: e.g., provision of seismic data for oil and gas exploration.[1300]

Within the G20, inefficient FFS has not been strickly defined. FFS outlined as member-specific targets, are broad based and no consensus was made between G20 members as to what does and does not constitute a FFS. Furthermore, China and the United States peer review also did not refine or stipulate the parameters of an inefficient FFS. Although the G20 has not adopted a formal definition of what constitutes a fossil-fuel subsidy, the terms of reference prepared by China and the United States specify that the most common forms of subsidies include:

- direct budgetary support (or "fiscal transfer subsidies" as stated in China's self-report);
- tax-code provisions (or "tax-preference provisions");
- government provision either at no charge or for below-market rates of auxiliary goods or services that facilitate fossil-fuel use or production; and
- requirements that non-government entities provide particular services to fossil-fuel producers at below-market rates, or that require non-government entities to purchase above-market quantities of fossil fuels or related services.

Commodities and products that are to be considered "fossil fuels" for the purpose of the country's peer review under the G20 may include coal (including raw coal, solid fuels, coal gas, and coal-bed methane), petroleum (including crude oil, natural gas liquids, and refined petroleum products), natural gas (including associated and nonassociated gases), and the heat and electricity generated using the above fuels. This scope does not include fossil fuels used for non-energy purposes (e.g. their transformation into solvents such as white spirit).

Activities that can attract subsidies in relation to fossil fuels are here taken to comprise the entire supply chain for fossil fuels, starting from the upstream segment (the exploration, development, and extraction of fossil resources) and moving down the chain to bulk transportation (e.g. by pipeline or freight train), refining, transformation, and wholesale and retail sales of refined products. They also include those fuels' later combustion by the industrial, residential, governmental, and transport sectors."[1301]

For the purpose of this report, all the above mentioned forms of FFS will count towards compliance. Inefficient is considered to be any subsidy that is not directly aimed at increasing environmental efficiency. An inefficient FFS can be aimed to lower the price of fossil fuels to the end user, to below market value thereby increasing consumption and distorting the market.

Part 2 — Targeted Support for the Poor

The G20 also recognized the need to support the poor. The World Bank found that even though FFS are economically inefficient, "price increases from the removal of fossil-fuel subsidies are likely to adversely affect lower-income households who are already struggling." The report by the World Bank, submitted to

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[1300] Fossil Fuel Subsidies Policy Brief (Geneva) 2015 Access Date: 15 February 2016 http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/Portals/88/documents/GE_BriefFossilFuelSubsidies_EN_Web.pdf.

[1301] The United State's Efforts to phase out and rationalize its inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies. G20 2016 China (Hanzhou) 5 September 2016 Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160919418466525465.pdf the G20, identified two broad types of approaches available to members seeking to reduce subsidies and support the poor: 1) improving the poverty targeting of existing subsidies, including limiting the number of subsidized goods to those used by the poor or limiting the quantities subsidized; and 2) introducing or strengthening other forms of support for the livelihoods of the poor, in cash or in-kind.

In addition to assessing whether action is taken to rationalize and phase-out fossil fuel subsidies, G20 members must also provide targeted support for the poor.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	Member did not rationalize or phase out fossil fuel subsidies over the medium-term AND did not support the poor.
0	Member rationalized and phased out fossil fuel subsidies over the medium-term BUT did not support the poor.
+1	Member rationalized and phased out fossil fuel subsidies over the medium-term AND provided support to the poor.

Lead Analyst: Ethan Tsai

Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On 7 October 2016, the Energy Minister approved a 0.8 per cent month-on-month reduction of ethanol prices. The reduction will lessen the cost to oil refiners in producing the state-required 12 per cent ethanol-oil blend of gasoline.[1302] Ethanol combinations are an attempt to reduce the country's reliance on fossil fuels and diversify the energy sector.[1303]

On 7 October 2016, a new pricing scheme was enacted.[1304] Natural gas regulator Energas published the resolutions, applying to residential, commercial, and small-medium enterprise (SMEs) segments.[1305] The plan aims to phase out all government subsidies for natural gas by 2022, with most of the country making the transition by 2019.[1306] The goal is to encourage rational fuel consumption and support growth of local exploration and petroleum (E&P).[1307]Lower rates apply to the country's poor and needy, including retirees, people dependent on electronic devices for their health, and households earning less than two minimum wages.[1308] The government implemented a cap such that residential users will only have to pay

[1302] Argentina cuts ethanol prices for oil refiners in October month on month, S&P Global Platts (London) 9 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.platts.com/latest-news/agriculture/buenosaires/argentina-cuts-ethanol-prices-for-oil-refiners-27683744

[1303] Argentina to boost ethanol use in fuels: industry body, Reuters (London) 8 April 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-argentina-biofuels-idUSKCN0X51TZ

[1304] Argentina to Phase out Natural Gas Subsidies Nationwide. BNamericas October 11 2016. Date of Access: 26 October 2016. http://www.bnamericas.com/en/news/petrochemicals/argentina-to-phase-out-natural-gas-subsidies-nationwide1.

[1305] Argentina to Phase out Natural Gas Subsidies Nationwide. BNamericas October 11 2016. Date of Access: 26 October 2016. http://www.bnamericas.com/en/news/petrochemicals/argentina-to-phase-out-natural-gas-subsidies-nationwide1.

[1306] Argentina to Phase out Natural Gas Subsidies Nationwide. BNamericas October 11 2016. Date of Access: 26 October 2016. http://www.bnamericas.com/en/news/petrochemicals/argentina-to-phase-out-natural-gas-subsidies-nationwide1.

[1307] Argentina to Phase out Natural Gas Subsidies Nationwide. BNamericas October 11 2016. Date of Access: 26 October 2016. http://www.bnamericas.com/en/news/petrochemicals/argentina-to-phase-out-natural-gas-subsidies-nationwide1.

[1308] Argentina's Government Makes Higher Natural Gas Rates Official. The Bubble 7 October 2016. Date of Access: 26 October 2016. http://www.thebubble.com/argentinas-government-makes-new-gas-rates-official/.

either ARS250 or 300 per cent more than past bills (whichever is higher).[1309] Payers that decrease their gas consumption by 15 per cent or more will also receive decreases in their bills.[1310]

On 10 January 2017, the government of Argentina committed to extend subsidies to natural gas wellhead prices and removed an export duty on oil and oil products.[1311]

On 23 May 2017, the Energy Minister announced a decrease in tariffs on used oil drilling and oil exploration equipment from 27 per cent to 7-8 per cent to encourage unconventional fossil fuel exploitation.[1312]

Argentina has taken clear steps to decrease its fossil fuel subsidies by enacting a new pricing scheme that shifts consumption away from natural gas, and has implemented policies support the poor most affected by this change by providing them with lower rates. However, Argentina has also extended fossil fuel subsidies and reduced tariffs and duties on related products, providing direct and indirect subsidies to fossil fuel production. Argentina has also lowered the cost of ethanol production for oil refineries, thereby providing a direct subsidy. Thus, Argentina receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ben Windeler

Australia: –1

Australia has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On 3 November 2016, the Victorian government in Australia announced that the Hazelwood coal-fired power station in Victoria's LaTrobe Valley would close on 31 March 2017. In response, the federal government offered financial packages to assist workers who would be affected by the closure. The closure lead to a loss of up to a 1000 jobs[1313] and a rise in electricity prices by 4 per cent.[1314] The federal government also announced that it would provide the Victorian government AUD43 million to promote job opportunities: AUD20 million for infrastructure, AUD3 million to aid employees and AUD20 million for a regional jobs package.[1315]

On 26 April, 2017 the Australian Federal Government announced that it will start to regulate and restrict exports on gas to boost supply for domestic consumption and decrease the price.[1316]

[1309] Argentina's Government Makes Higher Natural Gas Rates Official. The Bubble 7 October 2016. Date of Access: 26 October 2016. http://www.thebubble.com/argentinas-government-makes-new-gas-rates-official/.
[1310] Argentina's Government Makes Higher Natural Gas Rates Official. The Bubble 7 October 2016. Date of Access: 26 October 2016. http://www.thebubble.com/argentinas-government-makes-new-gas-rates-official/.
[1311] Macri announces program to boost development of Vaca Muerta shale formation. MercoPress 11 January 2017. Date of Access: 25 May 2017. http://en.mercopress.com/2017/01/11/macri-announces-program-to-boost-development-of-vaca-muerta-shale-formation.
[1312] Argentina says to slash tariffs on used oil equipment. Reuters 23 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-argentina-shale-idUSKBN18J31A
[1313] Hazelwood coal power station to close with loss of up to 1,000 jobs, The Guardian 3 November 2016.Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2016/nov/03/hazelwood-coal-power-station-to-close-with-loss-of-800-jobs
[1314] Hazelwood coal power station to close with loss of up to 1,000 jobs, The Guardian 3 November 2016.Access Date: 11 November 2016. https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2016/nov/03/hazelwood-coal-power-station-to-close-with-loss-of-800-jobs
[1315] Hazelwood coal power station to close with loss of up to 1,000 jobs, The Guardian 3 November 2016.Access Date: 11 November 2016. https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2016/nov/03/hazelwood-coal-power-station-to-close-with-loss-of-800-jobs
[1316] Government to impose export restrictions on gas companies to shore up domestic supply, ABC, 26 April 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017. http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-04-27/government-to-restrict-gas-exports-to-shore-up-domestic-supply/8474432

On June 7 2017 ActewaAGL, subisdary of Icon Water Limited (owned by the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly), announced that, "from July 1 retail electricity bills will rise by around $333 per year for the typical household, while residential natural gas bills will increase by $247 on average." This increase in electrical bills will negatively affect the elderly, those on government benefits, small business owners, and community providers, and thus not supporting the poor.[1317]

Australia has supported the affected workers, however, has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus, Australia receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Novera Khan

Brazil: −1

Brazil has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On 8 November 2016, Petrobras said in a statement it planned to cut diesel and gasoline prices following a decline in oil prices. Diesel prices were expected to fall up to 6.6 per cent and gasoline prices up to 1.3 per cent.[1318] This follows cuts in wholesale gasoline and diesel prices from the previous month when Petrobras cut gasoline prices 3.2 per cent and diesel 2.7 per cent.[1319] These cuts were part of a new pricing policy based on International Price Parity, taking into account world oil prices, domestic refining costs and foreign exchange fluctuations and thus, is not considered a subsidy.[1320]

On 18 November 2016, President Temer vetoed USD1.5 billion in coal subsidies for the period 2023-2027, that were approved by Brazil's senate in October 2016. Brazil's Environment Ministry, Ministerio do Meio Ambiente (MMA), claimed that this incentive would jeopardize the commitments Brazil has made under the Paris Climate Agreement.[1321] These subsidies were not yet implemented and therefore do not count toward compliance.

On 29 December 2016, President Temer announced that structural reforms in early 2017 will include streamlining the complex tax regime of the oil and gas sector as part of a broader effort to lift Brazil from its deepest economic recession in decades.[1322] The outcome of these reforms will be monitored for the final report.

On 21 Feb 2017, Brazil's electricity watchdog ANEEL approved the start of payments to power transmission companies of compensation worth BRL 54.4 billion related to the early renewal of operating licenses made by the government in 2012. Payments are scheduled to start around July this year and will

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[1317] ActewaAGL announces 'sharp increase' in gas and electricity prices, The Canberra Times, 8 June 2017. Access Date: 11 June 2017. http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/actewagl-announces-sharp-increase-in-gas-and-electricity-prices-20170607-gwmv4r.html

[1318] Brazil's Petrobras to cut diesel, gasoline prices as oil falls, Reuters, 8 November 2016, Access Date: 12 November 2016 http://www.reuters.com/article/us-petrobras-gasoline-idUSKBN1332T0

[1319] Brazil president says no tax increase after cut in fuel price, Reuters, 15 October 2016, Access Date 10 January 2017 http://www.reuters.com/article/us-petrobras-fuel-tax-idUSKBN12F0O1

[1320] Brazil's Petrobras cuts gasoline, diesel prices, Agencia Brasil, 14 October 2016, Access Date: 12 November 2016 http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/economia/noticia/2016-10/petrobras-reduz-preco-da-gasolina-em-32

[1321] Brazil's President Vetoes $1.5B in Coal Subsidies, Ministerio do Meio Ambiente, 18 November 2016, Access Date: 11 January 2017 http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php/comunicacao/agencia-informma?view=blog&id=2006

[1322] Brazil's president to pursue tax reform in 2017, Reuters, 29 December 2016, Access Date: 11 January 2017 http://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-economy-temer-idUSKBN14I1ED go on for about eight years. The watchdog estimates power bills will rise 7.2 per cent for both residential and industrial consumers as a result.[1323]

On 22 Feb 2017, Mines and Energy Minister Fernando Coelho announced new rules that would relax local content rules for the oil industry as of September 2017. These new rules would lower local content requirements by 50 per cent for operations and onshore production. It would also decrease to 18 per cent for offshore oilfields and to 25 per cent for construction of well. In addition, Brazil would lower the fines against oil companies that do not meet local content percentages from a 60 per cent minimum to 40 per cent, and from a ceiling of 100 per cent to per cent. This is all in an effort to attract foreign investment and lower costs for development of vast offshore reserves.[1324]

On 15 March 2017, Finance Minister Henrique Meirelles announced that Brazil was considering possible tax increases, including a rise in the fuel tax in an attempt to reduce its primary budget deficit of BRL156 billion in 2016 to BRL143 billion this year and restore its investment-grade credit rating.[1325]

On 4 April 2017, Mines and Energy Minister Fernando Coelho reiterated President Temer's commitment to the 20 year extension of the REPETRO law, which was due to end in 2019. This law would allow companies to import offshore vessels and drilling equipment into Brazil tax free until 2039.[1326]

On 20 April 2017, Petrobras raised refinery prices for diesel and gasoline by 4.3 per cent and 2.2 per cent respectively. Petrobras said in a securities filing that a rise in global prices had more than offset a stronger local currency since its last price-setting decision.[1327]

On 11 May 2017, it was reported that President Michel Temer's government will propose legislation reversing the bulk of his predecessor's 2012 power sector overhaul that led to massive budget shortfalls and losses for power firms. The decree would allow power generation firms to freely sell their output for higher tariffs for undetermined periods, loosening current restrictions and reduce subsidies embedded in the price that state-controlled oil company Centrais Elétricas Brasileiras SA charges for power produced in Itaipu, the world's No. 2 hydropower dam.[1328]

While Brazil has taken some steps to reduce subsidies to the state-controlled company Centrais Elétricas Brasileiras SA, it has not shown any evidence of supporting the poor who are facing higher power bills as well as diesel and gas prices. Thus, Brazil receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Laila Kanji

Canada: – 1

Canada has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

[1323] Brazil passes 54.4 billion reais compensation to power firms, Reuters Africa, 21 Feb 2017, Access Date: 1 May 2017 http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFL1N1G610N
[1324] Brazil to lower oil industry local content rules by half -minister, Reuters, 22 Feb 2017, Access Date: 30 April 2017 http://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-oil-idUSS0N17001G
[1325] Brazil studies possible increases to fuel, financial taxes, Reuters, 15 March 2017, Access Date: 30 April 2017 http://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-economy-meirelles-idUSL2N1GS273
[1326] Ministro diz que prorrogação do Repetro deve ser anunciada antes de leilão do pré-sal, DCI/Reuters, 4 April 2017, Access Date: 30 April, 2017 http://www.dci.com.br/industria/ministro-diz-que-prorrogacao-do-repetro-deve-ser-anunciada-antes-de-leilao-do-pre-sal-id616555.html
[1327] Petrobras to raise Brazil diesel, gasoline prices on Friday, Reuters Africa, 20 April 2017, Access Date: 30 April 2017 http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFE6N1FG02H
[1328] Brazil plans overhaul of electricity industry rules, paper says, Reuters Africa, 11 May 2017, Access Date: 21 May 2017 http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFL1N1ID0F1

On 16 May 2017, the Auditor General of Canada published it's audit of Canada's progress with it's G20 fossil fuel subsidy commitment. The audit found that the government has not made any progress on the commitment, has not clearly defined the commitment and did not make information available to the Auditor General.[1329]

Canada has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor.Thus, Canada receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Novera Khan

China: 0

China has partially complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On 18 January 2017, China's National Energy Administration announced the cancellation of 103 national coal-fired power plants projects in an effort to move away from "the dirtiest forms of electricity generation."[1330] This move directly shift funds away from nationally funded coal projects.

On 12 May 2017, the official China Securities Journal reported that China has suspended the approvals for new coal-fired power plants in 29 provinces to reduce overcapacity and environmental risk.[1331]

China has phased-out fossil fuel subsidies, however, has not taken steps to support the poor. Thus, China receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Cindy Ou

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On 17 November 2016, French President Francois Hollande announced plans to shut down all its coal-fired power plants by 2023.[1332] The extent of subsidies to these plants is unclear.

On 13 October 2016 it was announced that France will end the diesel-gasoline tax gap for companies' car fleets. This will remove the incentive to buy diesel vehicles.[1333] This was also outlined in France's Multinational Energy Plan (MEP) published in February 2016.[1334] The Plan is a comprehensive strategy that encompasses "all aspects" of energy policy and "all forms" of energy. Its three objectives to "ensure the success of the energy transition are: a legal framework with clear targets, a master plan setting priority actions, and additional plans and strategies to implement the overall plan, such as the strategy for biomass mobilization. On fossil fuels, the MEP aims to reduce dependence on imports. In this regard, France's

[1329] Auditor general questions Canada's plan to phase out fossil fuel subsidies, Globe and Mail, 16 May 2017. http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/auditor-general-spring-report-1.4116346

[1330] China Cancels 103 Coal Plants, Mindful of Smog and Wasted Capacity, The New York Times. 18 January 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/18/world/asia/china-coal-power-plants-pollution.html?_r=0

[1331] China suspends new-coal fired power plants in 29 princes: report, Reuters. 12 May, 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-power-capacity-idUSKBN1880P4

[1332] France to shut down all coal-fired power plants by 2023, The Independent. 17 November 2016. Access Date: February 3, 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/france-close-coal-plants-shut-down-2023-global-warming-climate-change-a7422966.html

[1333] France will end diesel-gasoline tax gap for companies' car fleets, 13 October 2016, Automotive News Europe. Date of Access: 01 March 2017. http://europe.autonews.com/article/20161013/ANE/161019929/france-will-end-diesel-gasoline-tax-gap-for-companies-car-fleets

[1334] France to announce energy plan by end of February, 8 February 2017, Renewables Now. Date of Access: 02 March 2017. https://renewablesnow.com/news/france-to-announce-energy-plan-by-end-of-february-512147/

stated ambition is to "successfully make the transition to an energy system which is more efficient, less wasteful, more diverse and thus more resilient, protecting human health and the environment while guaranteeing access to energy." The target is to reduce primary consumption of fossil fuels by 22% in 2023 compared with 2012. The primary tool identified to achieve this goal is a carbon price.[1335] France has a target to increase its carbon tax in 2017 to EUR30.5/tCO2. The plan provides a refusal to authorise any new coal-fired power stations unless they are equipped with carbon capture, storage or conversion systems, the limitation of the operating hours of new fossil-fired plants depending on their CO2 emission factor, the transition of gas plants to biomass or biogas and the development of demand-response capacities to replace peaking plants, which are the most polluting plants.[1336]

On 1 January 2017, France passed a new Budget which reformed energy taxation, increasing the incentives to phase-out fossil fuels and decreasing fossil fuel subsidies.[1337]

On 1 January 2017 France introduced a bonus payment system for five old coal-fired power plants in order to ensure the country's capability to respond to periods of peak demand for energy supply.[1338] This is contradictory to France's original plan of closing all coal-fired plants until 2023.[1339]

On 23 February 2017, the French Environment Ministry launched a new program to enhance the fight against energy-poverty via a premium for energy-efficiency investments. The premium will enable poor households to benefit from an exceptional bonus to help them fight against energy poverty.[1340]

France has committed to closing coal-fired power plants and has taken steps to phase out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term and support the poor. Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Friederike Wilke

Germany: –1

Germany has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On 14 November 2016, the Federal Cabinet approved the Klimaschutzplan 2050.[1341] The plan contains a passage on the planned phase-out of lignite in German energy production but does not address a set date for the phase-out.[1342]

[1335] Multinational Energy Plan, 2016, Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, 02 March 2017. http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/Synthèse_EN_PPE.pdf

[1336] The distributional effects of carbon taxation France: its impact on equity, 13 January 2017. Date of Access: 01 March 2017. http://www.modelisation-prospective.org/sites/modelisation-prospective.org/files/files/Journee_Chaire_2016/Berry_JourneeChaire_2017-01-13.pdf

[1337] PLF 2017: un deficit à 2,7% du PIB pour le dernier budget du quinquennat, Légifrance (Paris) 1 January 2017. Access Date: 6 July 2017. http://www.vie-publique.fr/actualite/dossier/budget-2017/plf-2017-deficit-2-7-du-pib-pour-dernier-budget-du-quinquennat.html

[1338] Leah Worrall and Laurie van der Burg, Cutting Europe's lifelines to coal- France (page 2), May 2017, Overseas Development Institute. Date of Access: 01 June 2017. https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/11471.pdf

[1339] Leah Worrall and Laurie van der Burg, Cutting Europe's lifelines to coal- France (page 2), May 2017, Overseas Development Institute. Date of Access: 01 June 2017. https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/11471.pdf

[1340] Ségolène Royal accélère la lutte contre la précarité énertétique et lance une prime économies d'énergie, Ministre de l'Environnement (Paris) 23 February 2017. Access Date: 6 July 2017. https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/2017.02.23%20-%20Coup%20de%20pouce%20CEE-PM.pdf

On 17 November 2016, Germany released its Climate Action Plan 2050. The framework includes target corridors for "reducing greenhouse gas emissions in individual economic sectors." The plan focuses on the restructuring of the energy sector with renewable electricity generation, other sectors such as transport will be in a position to phase out climate-damaging fossil fuels.[1343]

On 11 May 2017 the Federal Ministry of Economy and Energy presented its new strategy for the promotion of energy efficiency and heat from renewable sources.[1344] The restructuring of the promotional programs is set to take place until 2019.[1345] Starting 2020, no subventions will be granted anymore for oil and gas heating systems, no matter their efficiency.[1346]

Germany has presented broad plans regarding its goal to decrease subsidies for fossil fuels, but has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus, Germany receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Friederike Wilke

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On 13 October 2016, the Indian government projected that kerosene subsidies were to fall by 25 per cent this fiscal year. This estimate is based on a combination of factors such as the reduction in "kerosene supply by 5 per cent, voluntary cuts by some states, increases in retail prices and roll out of direct cash transfer for beneficiaries."[1347] However, no new actions were registered.

On 1 February 2017, the Union Budget 2017-18 was introduced in the Indian parliament. The Budget has reflected several changes in government expenditure towards the energy sector. India's state-run coal miner Coal India Ltd is due for an investment of RS8,000 crore next financial year, an increase from the current years investment of RS7765 crore[1348], a 3 per cent jump over the current estimate of this years fiscal. India's other state-run lignite miner Neyveli Lignite Corporation, has seen a decrease in expected investment from RS9437.96 crore in the current year to RS8948.12 crore for the next financial year.[1349]

[1341] Bob Berwyn, Germany Reasserts Climate Leadership, Outlines Path to Carbon-Neutral Economy by 2050, Inside Climate News, 17 November 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2016 https://insideclimatenews.org/news/17112016/germany-climate-change-carbon-neutral-economy-cop22-paris-agreement

[1342] Mona Fromm, Marrakesch — Deutschland reist nur mit kleinem Gepäck an, Orange by Handelsblatt, 14 November 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2016 http://orange.handelsblatt.com/artikel/16813

[1343] Climate Action Plan 2050: Cabinet adopts guide to climate neutral Germany, Federal Ministry for the Environment (Berlin) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.bmub.bund.de/en/press/press-releases/detailansicht-en/artikel/climate-action-plan-2050-cabinet-adopts-guide-to-climate-neutral-germany/

[1344] BMWi stoppt Förderung für Ölheizungen - so reagiert die Branche, Recknagel-Online, 16 May 2017. Access Date: 01 June 2017. https://www.recknagel-online.de/aktuell/energiewende/16-05-2017-bmwi-stoppt-foerderung-fuer-oelheizungen-so-reagiert-die-branche/

[1345] BMWi stoppt Förderung für Ölheizungen - so reagiert die Branche, Recknagel-Online, 16 May 2017. Access Date: 01 June 2017. https://www.recknagel-online.de/aktuell/energiewende/16-05-2017-bmwi-stoppt-foerderung-fuer-oelheizungen-so-reagiert-die-branche/

[1346] BMWi stoppt Förderung für Ölheizungen - so reagiert die Branche, Recknagel-Online, 16 May 2017. Access Date: 01 June 2017. https://www.recknagel-online.de/aktuell/energiewende/16-05-2017-bmwi-stoppt-foerderung-fuer-oelheizungen-so-reagiert-die-branche/

[1347] Kerosene subsidy likely to decline by 25 per cent this fiscal year, The Economic Times, 13 October 2016. Date of Access: 10 November 2016. http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/kerosene-subsidy-likely-to-decline-by-25-per-cent-this-fiscal-year/articleshow/54819717.cms

[1348] Ministry of Coal, Demand No. 10, Union Budget 2017-18. Date of Access: 30 March 2017. http://indiabudget.nic.in/ub2017-18/eb/sbe10.pdf

[1349] Ministry of Coal, Demand No. 10, Union Budget 2017-18. Date of Access: 30 March 2017. http://indiabudget.nic.in/ub2017-18/eb/sbe10.pdf

The Coal Ministry, as reflected in the budget has also increased spending on conservation, safety and infrastructure development in coal mines for 2017-18 to RS500 crore from RS350 crore last year.[1350]

On 1 February 2017, the Government in an effort to minimize the use of coal in rural villages of India had previously introduced a Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme for LPG and Kerosene subsidies to poor families. As reflected in the budget, the LPG connection still remains in place, while there has been an increase in expenditure for Direct Benefit Transfer of the Kerosene subsidy from RS50 crore to RS107 crore.[1351]

On 31 March 2017, Mr Jayant Narlikar the Deputy Secretary Finance Ministry and a member of the G20 India Secretariat said that India had to ensure its energy access and was quoted saying that "Every household needs to be given some kind of energy access. We know that eliminating (fossil fuel) subsidies, which are inefficient, and promoting wasteful consumption is important, and we even have a direct benefit transfer scheme. However, we cannot agree to any timeline to eliminate fossil fuel subsidies."[1352]

On 6 April 2017, the Government of India passed four Goods and Services Tax bills in the Upper House of the Parliament. The GST is proposed to roll out by 1 July 2017. All commodities and services will fall under four different tax slabs. "The tax on coal will reduce from around 12 per cent (plus RS400/tonne clean energy cess) now to 5 per cent (plus the cess), in what could reduce power tariffs for households and industries."[1353]

On 03 May 2017, "Coal India Ltd's production target for the current fiscal FY18 has been fixed at 600 million tonnes against 660 million tonnes envisaged earlier."[1354]

India has partially phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term and has lowered power tariffs on the poor. Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Nidhi Varma

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On 23 September 2016, Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry's Oil and Gas Director general Wiratmaja Puja announced the removal of taxes on oil and gas exploration. Under this new regulation, the government will provide oil and gas contractors an internal rate of return above 15 per cent, in an effort to increase investment in the country's flagging oil and gas sector.[1355]

On 5 October 2016, Industry Minister Airlangga Hartarto announced that starting 1 January 2017, gas prices for ten industrial sectors will be reduced from USD9.50 per million British thermal unit (mmbtu) to USD6 per mmbtu. According to a government economic impact assessment, gas price cuts for the ten

[1350] Ministry of Coal, Demand No. 10, Union Budget 2017-18. Date of Access: 30 March 2017. http://indiabudget.nic.in/ub2017-18/eb/sbe10.pdf
[1351] Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Demand No. 72, Union Budget 2017-18. Date of Access: 01 April 2017. http://indiabudget.nic.in/ub2017-18/eb/sbe72.pdf
[1352] India to support resistance to protectionism at G20 meet, The Hindu, 31 March 2017. Date of Access: 01 May 2017.
[1353] GST rate: New tax to reduce prices of most goods, from milk, coal to FMCG goods, Financial Express, 19 May 2017. Date of Access: 22 May 2017. http://www.financialexpress.com/economy/gst-rate-new-tax-to-reduce-prices-of-most-goods-from-milk-coal-to-fmcg-goods/675722/
[1354] Coal India production target cut, The Hindy, 03 May 2017. Date of Access: 20 May 2017. http://www.thehindu.com/business/coal-india-production-target-cut/article18378339.ece
[1355] Oil industry welcomes Indonesia's tax reform, but says it's not enough, Reuters, 23 September 2016, Access Date: 13 November 2016 http://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-oil-gas-idUSKCN11T0E9

sectors would deliver IDR31 trillion (USD2.38 billion) in economic benefits every year.[1356] As of 30 January 2017, Indonesia's gas price is at USD2.34 which is well below average global market value of USD3.88 per gallon.

On 27 October 2016, Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan confirmed energy subsidies will be reduced from IDR 94.35 trillion in the 2016 Revised State Budget to IDR77.3 trillion in the 2017 State Budget.[1357]

On 13 November 2016, Deputy Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Arcandra Tahar said that a single fuel price would be implemented across the country in January 21 2017. This policy has already been implemented in Papua and West Papua and reflects the "government's efforts to make the retail fuel price structure more just, whereby all Indonesians will be entitled to subsidized fuel oil at the same price."[1358]

On 1 March 2017, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources announced the Indonesian government would raise the electricity tariff (mostly electricity generated from fossil fuel) for 900 volt ampere (VA) subscribers, which are mostly lower income groups. The tariff increase was the second phase of the government's subsidy reforms, targeting 6.24 million subscribers. As a result of the lifting of the subsidy, the electricity tariff for 900 VA subscribers would increase by 32% to IDR1,023 per kWh from IDR774 per kWh. The government will lift the electricity subsidy for the third phase in May this year, which will result in an increase of tariff from IDR1.023 per kWh to IDR1,352 per kWh. From June onwards, the government will apply flexible electricity tariffs, which will be reviewed every three months. Subsidies will remain for the 450 volt ampere (VA) residential class, which include the poorest households.[1359]

On 13 April 2017, The Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry signed a memorandum of understanding with Bank Indonesia (BI) to streamline and better target energy subsidies. This would include energy subsidy cards known as the Prosperous Family Card (KKS) and would monitor the distribution of 3-kilogram liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) canisters to vulnerable households. Data shows that although there are only 25.7 million households eligible to purchase subsidized LPG canisters, 60 million households were benefiting instead.[1360] This new subsidy scheme will be phased in early 2018 and is viewed as an effort to merge the energy subsidy into the social protection system.[1361]

On 17 May 2017, Indonesia reiterated its commitment to use clean coal technology (CCT) in developing coal-fired power plants in the long run. Alihuddin Sitompul, the Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry's electricity program development director, stated "that Indonesia was committed to using environmentally friendly technology, even though the country is currently pursuing economic development by building electricity infrastructure that mainly uses coal as fuel." The Indonesian government estimates that coal consumption will increase to 240 million tons a year by 2019 from 111

[1356] Gas price cuts could result in Rp31tin economic benefits: Minister, Jakarta Post, 5 October 2016, Access Date: 13 November 2016 http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/10/05/gas-price-cuts-could-result-in-rp-31t-in-economic-benefits-minister.html
[1357] Minister Confirms Energy Subsidy Cut, Tempo, 27 October 2016, Access Date: 14 November 2016 http://en.tempo.co/read/news/2016/10/27/056815626/Minister-Confirms-Energy-Subsidy-Cut
[1358] Single price for fuel across Indonesia in January 2017: Deputy Minister Tahar; Antara News, 13 November 2016, Access Date: 10 January 2017 http://www.antaranews.com/en/news/107775/single-price-for-fuel-across-indonesia-in-january-2017-deputy-minister-tahar
[1359] International Institute for Sustainable Development, Global Subsidies Initiative, Indonesia Energy Subsidy News Briefing, March 2017, Access Date: 30 March 2017, Page 2 https://www.iisd.org/gsi/news/indonesia-energy-news-march-2017
[1360] Energy ministry teams up with BI for single energy subsidy card, The Jakarta Post, 18 April 2017, Access Date: 29 May 2017 http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/04/13/energy-ministry-teams-up-with-bi-for-single-energy-subsidy-card.html
[1361] International Institute for Sustainable Development, Global Subsidies Initiative, Indonesia Energy Subsidy News Briefing, March 2017, Access Date: 30 March 2017, Page 5 https://www.iisd.org/gsi/news/indonesia-energy-news-march-2017

million tons last year, and plans to build at least 27 coal-fired power plants in five provinces using clean coal technology within the next eight years.[1362]

Through its 2017 state budget, Indonesia has put in place an energy subsidy scheme to better target the most vulnerable households. However, the government has also signalled its intention to build more coal-fired plants over the next eight years. Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Laila Kanji

Italy: −1

Italy has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor

No actions were registered during the compliance period.

Italy has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus, Italy receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Novera Khan

Japan: −1

Japan has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

No actions were registered during the compliance period

Japan has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus, Japan receives a score of −1.

sAnalyst: Anju Xing

Korea: 0

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term.

On 4 June 2017, Korea's new President Moon Jae-In has put forward a new energy policy. By 2030, the country plans to increase natural gas usage from 18 percent to 27 percent and make renewables account for 20 percent - a 15 percent increase from the current levels.[1363] The Korean President plans to implement the policy "by transferring the current subsidies to the renewable energy industry. Energy policy advisor Paik Ungyu says, "Currently taxes are imposed on gas [...] we plan to correct the skewed tax system by seeking to levy environmental taxes on coal and nuclear."[1364]

Korea has rationalized and made plans to phase out fossil fuel subsidies but has not shown indication of assisting the vulnerable communities that would be affected by this change. Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Anju Xing

[1362] Indonesia serious about clean coal technology says govt., The Jakarta Post, 19 May 2017, Access Date: 30 May 2017 http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/05/19/indonesia-serious-about-clean-coal-technology-says-govt.html

[1363] South Korea plans energy U-turn away from coal, nuclear, 4 June 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-southkorea-politics-energy-idUKKBN18V0EH

[1364] South Korea plans energy U-turn away from coal, nuclear, 4 June 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-southkorea-politics-energy-idUKKBN18V0EH

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, however it has failed to support the poor.

On 1 January 2017, the government raised gasoline prices between 14 and 20 per cent across the country, as part of a liberalization program aimed at gradually bringing prices up to market level. According to the Finance Ministry, the average price for gasoline climbed 14 per cent to MXN15.99 pesos per litre, the price for premium gasoline increased 20 per cent to MXN17.79 pesos per litre and diesel rose 16.5 per cent to MXN 17.05 pesos per litre.[1365] This is the largest price increase for gasoline since November 1998. Price caps will coexist with free prices during next year as the liberalization advances throughout the country. Capped prices will be different depending on the region and they will be first adjusted monthly, and in later stages weekly, and then daily, to ease the transition to free prices.[1366]

On 21 February 2017, the Mexican government announced another phase of its new energy reform policy, to be implemented in March 2017.[1367] This would result in daily fuel price changes in each of the country's 90 zones with daily prices varying from MXN15.33 in coastal states to a high of MXN16.23 in border cities. As of late-March 2017, these price ceilings will be removed on a region-by-region basis.[1368] Prior to this, fuel prices were adjusted on a monthly basis with the objective to apply international oil prices with a fixed excise tax adjusted for inflation by the end of 2017.[1369]

Mexico has taken steps to decrease fossil fuel subsidies however, it has not supported the poor. Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Laila Kanji

Russia: -1

Russia has failed to comply with its commitment to rationalize and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On 1 February 2017, the Russian Ministry of Energy published a draft Russian Energy Strategy for the Period until 2035. It provides for gradual phasing out of cross-subsidization of gas supplies in different Russian regions and groups of consumers during the first phase of the strategy implementation (until 2020). It also provides for gradual phasing out of cross-subsidization in electric energy through setting market prices. The draft strategy mentions the need of introducing specific subsidies for poor and disadvantaged groups of population. However, it does not contain any specific targets on subsidies.[1370]

On 30 September 2016, at the Sochi International Investment Forum Russian Minister of Energy Alexander Novak, outlined some elements of a new model of heat supply system in Russia. The model is

[1365] Mexico Gasoline Prices to Surge by the Most in Two Decades, Bloomberg, 27 December 2016, Access Date: 12 January 2017 https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-12-27/mexico-gasoline-prices-to-surge-by-the-most-in-two-decades
[1366] Mexican Government to Bump Up Gasoline Prices in January, Wall Street Journal, 27 December 2016, Access Date: 12 January 2017 http://www.wsj.com/articles/mexican-government-to-bump-up-gasoline-prices-in-january-1482854130
[1367] Mexico energy reform goes into effect, Yahoo Finance, 21 Feb 2017, Access Date: 1 May 2017 https://finance.yahoo.com/news/mexico-energy-reform-goes-effect-202600925.html
[1368] At a Glance: Mexico's regional fuel price ceilings, BNamericas, 29 December 2016, Access Date: 2 May 2017 https://subscriber.bnamericas.com/Subscriber/en/news/oilandgas/at-a-glance-mexicos-regional-fuel-price-ceilings
[1369] International Institute for Sustainable Development, Global Subsidies Initiative, 28 April 2017, Access Date: 2 May 2017 https://www.iisd.org/gsi/news/change-makers-leap-forward-momentum-fossil-fuel-subsidy-reform-grows
[1370] Russian Energy Strategy for the Period until 2035, Ministry of Energy of Russia 21 September 2016. http://minenergo.gov.ru/node/1920

based on the mechanism of single heat providing entity in each heat providing system as well as a new more market dependable approach to price determination. The new model will ensure economic growth and additional tax flows to the budget in the amount of RUB800 billion up to 2025. According to the Minister it will exceed the amount of subsidies needed to compensate the increase of prices for citizens.[1371]

On 10 October 2016, Ministers of Energy of Russia and Turkey signed an agreement to construct the TurkStream natural gas pipeline between the two countries.[1372] The agreement includes a gas price discount mechanism for Turkey.[1373]

On 3 April 2017, the Russian government announced that state oil giant Gazprom will provide Belarus discounted gas supplies in 2018 and 2019, constituting a direct subsidy to fossil fuel consumption.[1374]

Russia has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus, Russia receives a score of −1.

Analysts: Ben Windeler & Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: −1

Saudi Arabia has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out fossil fuel subsidies over the medium term however, it has failed to support the poor.

In December 2016, Saudi Arabia released their government budget which reversed some of the energy subsidy cutbacks for its population enforced in 2016.[1375] The budget outlined a "citizen's plan" to shift residential subsidies from electricity and fuel prices to a direct payment to help it's population ease the transition to more market-based energy prices.[1376]

Saudi Arabia has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Bojana Radan

South Africa: −1

South Africa has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out fossil fuel subsidies over the medium term and it has failed to support the poor.

[1371] Alexander Novak's Presentation at the Sochi International Investment Forum, Ministry of Energy of Russia 30 September 2016. http://minenergo.gov.ru/node/6133
[1372] Meeting with President of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of Russia 10 October 2016. Date of Access: 20 February 2017. http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/53065
[1373] Meeting with President of Turkey Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of Russia 10 October 2016. Date of Access: 20 February 2017. http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/53065
[1374] Russia, Belarus repair ties in wake of protests. Deutsche Welle 3 April 2017. Date of Access: 25 May 2017. http://www.dw.com/en/russia-belarus-repair-ties-in-wake-of-protests/a-38280348
[1375] As Saudi Arabia gives back perks to its people, it needs a higher oil price. CNBC 25 April 2017. Date of Access: 24 May 2017. http://www.cnbc.com/2017/04/24/saudi-reversal-in-benefits-makes-opec-deal-and-higher-oil-prices-more-important.html
[1376] Saudi Arabia's slow pace on renewables a risk to oil exports. The National 17 January 2017. Date of Access: 24 May 2017. http://www.thenational.ae/business/energy/saudi-arabias-slow-pace-on-renewables-a-risk-to-oil-exports

On 15 May 2017, government officials confirmed that South Africa's first shale gas exploration licenses would be finalized by the end of September 2017 allowing drilling and fossil fuel exploration for major global gas and oil corporations.[1377]

South Africa has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus, South Africa receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Bojana Radan

Turkey: −1

Turkey has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On 7 September 2016, the Turkish government promulgated a new law including the provision of investment incentives.[1378] These incentives include exemptions from taxes, tariffs, stoppages, and environmental risk assessments as well as subsidies for wages, premiums, and interest.[1379] Although the provisions are not sector specific, they are expected to be most relevant to the energy sector,[1380] and in particular to act as a public subsidy to the development of new coal power plants.[1381]

Turkey has introduced new fossil fuel subsidies and has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus, Turkey receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Ben Windeler

United Kingdom: −1

The United Kingdom has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies and to recognize the need to support the poor.

On 9 December 2016, the government awarded GBP1.2 billion of subsidised energy contracts through its capacity market auction. GBP130 million of these subsidies were awarded to coal plants,[1382] up from GBP80 million awarded in the 2015 auction.[1383] Between GBP26 million and GBP187 million was awarded to diesel in this year's auction,[1384] compared to approximately GBP180 million in 2015's auction.[1385]

[1377] South African Groups Take AIm at Govt's Oil and Nuclear Plans. Los Angeles Sentinel 17 May 2017. Date of Access: 24 May 2017. https://lasentinel.net/south-african-groups-take-aim-at-govts-oil-and-nuclear-plans.html
[1378] New Wave Of Investment Incentives In Turkey. Mondaq 26 September 2016. Date of Access: 23 December 2016. http://www.mondaq.com/turkey/x/530358/Government+Contracts+Procurement+PPP/New+Wave+Of+Investment+Incentives+In+Turkey
[1379] Turkish coal plants in line for public subsidies. The Guardian 6 September 2016. Date of Access: 23 December 2016. https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/sep/06/turkish-coal-plants-in-line-for-public-subsidies.
[1380] New Wave Of Investment Incentives In Turkey. Mondaq 26 September 2016. Date of Access: 23 December 2016. http://www.mondaq.com/turkey/x/530358/Government+Contracts+Procurement+PPP/New+Wave+Of+Investment+Incentives+In+Turkey
[1381] Turkish coal plants in line for public subsidies. The Guardian 6 September 2016. Date of Access: 23 December 2016. https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/sep/06/turkish-coal-plants-in-line-for-public-subsidies.
[1382] Old coal beats new gas for subsidy cash to keep the lights on, Telegraph (London) 9 December 2016. Date of Access: 9 January 2017. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2016/12/09/old-coal-beats-new-gas-subsidy-cash-keep-lights/
[1383] UK Capacity Market Results: Is the Capacity Market slowing UK decarbonisation?, Sandbag (Londong) 11 December 2015. Date of Access: 10 January 2017. https://sandbag.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Sandbag-CM-analysis.pdf
[1384] UK Capacity Market: Initial Analysis, Sandbag (London) 9 December 2016. Date of Access: 10 January 2017. https://sandbag.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Sandbag-CM-analysis.pdf
[1385] UK Capacity Market Results: Is the Capacity Market slowing UK decarbonisation?, Sandbag (Londong) 11 December 2015. Date of Access: 10 January 2017. https://sandbag.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Sandbag-CM-analysis.pdf

On 8 March 2017 the UK government released the federal budget, outlining plans to re-examine tax incentives in order to maximize the exploitation of the North Sea oil and gas industry. The budget proposed to establish a panel of experts to determine how best to revise decommissioning liability tax laws to help the industry continue to be productive.[1386] The panel is expected to create new measures that build on the GBP2.3 billion of support provided to the North Sea oil and gas industry since 2014.[1387]

On 1 April 2017, reforms to the Energy Company Obligation came into force that made the scheme available to more low-income citizens and increased the obligations on energy companies to provide energy efficiency measures to vulnerable households. Margot James, the Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Corporate Responsibility, said the reforms will "prioritise low income households as part of our plan to insulate 1 million homes by 2020."[1388] The plan increases the obligation of energy suppliers to install a minimum of 21,000 wall insulations every year, up from 17,000.[1389]

While the UK government has implemented reforms to make energy more affordable for low-income households, it continues to subsidize coal and diesel facilities and has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus, the UK receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Chadwick Meyers

United States: −1

The United States has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, over the medium term, while recognizing the need to support the poor.

On January 20, 2017 the White House announced their commitment to revive the fossil fuel industries. The Trump administration stated, "We must take advantage of the estimated USD50 trillion in untapped shale, oil, and natural gas reserves, especially those on federal lands that the American people own." It also mentioned that "The Trump administration is also committed to clean coal technology, and to reviving America's coal industry, which has been hurting for too long."[1390]

On 28 March 2017, Donald Trump, the President of the United States of America signed an executive order "Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth." The order outlines the government's intentions to "promote clean and safe development of our Nation's vast energy resources, while at the same time avoiding regulatory burdens that unnecessarily encumber energy production, constrain economic growth, and prevent job creation." It also emphasized the need to ensure that the "Nation's electricity is affordable, reliable, safe, secure, and clean, and that it can be produced from coal, natural gas, nuclear material."[1391]

It also added that "the heads of agencies shall review all existing regulations, orders, guidance documents, policies, and any other similar agency actions (collectively, agency actions) that potentially burden the

[1386] Budget 2017: Chancellor Announces North Sea Help, BBC News (London) 8 March 2017. Date of Access: 6 May 2017. http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-39198839.
[1387] Budget 2017: Chancellor Announces North Sea Help, BBC News (London) 8 March 2017. Date of Access: 6 May 2017. http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-39198839.
[1388] Energy Reforms Come into Force Today, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 1 April 2017. Date of Access: 6 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-reforms-come-into-force-today.
[1389] Energy Reforms Come into Force Today, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 1 April 2017. Date of Access: 6 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-reforms-come-into-force-today.
[1390] An America First Energy Plan, The White House. Date of Access: 22 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/america-first-energy
[1391] Executive Order 13783 of March 28, 2017, Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth, Federal Register, 28 March 2017. Date of Access: 20 May 2017. https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-03-31/pdf/2017-06576.pdf

development or use of domestically produced energy resources, with particular attention to oil, natural gas, coal, and nuclear energy resources."[1392]

On 28 March, 2017, the 'Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth' executive order issued a directive to lift the "Federal Land Coal Leasing Moratorium. The Secretary of the Interior will take all steps necessary and appropriate to amend or withdraw Secretary's Order 3338 dated January 15, 2016 (Discretionary Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement to Modernize the Federal Coal Program), and to lift any and all moratoria on Federal land coal leasing activities related to Order 3338. The Secretary shall commence Federal coal leasing activities consistent with all applicable laws and regulations."[1393]

The US has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus, the United States receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Nidhi Varma

European Union: −1

The European Union has not complied with its commitment to rationalize and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies and to recognize the need to support the poor.

On 30 November 2016, the European Commission released a proposal to restructure the EU's energy policies and direct investment to clean energy sources.[1394] Within the plan is an investigation into which fossil fuel subsidies persist throughout member states in order to determine the best way to reform energy markets.[1395]

The proposal also includes reforms directed towards energy poverty, calling on member states to build long-term strategies that address energy poverty in low-income households. The proposal includes legislative safeguards to protect low-income consumers from having their energy disconnected as well as the establishment of an Energy Poverty Observatory that will "provide better data on the problem and its solutions as well as to help Member States in their efforts to combat energy poverty."[1396]

On 17 February 2017, EU Member States agreed on the European Commission's proposal to invest EUR444 million in energy infrastructure projects, of which EUR228 million will support 10 projects in

[1392] Executive Order 13783 of March 28, 2017, Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth, Federal Register, 28 March 2017. Date of Access: 20 May 2017. https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-03-31/pdf/2017-06576.pdf
[1393] Executive Order 13783 of March 28, 2017, Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth, Federal Register, 28 March 2017. Date of Access: 20 May 2017. https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-03-31/pdf/2017-06576.pdf
[1394] Clean Energy for All Europeans – unlocking Europe's growth potential, European Commission (Brussels) 30 November 2016. Date of Access: 7 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4009_en.htm
[1395] Clean energy for all Europeans, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social committee, the Committee of the Regions and the European Investment Bank (Brussels) 30 November 2016. Date of Access: 10 January 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/com_860_final.pdf, p. 12.
[1396] Clean energy for all Europeans, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social committee, the Committee of the Regions and the European Investment Bank (Brussels) 30 November 2016. Date of Access: 10 January 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/com_860_final.pdf, p. 11.

the gas sector.[1397] The largest investment announced in the proposal is nearly EUR108 million for the pipeline between Poland and Slovakia.[1398]

On 23 May 2017, the European Investment bank announced intentions to provide between EUR25 million and EUR30 million for the construction of a gas pipeline between Serbia and Bulgaria in 2018.[1399]

On April 12 2017, the EU Fuel Poverty Network announced the launch of the European Energy Poverty Observatory Project, a 40-month effort to investigate and address energy poverty in the EU.[1400] The European Commission awarded EUR830,000 to the project, building on the efforts of the Clean Energy package released in November 2016.[1401]

The EU has not phased out inefficient subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption in the medium term, nor supported the poor. Thus the EU receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Chadwick Meyers

[1397] EU Invests €444 Million in Key Energy Infrastructure, European Commision (Brussels) 17 February 2017. Date of Access: 24 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-280_en.htm.
[1398] Commission Announces Billionth Euro for Fossil Fuel Infrstructure in 3 Years, Friends of the Earth Europe (Brussels) 17 February 2017. Date of Access: 2 May 2017. http://www.foeeurope.org/commission-billionth-euro-fossil-fuel-subsidies-170216.
[1399] EIB to Provide up to 30 Mln Euro Funding for Bulgaria-Serba Gas Link, SeeNews (Sofia) 23 May 2017. Date of Access: 24 May 2017. https://seenews.com/news/eib-to-provide-up-to-30-mln-euro-funding-for-bulgaria-serbia-gas-link-569643
[1400] Announcing the New European Energy Poverty Observatory, EU Fuel Poverty Network (York) 12 April 2017. Date of Access: 24 May 2017. http://fuelpoverty.eu/2017/04/12/announcing-the-new-european-energy-poverty-observatory.
[1401] Announcing the New European Energy Poverty Observatory, EU Fuel Poverty Network (York) 12 April 2017. Date of Access: 24 May 2017. http://fuelpoverty.eu/2017/04/12/announcing-the-new-european-energy-poverty-observatory.

6. Climate Change

"We reiterate our commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change."

G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India		0	
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	−1		
European Union			+1
Average		+0.45	

Background

At the 2009 London Summit, the G20 pledged to do "whatever is necessary to: …build an inclusive, green, and sustainable recovery," as well as committed to "address the threat of irreversible climate change, based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and to reach agreement at the United Nations Climate Change conference in Copenhagen in December 2009."

At Pittsburgh in 2009, the G20 endorsed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations and the Copenhagen Accord from the 2009 15th Conference of the Parties (COP) meeting in Denmark. Also in Pittsburgh, the G20 committed, for the first time to foster sustainable development. At the 2010 Seoul Summit, the G20 recognized that sustainable green growth as inherently a part of sustainable development.

At the 2014 Brisbane Summit, the G20 pledged "consistent with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its agreed outcomes, our actions will support sustainable development."[1402] At the 2015 Antalya Summit the G20 stated "We affirm our determination to adopt a protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the UNFCCC

[1402] The 2014 G20 Brisbane Summit Commitments, G20 Information Centre 17 December 2014. Access Date: 7 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/commitments-14-brisbane.html that is applicable to all Parties. Our actions will support growth and sustainable development."[1403] On 12 December 2015, at the 21st Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC in Paris, the 2015 Paris Climate Change Agreement was adopted by consensus.

On 29 June 2016, the G20 energy ministers issued a communique, recognizing the importance of sustainable development and expressing support for climate-related action.[1404]

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, China's presidency introduced green-financing into the G20 agenda for the first time. The summit released the Green Finance Synthesis Report that encouraged G20 members to increase green financing in their respective countries.[1405]

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, G20 leaders once again reiterated its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change. Ahead of the summit, the United States and China ratified the Paris Agreement and called for other G20 members to do the same, according to national circumstance.

On 5 October 2016, the threshold for entry into force of the Paris Agreement was achieved. The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016.

Commitment Features

The G20 reiterated its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change. This commitment has two parts 1) commitment to sustainable development and 2) strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

Part One: Commitment to Sustainable Development

"Sustainable development" is understood as the pattern of resource use aimed to meet human needs while preserving the environment both domestically and internationally. The commitment is a reiteration of the 2014 Brisbane commitment and therefore, G20 member actions must be consistent with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its agreed outcomes, which includes the 2015 Paris Agreement.

The 2015 Paris Agreement builds upon the Convention with the central aim to keep a global temperature rise this century well below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. It also aims to strengthen the ability of countries, particularly developing countries, to deal with the impacts of climate change. The Paris Agreement requires all Parties to put forward their best efforts through "nationally determined contributions" (NDCs) and to strengthen these efforts in the years ahead. This includes requirements that all Parties report regularly on their emissions and on their implementation efforts. Therefore, G20 members, must act according to their NDCs to achieve the aims of the Agreement, particularly aiding developing countries, as well as report regularly on their emissions and on their implementation efforts.

Part Two: Strong and Effective Support and Actions to Address Climate Change.

In addition to its commitment to sustainable development in accordance with the UNFCCC, the G20 committed to addressing climate change. 'Climate change' is understood as a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere

[1403] The 2015 G20 Antalya Summit Commitments, G20 Information Centre 19 November 2015. Access Date: 7 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/commitments-15-antalya.html
[1404] G20 Energy Ministerial Meeting Beijing Communiqué, G20 Information Center (Beijing) 29 June 2016. Access Date: 22 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160629-energy.html
[1405] G20 Green Finance Synthesis Report, G20 Green Finance Study Group 5 September 2016. Access Date: 22 October 2016. http://unepinquiry.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Synthesis_Report_Full_EN.pdf

and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods. This definition is as per Article 1: Definitions, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.[1406]

'Support' is understood as the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.

'Effective' is interpreted to mean operating in a way that produces the intended result. It does not mean any effort, especially thoughtless ones. 'Strong' is interpreted to mean deliberate, widespread, unique and grand. Actions must be outside the status quo, generate a possibility for new strategies, ways to engage others, and create breakthrough results. For example, actions such as allocating additional funding to an existing program will not count towards compliance. Effective and strong actions are evident as such. Actions that will contribute toward compliance include, but are not limited to, initiatives such as passing new and unique wide-spread legislation, implementing new and innovative policy initiatives, and executing nation-wide programs to combat climate change.

Thus, full compliance is achieved when the G20 member takes steps to comply with both parts of the commitment. The G20 member must act in accordance with the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement, as well as take effective and strong actions to address climate change. Partial compliance is achieved when the G20 member complies with one part of the commitment but not the other. No compliance will result from the G20 member not complying with either part of the commitment.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	G20 member does not commit to sustainable development AND does not make strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.
0	G20 member is committed to sustainable development BUT not strong and effective support and actions to address climate change OR G20 member is committed to strong and effective support and actions to address climate change BUT is not committed to sustainable development.
+1	G20 member is committed to sustainable development AND strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

Lead Analyst: Angela Min Yi Hou

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

On 21 September 2016, Argentina ratified the Paris Agreement.[1407]

Argentina outlined the following goals in its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), submitted 1 October 2015 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).[1408] The Argentinian government unconditionally agreed to lower greenhouse gas emissions by 15 per cent by 2030 compared to the anticipated business-as-usual (BAU) emissions of that year. The country's conditional goal agreed to lower greenhouse gas emissions by 30 per cent by 2030. Argentina further stated it would enhance adaptation actions in early warning systems for climate disasters,

[1406] Article 1: Definitions, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (New York) 2014. Date of Access: 6 July 2014. http://unfccc.int/essential_background/convention/background/items/2536.php
[1407] Paris Agreement- Status of Ratification, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php
[1408] Intended Nationally Determined Contributions, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 1 October 2015. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/indc/Submission per cent20Pages/submissions.aspx

sustainable forest and biodiversity management, and water resource management with the assistance of international finance and capacity development.[1409]

On 7 October 2016, Argentina's Energy Minister approved a 0.8 per cent month-on-month reduction of ethanol prices. The reduction will lessen the cost to oil refiners in producing the state-required 12 per cent ethanol-oil blend of gasoline.[1410] Ethanol combinations are an attempt to reduce the country's reliance on fossil fuels and diversify the energy sector.[1411]

On 15 October 2016, Argentina agreed to the Kigali Amendment of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.[1412] The amendment calls for the reduction of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), powerful chemicals that impact the ozone layer and contribute to climate change. The Kigali agreement includes a timetable to reduce production of HFCs in developed and developing countries. Argentina agreed to stop its production and use of the pollutants by 2024.

On 20 October 2016, the Argentine Ministry of Energy and Mining announced the successful completion of the first round of its energy auction, as part of the government's RenovAR program. 29 projects were awarded, including companies specializing in biogas, biomass, wind, solar, photovoltaic, and hydroelectric technologies. 1,142 megawatts of energy was auctioned off, constituting an additional 2.8 per cent of national electricity consumption. The Ministry also announced that it will be hosting another round of solar and wind projects. The RenovAR initiative was introduced as an attempt to transition Argentine energy usage from fossil fuels to renewable resources.[1413]

On 26 October 2016, Argentina announced a management support program in 21 urban areas, supported by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and other investment lines of credit. The IDB project leader, Francisca Rojas, stated that "effective management of these [metropolitan] areas requires coordinated actions that tackle critical issues such as transportation and climate change adaptation." The plan will implement a series of climate related adaptation initiatives, including integrated watershed management, integrated solid waste management, sustainable mobility systems (like pedestrian paths and bicycle lanes), parks, and public spaces.[1414]

On 17 November 2016, the Government of Argentina submitted its first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) at the 22nd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Marrakesh, Morocco.[1415] Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development Sergio Bergman announced that Argentina will "reduce carbon dioxide emissions from 570 to 483 million tonnes by 2030...raising the [country's previous] commitment to

[1409] Argentine Republic Intended Nationally Determined Contribution, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 1 October 2015. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/INDC/Published per cent20Documents/Argentina/1/Argentina per cent20INDC per cent20Non-Official per cent20Translation.pdf.
[1410] Argentina cuts ethanol prices for oil refiners in October month on month, S&P Global Platts (London) 9 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.platts.com/latest-news/agriculture/buenosaires/argentina-cuts-ethanol-prices-for-oil-refiners-27683744
[1411] Argentina to boost ethanol use in fuels: industry body, Reuters (London) 8 April 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-argentina-biofuels-idUSKCN0X51TZ
[1412] Countries Adopt Kigali Amendment to Phase Down HFCs, NRDC (New York) 14 October 2016. Access date: 2 January 2017. https://www.nrdc.org/experts/david-doniger/countries-adopt-kigali-amendment-phase-down-hfcs
[1413] Programa RenovAr cerró exitosamente su Ronda 1 con la adjudicación de 29 proyectos por 1142 MW, Ministry of Energy and Mining (Buenos Aires) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.minem.gob.ar/prensa/25369/programa-renovar-cerro-exitosamente-su-ronda-1-con-la-adjudicacion-de-29-proyectos-por-1142-mw.html
[1414] Argentina to implement metropolitan areas development program with IDB support, Business News Americas (Santiago) 27 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.bnamericas.com/en/news/insurance/argentina-to-implement-metropolitan-areas-development-program-with-idb-support
[1415] NDC Registry, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/Pages/All.aspx

reduce unconditional emissions — that is, those not tied to external financing — from 15 to 18 per cent."[1416]

On 24 November 2016, the Argentinian government launched the Biogas Bureau. The department will promote bioenergy and attempt to increase biomass production by 10 to 15 per cent, further reducing the country's reliance on fossil fuels.[1417]

On 25 November 2016, the Government of Argentina completed round 1.5 of the RenovAR renewable energy program. 30 contracts were distributed to wind and solar companies, totalling 1,281.5 megawatts of renewable energy. Minister of Energy and Mining Juan José Aranguren concluded that in addition to the first round of awarded projects in October, the RenovAr program will produce 2,423.5 megawatts of renewable energy.[1418]

On 30 November 2016, the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture announced a bioplastic production program. The initiative is a collaboration of academic, public, and private participants to transform agricultural residue into usable materials and encourage sustainable development.[1419]

On 15 December 2016, President Mauricio Macri and Minister of Energy and Mining Juan José Aranguren opened the 1st National Energy Efficiency Conference in Buenos Aires. The conference discussed the importance of energy management. Undersecretary of Savings and Energy Efficiency Andrea Heins announced plans for a national energy efficiency bill in 2017 to enhance Argentina's energy matrix.[1420]

On 21 December 2016, President Mauricio Macro announced the creation of the 50,000 hectares Bicentennial National Park located in the Tucuman province. The space consists of protected forest and snow-covered regions. During the announcement, President Macro stated, "We Argentines have made … the commitment … (to) fight against climate change, with the responsibility to take care of this planet and, clearly, expanding, caring for (and) strengthening our national park system goes along these lines." The Bicentennial National Park is an attempt to safeguard Argentina's biodiversity and encourage sustainable environmental management.[1421]

On 28 February 2017, the World Bank Board of Directors approved a USD480 million 20-year guarantee to encourage private investment in the energy sector of Argentina. The initiative will assist Argentina in achieving its 2025 target of 20 per cent renewable energy by supporting the Fund for the

[1416] Argentina pledges to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 20 million by 2030, MercoPress (Montevideo) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. http://en.mercopress.com/2016/11/18/argentina-pledges-to-reduce-carbon-dioxide-emissions-by-20-million-by-2030

[1417] Enfocados en las Energías Renovables: se conformó la Mesa de Biogás, Ministerio de Agroindustria (Buenos Aires) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017.
http://www.agroindustria.gob.ar/sitio/areas/prensa/?accion=noticia&id_info=161124112546

[1418] Argentina awards 1,282 MW in RenovAR 1.5 tender, SeeNews (Sofia) 28 November 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. http://renewables.seenews.com/news/argentina-awards-1-282-mw-in-renovar-1-5-tender-548539

[1419] Agroindustria fomenta la transformación de la biomasa en biomateriales, Ministerio de Agroindustria (Buenos Aires) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017.
http://www.agroindustria.gob.ar/sitio/areas/prensa/?accion=noticia&id_info=161130181551

[1420] El Presidente Macri inauguró la 1ra Jornada Nacional de Eficiencia Energética, Ministro de Energía y Minería (Buenos Aires) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017 https://www.minem.gob.ar/prensa/25874/el-presidente-macri-inauguro-la-1ra-jornada-nacional-de-eficiencia-energetica.html

[1421] Macri calls for fight against climate change, taking care of planet, EFE (Buenos Aires) 21 December 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. http://www.efe.com/efe/english/world/macri-calls-for-fight-against-climate-change-taking-care-of-planet/50000262-3131331

Development of Renewable Energy. The Fund finances projects through the Argentinian Ministry of Energy and Mining RenovAr Program.[1422]

On 3 March 2017, the Argentinean Minister of the Environment and the Minister of Defense officially established the National Climate Change Observatory. The Observatory will be a collaborative project between the two departments, aiming to provide a greater understanding of the events caused by climate change and how to subsequently mitigate and minimize the effects.[1423]

On 20 April 2017, President Macri led the signing of the Federal Energy Agreement. The agreement between the federal government and the provinces will launch a Strategic Energy Plan and create a Federal Energy Council to further develop the "efficiency, diversification, regional integration, sustainable development and energy security" of Argentina. President Macri stated that "[Argentina is] jumping from two percent of our energy matrix fueled by renewable energy to nine percent by the end of 2018." Additionally, the Agreement includes a clause to ensure that activities are in accordance with Argentina's international commitment to the Paris Agreement.[1424]

On 28 April 2017, Argentinean Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development Sergio Bergman presented an action plan towards zero extinction by enhancing policy action for the conservation of native species. The program is an attempt to safeguard Argentina's biodiversity and reduce the impact of climate change upon the ecosystems of the country.[1425]

On 8 May 2017, the Minister of the Environment Bergman signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding climate change cooperation with the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Angelino Alfano. The MOU agreed to exchange expertise and knowledge regarding low-emission innovations, energy security, and the impact of climate change upon regional agriculture, health, tourism, etc.[1426]

On 16 May 2017, the Argentinian government reaffirmed its commitment to the Paris Agreement at the Belt and Road Summit hosted by China.[1427]

On 16 May 2017, Minister of the Environment Bergman released the Federal Network for Environmental Monitoring (the FEMA Network), providing air, water, and soil quality data via an online

[1422] World Bank/Argentina: Promoting Private Investment in Renewable Energy, World Bank (Washington D.C.) 1 March 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2017/03/01/promoting-private-investment-renewable-energy-argentina

[1423] Se formalizó la creación de Observatorio Nacional de Cambio Climático, Presidencia de la Nación (Buenos Aires) 3 March 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.casarosada.gob.ar/informacion/eventos-destacados-presi/38818-se-formalizo-la-creacion-de-observatorio-nacional-de-cambio-climatico

[1424] El Presidente presentó el Acuerdo Federal de Energía, Presidencia de la Nación (Buenos Aires) 20 April 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.casarosada.gob.ar/slider-principal/39314-el-presidente-mauricio-macri-presento-el-acuerdo-federal-de-energia

[1425] Bergman lanzó el Plan de Acción Extinción Cero destinado a preservar especies autóctonas en estado crítico, Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 28 April 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://ambiente.gob.ar/noticias/bergman-lanzo-el-plan-de-accion-extincion-cero-destinado-a-preservar-especies-autoctonas-en-estado-critico/

[1426] Argentina e Italia firmaron un memorándum de entendimiento para trabajar contra el cambio climático, Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 8 May 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017 http://ambiente.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-e-italia-firmaron-un-memorandum-de-entendimiento-para-trabajar-contra-el-cambio-climatico/

[1427] Thirty Countries Push for Implementation of Paris Agreement, NRDC (New York) 16 May 2017. Access Date: 16 May 2017. https://www.nrdc.org/experts/han-chen/thirty-countries-push-implementation-paris-agreement platform. The purpose of the program is to monitor the aforementioned elements across Argentina and understand potential environmental changes.[1428]

On 19 May 2017, the Argentine government enacted Law No. 27356, approving the Minamata Convention. The international convention prohibits primary mercury mining and its inclusion in some products and industrial processes. The treaty seeks to mitigate the effects of mercury upon the environment and reflects Argentina's engagement with the international community regarding climate change issues.[1429]

Argentina has taken strong and effective action in its commitment to sustainable development by taking steps inline with the UNFCCC and its agreed outcomes, such as its RenovAr program and continued public statements in accordance with its NDCs. Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Harrison Myles

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

On 8 September 2016, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) announced its solar power-related projects. The plants will generate about one-tenth of the power needed to meet Australia's 2020 Renewable Energy Target, supply enough electricity for 150,000 average homes, and create 2,300 direct jobs alone. They are expected to enable an extra 480 megawatts of solar capacity.[1430]

On 9 September 2016, the Prime Minister of Australia pledged "a major package of new Australian support to manage climate change and improve resilience in the Pacific." Australia will provide AUD300 million to Pacific Island countries over the next four years including AUD75 million for disaster prepardness.[1431]

On 17 October 2016, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) pledged AUD1 billion to bioenergy, enabling, geothermal, hybrid, ocean and solar PC and solar thermal power projects.[1432]

On 7 November 2016, the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties tabled *Report 163: Paris Agreement, Kyoto Protocol — Doha Amendment.* In the report, the National Interest Analysis outlined the following domestic economy-wide targets to achieve Australia's Nationally Determined Contribution. The Australian NDC is an economy-wide target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 26 to 28 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030): halving Australia's per capita emissions compared with 2005 levels and reduce the emissions intensity of the Australian economy by two-thirds; support obligations including the Emissions Reduction Fund and its Safeguard mechanism, a Renewable Energy Target and a National Energy Productivity Plan; a commitment of AUS200 million over four years to the Green Climate Fund

[1428] Se lanzó la primera Red Federal de Monitoreo Ambiental del país, Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 16 May 2017. Access Date: 16 May 2017. http://ambiente.gob.ar/noticias/se-lanzo-la-primera-red-federal-de-monitoreo-ambiental-del-pais/

[1429] Se aprobó el convenio internacional que prohíbe la minería primaria de mercurio, Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarollo Sustentable (Buenos Aires) 19 May 2017. Access Date: 19 May 2017. http://ambiente.gob.ar/noticias/se-aprobo-el-convenio-internacional-que-prohibe-la-mineria-primaria-de-mercurio/

[1430] Solar power sector handed huge boost by ARENA funding, Sydney Morning Herald (Sydney), 8 September 2016. Access date: 14 November 2016. http://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/largescale-solar-handed-huge-boost-from-arena-funding-20160906-gr9yqe.html

[1431] Prime Minister of Australia, Remarks at Pacific Island Forum. Access date: 14 November 2016. https://www.pm.gov.au/media/2016-09-09/remarks-pacific-island-forum

[1432] Environment and Energy Portfolio bodies, Parliament of Australia (Canberra) http://www.aph.gov.au/~/media/Committees/ec_ctte/estimates/supp_1617/environment per cent20and per cent20energy/Tabled_doc_dept_portfolio_bodies.pdf to support developing countries to grow their economies in a sustainable way and help adapt to climate change; a commitment of at least AUS1 billion over five years from Australia's existing aid budget to support developing countries in their efforts to build resilience to climate change and reduce their emissions; and maintenance of Australia's national system for estimating anthropogenic emissions and reports a full national inventory to the UNFCCC annually etc.[1433]

As of 9 November 2016, Australia ratified the Paris Agreement. Australia has also put additional policy measures in place to promote the deployment of renewable energy and improve energy efficiency. Under Australia's Renewable Energy Target scheme, over 23 per cent of Australia's electricity will come from renewable sources by 2020.[1434]

On 24 March 2017, the Australian Department of Environment and Energy published its "Review of Climate Change Policies Discussion Paper." The report included analysis of Australia's emission reduction strategies, electricity generation, the role of households and SMEs, transport, land and agriculture, research and development. Most importantly, the review discusses Australia's Paris targets, mentioning the country's NDCs and progress made.[1435]

On 3 May 2017, according to Clean Energy Regulator, the Australian parliament tabled the 2016 report titled "Tracking towards 2020: Encouraging renewable energy in Australia" The report is an annual statement on the progress towards the 2020 targets, which hopes to generate 33 000 gigawatt hours through renewable energy.[1436] The Australian government's Clean Energy Regulator is also a compliance mechanism that interacts with the energy and industry sector regarding sustainable energy.

On 19 May 2017, the Australian Minister for International Development and the Pacific Concetta Fierravanti-Wells announced government's financial support for Fiji's presidency of COP23, totalling AUD6 million. The funds will go to supporting the COP23 Secretariat and regional consultations.[1437] Another AUD300 million will be dedicated to helping Pacific countries, and AUD75 million to disaster preparedness.[1438]

On 13 July 2017, Australia's Energy Minister Josh Frydenberg introduced the proposed Clean Energy Target to the party room. He consulted with stakeholders regarding this proposal, expecting disagreement within and among federal political parties.[1439]

[1433] Report 163, Parliament of Australia (Canberra) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 23 January 2017. http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Treaties/ParisAgreement/Report_163
[1434] CAIT Climate Data Explorer, INDC Detailed View, Australia, 8 November 2015. Access date: 14 November 2016. http://cait.wri.org/indc/#/profile/Australia
[1435] Release of the Review of Climate Change Policies Discussion Paper, Clean Energy Regulator. 24 March 2017. Access Date: 12 June 2017. http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/About/Pages/News%20and%20updates/NewsItem.aspx?ListId=19b4efbb-6f5d-4637-94c4-121c1f96fcfe&ItemId=363
[1436] Renewable Energy Target delivering: momentum building towards 2020 target, Clean Energy Regulator. 3 May 2017. Access Date: 12 June 2017. http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/About/Pages/News%20and%20updates/NewsItem.aspx?ListId=19b4efbb-6f5d-4637-94c4-121c1f96fcfe&ItemId=377
[1437] Australia announces AUD$6M in funding for Fiji's Presidency in COP23, Fijivillage. 19 May 2017. Access Date: 12 June 2017. http://fijivillage.com/news/Australia-announces-AUD6M-in-funding-for-Fijis-Presidency-in-COP23-9ks25r/
[1438] Australia announces AUD$6M in funding for Fiji's Presidency in COP23, Fijivillage. 19 May 2017. Access Date: 12 June 2017. http://fijivillage.com/news/Australia-announces-AUD6M-in-funding-for-Fijis-Presidency-in-COP23-9ks25r/
[1439] Energy Minister Josh Frydenberg will take controversial energy policy to Liberal Party colleagues, ABC Current Affairs, 13 June 2017. Access Date: 13 June 2017. http://www.news.com.au/entertainment/tv/current-affairs/energy-minister-josh-frydenberg-will-take-controversial-energy-policy-to-liberal-party-colleagues/news-story/c9370034dff43cf5faea5204d5b93b6d

On 13 June 2017, Australia's Coalition Members of Parliament met in Canberra to review Chief Scientist Alan Finkel's review of the national electricity market. The review recommended the federal government determine an economy-wide plan for emissions reduction by 2020, and envisaged a new coal-fired power station system.[1440]

Australia has fully complied with its commitment by supporting sustainable development in neighbouring Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and committing resources to local climate change resistance initiatives. Australia has demonstrated commitment to sustainable development by taking action to effectively manage green domestic initiatives. Australia has provided strong and effective support and actions to address climate change. Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Angela Min Yi Hou & Zoë David-Delves

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective climate change action.

On 13 September 2016, Brazil ratified the Paris Agreement and submitted its NDC with a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 37 per cent below 2005 levels by 2025. Specific goals include increasing the share of sustainable biofuels in the Brazilian energy mix by 18 per cent, achieve 45 per cent of renewables in the energy mix by 2030.[1441]

On 4 October 2016, the Brazil's National Development Bank (BNDES) increased solar funds while cutting the cost for fossil fuels and large hydro. The new policy removed investments in new coal and oil-fired power stations.[1442]

On 18 November 2016, President Temer vetoed USD1.5 billion in coal subsidies for the period 2023-2027, that were approved by Brazil's senate in October 2016. Brazil's Environment Ministry, Ministerio do Meio Ambiente (MMA), claimed that this incentive would jeopardize the commitments Brazil has made under the Paris Climate Agreement.[1443]

On 19–21 January 2017, Brazil held the Thirteenth International Conference on

Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability in Rio de Janeiro. The conference addressed principles and practices of sustainability and focused on environmental governance and climate change.[1444]

On 8 March 2017, Brazil released its second biennial update report to the UNFCCC. The report states Brazil will revise its emission reduction strategy through June 2017 in light of the Paris agreement, in order to make it more economy wide in nature and to optimize financial and human resources.[1445]

[1440] Alan Finkel: 'it would be surprising' if ministers encouraged new coal stations, The Guardian (Canberra) 12 June 2017. Access Date: 12 June 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2017/jun/12/alan-finkel-it-would-be-surprising-if-ministers-encouraged-new-coal-stations

[1441] Brazil's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution, UNFCCC. Access Date 4 February 2017. http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/PublishedDocuments/Brazil per cent20First/BRAZIL per cent20iNDC per cent20english per cent20FINAL.pdf

[1442] Brazil shifts funds from coal to solar power, Climate Change News. 4 October 2016. Access Date: 4 February 2017. http://www.climatechangenews.com/2016/10/04/brazil-shifts-funds-from-coal-to-solar-power/

[1443] Brazil's President Vetoes $1.5B in Coal Subsidies, Ministerio do Meio Ambiente, 18 November 2016, Access Date: 11 January 2017 http://www.mma.gov.br/index.php/comunicacao/agencia-informma?view=blog&id=2006

[1444] Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability – Rio – Jan. 19-21 2017, On Sustainability Research Network. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://onsustainability.com/about/history/2017-conference

On 30 March 2017, the Brazilian government cut its environment ministry budget by 51% as part of a bid to limit the country's economic deficit.[1446]

On 14 May 2017, Brazil's Environment Minister Sarney Filho officially announced the opening of structural dialogue between the government and civil society to begin discussions on how to achieve emission cut targets committed to under the Paris Agreement. The goal is to promote social engagement as well as to include every sector, from industry to agriculture.[1447]

On 5 June 2017, Brazil collaborated with the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), to co-organize the sixth assessment report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The panel will discuss the role of the oceans and cryosphere in the climate system in order to guide policy options, identify knowledge gaps and contribute towards national action plans to better cope with climate and human induced changes in the oceans.[1448]

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment by taken certain measures to promote sustainable development and climate action. However, it has not taken strong and effective action also experienced recent setbacks such as environmental budget cuts.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Joshua Papernick & Fatmire Feka

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

Canada's submitted Nationally Determined Contribution commits Canada to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 30 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030.[1449]

On 19 September 2016, the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development announced the investment of CAD39.6 million on fourteen different clean technology projects. The projects will be carried out in four Canadian provinces and in various sectors including power generation, energy production and exploration; agriculture, and waste management.[1450]

On 3 October 2016, the Government of Canada announced its plan for pan-Canadian pricing on carbon pollution. The plan will institute a price on carbon pollution which will start at CAD10 per tonne in

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[1445]Second Biennial Update Report Of Brazil To The UNFCCC, Federative Republic Of Brazil. 8 March 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://sirene.mcti.gov.br/documents/1686653/2091005/BUR2-ING-02032017_final.pdf/300f0dd3-67b1-4ee0-b168-bba272135941

[1446] Brazil halves environment budget amid rising Amazon deforestation, Climate Change News. 3 April 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.climatechangenews.com/2017/04/03/brazil-halves-environment-budget-amid-rising-amazon-deforestation/

[1447] Brazil draws up climate strategy, BrazilGovNews. 15 May 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/03/brazil-draws-up-climate-strategy

[1448] How Scientific Knowledge On Oceans Can Contribute to the Implementation of National Action Plans On Climate and Human-Induced Changes, The Ocean Action Hub. 31 May 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.oceanactionhub.org/how-scientific-knowledge-oceans-can-contribute-implementation-national-action-plans-climate-and

[1449] Canada's INDC Submission to the UNFCCC, CAIT Climate Data Explorer 10 May 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://cait.wri.org/indc/

[1450] Government of Canada Invests Over CAD 45 million in Advanced Clean Technology Projects, Government of Canada (Vancouver) 19 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.mnthndVl=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=&crtr.page=3&nid=1126829&crtr.yrndVl=&crtr.kw=oil&crtr.yrStrtVl=&crtr.dyStrtVl=&crtr.dyndVl=

2018, and rise by CAD10 a year to CAD50 per tonne in 2022. The revenues from this pricing of carbon pollution will remain in the provinces and territories where the pollution originated.[1451] Canada will join fellow G20 members France, Japan, Mexico and South Africa in instituting a national carbon tax.[1452]

On 5 October 2016, Canada ratified the Paris Agreement.[1453]

On 6 October 2016, the Government of Canada released its 2016-2019 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy (FSDS). The FSDS is the government's third cycle in producing a three-year strategy which is designed to make "environmental decision-making more transparent and accountable to the Canadian Parliament." It will act as Canada's primary strategy for sustainable development planning.[1454]

On 15 October 2016, the Government of Canada adopted an amendment to the 1987 Montreal Protocol to reduce the usage of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which will further restrict the use of HFCs.[1455]

On 7 November 2016, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a CAD1.5 billion National Oceans Protection Plan. The plan's goal is to ensure that Canada's oceans and coastlines are protected and managed in such a way as to ensure environmental sustainability.[1456]

On 17 November 2016, Canada announced a CAD14 million agreement with Mexico and Chile to reduce short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs).[1457]

On 19 November 2016, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna announced Canada's Mid-Century Long-Term Low-Greenhouse Gas Development Strategy at COP22 in Marrakech, Morocco. The strategy examines an "emissions-abatement pathway consistent with net emissions falling by at least 80 per cent in 2050, from 2005 levels."[1458] Canada was one of only five countries (Canada, France, Germany, Mexico, United States) to release its long term strategy.[1459]

[1451] Government of Canada Announces Pan-Canadian Pricing on Carbon Pollution, Government of Canada (Montreal) 3 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=2&crtr.dpt1D=6672&nid=1132149&crtr.tp1D=1

[1452] State and Trends of Carbon Pricing, World Bank Group Climate Change (Washington D.C.) October 2016. Access Date; 30 December 2016. https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/25160/9781464810015.pdf?sequence=6&isAllowed=y

[1453] Minister of Environment and Climate Change Marks Canada's Ratification of the Paris Agreement, Government of Canada (Gatineau). 5 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=2&crtr.dpt1D=6672&nid=1133599

[1454] The Government of Canada Responds to Canadians' Call for a Sustainable Development Vision for Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=1&crtr.dpt1D=6672&nid=1133919&crtr.tp1D=1

[1455] Canada and the World Agree to Phase Down the World's Fastest Growing Source of Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Government of Canada (Kigali) 15 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=2&crtr.dpt1D=6672&nid=1138389

[1456] The Prime Minister of Canada Announces the National Oceans Protection Plan, Justin Trudeau Prime Minister of Canada (Vancouver) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/11/07/prime-minister-canada-announces-national-oceans-protection-plan

[1457] Canada invests in clean technology in Mexico and in Chile to reduce pollution for a cleaner world, CNW Group (Marrakech) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/canada-invests-in-clean-technology-in-mexico-and-in-chile-to-reduce-pollution-for-a-cleaner-world-601133406.html

[1458] Canada Submits Mid-Century Strategy for a Clean Growth Economy, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Marrakech) 19 November 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=12&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1157389&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=climate+change&crtr.dyStrtVl=1&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=16&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=30

[1459] Communication of Long-term Strategies, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 28 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://unfccc.int/focus/long-term_strategies/items/9971.php

On 21 November 2016, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna announced an acceleration of Canada's phase-out of coal power and its transition to clean energy sources. This announced acceleration is expected to increase the per centage of energy coming from non-emitting sources to 90 per cent from 80 per cent by 2030.[1460]

On 28 November 2016, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna announced preliminary regulations to reduce the amount of HFCs used domestically.[1461]

On 29 November 2016, the Minister of Natural Resources, Jim Carr and the Minister of Transport, Marc Garneau announced four important decisions on the transportation of oil via pipelines and tankers. The Trans Mountain Expansion Project and the Line 3 Replacement Projects were approved, while the Northern Gateway Pipelines Project dismissed and a moratorium on crude and persistent oil tankers along British Columbia's north coast was announced.[1462]

On 2 December 2016, Jonathan Wilkinson, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change announced a CAN1.9 million investment in Nano One, a Canadian company which develops cutting-edge electric vehicle battery technology.[1463]

On 20 December 2016, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and President Barack Obama announced the designation of all Arctic Canadian waters as off-limits to future offshore oil and gas licensing. This also applied to a large majority of US waters in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas.[1464,1465]

On 21 December 2016, Ambassador Marc-Andre Blanchard, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations announced that Canada had re-acceded to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).[1466]

On 4 January 2017, the Honourable Jim Carr, Minister of Natural Resources, announced an amendment to the Energy Efficiency Regulations that will increase energy performance standards for 20 products

[1460] The Government of Canada Accelerates Investments in Clean Electricity, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=12&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1157989&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=climate+change&crtr.dyStrtVl=1&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=16&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=30

[1461] Canada Proposes to Phase Down HFCs — Powerful Greenhouse Gases, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 28 November 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=12&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1161289&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=climate+change&crtr.dyStrtVl=1&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=12&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=30

[1462] Government of Canada Announces Pipeline Plan that will Protect the Environment and Grow the Economy, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=12&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1162449&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=climate+change&crtr.dyStrtVl=1&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=11&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=30

[1463] Vancouver-based Company Received CAD1.9 million to Develop Technologies for the Cars of the Future, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Vancouver) 2 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=12&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1164269&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=climate+change&crtr.dyStrtVl=1&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=10&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=30

[1464] United States — Canada Joint Arctic Leaders' Statement, Justin Trudeau Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/12/20/united-states-canada-joint-arctic-leaders-statement

[1465] United States — Canada Joint Arctic Leaders' Statement, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/12/20/united-states-canada-joint-arctic-leaders-statement

[1466] Canada to Rejoin United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Global Affairs Canada (New York) 2 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=12&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1172639&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=climate+change&crtr.dyStrtVl=1&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=2&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=30

including refrigerators and ice makers resulting in a reduction of 0.7 megatonnes of GHG emissions in 2030.[1467]

On 2 February 2017, the Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities President, Clark Somerville, launched two new programs to address climate change and to strengthen infrastructure planning and decision-making. The Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program will be provided with CAD75 million and the Municipal Asset Management Program will be provided with CAD50 million by the Government of Canada.[1468]

On 27 February 2017, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna and the Minister of International Trade Trade, François-Philippe Champagne, announced on behalf of Jim Carr, Minister of Natural Resources, that the Government of Canada would invest up to CAD7 million to develop advanced electric-vehicle charging stations across Canada.[1469]

On 22 March 2017, the Government of Canada released its 2017 Budget. The 2017 Budget announced CAN2.8 billion to be invested over the next 11 years through a series of national programs including:

- CAN100 million to support next generation smart grid, storage and clean electricity technology demonstration projects
- CAN200 million to support the development of emerging renewable energy technologies which are nearing commercialization
- CAN220 million to reduce the reliance of rural and remote communities south of the 60th parallel on diesel fuel, and to support the use of more sustainable, renewable power solutions
- CAN120 million to put in place infrastructure for electric vehicle charging and natural and hydrogen refueling stations
- CAN182 million to develop and implement new building codes to retrofit existing buildings and to build new net-zero energy consumption buildings across Canada
- CAN2 billion for a Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund to support national, provincial and municipal infrastructure required to deal with the effects of a changing climate.[1470]

On 7 April 2017, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna announced that the Government of Canada had ratified the Minamata Convention, a global agreement to reduce anthropogenic (human-generated) mercury emissions and releases to the environment.[1471]

[1467] New energy efficiency regulations reduce greenhouse gas emissions and costs for consumers, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 4 January 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=5&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1175029&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=climate+change&crtr.dyStrtVl=20&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=12&crtr.page=15&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=21

[1468] New programs to help address climate change and strengthen infrastructure planning, Infrastructure Canada (Ottawa) 2 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=5&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1184879&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=climate+change&crtr.dyStrtVl=20&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=12&crtr.page=5&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=21

[1469] Government of Canada invests up to $7 million in electric vehicles to tackle climate change and to support good jobs for Canadians, CNW (Shawinigan, QC) 27 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/government-of-canada-invests-up-to-7-million-in-electric-vehicles-to-tackle-climate-change-and-to-support-good-jobs-for-canadians-614874833.html

[1470] Federal actions to address climate change and support a clean, healthy environment, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 22 March 2017, Updated 18 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/05/federal_actions_toaddressclimatechangeandsupportacleanhealthyenv2.html

On 20 April 2017, the Government of Canada endorsed the Under2 Coalition. The Under2 Coalition is composed of a variety of subnational governments that have committed, by signing an MOU, to limit their GHG emissions from 80 to 90 percent below 1990 levels, the level required to limit global warming to less than 2 degrees Celsius.[1472]

On 5 May 2017, Celina Caesar-Chavannes, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, announced CAN200 million to establish the second phase of the Canadian Climate Fund for the Private Sector in Asia, through the Asian Development Bank.[1473]

On 17 May 2017, the Government of Canada announced CAD5.5 million in funding for the Environmental Damages Fund to be invested in environmental projects in eight projects and territories (Alberta, BC, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan).[1474]

On 25 May 2017, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna announced regulations to reduce methane emissions and air pollution from the oil and gas sector. These regulations are part of Canada's Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate change which requires methane emissions to be reduced by 40 to 45 percent by 2025. These regulations will reduce GHGs by 20 megatonnes a year.[1475]

Canada has demonstrated commitment to sustainable development by transitioning to renewable energy sources, phasing out the HFCs, and protecting its oceans. Canada has also provided strong and effective support and actions to address climate change by instituting a nationwide carbon price. Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Lauren Dalgliesh

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

On 30 June 2015, China submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). China has determined the following actions by 2030: to peak carbon dioxide emissions around 2030, to lower carbon dioxide per unit of gross domestic product (GDP) by 60 to 65 per cent from 2005 levels, to increase non-fossil fuel as the primary source of energy consumption to around 20 per cent, to increase forest stock volume by 4.5 billion cubic meters based on the 2005 amount, and to adapt to climate change by increasing efforts to defend against climate change risks in agriculture, forestry, and water resources. China plans to strengthen laws and

[1471] The Government of Canada ratifies the Minamata Convention on Mercury — Global treaty to reduce mercury emissions and to protect the environment and human health, CNW (Ottawa) 7 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/the-government-of-canada-ratifies-the-minamata-convention-on-mercury---global-treaty-to-reduce-mercury-emissions-and-to-protect-the-environment-and-human-health-618651613.html

[1472] Canada endorsed push for more ambitious climate-change action, Government of Canada (San Francisco) 20 April 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/04/canada_endorses_pushformoreambitiousclimate-changeaction.html

[1473] Canada invests in climate-change action in Asian and Pacific countries, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 5 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2017/05/canada_invests_inclimate-changeactioninasianandpacificcountries.html

[1474] The Government of Canada makes $5.5 M in funding available for environmental projects across Canada, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/05/the_government_ofcanadamakes55minfundingavailableforenvironmenta.html

[1475] Canada to reduce emissions from oil and gas industry. Government of Canada, Environment and Climate Change. (Calgary) 25 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/05/canada_to_reduceemissionsfromoilandgasindustry.html regulations on climate change, improve regional strategies on climate change, build low-carbon energy and industrial systems, enhance efforts to address climate change through science and technology, and promote international cooperation.[1476]

On 19 September 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang announced the release of China's National Plan on Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. China will integrate INDC goals into future national strategies, improve education on environmental protection, encourage developed countries to commit in addressing climate change issues, and through the South-South Cooperation Fund on Climate Change, support developing countries in their capacity to combat climate change.[1477]

On November 2016, China introduced a new climate plan to achieve goals listed in the Paris Agreement and China's 13th Five Year Plan. The State Council announced through this plan that China will reduce carbon emissions per unit of GDP by 18 per cent by the end of 2020, and total energy consumption will be kept within five billion tonnes of standard coal by the end of 2020.[1478] China also stated that it will promote energy conservation across sectors by using more nuclear power, wind power, solar power, geothermal power, and biomass power.[1479] Furthermore, the plan announced the promotion of green technologies and introduced a carbon emission trading system to meet its commitment of peaking carbon emissions by 2030.[1480] Finally, the plan stated that China would begin to restore forests, eliminate the use of chemical fertilizers to promote low carbon agriculture, and promote a low carbon lifestyle through recycling.[1481]

On 2 November 2016, Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Guinean President Alpha Conde in Beijing. President Xi promised to reinforce bonds on China-African renewable energy cooperation, climate change, and the goals listed in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.[1482]

On 4 November 2016, Chinese President Xi Jinping stressed the importance of climate change as he sent a congratulatory letter to the United Nations Secretary-General. The letter stated that China is willing to continue communication and cooperation in order to ensure that climate change issues are being tackled.[1483]

[1476] Enhanced Actions on Climate Change: China's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions, Department of Climate Change, National Development, and Reform Commission of China (Beijing) 30 June 2015. Access date: 5 January 2017. http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/INDC/Published per cent20Documents/China/1/China's per cent20INDC per cent20-per cent20on per cent2030 per cent20June per cent202015.pdf

[1477] China's National Plan on Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China 12 October 2016. Access date: 12 November 2016. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/W020161014332600482185.pdf

[1478] State Council issues plans to promote low carbon development, The State Council The People's Republic of China 4 November 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2016/11/04/content_281475482956889.htm

[1479] State Council issues plans to promote low carbon development, The State Council The People's Republic of China 4 November 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2016/11/04/content_281475482956889.htm

[1480] State Council issues plans to promote low carbon development, The State Council The People's Republic of China 4 November 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2016/11/04/content_281475482956889.htm

[1481] State Council issues plans to promote low carbon development, The State Council The People's Republic of China 4 November 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2016/11/04/content_281475482956889.htm

[1482] Chinese, Guinean presidents announce strategic cooperation partnership, Xinhua News (Beijing) 2 November 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-11/02/c_135801137.htm

[1483] Xi sends congratulatory message to Ban over taking effect of Paris Agreement, Xinhua News (Beijing) 4 November 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-11/04/c_135806808.htm

On 7 November 2016, the deputy chief of China's delegation to 22nd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP22) in Marrakech, introduced China's plan to build ten low-carbon demonstration zones, launch 100 projects to address climate change issues, and offer over 1000 training places in China to help its developing partners deal with the challenge of climate change.[1484]

On 14 November 2016, China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson, Geng Shuang, announced that China would commit to strengthening cooperation with other countries, such as the United States. China will address issues of climate change and facilitate further negotiations of the Paris Agreement by promoting sustainable and low-carbon development.[1485] China sees the implementation of the Agreement as a "new start for global efforts in addressing climate change, and offers guidance for a new stage of green and low-carbon development."[1486]

On 22 December 2016, China launched a carbon dioxide monitoring satellite to monitor the effects of greenhouse gases. TanSat was sent into orbit for a three-year mission to monitor the concentration and distribution of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.[1487]

On 23 March 2017 Chinese Ambassador H.E. Liu Jieyi delivered a speech at the High Level Event Entitled Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Agenda. Liu announced that China will honor its commitments to the Paris Agreement and take action to produce results. He announced that China proposes that the international community consolidate political mutual trust in fulfilling their commitments, stay focused on development by implementing the Paris Agreement through economic transformation and new energy industries, promote cooperation, and continue to prompt each other to act. Liu stated that China will continue to save energy, develop renewable energies, facilitate low-carbon development, and encourage climate change legislation to reduce carbon intensity by 40-45% in 2020.[1488]

On 18 April 2017 Chinese Premier Li Keqiang had a telephone meeting with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Li expressed that China would make joint efforts with Canada to enhance cooperation in tackling climate change and cooperate in building on clean energy efforts.[1489]

On 11 May 2017 it was announced that the European Union and China will hold a summit on June 2 in Brussels with climate issues being a large portion of the summit. The summit will be used for the EU and China to send a clear message that the two countries will be sticking to the Paris agreement regardless of American actions.[1490]

[1484] China backs major principles of COP22, China Daily Asia (Marrakech) 8 November 2016. Access date: 12 November 2016. http://www.chinadailyasia.com/nation/2016-11/08/content_15522620.html

[1485] Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Geng Shuang's Regular Press Conference on November 14, 2016, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (China) 14 November 2016. Access date: 2 January 2017. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/t1415345.shtml

[1486] China vows stronger cooperation in implementing Paris Agreement, Xinhua News (Beijing) 10 October 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-10/10/c_135743735.htm

[1487] China's new eye on climate change, Shanghai Daily 23 December 2016. Access date: 22 December 2016. http://www.shanghaidaily.com/nation/Chinas-new-eye-on-climate-change/shdaily.shtml

[1488] Speech delivered by Ambassador H.E Mr. LIU Jieyi on High Level Event Entitled Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Agenda, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China 23 March 2017. Access date: 18 May 2017. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjb_663304/zwjg_665342/zwbd_665378/t1448378.shtml

[1489] Li Keqiang Holds Telephone Talks with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of Canada, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China 19 April 2017. Access date: 18 May 2017. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjb_663304/zzjg_663340/bmdyzs_664814/xwlb_664816/t1455098.shtml

[1490] EU and China to hold summit on June 2, focus on climate, Reuters Environment 11 May 2017. Access date: 18 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-china-idUSKBN1871M4

On 14 May 2017 Chinese president Xi Jinping proposed at the opening ceremony of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation China's the establishment of an international coalition for green development and its plans to support related countries in adapting to climate change.[1491]

On 15 May 2017 China hosted the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation from which a Joint Communique was released. Chinese President Xi Jinping announced that China and other signatories would protect the planet by taking immediate action on climate change and encourage all signatories of the Paris Agreement to fully implement their commitments in order to achieve sustainable development in a balanced and integrated way.[1492]

On 18 May 2017 China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying announced that China would be hosting the 40th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM). Hua announced that the ATCM is an annual decision-making platform under the Antarctic Treaty with almost 400 representatives from 42 countries and 10 international organizations present. The conference will focus on climate change implications and Antarctic special protection efforts.[1493]

China remains commitment to sustainable development by honouring its Paris Agreement commitments and by encouraging other countries to do the same. China has also provided strong and effective support and actions to address climate change by hosting conferences and forums to address climate change issues.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jing Wang

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

On 7 September 2016, Minister Ségolène presented the Ministry of Environment's progress on climate, energy transition, biodiversity and presented the new projects of the Ministry. This included rendering the implementation of the energy transition law for green growth irreversible, making steps toward the implementation of the biodiversity protection law, launching the Mediterranean plan for blue growth, and presenting the second edition of the National Flood Risk Management Strategy.[1494]

On 16 September 2016, Minister Royal announced the Programmation Pluriannuelle de l'Énergie (PPE) (Multiannual Energy Program), which would greatly reduce energy consumption (negative 12 per cent by 2023) and the consumption of fossil fuels (negative 22 per cent by 2023). This would benefit purchasing power, competitiveness, and energy independence in France; increase the capacity of electrical renewable energy and a 50 per cent increase renewable heat production over 50 per cent; develop clean mobility through the deployment of active modes, collective and shared, and diversification of fuel to electric and

[1491] Full text of President Xi's speech at opening of Belt and Road forum, Global Times 14 May 2017. Access date: 18 May 2017. http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1046925.shtml
[1492] Joint Communique of the Leaders Roundtable of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China 16 May 2017. Access date: 18 May 2017.http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1462012.shtml
[1493] Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference on May 18, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China 18 May 2017. Access date: 18 May 2017.http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/t1463251.shtml
[1494] Actions engagées et nouvelles initiatives pour les grands chantiers du ministère. Access date : 14 November 2016. http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Actions-engagees-et-nouvelles,48495.html

natural gas vehicles; reduce the production of electricity from nuclear power in response to changes in electricity consumption and the development of renewable energies.[1495]

On 26 September 2016, Minister Royal launched the "participatory funding for green growth" label to boost financing on environmentally focused projects. The label would aim to enhance participatory funding for projects working towards the energy and ecological transition, ensure transparency of the project, involvement and citizen participation, monitoring of the project over time, and provide information on the environmental quality of the project.[1496]

On 21 October 2016, the French Secretary of State Christian Eckert announced that the plans to include a carbon tax in its 2016 fiscal year budget would be abandoned.

On 26 October 2016, Minister Royal presented the 2017 budget of the Ministry of the Environment, Energy and the Sea. In total, EUR35.7 billion will be committed, including EUR14.1 billion for energy transition, EUR2.9 billion for water and biodiversity and EUR2.4 billion for research and innovation.[1497]

On 13 November 2016, Minister Royal declared that USD100 million had already been made available to global green initiatives, with USD10 million particularly available to countries across the African continent. The minister reaffirmed France's commitment to advocate for climate justice and to capacity build in developing countries, especially in Africa.[1498]

On 14 November 2016, Ségolène Royal, Minister of Environment, Energy and the Sea, announced that France and Germany will fund a branch of the African Development Bank to finance 240 green initiatives across the African continent.[1499]

On 3 June 2017, French President Emmanuel Macron and Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India jointly declared "France's full commitment to the fight against climate warming." The two countries are launching an International Solar Alliance that will lead to concrete measures in favour of solar energy and commit the companies of both nations. The project seeks to mobilise more than "a trillion dollars by 2030 and bring together well over 100 solar-rich countries to deliver solar energy to some of the planet's poorest."[1500]

On 8 June 2017, France pledges to increase climate action commitments, "vowing to go beyond its initial international commitments under the Paris Agreement." Initiatives on a "carbon floor price, climate

[1495] Programmation Pluriannuelle de l'Énergie, Ministry of the Environment, Energy and the Sea (Paris, France) 15 September 2016. Access date : 14 November 2016. http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Programmation-pluriannuelle-de-l,48569.html
[1496] Mobiliser les financements : Ségolène Royal annonce le lancement d'un nouveau label « Financement participatif pour la croissance verte », Ministry of the Environment, Energy and the Sea (Paris, France) 27 September 2016. Access date : 14 November 2016. http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Mobiliser-les-financements.html
[1497] Budget 2017 : la transition énergétique pour tous et par tous, Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Énergie et de la Mer, Republique Française, 27 October 2016. Access date: 14 November 2016. http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Budget-2017-la-transition.html
[1498] Ségolène Royal : « 100 milliards de dollars pour le financement des projets climatiques », AfricTelegraph (Paris), 13 November 2016. Access date: 14 November 2016. http://www.africtelegraph.com/segolene-royal-100-milliards-de-dollars-pour-le-financement-des-projets-climatiques/
[1499] Ségolène Royal : « Les projets liés aux énergies renouvelables seront gérés par les Africains », Jeune Afrique (Gabon), 14 November 2016. Access date: 14 November 2016. http://www.jeuneafrique.com/373571/politique/segolene-royal-projets-lies-aux-energies-renouvelables-seront-geres-africains/
[1500] France and India pledge to combat climate change, 3 June 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/06/france-india-pledge-combat-climate-change-170603133730092.html

finance and increased development of renewable energy technologies are likely to be among the proposals/[1501]

On 9 June 2017, the European Union and France jointly grants EUR3.5 million to curb emissions in India. "The Mobilise your City (MYC) initiative aims to reduce greenhouse gas in 100 cities globally by promoting sustainable urban transport and to promote sustainability in urban spaces."[1502]

France remains committed to sustainable development by considerable domestic efforts moving towards sustainable development. France has also provided strong and effective support and actions to address climate change by building capacity in developing countries and devoting more resources to combatting climate change.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Cindy Ou & Zoë David-Delves

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

On 17 November 2016, Germany released its Climate Action Plan 2050. The framework includes target corridors for "reducing greenhouse gas emissions in individual economic sectors." The plan focuses on the restructuring of the energy sector with renewable electricity generation, other sectors such as transport will be in a position to phase out climate-damaging fossil fuels.[1503]

On 12 January 2017, Germany released its first policy guide to the G20 Hamburg Summit. "One main concern is to make progress on realizing the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change."[1504]

On 1 February 2017, Germany announced that it aims to cut greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 40 per cent by 2020 and up to 95 per cent by 2050, compared to 1990 levels. Germany also aims to raise the share of renewables in gross final energy consumption by 60 per cent by 2050.[1505]

On 19 May 2017, Germany announced the results of the first auction for onshore wind energy. 70 wind farms were awarded contracts. Wind farms are owned by citizens directly and is in line with Germany's strategy of promoting a citizen-centric approach to renewable energy development. The "high level of competition made it possible to accept an average bird of EU5.71 cents."[1506]

[1501] France pledges to increase climate action commitments, 8 June 2017. Access Date: 11 June 2017. http://www.climateactionprogramme.org/news/france-pledges-to-increase-climate-action-commitments
[1502] EU, France grant 3.5m euros to curb emissions in India, 9 June 2017. Access Date: 11 June 2017. http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/eu-france-grant-3-5m-euros-to-curb-emissions-in-india/story-teJqEpzD0y8ab7aiQKpNGN.html
[1503] Climate Action Plan 2050: Cabinet adopts guide to climate neutral Germany, Federal Ministry for the Environment (Berlin) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.bmub.bund.de/en/press/press-releases/detailansicht-en/artikel/climate-action-plan-2050-cabinet-adopts-guide-to-climate-neutral-germany/
[1504] Germany makes climate change G20 priority, Climate Change News. 12 January 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.climatechangenews.com/2016/12/01/germany-makes-climate-change-g20-priority/
[1505] Germany's greenhouse gas emissions and climate targets, Clean Energy Wire. 1 February 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. https://www.cleanenergywire.org/factsheets/germanys-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-climate-targets
[1506] Results of first auction for onshore wind installations, 19 May 2017. Access Date: 11 June 2017. https://www.bundesnetzagentur.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/EN/2017/19052017_onshore.html?nn=404422

On 6 June 2017, Germany announced that it is working with the US state of California to cooperate on tackling climate change following the US federal decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement.[1507]

Germany has taken concrete steps in moving towards sustainable development and has taken a strong and active role in encouraging citizens to take part in renewable energy development. In addition, it has announced its intention to focus on climate change at the G20 Hamburg Summit.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Cindy Ou

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

On 1 October 2015, India submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), outlining the following goals. The Government of India agreed to reduce the emissions intensity of its gross domestic product by 33-35 per cent over 2005 levels by 2030, to achieve 40 per cent of its electricity from renewable energy sources by 2030, and to create a carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of carbon by 2030 through reforesting 33 per cent of India's geographical area. The Indian government agreed to invest in development programmes for agriculture, water, in the Himalayan and coastal regions, and health and disaster management. The government of India further agreed to build capacities for joint research and discovery of future climate technologies.

On 21 September 2016, the Indian government provided five more cities with funding for initiating urban reforms towards the Smart Cities Mission, increasing the total number of India's smart cities to 27.[1508] India's INDC states that it intends to build 100 smart cities under the Smart Cities Mission.[1509]

On 2 October 2016, India ratified the Paris Agreement.[1510]

On 23 October 2016, India's environment ministry announced its plan to distribute INR400 billion to state government afforestation programs, in accordance with its NDCs.[1511]

On 24 October 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reported that the Indian government plans to allocate INR210 billion to India's solar manufacturing industry.[1512]

On 31 October 2016, the Indian Government installed Solar Energy Projects with a renewable energy capacity of over 8727.62 megawatts.[1513]

[1507] Germany, California to tackle climate change together, 10 June 2017. Access Date: 11 June 2017. https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-climate-germany-california-idUSKBN1910E0

[1508] 27 new cities selected under Centre's Smart Cities mission, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 21 September 2016. Access date: 14 November 2016. http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/27-new-cities-selected-under-centres-smart-cities-mission/articleshow/54423653.cms

[1509] India's intended nationally determined contribution: Working towards climate justice, UNFCCC (India) 25 September 2015. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/INDC/Published per cent20Documents/India/1/INDIA per cent20INDC per cent20TO per cent20UNFCCC.pdf

[1510] Status of Ratification (Paris) 12 December 2015. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php.

[1511] Experts cast doubt on India's Dh22bn tree-planting plan, The National, 23 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.thenational.ae/world/south-asia/experts-cast-doubt-on-indias-dh22bn-tree-planting-plan

[1512] Modi said to plan $3.1 billion boost for India's solar factories, Renewable Energy Network, 24 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016 http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/articles/2016/10/modi-said-to-plan-3-1-billion-boost-for-india-s-solar-factories.html

On 16 December 2016, the US-India Clean Energy Finance launched its cooperation between the governments of the United States and India. This project will provide USD20 million for renewable energy projects in India.[1514]

On 21 December 2016, Energy Minister Shri Piyush Goyal, released the following reports on India's plan to integrate renewable energy into its National Grid: 1) Renewable Energy Integration: Transmission an Enabler; 2) Green Energy Corridor II, and; 3) Electricity Demand Pattern Analysis.[1515]

On 28 December 2016, the Government of India approved the proposal by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy for ratification of the International Solar Alliance's Framework Agreement. Made up of 121 countries, the alliance encourages further research, financing, and development of solar energy.[1516]

In December 2016, the Indian Ministry of Power Central Electricity Authority released the latest Draft National Electricity Plan, stating that India will no longer need extra coal power stations until after 2027. The proposal expressed India's projected increase of non-fossil share of energy from 31% to 53% as early as 2027.[1517] The document also provided electricity demand forecasts for the next decade, including installed capacities from both conventional and renewable energy sources.[1518]

On 17 January 2017, Piyush Goyal, Minister of State for Coal, Power and New and Renewable Energy of India, spoke at the annual International Renewable Energy Agency summit in Abu Dhabi. He reaffirmed India's commitment to combatting climate change, and stated that the US government's policies will not influence India's renewable power plans and investments in wind and solar projects.[1519]

On 1 February 2017, the new budget of India as announced by Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley. As a result, around 7000 railway stations will be solar-powered in the medium term, and India is expecting its second phase of solar park development with additional capacity. Funds allocated to the environment ministry has been increased in 2017-18, focusing on the implementation of the Paris Agreement and capacity-building to address climate-induced disasters.[1520]

In February 2017, the Ministry of Finance of India publicized that the National Clean Energy Fund has allocated USD1.8 billion to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy between the 2011-11 and 2016-

[1513] India makes remarkable strides on the renewable energy front, Energy Infra Post, 27 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017 http://energyinfrapost.com/india-makes-remarkable-strides-renewable-energy-front/

[1514] OPIC, Government of India will deploy up to USD 20 million for distributed solar PV projects, Solar Server, 21 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017 http://www.solarserver.com/solar-magazine/solar-news/current/2016/kw51/opic-government-of-india-will-deploy-up-to-usd-20-million-for-distributed-solar-pv-projects.html

[1515] India's power sector under minister Piyush Goyal achieves major milestones during 2016, Energy Infra Post, 28 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017 http://energyinfrapost.com/indias-power-sector-under-minister-piyush-goyal-achieves-major-milestones-during-2016/

[1516] Government nod for ratifying International Solar Alliance Agreement, The Indian Express, 28 December 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017 http://indianexpress.com/article/india/government-nod-for-ratifying-international-solar-alliance-agreement-4448904/

[1517] India to halt building new coal plants in 2022, 16 December 2016. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.climatechangenews.com/2016/12/16/india-to-halt-building-new-coal-plants-in-2022/

[1518] Climate Action Tracker: India, Climate Action Tracker. 15 May 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://climateactiontracker.org/countries/india.html

[1519] India Dismisses Trump Impact On Climate Targets, Climate Home. 17 January 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.climatechangenews.com/2017/01/17/india-dismisses-trump-impact-on-climate-targets/

[1520] Budget 2017 No Boost for Climate Change? Govt Focuses Little on Environment, Hindustan Times. 1 February 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.hindustantimes.com/union-budget/budget-2017-jaitley-says-clean-india-objective-but-no-special-focus-on-environment/story-72M5E9aKtwS2Utfzct6ypK.html

17 budgetary years.[1521] This revenue originates from the Clean Environment Cess, formerly known as the coal tax, which has increased to INR400 since its original price of INR50 in 2010.[1522]

On 25-26 March 2017, at the World Conference of Environment, the Power Minister of India Piyush Goyal reaffirmed India's commitment to promoting light emitting diodes (LED) to reduce carbon dioxide by 80 million tonnes and Rs 40,000 crore in power bills annually.[1523]

In April 2017, India's passenger vehicle fuel-efficiency standards took effect.[1524] Finalized in 2014, the standards apply to light vehicles and aim to curtail greenhouse gas emissions.[1525]

On 30 April 2017, Indian Power Minister Piyush Goyal stated that by 2030, India will stop selling petrol and diesel cars, and resort to the electrification of energy self-sufficient vehicles.[1526] The Ministry of Heavy Industries is collaborating with the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) to promote reduction in India's energy consumption through financial re-engineering.

India has demonstrated commitment to sustainable development by increasing the number of smart cities to 27, investing in solar energy and afforestation programs, and constructing the world's largest solar power plant. However, India has not provided strong and effective support and actions to address climate change. Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Angela Min Yi Hou & Jenna Cardoso

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

On 24 September 2015, Indonesia submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Indonesia has committed to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 26 per cent by the year 2020, and by 29 per cent by the year 2030. Indonesia plans to build resilience in utilization of degraded land for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and water management.[1527]

[1521] $1.8 Billion Of India's Coal Tax Invested In Renewable Energy So Far, Clean Technica. 21 February 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://cleantechnica.com/2017/02/21/1-8-billion-indias-coal-tax-invested-renewable-energy-far/

[1522] Clean energy: Govt is moving away from its plan by diluting the National Clean Energy Fund, Financial Express (New Delhi). 6 February 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/clean-energy-govt-is-moving-away-from-its-plan-by-diluting-the-national-clean-energy-fund/539013/

[1523] LEDs to cut CO2 by 80 mn tonnes a year, save Rs 40,000 cr power, Smart Investor (New Delhi). 27 March 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://smartinvestor.business-standard.com/market/story-89620-storydet-Angela/Merkel/faces/biggest/test/in/market/story-448839-storydet-LEDs_to_cut_CO2_by_80_mn_tonnes_a_year_save_Rs_40_000_cr_power.htm#.WTBpfmVlkxc

[1524] Climate Action Tracker: India, Climate Action Tracker. 15 May 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://climateactiontracker.org/countries/india.html

[1525] Proposed rules to implement India's fuel efficiency norms weak: experts, Hindustan Times. 10 February 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/proposed-rules-to-implement-india-s-fuel-efficiency-norms-weak-experts/story-u2h3H9fpZNrQcrWPRn6ZDM.html

[1526] Climate Action Tracker: India, Climate Action Tracker. 15 May 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://climateactiontracker.org/countries/india.html

[1527] Intended Nationally Determined Contribution Republic of Indonesia, Intended Nationally Determined Contribution, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 24 September 2015. Access date: 5 January 2017. http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/INDC/Published per cent20Documents/Indonesia/1/INDC_REPUBLIC per cent20OF per cent20INDONESIA.pdf

On 15 October 2016, during a conference in Kigali, Indonesia made amendments to the Montreal protocol treaty. Through the amendments, Indonesia committed itself to stop using products that contain hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by 2024, and to phase out all HFCs by 2050.[1528]

On 19 October 2016, Indonesia ratified the Paris Agreement. Indonesia commited to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 29 per cent by the end of 2030, and up to 41 per cent with the help of foreign technology and finance.[1529]

On 21 October 2016, Indonesia signed an agreement with the Asian Development Bank to begin a program of sustainable growth until 2019. This includes bank's support for Indonesia's energy infrastructure in promoting cleaner energy sources.[1530]

On 26 October 2016, the Indonesian government launched the Tropical Landscapes Finance Facility, an initiative that will use public funding to provide long-term finance to projects and companies in order to stimulate green growth and ameliorate rural livelihoods.[1531]

In November 2016, at the 22nd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Marrakech, Morocco, the Government of Indonesia announced that it will suspend the clearing of super-high carbon-intact peatlands in order to protect its forests.[1532] Furthermore, Indonesia's Peatland Restoration Agency held discussions with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agency and the International Union for Conservation of Nature. The discussion focused on the reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) movement, and proposed three strategies in order to restore peatlands in the country.[1533]

On 1 December 2016, President Joko Widowi signed a regulation on governing peatlands that banned all new land clearance, established a minimum ratio between cultivation and conservation areas, and created guidelines for managing peatland plantations in an effort to restore damaged peatland areas. The Peat Restoration Agency of Indonesia (BRG) wants to re-wet peatland areas and improve fire preparedness by installing wells and monitoring systems. This would decrease the frequency of forest fires, that would otherwise lead to a mass burning of carbon dioxide.[1534]

On 5 December 2016, President Joko Widodo signed a revised regulation to add to its peatland moratorium. The revised regulation includes a moratorium on any new land clearing in peatland areas, protection in peatland ecosystems, prohibition on new canal developments, prohibition on burning

[1528] RI agrees to quit using hazardous coolants, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 19 October 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/10/19/ri-agrees-quit-using-hazardous-coolants.html-0

[1529] Indonesia's Parliament ratifies Paris Agreement on climate change, Straits Times (Jakarta) 19 October 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://www.straitstimes.com/asia/se-asia/indonesias-parliament-ratifies-paris-agreement-on-climate-change

[1530] ADB to Support Clean, Inclusive Growth in New Partnership with Indonesia, The Asian Development Bank (Jakarta) 21 October 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. https://www.adb.org/news/adb-support-clean-inclusive-growth-new-partnership-indonesia

[1531] Tropical Landscapes Finance Facility unlocks private sector finance for climate, biodiversity and jobs, The United Nations Environment Programme (Jakarta) 26 October 2016. Access date: 12 November 2016. http://web.unep.org/tropical-landscapes-finance-facility-unlocks-private-sector-finance-climate-biodiversity-and-jobs

[1532] Marrakech: New initiatives on forest protection give boost to climate action agenda, UN News Centre 9 November 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=55510#.WCftmeErKAx

[1533] Indonesia proposes three strategies in COP22 to restore peatlands, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 11 November 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/11/11/indonesia-proposes-three-strategies-in-cop-22-to-restore-peatlands.html

[1534] Kudos and cooperation to combat climate change, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 27 December 2016. Access date: 30 December 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/academia/2016/12/27/kudos-and-cooperation-to-combat-climate-change.html peatlands, and a new approach to water level compliance to help describe peatland ecosystem damage.[1535] This is an effort to hold corporations accountable for the damage made to peatlands and to decrease carbon dioxide in the area.[1536]

On 15 May 2017, President Widodo signed onto a joint communiqué issued at the Leaders Roundtable of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation. The communique stated that leaders would promote cooperation the 2015 Paris Agreement, take urgent action against climate change, and address the impacts of climate change in disaster management and renewable energy.[1537]

On 19 May 2017, BRG stated that through re-wetting strategies for peatland areas, there will likely not be a repeat of the regular haze that surrounds Indonesia and its neighbours.[1538]

On 22 May 2017, Indonesia and the European Union met at the Working Group on Development Cooperation to discuss cooperation on developmental projects and strategies. One way the two groups will be cooperating is through Indonesia's Climate Change Response and Project.[1539]

Indonesia has demonstrated commitment to sustainable development by cooperating with other international partners to prioritize climate change action. However, Indonesia has not provided strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Jing Wang

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

On 4 November 2016, the Paris Agreement entered into force which commits all signatory members to commit to their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The European Union's NDC which was submitted by Latvia and the European Commission on behalf of its member states (including Italy) has a collective target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40 per cent by 2030 compared to 1990 levels.[1540]

[1535] Indonesia strengthens peatland moratorium, Value Walk 9 December 2016. Access date: 30 December 2016. http://www.valuewalk.com/2016/12/indonesia-peatlands/

[1536] Indonesia just made a huge move to protect the environment, The Washington Post 6 December 2016. Access date: 30 December 2016. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2016/12/06/indonesia-just-made-a-huge-move-to-protect-the-climate/?utm_term=.d58af29a3c35#comments

[1537] Full text: Joint communique of leaders roundtable of Belt and Road forum, Xinhua (Beijing) 15 May 2017. Access date: 30 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/15/c_136286378.htm

[1538] Indonesia promises its neighbours a haze-free year, Thomson Reuters Foundation (Kuala Lumpur) 18 May 2017. Access date: 30 May 2017. http://www.theedgemarkets.com/article/indonesia-promises-its-neighbours-hazefree-year

[1539] Indonesia and the European Union Agreed to Enhance Development Cooperation, Indonesia Government News 24 May 2017. Access date: 30 May 2017. https://global-factiva-com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx#./!?&_suid=14961905451890033593894172495586.

[1540] Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement: Italy (EU), IEA. 21 December 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.iea.org/policiesandmeasures/pams/italy/name-156409-en.php?s=dHlwZT1jYyZzdGF0dXM9T2s,&return=PG5hdiBpZD0iYnJlYWRjcnVtYiI-PGEgaHJlZj0iLyI-SG9tZTwvYT48c3Bhbj4gJmd0OyZndDsgPC9zcGFuPjxhIGhyZWY9Ii9wb2xpY2llc2FuZG1lYXN1cmVzLyI-UG9saWNpZXMgYW5kIE1lYXN1cmVzPC9hPjxzcGFuPiAmZ3Q7Jmd0OyA8L3NwYW4-PGEgaHJlZj0iL3BvbGljaWVzYW5kbWVhc3VyZXMvY2xpbWF0ZWNoYW5nZS8iPkNsaW1hdGUgQ2hhbmdlPC9hPjxzcGFuIGNsYXNzPSJsYXN0Ij48L3NwYW4-PC9uYXY-

On 11 November 2016, Italy ratified the Paris Agreement.[1541]

On 25 November 2016, the Government of Rwanda represented by Minister Biruta and Italy government represented by the Minister of the Environment, land and Sea, Gian Luca Galletti signed the Memorandum of understanding on cooperation on climate action. The signing took place was established in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, known as COP22, in Marrakech, Morocco.[1542]

On 6 February 2017, Italy's Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (MATTM) released a report titled Financing the Future containing a set of proposals aimed at strengthening the environmental dimension of its finance system to more efficiently deliver goals for sustainable development and climate change.

On 6 February 2017, Italy signed a new agreement to strengthen collaboration on pressing environmental issues, such as clean energy and environmental education. The Italian government also contributed €5 million to the Environment Fund.

On 13 March 2017, Italy's Borsa Italiana launched a new segment on its ExtraMOT PRO market dedicated to the issuance of green and social bonds as part of the country's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals. Among G7 stock exchanges, Borsa Italiana has the highest proportion of green revenues.

On 13 March, 2017 the first Implementation Workshop of the Italian National Action Plan was held in Rome in collaboration with the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development. The promotion of sustainable management of natural resources was included among the National Strategic Objectives.

On 24 March 2017 at the UN General Assembly in New York, Giovanni Brunelli of MATTM outlined its commitment on climate change issues. He stated that Italy will also lend support to African countries and Small Island countries to promote mitigation and adaptation oriented projects in reaching.

On 26-27 May 2017, Italy hosted the G7 summit in Taormina. Various aspect of the Paris Agreement's implementation were discussed, such as necessary reforms, support, and G7 countries' full engagement for long-term low greenhouse gas strategies.

On 5-12 June 2017, Italy hosted the G7 environment ministers Summit in Bologna where green finance was a major theme. Institutions, universities and businesses took part in events dedicated to the protection of the environment, to sustainable development and to the circular economy.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to sustainable development by ratifying the Paris Agreement and agreeing to cooperate on climate action. While Italy has released new reports and implementation measures to meet these goals, it has yet to produce significant quantifiable actions as of yet. Italy has not demonstrated strong and effective action to combat climate change.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Joshua Papernick & Fatmire Feka

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

[1541] Paris Agreement: Status of Ratification, UNFCC. 4 November 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php

[1542] Rwanda and Italy Sign Memorandum of Understanding on Climate Action. All Africa 25 November 2016. Access date: 26 November 2016. http://allafrica.com/stories/201611290599.html

On 17 July 2015, Japan submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Japan's INDCs commits to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 26 per cent by 2030 compared to 2013. Japan will do this by promoting a low-carbon society, promoting forest management and industry measures, and contributing internationally towards human resource development and the development and diffusion of technologies relating to emission reductions in developing countries through the Joint Crediting Mechanism.[1543]

On 15 October 2016, Japan committed to reduce the use of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) at the 28th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in Kigali, Rwanda. Japan was among one of the developed countries committed to taking early action by 2019, as opposed to 2024.[1544]

On 1 November 2016, Japan released a statement committing to a donation of approximately USD100,000 to the Trust Fund for Participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The goal of this is to support developing countries in addressing climate change issues at the 22nd Conference of the Parties (COP22).[1545]

On 8 November 2016, Japan ratified the Paris Agreement. The Agreement was ratified after the 19 October 2016 deadline, thus, Japan attended COP22 as an observer with no voting rights.[1546]

On 8 November 2016, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe released a statement regarding the ratification of the Paris Agreement.[1547] His statement declared that Japan would make global warming countermeasures a Cabinet priority, strive to create innovative technologies in environmental and energy sectors, and commit to implementing climate change assistance of JPY1.3 trillion to developing countries by 2020.[1548]

On 11 November 2016, Japan announced its Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change plan, in which it highlighted a variety of support partnerships to help developing countries combat climate change.[1549] The document enlists five main areas of Japanese contribution: Mitigation, Adaptation, Transparency, Measures Against Fluorocarbons, and Support for Sustainable Societies.[1550]

On 11 November 2016, Japan submitted its updated strategies for scaling up climate finance from 2014 to 2020. The submission builds on a previous submission from 2014. The updates include efforts to enhance providing and mobilizing climate finance through financial institutions and government agencies such as Japan Bank for International Cooperation and Nippon Export and Investment Insurance. The updates also implements policies and programmes in cooperation with cities and sub-governmental

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[1543] Intended Nationally Determined Contribution, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 17 July 2015. Access date: 5 January 2017. http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/INDC/Published per cent20Documents/Japan/1/20150717_Japan's per cent20INDC.pdf

[1544] Nations reach deal to reduce hydrofluorocarbons, The Japan Times (Kigali) 15 October 2016. Access date: 12 November 2016. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/10/15/world/science-health-world/rwanda-meet-nations-reach-agreement-reducing-hfcs-environmental-groups-say/#.WCkBleErKAw

[1545] Contribution to Trust Fund for Participation in the UNFCCC Process, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Japan) 1 November 2016. Access date: 12 November 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page22e_000795.html

[1546] Paris global warming accord kicks in but Japanese ratification delayed by TPP, The Japan Times 4 November 2016. Access date: 12 November 2016. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/11/04/national/paris-global-warming-accord-kicks-japanese-ratification-delayed-tpp/#.WCjVLuErJE5

[1547] Statement by the Prime Minister on the acceptance of the Paris Agreement, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Japan) 8 November 2016. Access date: 12 November 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page4e_000546.html

[1548] Statement by the Prime Minister on the acceptance of the Paris Agreement, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Japan) 8 November 2016. Access date: 12 November 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page4e_000546.html

[1549] Initiative for Climate Action Plan in Developing Countries, Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Japan) 11 November 2016. Access date: 12 November 2016. https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2277.html

[1550] Japan's Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change: Responding to the Needs of the Developing Countries, Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Japan) 11 November 2016. Access date: 12 November 2016. https://www.env.go.jp/press/files/en/696.pdf authorities that align with the initiative, Action for Cool Earth 2.0. This ensures a balance between adaptation and mitigation to aid developing countries in addressing the effects of climate change; and assist the dissemination of information related to climate change.[1551]

On 13 December 2016, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Fumio Kishida, met with the Honourable Kamina Johnson Smith, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica.[1552] Minister Kishida committed Japan in following up on the Joint Statement on Enhancing the Partnership between Japan and Jamaica (J-J Partnership). The statement includes an affirmation of cooperation in building a post-2020 framework.[1553]

On 1 March 2017, Japan wrapped up its Follow-up Review Meeting for the Roundtable Seminar of the G7 Working Group. The review meeting occurred on 16 and 22 February and 1 March to discuss the implications of climate change in the energy and natural resources sector, the finance sector, the movement of persons sector, and the security sector. The meeting was attended by experts from each sector, researchers and representatives from think-tanks and non-governmental organizations. Japan made several suggestions in regards to its contributions to combatting climate change in the future, such as considering the problems created by natural disasters in the Asia-Pacific region, integrating climate change predictions with economic and social conflicts, and using Japan's science and technology sector to include early warning systems.[1554]

On 9 March 2017, Japan co-hosted the 15th Informal Meeting on Further Actions against Climate Change with Brazil. As a co-chair, Japan facilitated and participated in discussions regarding climate change issues in order to reflect on COP22 and encourage working towards COP23 in November.[1555]

On 23 March 2017, Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs conducted a public opinion survey on climate change issues in Japan. The survey asked Japanese citizens 18 years and older about Japan's role in combatting climate change and what actions Japan should take in the future.[1556]

On 23 March 2017, Japan's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Hiroshi Minami, announced at the At the High-Level Meeting regarding the Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Agenda, that Japan strongly urges that all Parties of the Paris Agreement continue to work towards successful implementation and maintain the momentum of COP22. He also discusses that Japan is working closely with other Parties to implement the Paris Agreement, referring to the hosting of the Informal Meeting on Further Actions against Climate Change.[1557]

[1551] Biennial submission on Japan's updated Strategies and Approaches for scaling up climate finance from 2014 to 2020, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Japan) 13 December 2016. Access date: 22 December 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page25e_000106.html
[1552] Japan-Jamaica Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Japan) 13 December 2016. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001407.html
[1553] Joint Statement on Enhancing the Partnership between Japan and Jamaica (J-J Partnership), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Japan) 30 September 2015. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000102204.pdf
[1554] The Follow-up Review Meeting on the Roundtable Seminar on Climate Change and Fragility Implications on International Security (Summary), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Japan) 19 April 2017. Access date: 30 May 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page23e_000470.html
[1555] The 15th Informal Meeting on Further Actions against Climate Change, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 14 March 2017. Access date: 25 May 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page25e_000131.html
[1556] Overview of the Public Opinion Survey on Diplomacy (Climate Change), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Japan) 23 March 2017. Access date: 25 May 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page25e_000133.html
[1557] Statement by H.E. Mr. Hiroshi Minami Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations At the High-Level Meeting "Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Agenda" 23 March 2017, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 23 March 2017. Access date: 25 May 2017. http://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/jp/statements/minami032317.html

On 21 March 2017, Japan donated approximately USD900,000 to the Least Development Countries Fund to put towards climate change adaptation for developing countries.[1558]

On 10 April 2017, Hiroshi Minami, Japan's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations stated that Japan will be an active participant in playing a role to encourage international cooperation against climate-related risks. He asked that countries prioritize their nationally determined contributions and raise awareness for regional conflicts exacerbated by climate change.[1559]

On 12 May 2017, Japan presented its climate change policy and progress report at the second multilateral assessment session during the 46th session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies. Japan stated that for two years in a row from 2014, greenhouse gas emissions in Japan have decreased through energy saving activities, that its industrial associations have been combatting climate change issues through voluntary action plans, that Japan has been working on low-carbon electricity in buildings, and that the ministries of Japan have been working on a long-term strategy to fight climate change.[1560]

Japan has demonstrated commitment to sustainable development by increasing climate financing and by formulating a long-term strategy against climate change. Japan has also reinforced its commitment to the Paris Agreement and international cooperation. Japan has also provided strong and effective support to address climate change.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jing Wang

Korea: 0

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

On 30 June 2015, Korea outlined the following goals in its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) submitted. The Government of Korea plans to implement an economy-wide reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 37 per cent, below the levels of 850.6 $MtCO_2eq$ by 2030.[1561]

On 5 October 2016, South Korea announced its plan to build a large-scale laboratory for solar photovoltaic technology in Seoul, which will allow solar companies to test the safety and reliability of their products.[1562]

On 25 October 2016, the Korean government declared its goal to help create new energy industries in the country and enhance assistance to the clean energy sector.[1563]

[1558] Japan's contribution to the Least Development Countries Fund (LDCF), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Japan) 27 March 2017. Access date: 25 May 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_001524.html

[1559] Statement by H.E. Mr. Hiroshi Minami Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations At the Security Council Arria-Formula Meeting On Climate Change and Security 10 April 2017, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 10 April 2017. Access date: 30 May 2017. http://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/jp/statements/minami041017.html

[1560] The multilateral assessment on the second biennial reports under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Japan) 18 May 2017. Access date: 30 May 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ic/ch/page25e_000139.html

[1561] Submission by the Republic of Korea: Intended Nationally Determined Contribution, 30 June 2016, UNFCCC. Access date: 3 January 2017 http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/INDC/Published per cent20Documents/Republic per cent20of per cent20Korea/1/INDC per cent20Submission per cent20by per cent20the per cent20Republic per cent20of per cent20Korea per cent20on per cent20June per cent2030.pdf

[1562] S. Korea to build large-scale lab for solar photovoltaic technology, 5 October 2016, Yonhap News Agency. Access date: 3 January 2017 http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2016/10/05/11/0200000000AEN20161005004700320F.html

On 3 November 2016, Korea ratified the Paris Agreement.[1564]

On 12 December 2016, the Korean government announced its plan to invest KRW47.5 billion in commercial carbon recycling technology over the next six years.[1565]

On 14 December 2016, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy announced that Korea's renewable energy-based power is predicted to reach 27.9 Gigawatts (GW) in 2020.[1566]

On 15 May 2017, Korean President Moon Jae-in announced the shutdown of 10 coal power plants and plans to turn them off completely within his five-year term. His "decision to halt operating aged coal-fired plants shows his strong will to provide a fundamental solution to the current fine dust problem."[1567]

On 4 June 2017, President Moon Jae-in has put forward a new energy policy. By 2030, the country plans to increase natural gas usage from 18 percent to 27 percent and make renewables account for 20 percent — a 15 percent increase from the current levels.[1568] The Korean President plans to implement the policy "by transferring the current subsidies to the renewable energy industry. Energy policy advisor Paik Ungyu says, "Currently taxes are imposed on gas [...] we plan to correct the skewed tax system by seeking to levy environmental taxes on coal and nuclear."[1569]

On 8 June 2017, the Korean President announced that he plans to quadruple the share of renewable power generation to 20 per cent by 2020 and has pledged to halt the construction of eight new nuclear plants to mitigate air pollutions and address concerns over safety of nuclear power.[1570]

Korea has demonstrated strong commitment to sustainable development by planning to invest in clean energy and commercial carbon recycling technology. The new President has also demonstrated strong intentions to curb greenhouse gas through new climate policies. There is strong federal support but it is still in the early phases of rationalization. Therefore, Korea has not provided strong and effective actions to address climate change.

Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Cindy Ou & Jenna Cardoso

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

[1563] Address by President Park Geun-hye at the National Assembly on the government proposal for FY 2017 budget plan. 25 October 2016. Access date: 14 November 2016. http://www.korea.net/Government/Briefing-Room/Presidential-Speeches/view?articleId=141957

[1564] Status of Ratification (Paris) 12 December 2015. Access date: 14 November 2016.http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php.

[1565] South Korean government working on commercial carbon recycling, 13 December 2016, Business Korea. Access date: 3 January 2017 http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/english/news/industry/16732-carbon-recycling-south-korean-government-working-commercial-carbon-recycling

[1566] New and renewable energy-based power generation to exceed atomic power in 2020, 14 December 2016, Business Korea. Access date: 3 January 2017 http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/english/news/industry/16744-replacement-atomic-energy-new-and-renewable-energy-based-power-generation-exceed

[1567] Moon Jae-In orders shutdown of old coal-fired power plants, 15 May 2017. Access Date: 11 June 2017. http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20170515000815

[1568] South Korea plans energy U-turn away from coal, nuclear, 4 June 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-southkorea-politics-energy-idUKKBN18V0EH

[1569] South Korea plans energy U-turn away from coal, nuclear, 4 June 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-southkorea-politics-energy-idUKKBN18V0EH

[1570] South Korea's nuclear operature urges careful approach on energy policy, 8 June 2017. Access Date: 11 June 2017. https://www.reuters.com/article/us-southkorea-nuclear-khnp-idUSKBN1900AO

Mexico outlined the following goals in its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), submitted 30 March 2015 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.[1571] The Government of Mexico unconditionally agreed to lower its greenhouse gas emissions and short lived climate pollutants emissions by 25 per cent by 2030, compared to business-as-usual (BAU) levels. Mexican government conditionally agreed to raise the emission reduction of 25 per cent to 40 per cent. The Government of Mexico further agreed to implement adaptation actions regarding deforestation, early warning systems for climate disasters, and vulnerable municipalities.[1572]

On 7 September 2016, the Mexican government announced the adoption of a cap and trade carbon emission program. The program will commence in November and act as a precursor to a national carbon market planned for 2018. 60 countries volunteered to participate in the carbon pricing system, an initiative intended to reduce carbon emissions in Mexico and satisfy its NDC.[1573]

On 12 September 2016, Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto inaugurated the Ventika Wind Farms. The President declared that the 84,116 megawatt turbines will prevent the production of pollutants equivalent to 40,000 vehicles. The wind farms are intended to reduce the country's reliance on nonrenewable energy resources.[1574]

On 16 September 2016, the European Union, Mexico and the Marshall Islands released a joint statement at the International Civil Aviation Organization summit in Montreal, agreeing to support a proposal to reduce aviation emissions after 2020.[1575]

On 20 September 2016, President Enrique Peña Nieto addressed the United Nations General Assembly, stating that Mexico will host the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP13) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in December 2016. Mexico will also host the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2017. Each international environmental forum will discuss issues relating to climate change and sustainable development.[1576]

On 21 September 2016, Mexico ratified the Paris Agreement.[1577]

On 13 October 2016, President Enrique Peña Nieto announced that MXN40 billion was allocated to 12 infrastructure projects in the Valley of Mexico. Amongst initiatives to connect the inhabitants of the region, the President stated the government is "significantly investing in hydraulic infrastructure to

[1571] Intended Nationally Determined Contributions, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 30 March 2015. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/indc/Submission per cent20Pages/submissions.aspx
[1572] Intended Nationally Determined Contribution, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 30 March 2015. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/INDC/Published per cent20Documents/Mexico/1/MEXICO per cent20INDC per cent2003.30.2015.pdf
[1573] Mexico Will Launch Carbon Pricing In November, CleanTechnica (Atlanta) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. https://cleantechnica.com/2016/09/07/mexico-will-launch-carbon-pricing-november
[1574] President EPN highlights government's commitment to respect for the environment and clean energy generation, President of the Republic (Mexico City) 12 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/president-epn-highlights-government-s-commitment-to-respect-for-the-environment-and-clean-energy-generation?idiom=en
[1575] EU, Mexico, Marshall Islands back UN aviation pact, Climate Home (London) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. http://www.climatechangenews.com/2016/09/16/eu-mexico-marshall-islands-back-un-aviation-pact
[1576] "Mexico reiterates its firm commitment to democratic principles as the only way to achieve sustainable development goals": EPN, President of the Republic (Mexico City) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/mexico-reiterates-its-firm-commitment-to-democratic-principles-as-the-only-way-to-achieve-sustainable-development-goals-epn?idiom=en
[1577] Paris Agreement- Status of Ratification, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Bonn) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php

prevent future floods." Hydraulic infrastructure programs are intended to alleviate the effects of hydrometeorological disasters.[1578]

On 15 October 2016, Mexico agreed to the Kigali Amendment of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. The amendment calls for the reduction of hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) emissions, a contributive factor to ozone depletion and climate change. The HFC amendment to the 1987 protocol was first suggested by Canada, Mexico, the United States, and the Maldives in 2009.[1579]

On 18 October 2016, Undersecretary of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA), Jorge Narvaez Narvaez, led the inauguration of the Photovoltaic Interconnected System in Yoreme. The Under-Secretary emphasized the importance in accessing "new sources of clean, affordable energy" to further conserve the environment.[1580]

On 24 October 2016, Mexico and Austria signed a declaration of intent to collaborate on environmental issues, including sustainable cities, clean transportations, and solid waste management.[1581]

On 27 October 2016, the governments of Mexico and Colombia signed an environmental cooperation agreement. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will foster bilateral cooperation in the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable production, water management, and sustainable forestry. The MoU will likewise encourage the exchange of expertise and experience between the two countries to further support actions against the effects of climate change.[1582]

On 28 October 2016, the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) announced that the federal government will invest MXN32.3 billion to enhance reforestation and wetland care, primarily mangrove restoration.[1583] The program will further the rehabilitation and sustainable management of Mexico's forests.

On 17 November 2016, the Mexican Secretary of Energy, Pedro Joaquín Coldwell as well as the Head of the Delegation of the European Union in Mexico, Andrew Standley, announced a EUR20 million joint Mexican-EU geothermal initiative.[1584] The three-year GEMex program will explore the cost-effective use

[1578] $40 billion pesos allocated for 12 infrastructure works to improve quality of life of inhabitants of Valley of Mexico. EPN, President of the Republic (Mexico City) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/40-billion-pesos-allocated-for-12-infrastructure-works-to-improve-the-quality-of-life-of-the-inhabitants-of-the-metropolitan-zone-of-the-valley-of-mexico-epn?idiom=en

[1579] 140 countries will phase out HFCs. What are these and why do they matter?, Washington Post (Washington D.C.) 3 November 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/11/03/140-countries-will-now-phase-out-hfcs-what-are-these-and-why-do-they-matter/?utm_term=.4747f0ea0075

[1580] Instala SAGARPA mil 715 sistemas de energía renovable en el campo, Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (Mexico City) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sagarpa/prensa/instala-sagarpa-mil-715-sistemas-de-energia-renovable-en-el-campo?idiom=es

[1581] México y Austria abrirán agenda bilateral en materia ambiental, Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico City) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/mexico-y-australia-abriran-agenda-bilateral-en-materia-ambiental?idiom=es

[1582] México y Colombia acuerdan cooperación en temas ambientales, Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico City) 27 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/mexico-y-colombia-acuerdan-cooperacion-en-temas-ambientales?idiom=es

[1583] Semarnat fortalece trabajos de recuperación de manglar en Nayarit, Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico City) 28 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/semarnat-fortalece-trabajos-de-recuperacion-de-manglar-en-nayarit?idiom=es

[1584] México y la Unión Europea anuncian proyecto para la investigación de sistemas geotérmicos, Secretariat of Energy (Mexico City) 17 November 2016. Access Date 2 January 2017. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/mexico-y-la-union-europea-anuncian-proyecto-para-la-investigacion-de-sistemas-geotermicos?idiom=es of geothermal energy, and it will be supervised by the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA).[1585] GEMex is an attempt to diversify Mexico's energy system and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

On 17 November 2016, Canada announced a CAD14 million agreement with Mexico and Chile to reduce short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs).[1586]

On 18 November 2016, Mexico proposed a mid-century Climate Change Strategy of updated scope and objectives at COP22. The extended climate change strategy includes a reduction of Mexico's greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by 50 per cent by 2050 compared to levels in 2000.[1587]

On 28 November 2016, Mexico participated in the two day 2016 Budapest Water Summit, and signed a MOU on water management with Hungary. The agreement encouraged technical and experiential collaboration between the two countries regarding, among other issues, river basin management planning, drought monitoring and flood control, wastewater treatment, and climate change.[1588]

On 4 December 2016, SAGARPA and SEMARNAT signed an agreement to preserve the forests of Mexico, while encouraging sustainable energy production. Secretary Rafael Pacchiano Alamán concluded that "based on the coordination between both agencies, we will be able to fulfill the commitment that Mexico acquired in the Paris Agreement to achieve a zero rate of deforestation."[1589]

On 4 December 2016, the Government of Mexico initiated the 13th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Cancun, Mexico. 167 countries participated in the 13 day conference and agreed to several measures on forestry, fisheries, and ecosystem restoration intended to satisfy the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets by 2020.[1590]

On 5 December 2016, President Enrique Peña Nieto, in conjunction with the SEMARNAT and the National Commission of Protected Areas (CONANP), authorized the creation of three additional Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The new reserves further contribute to Mexico's commitment to the international Biodiversity Convention MPA Target 11.[1591]

On 7 December 2016, the Government of Mexico established five new Safeguard Zones, regions protected from hydrocarbon exploration and extraction. The zones include all of the country's Ramsar sites (wetlands) and mangrove forests. Dr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, commented that the new reserves are "a remarkable step towards

[1585] Key joint EU – Mexico geothermal research project kicks off. Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (Brussels) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/news-events/newsroom/key-joint-eu-–-mexico-geothermal-research-project-kicks

[1586] Canada invests in clean technology in Mexico and in Chile to reduce pollution for a cleaner world, CNW Group (Marrakech) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. http://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/canada-invests-in-clean-technology-in-mexico-and-in-chile-to-reduce-pollution-for-a-cleaner-world-601133406.html

[1587] Nations Take Forward Global Climate Action at 2016 UN Climate Conference, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Marrakech) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017 http://newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/nations-take-forward-global-climate-action-at-2016-un-climate-conference/

[1588] Mexico, Hungary sign co-op agreement on water management, Business News Americas (Santiago) 1 December 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017 http://www.bnamericas.com/en/news/waterandwaste/mexico-hungary-sign-co-op-agreement-on-water-management

[1589] Firman Sagarpa y Semarnat acuerdo de colaboración para preservar bosques y fortalecer la sustentabilidad alimentaria del país, Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico City) 4 December 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. http://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/firman-sagarpa-y-semarnat-acuerdo-de-colaboracion-para-preservar-bosques-y-fortalecer-la-sustentabilidad-alimentaria-del-pais-85846?idiom=es

[1590] Governments make strong commitments to biodiversity at UN conference in Mexico, United Nations (New York City) 19 December 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=55835#.WGPrMqOZPeQ

[1591] Mexico Committed to the Conservation of their Oceans, The Nature Conservancy (Cancun) 5 December 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. http://www.nature.org/newsfeatures/pressreleases/mexico-committed-to-the-conservation-of-their-oceans.xml reaching Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 to protect marine and terrestrial areas, and a fitting opening of the UN Biodiversity Conference. It demonstrates Mexico's commitment to achieve Aichi Target 11 and to contribute significantly to implementation of the Biodiversity Strategic Plan."[1592]

On 1 March 2017, the Mexican Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources, Rafael Pacchiano Alamán, released the National Air Quality Strategy (ENCA). The program will coordinate policy actions across government sectors and civil society to "control, mitigate, and prevent" atmospheric emission and pollutant concentrations. The ENCA has a projection of 2030 and contributes to the Mexican commitment towards greater air quality.[1593]

On 29 March 2017, Secretary of Tourism Enrique de la Madrid Cordero oversaw the signing of the National Commitment for Sustainable Tourism for Development. The initiative will ensure environmentally sustainable policy, legal, and administrative actions regarding tourism and fulfill the commitments of Mexico to the COP13 in which it was agreed upon that tourism must respect biodiversity.[1594]

On 31 March 2017, the Mexican National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR) and the Protector of the Forests (PROBOSQUE) announced a MXN12.8 million investment to conserve 8, 222 hectares of forests. The directors of each organization signed an agreement to create a Concurrent Fund for the Payment of Environmental Services to coordinate the investment and protect the forests of Mexico.[1595]

On 4 April 2017, SEMARNAT announced a USD3 million commitment to launch the early stages of the vaquita porpoise emergency plan developed by VaquitaCPR. VaquitaCPR is an international coalition of partners spearheaded by the Mexican government attempting to recover the dwindling vaquita population. The pledge by the Mexican government will contribute to the construction of a sea pen sanctuary and the first critical steps towards rehabilitating the species.[1596]

On 24 April 2017, the Mexican government signed the Under2 Coalition MOU, endorsing the initiative to limit the global average temperature rise to less than two degrees Celsius. The Coalition was created during COP21 and includes 170 cities, states, and countries across six continents.[1597]

On 26 April 2017, President Enrique Peña Nieto inaugurated the National Council for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The President stated, "the 2030 Agenda establishes 17 Sustainable Development Objectives (SDO) … It incorporates a comprehensive agenda with three axes: economic, social and environmental." Amongst the various goals of the Agenda, President Nieto included the

[1592] Mexico declares four new protected areas, The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Gland) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 2 January 2017. https://www.iucn.org/news/mexico-declares-four-new-protected-areas

[1593] Presenta Semarnat Estrategia Nacional de Calidad del Aire, Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico City) 1 March 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/presenta-semarnat-estrategia-nacional-de-calidad-del-aire?idiom=es

[1594] Refrenda México su compromiso con un turismo sustentable para el desarrollo, Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico City) 29 March 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/refrenda-mexico-su-compromiso-con-un-turismo-sustentable-para-el-desarrollo-de-la-madrid?idiom=es

[1595] Impulsa Conafor la conservación de más de 8 mil hectáreas de bosques en el Estado de México, Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico City) 31 March 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/impulsa-la-conafor-mas-de-8-mil-hectareas-de-bosques-en-el-estado-de-mexico?idiom=es

[1596] Mexico announces up to $3 million in new funding to save the vaquita porpoise, National Marine Mammal Foundation (San Diego) 4 April 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2017-04/nmmf-mau040417.php

[1597] Se suma México a la Coalición Under2 sobre cambio climático, Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico City) 24 April 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/se-suma-mexico-a-la-coalicion-under2-sobre-cambio-climatico?idiom=es preservation of Mexican biodiversity and enhancing the resilience "to climate change and natural disasters."[1598]

On 12 May 2017, the Government of Mexico raised its clean energy goals to a target of 50 per cent renewable electricity by 2050.[1599]

On 22 May 2017, Lacy Tamayo, representing the Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources, and Governor Jay R. Inslee of the State of Washington signed a Letter of Intent. The document initiates a short-term bilateral cooperation between the two countries regarding climate change, including issue areas like the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, energy, research development, and the oceans.[1600]

On 22-26 May 2017, Mexico hosted the Global Platform on Disaster Reduction in Cancun. This is the first conference on disaster reduction since the 2015 Sendai Framework was established. The conference reassessed the current international response to climate change and its associated consequence of natural disasters.[1601]

Mexico has demonstrated through strong and effective action through implementing a cap and trade emission program, its commitment to sustainable development by creating environmental protection plans, investing in renewable energy, and signing bilateral agreements. Thus, Mexico receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Harrison Myles

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

On 22 April 2016, Russia signed the Paris Agreement. On 16 June 2016, Special Presidential Representative on Climate Issues Alexander Bedritsky said that Russia plans to ratify the Paris Agreement no sooner that in 2019-2020.

According to Russia's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) towards achieving the objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Russia aims to limit anthropogenic greenhouse gases in Russia to 70-75 per cent of 1990 levels by 2030. The period for this goal implementation begins on 1 January 2020.[1602]

On 21 September 2016, Special Representative Bedritsky stated that Russia needs to evaluate the economic and social impact of the Paris Agreement before it ratifies the Agreement.[1603]

[1598] President Enrique Peña Nieto Installs National Council for 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, President of the Republic (Mexico City) 26 April 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/president-enrique-pena-nieto-installs-national-council-for-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development?idiom=en

[1599] Latin America Green News: 5/5 — 5/11/2017, NRDC (New York) 12 May 2017. Access Date: 12 May 2017. https://www.nrdc.org/experts/maria-martinez/latin-america-green-news-55-5112017

[1600] La Semarnat y el estado de Washington, EU, inician diálogo de cooperación en materia ambiental, Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico City) 22 May 2017. Access Date: 22 May 2017. http://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/la-semarnat-y-el-estado-de-washington-eu-inician-dialogo-de-cooperacion-en-materia-ambiental?idiom=es

[1601] Mexico meeting to bring world together on disaster prevention, Thomas Reuters Foundation (London) 17 March 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. http://news.trust.org/item/20170317111642-rabtz

[1602] Russia's INDC Submission, UNFCCC. Access Date:1 March 2017. http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/INDC/Published%20Documents/Russia/1/Russian%20Submission%20INDC_eng_rev1.doc.

[1603] Presidential Aide: Russia will not Artificially Speed Up Paris Agreement Ratification, ITAR-TASS News Agency 21 September 2016. Accessed Date: 1 March 2017, http://tass.ru/obschestvo/3639933

In November 2016, Special Presidential Representative Bedritsky participated in the joint high-level segment of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC, the 12th COP to the Kyoto Protocol and 1st COP to the Paris Agreement in Marrakesh.[1604] He noted that Russia considers the entry into force of the Paris Agreement to be "a good incentive and opportunity to evolve toward a low carbon future." He said that the Russian Government was developing a package of measures to improve state regulation of greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for ratification of the Agreement, including through elaboration of a strategy for long-term development (middle of the century) with low greenhouse emissions. According to him by 2024 Russia plans to put into service solar and wind power stations and small hydroelectric plants with the capacity of about 6 GW. Mr. Bedritsky also emphasised that although the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement did not legally bind Russia to provide financial assistance to developing countries, it provided climate-related donor support voluntarily.[1605]

In October 2016, the Russia-funded project of the UN programme aimed at enhancing the capabilities of small developing island nations in the Pacific to effectively prepare for and respond to natural disasters, including those linked with climate change was launched in Fiji. The project's total budget amounts to USD7.5 million.[1606]

On 23 December 2016, Russian President Vladimir Putin stated that "Russia made fairly stringent commitments" under the Paris Agreement and that it would comply with them. He said that Russia was ready for implementation of these agreements.[1607]

On 27 December 2016, President Vladimir Putin chaired the State Council meeting on Russia's environmental development for future generations. The participants discussed Russia's transition to environmentally sustainable development. Russian President emphasized such issues as energy saving, and the preservation of forests, water and unique and said it was necessary "to carry out energy saving and ecological recovery programmes." The report prepared by the State Council "justifies transition to eco-friendly sustainable development as a national strategic priority." It proposed a package of solutions for attaining sustainable development in the medium and long term, including a set of measures for the development of renewable energy sources. Russian President reminded the participants that 2017 was declared the Year of the Environment, and environmental protection was included in the recently approved National Science and Technology Development Strategy as a priority. The strategy, adopted on 1 December 2016, mentions as one of the priorities of Russia's science and technology development the transition to clean and resource efficient energy, increasing efficiency of production and processing of petroleum commodities, development of new sources, means of transportation and storage of energy.[1608]

As of February 2017, Russia did not ratify the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.[1609]

On 3 November 2016, the Government of Russia adopted the plan for implementation of a set of measures to ratify the Paris agreement on climate change.[1610] According to the Plan "a report assessing

[1604] Alexander Bedritsky took part in the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, President of Russia 16 November 2016. http://en.kremlin.ru/catalog/persons/51/events/53267
[1605] Alexander Bedritsky took part in the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, President of Russia 16 November 2016. http://en.kremlin.ru/catalog/persons/51/events/53267
[1606] Alexander Bedritsky took part in the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, President of Russia 16 November 2016. http://en.kremlin.ru/catalog/persons/51/events/53267
[1607] Vladimir Putin's annual news conference, President of Russia, 23 December 2016. Access Date: 20 February http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/transcripts/press_conferences/53573
[1608] Executive Order on the Scientific and Technological Development Strategy, President of Russia 1 December 2016. http://www.kremlin.ru/acts/news/53383
[1609] Paris Agreement — Status of Ratification, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 1 November 2016, Access Date: 3 November 2016. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php
[1610] Government of Russia Resolution No. 2344-p of 3 November 2016. Access Date: 20 February 2017. http://government.ru/docs/25221/

social and economic consequences from the ratification of the Paris Agreement will be drawn up by December 2017," and "a final report for the president on the expediency of ratifying the Paris Agreement is due in the first quarter of 2019."[1611]

On 1 February 2017, the Russian Ministry of Energy published a draft Russian Energy Strategy for the Period until 2035. It includes the aim of realizing potential for increasing energy efficiency. It provides for the following measures: development of relevant legislation, including introducing a ban on the production and use of energy ineffective facilities, buildings and technological processes; tax stimulation of the use of best available technologies by companies; financing of projects aimed at increasing energy efficiency from different sources; raising public awareness on the topic. According to the Draft Strategy the level of energy intensity will be decreased by 4 per cent in 2020 or 2022 and by 34 per cent in 2035.[1612]

In March 2017, President Putin, told the reporter that "climate change brings in more favorable conditions and improves the economic potential of this region," and that "Today, Russia's GDP is the result of the economic activity of this region."[1613]

On 1 June 2017, the Russian spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, told the press hours before the US president, Donald Trump's announcement to withdraw from the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, that Russia saw great significance in the Paris agreement and had signed the agreement.[1614]

Russia has not demonstrated commitment to sustainable development but has provided strong and effective support to address climate change.

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Yi Fan Zheng & Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

Saudi Arabia outlined the following goals in its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), submitted 10 November 2015. The Government of Saudi Arabia agrees to mitigate 130 million tons of CO2 by 2030 through economic diversification away from oil and climate change adaptation.

On 9 October 2016, Japan and Saudi Arabia agreed to advance cooperation in the renewable energy sectors.[1615]

[1611] Russia approves plan for Paris climate agreement ratification — minister, TASS 7 November 2016. Access Date: 20 February 2017. http://tass.com/politics/910774.

[1612] Russian Energy Strategy for the Period until 2035, Ministry of Energy of Russia 21 September 2016. http://minenergo.gov.ru/node/1920

[1613] Trump Buys Into Putin Plan To Melt The Arctic, Russia is moving ahead with drilling plans in the region, Huffington Post. 31 May 2017. Access Date: 3 June 2017. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/putin-trump-arctic-climate-change_us_592ecd03e4b09ec37c309105.

[1614] Russia backs the Paris agreement on climate change as Donald Trump set to announce US decision, the independence. 2 June 2017. Access date: 6 June 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/russia-paris-agreement-climate-change-donald-trump-us-decision-global-warming-moscow-putin-a7766481.html.

[1615] Japanese, Saudi Arabian ministers meet, agree to cooperate ion internet of things, renewable energy, 9 October 2016, Japan Times. Access Date: 3 January 2017 http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/10/09/national/politics-diplomacy/japanese-saudi-arabian-ministers-meet-agree-cooperate-internet-things-renewable-energy/

In November 2016, Saudi Arabia along with nine other members of the Oil and Gas Climate Initiative (OCGI) announced a plan to invest USD1 billion into the development of innovative, low emissions technologies over the next ten years.[1616]

On 3 November 2016, Saudi Arabia ratified the Paris Agreement.[1617]

On 21 November 2016, Saudi Arabia announced plans to establish a national program to optimize water and energy consumption.[1618]

On 19 December 2016, the first wind turbine was delivered to Saudi Arabia. Implementation is projected to occur sometime in January 2017.[1619]

In early February 2017, Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Energy created a new division to emphasize the government's renewable energy plan. The division is called the Renewable Energy Project Develop Office (REPFO), and includes major corporate players in the energy sector.[1620]

On 20 February 2017, Saudi Arabia launched the first stage of its National Renewable Energy Plan (NREP), in order to meet its renewable energy target of 9.5 gigawatts by 2023.[1621] According to Saudi Arabia's Energy and Industry Minister Khalid al-Falih, the government aims to expand its renewable energy projects by investing USD50 billion by 2023. The National Renewable Energy Program aims to use this renewable energy tender programme at value of USD 30-50 billion.[1622]

On 20 February 2017, through this program, the government is incentivizing solar and wind power projects by inviting corporations to bid for the construction of electricity plants.[1623]

Saudi Arabia has demonstrated commitment to sustainable development by advancing renewable energy sources and optimizing water consumption. Saudi Arabia has not provided strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Angela Min Yi Hou & Jenna Cardoso

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

[1616] Saudi Arabia takes its place as global citizen at COP22 (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://saudigazette.com.sa/business/saudi-arabia-takes-its-place-as-global-citizen-at-cop22/

[1617] Status of Ratification (Paris) 12 December 2015. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php.

[1618] Saudi Arabia to establish national water and energy efficiency program, 21 November 2016, Reuters. Access Date: 3 January 2017 http://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-utilities-idUSKBN13G21V

[1619] Saudi Aramco and GE deliver first wind turbine to Saudi Arabia, 19 December 2016, CNBC. Access Date: 3 January 2017 http://www.cnbc.com/2016/12/19/saudi-aramco-and-ge-deliver-first-wind-turbine-to-saudi-arabia.html

[1620] Saudi Arabia creates unit to focus on renewable energy, The National. 2 February 2017. Access Date: 9 June 20. http://www.thenational.ae/business/energy/saudi-arabia-creates-unit-to-focus-on-renewable-energy

[1621] Climate Action Tracker: Saudi Arabia, Climate Action Tracker. 10 May 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://climateactiontracker.org/countries/saudiarabia.html

[1622] Saudi Restarts Renewable Energy Investment Plans with up to $50b in Solar, Wind by 2023, Saudi-US Trade Group. 3 February 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sustg.com/saudi-restarts-renewable-energy-investment-plans-with-up-to-50b-in-solar-wind-by-2023/

[1623] Saudis Kick Off $50 Billion Renewable Energy Plan to Cut Oil Use, Bloomberg. 20 February 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-02-20/saudis-kick-off-50-billion-renewable-energy-plan-to-cut-oil-use

On 1 November 2016, South Africa ratified the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.[1624]

On February 27 2017, the South African government is working with the US Agency for International Development to strengthen the capacity of the public sector to plan, finance, implement, and report on low emissions development projects and to accelerate the adoption of low emissions technologies.[1625]

On 30 May 2017, the Department of Trade and Industry of South Africa announced that South African policies are aligned to and include actions to address sustainable development climate change. They will "facilitate and support the planning and growth of economic activity in new and existing green sectors and greening less sustainable sectors."[1626]

While South Africa has rationalized and vocalized commitment to sustainable development, there is no evidence of strong and effective actions to address climate change.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Yi Fan Zheng

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

As of February 2017, Turkey did not ratify the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.[1627]

According to Turkey's presented Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) towards achieving the objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Turkey aims to achieve up to 21 per cent reduction in Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from the Business-as-usual (BAU) level by 2030.[1628] The implementation period of the INDC goal begins in 2021.

On 20 December 2016, the World Bank approved a USD132.7 million loan for the Turkish Sustainable Cities Project.[1629] This government initiated project is the first of a series of projects that aim at improving economic, financial, environmental, and social sustainability of Turkish cities.[1630]

On 23 February 2017, the Turkish court suspended the operation of Izdemir coal power station, which had been accused of its environmental damage since its opening in 2014.[1631]

[1624] Paris Agreement — Status of Ratification, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 1 November 2016. Access Date: 3 November 2016, http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php

[1625] Environment, US Agency for International Development. Access Date: 11 May 2017, https://www.usaid.gov/south-africa/environment.

[1626] South Africa policies to tackle climate change, 30 May 2017. Access Date: 11 June 2017. https://www.newsghana.com.gh/south-african-policies-to-tackle-climate-change-hoosen/

[1627] Paris Agreement — Status of Ratification, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 1 November 2016, Access Date: 3 November 2016. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php

[1628] Republic of Turkey — Intended Nationally Determined Contribution, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Access Date: 13 November 2016, http://www4.unfccc.int/Submissions/INDC/Published%20Documents/Turkey/1/The_INDC_of_TURKEY_v.15.19.30.pdf

[1629] Turkey's Cities to Become Socially, Environmentally, and Financially Sustainable with World Bank Support, The Financial. Access Date: 5 January 2017, https://www.finchannel.com/business/62327-turkey-s-cities-to-become-socially-environmentally-and-financially-sustainable-with-world-bank-support

[1630] Turkey's Cities to Become Socially, Environmentally, and Financially Sustainable with World Bank Support, The Financial. Access Date: 5 January 2017, https://www.finchannel.com/business/62327-turkey-s-cities-to-become-socially-environmentally-and-financially-sustainable-with-world-bank-support

[1631] Court forces Turkish coal plant to suspend operations, Climate Home. Access Date: 9 May 2017, http://www.climatechangenews.com/2017/02/23/court-forces-turkish-coal-plant-to-suspend-operations/.

On 17 March 2017, Turkey's Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Berat Albayrak, announced at the CERAWeek 2017 event that Turkey will launch a new solar and wind power tender for 1 GW in the summer of 2017.[1632]

Turkey has not provided strong and effective support and actions to address climate change. Turkey has supported sustainable development.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Yi Fan Zheng

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

The EU Nationally Determined Contribution commits the European Union and its member states (including Britain) to domestic greenhouse gas reductions of 40 per cent below 1990 levels by 2030.[1633] However, in light of the UK's separation from the EU, this target may change.

ON 24 October 2016 the Roadmap to US$100 billion was published. The Roadmap saw developed countries come together to set a plan for meeting the collective goal of mobilizing US$100 billion per year in climate finance for developing countries by 2020. It was led by the UK and Australia.[1634]

On 18 November 2016, the UK ratified the Paris Agreement.[1635]

On 18 January 2017, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs published the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017. This report set out the priority risk areas and opportunities for further climate change action.[1636]

On 22 January 2017, the UK announced that it will assist Fiji in two key areas of climate change development this year. "The UK has offered assistance to the Government of Fiji" said British High Commissioner to Fiji Melanie Hopkins, with a focus on aiding Fiji in its presidency for the upcoming COP23 this year.[1637]

On 23 January 2017, Prime Minister Theresa May announced plans to turn nation's early adoption of clean energy into a global business after Brexit in the newly released industrial-strategy paper. One of the main pillars of the proposed strategy is to support affordable energy and clean growth towards a low-carbon economy.[1638] According to the strategy paper, the UK will prioritize costs and security of

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[1632] Ministerial Dialogue with HE Berat Albayrak, CERAWeek. Access Date: 9 May 2017, http://ondemand.ceraweek.com/detail/videos/tuesday-march-7/video/5351341545001/ministerial-dialogue-with-he-berat-albayrak?autoStart=true&page=1.

[1633] Submission by Latvia and the European Commission on Behalf of the European Union and its Member States, CAIT Climate Data Explorer (Riga) 6 May 2015. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://cait.wri.org/indc/

[1634] Climate Finance Roadmap to US$100 billion, 24 October 2016, UK Government. Date of Access: 03 April 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/climate-finance-roadmap-to-us100-billion

[1635] Paris Agreement — Status of Ratification, UNFCCC. 4 November 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9444.php

[1636] Policy paper: UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017, Gov.UK. 18 January 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-climate-change-risk-assessment-2017

[1637] UK offers climate change help, Fiji Times. 22 January 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?id=386297

[1638] Theresa May Seeks Clean Energy to Buoy Vision of Global Britain, Bloomberg. 23 January 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-01-23/theresa-may-seeks-clean-energy-to-buoy-vision-of-global-britain supply.[1639] On this pillar the UK states it "will keep energy costs down for businesses, build the energy infrastructure we need for new technologies, and secure the economic benefits of our move towards a low-carbon economy.[1640]

In February 2017, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom presented a Brexit White Paper titled "The United Kingdom's Exit From and New Partnership with the European Union" to parliament. The government reaffirmed its commitment to leadership on climate change.[1641]

On 2 February 2017, the UK government released its White Paper on the United Kingdon's exit from and new partnership with the European Union that provides assurances that the nation will remain a "leading actor working with European and other international partners, in global efforts to tackle major challenges, including climate change" and environmental policy following its imminent departure from the EU. The Paper commits "to leave the environment in a better state than we found it" with particular mentions in farming and marine protections.[1642]

On 20 April 2017, the United Kingdom's involvement in the Under2 Coalition was reaffirmed by a news release by Environment and Climate Change Canada. Under2 is a network of governments at various levels, working to limit global warming to less than 2 degrees Celsius by 2100.[1643] The news release endorsed more ambitious climate change action.

The United Kingdom has taken strong and effective steps to assure the public of its commitment to climate change action and sustainable development that would have widespread impact. Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Angela Min Yi Hou & Cindy Ou

United States: −1

The United States has not complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

The US Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) commits to "reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 26 per cent — 28 per cent below its 2005 level in 2025 and to make best efforts to reduce its emissions by 28 per cent."[1644]

On 7 September 2016, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) updated the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) to reduce power plant nitrogen oxide emissions in 22 states that contribute to cross-state ozone problems in the eastern US.[1645]

[1639] Industrial Strategy: 10 Pillars, UK Government. 23 January 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/585107/industrial-strategy-10-pillars.pdf

[1640] Building our Industrial Strategy, HM Government. Date of Access: 03 April 2017. http://www.coast2capital.org.uk/storage/downloads/industrial_strategy_10_pillars-1486469958.pdf

[1641] Brexit turmoil means UK government must lead on climate, Climate Home. 31 March 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.climatechangenews.com/2017/03/31/brexit-turmoil-means-uk-government-must-lead-climate/

[1642] Brexit White Paper: Government underlines vision for 'cleaner, healthier environment'. 2 February 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.edie.net/news/11/Brexit-White-Paper-reiterates-UK-s--world-leading--climate-change-ambitions/

[1643] Canada endorses push for more ambitious climate-change action, Government Canada (San Francisco) 20 April 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2017/04/canada_endorses_pushformoreambitiousclimate-changeaction.html

[1644] US NDC, CAIT Climate Data Explorer 9 March 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://cait.wri.org/indc/

[1645] EPA Finalizes Rule to Reduce Smog-Forming Pollution Transported Across State Lines, EPA (Washington D.C.) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-finalizes-rule-reduce-smog-forming-pollution-transported-across-state-lines

On 9 September 2016, the US Secretary of Energy and the US Secretary of the Interior announced a collaborative strategy on the development of offshore wind power in the US. The strategy, National Offshore Wind Strategy: Facilitating the Development of the Offshore Wind Industry in the United States, lays out a plan which could develop 86 giga-watts of offshore wind power in the US by 2050.[1646]

On 13 September 2016, the Department of Energy announced USD37 million to fund 16 projects which could transform energy storage and conversion and overcome the current technological limitations with batteries and fuel cells.[1647]

On 15 September 2016, President Barack Obama designated 4,913 square miles of deep-sea ecosystem off the coast of New England as the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument. This designation will protect the ecosystem and marine species living within it.[1648]

On 15 September 2016, the Department of the Interior announced the approval of a 100 mega-watt solar project in Nevada. The project is expected to generate enough electricity to power 25,000 homes.[1649]

On 22 September 2016, the EPA announced the release of its strategy to reduce air pollution at US ports.[1650]

On 26 September 2016, the Office of the Press Secretary announced USD80 million in federal investments to the Smart Cities Initiative which aims to make US cities more habitable, cleaner and more equitable. It will also double the number of cities and communities participating in the initiative to over 70 total. This funding will be focused on climate, transportation, public safety and transforming city services.[1651]

On 6 October 2016, the White House announced that the US will adopt the Global Market-Based Measures (GMBM) to reduce the carbon emissions produced by international aviation. By 2020, US airlines will need to offset any increases in carbon emissions through carbon credits.[1652]

[1646] Energy Secretary Moniz and Interior Secretary Jewell Announce New National Offshore Wind Strategy to Drive Deployment, US Department of Energy (Boston) 9 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.energy.gov/articles/energy-secretary-moniz-and-interior-secretary-jewell-announce-new-national-offshore-wind

[1647] Department of Energy Announces 16 New Projects to Transform Energy Storage and Conversion, US Department of Energy (Washington D.C) 13 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-announces-16-new-projects-transform-energy-storage-and-conversion

[1648] Fact Sheet: President Obama to Continue Global Leadership in Combating Climate Change and Protecting Our Ocean by Creating the First Marine National Monument in the Atlantic Ocean, The White House (Washington D.C.) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/09/15/fact-sheet-president-obama-continue-global-leadership-combatting-climate

[1649] Secretary Jewell Approves Utility-Scale Solar Project on Tribal Land in Nevada, Department of the Interior (Clark County) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-approves-utility-scale-solar-project-tribal-land-nevada

[1650] EPA Releases National Assessment of Strategies to Reduce Air Pollution at Ports, EPA (Washington D.C.) 22 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-national-assessment-strategies-reduce-air-pollution-ports

[1651] Fact Sheet: Announcing Over USD 80 million in New Federal Investment and a Doubling of Participating Communities in the White House Smart Cities Initiative, The White House (Washington D.C.) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/09/26/fact-sheet-announcing-over-80-million-new-federal-investment-and

[1652] Fact Sheet: 191 Countries Reach a Global Climate Deal for International Aviation, The White House (Washington D.C.) 6 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/06/fact-sheet-191-countries-reach-global-climate-deal-international

On 15 October 2016, the White House announced that the US will adopt an amendment to the Montreal Protocol which will see the production and consumption of hydroflourocarbons (HFCs) decrease by 80 per cent by 2030.[1653]

On 25 October 2016, the Department of the Interior announced the creation of Great Thicket National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge will help to conserve and manage shrubland and young forests for wildlife in New England and New York.[1654]

On 2 November 2016, the Department of Energy announced USD32 million in funding for ten projects which will attempt to reduce the energy usage of individual vehicles (cars and trucks) by 20 per cent. This funding is part of the Next-Generation Energy Technologies for Connected and Autonomous On-Road Vehicles (NEXTCAR).[1655]

On 10 November 2016, the Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Director Abigail Ross Hopper finalized the rules governing the development of solar and wind energy projects on public lands. Created by these finalized rules is a new leasing program that will support "renewable energy development through competitive leasing processes and incentives to encourage development in suitable areas."[1656]

On 18 November 2016, the Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Director Abigail Ross Hopper released the government's plan to guide future energy development in Nation's Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) for 2017–2022. The final plan includes 11 potential lease sales for oil and gas development, 10 in the Gulf of Mexico and one off the coast of Alaska in the Cook Inlet area.[1657]

On 8 December 2016, the US Environmental Protection Agency awarded approximately USD1.1 million to projects in Virginia which protect wetlands. Wetlands provide a source of drinking water, help to prevent flooding and provide resilience to climate change.[1658]

On 16 December 2016, the Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Director Abigail Ross Hopper announced the US's sixth competitive lease sale for

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[1653] Fact Sheet: Nearly 200 Countries Reach a Global Deal to Phase Down Potent Greenhouse Gases and Avoid Up to 0.5oC of Warming, The White House (Washington D.C.) 15 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/15/fact-sheet-nearly-200-countries-reach-global-deal-phase-down-potent

[1654] Secretary Jewell Announces Great Thicket National Wildlife Refuge, US Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 25 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-great-thicket-national-wildlife-refuge

[1655] Department of Energy Announces 10 New Projects to Improve Connected and Automated Vehicle Efficiency, Us Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 2 November 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.energy.gov/articles/department-energy-announces-10-new-projects-improve-connected-and-automated-vehicle

[1656] Interior Department Finalizes Rule Providing a Foundation for the Future of BLM's Renewable Energy Program, US Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-department-finalizes-rule-providing-foundation-future-blms-renewable-energy

[1657] Secretary Jewell Announces Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Plan for 2017 — 2022, US Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-offshore-oil-and-gas-leasing-plan-2017-2022

[1658] EPA Awards USD1.1 Million to Virginia Projects to Protect Wetlands and Adapt to Climate Change, United States Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 8 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-11-million-virginia-projects-protect-wetlands-and-adapt-climate-change renewable energy in federal waters. The completed lease sale included 79,350 acres of federal waters offshore of New York for the development of wind energy.[1659]

On 16 December 2016, President Barack Obama signed the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) into law. WIIN includes projects which will help restore watersheds, improve waterways and flood control and improve drinking water infrastructure. The Act includes USD170 million for communities around the country which face drinking water crisis.[1660]

On 20 December 2016, President Barack Obama and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the designation of all Arctic Canadian waters as off limits to future offshore oil and gas licensing as well as a large majority of US waters in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas as off limits to future offshore oil and gas leasing.[1661,1662]

On 20 December 2016, President Obama withdrew certain portions of the United States arctic outer continental shelf from mineral leasing. This withdrawal included portions of Chukchi Sea and the Beaufort Sea.[1663]

On 20 December 2016, President Obama withdrew certain areas off the Atlantic Coast on the outer continental shelf from mineral leasing.[1664]

On 4 January 2017, the EPA awarded nearly $2 million to fund three clean diesel projects in Connecticut and Massachusetts under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act.[1665]

On 11 January 2017, the EPA awarded nearly $4 million to reduce diesel emissions in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act.[1666]

On 13 January 2017, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy announced that the current GHG emission standards for model years 2022-2025 will remain unchanged.[1667]

[1659] Interior Department Auctions Over 79,000 Acres Offshore New York for Wind Energy Development, US Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-department-auctions-over-79000-acres-offshore-new-york-wind-energy

[1660] Statement by the President on the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act, The White House (Washington D.C.) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/12/16/statement-president-water-infrastructure-improvements-nation-wiin-act

[1661] United States — Canada Joint Arctic Leaders' Statement, Justin Trudeau Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/12/20/united-states-canada-joint-arctic-leaders-statement

[1662] United States — Canada Joint Arctic Leaders' Statement, The White House (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/12/20/united-states-canada-joint-arctic-leaders-statement

[1663] Presidential Memorandum — Withdrawal of Certain Portions of the United States Arctic Outer Continental Shelf from Mineral Leasing, The White House Office of the Press Secretary (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2016/12/20/presidential-memorandum-withdrawal-certain-portions-united-states-arctic

[1664] Presidential Memorandum — Withdrawal of Certain Areas off the Atlantic Coast on the Outer Continental Shelf from Mineral Leasing, The White House Office of the Press Secretary. (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2016/12/20/presidential-memorandum-withdrawal-certain-areas-atlantic-coast-outer

[1665] EPA Awards nearly $2 Million to Fund Clean Diesel Projects in Connecticut and Massachusetts, US Environmental Protection Agency (Boston) 4 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-nearly-2-million-fund-clean-diesel-projects-connecticut-and-massachusetts

[1666] EPA Awards nearly $4 Million to reduce diesel Projects emissions in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, US Environmental Protection Agency (Seattle) 11 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-nearly-4-million-reduce-diesel-emissions-pacific-northwest-and-alaska

On 17 January 2017, the US State Department announced an additional $500 million grant for the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The GCF is the largest multilateral finance institution dedicated to advancing low-emission, climate-resilient development.[1668]

On 24 January 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed an executive order to expedite environmental reviews and approvals for high priority infrastructure projects.[1669]

On 24 January 2017, President Donald J. Trump released a presidential memorandum regarding the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline which invites TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, L.P. to re-submit its application to the Department of State for a Presidential permit for construction and operation of the Keystone XL pipeline.[1670]

On 16 February 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed House Joint Resolution 38 with blocks the "Stream Protection Rule"[1671]

On 6 March 2017, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke announced that 73 million acres offshore Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida will be offered for oil and gas exploration and development. The proposed region-wide lease sale would include all available unleased areas in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico.[1672]

On 15 March 2017, U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke announced the approval of a $22 million coal lease on the Greens Hollow tract in central Utah to Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, a subsidiary of Bowie Resource Partners, LLC.[1673]

On 15 March 2017, Department of Transportation Secretary (DOT) Elaine Chao and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt announced they will revisit the previous administration's rule that finalized standards to increase fuel economy to the equivalent of 54.5 mpg for cars and light-duty trucks by Model Year 2025.[1674]

[1667] Carbon Pollution Standards for Cars and Light Trucks to Remain Unchanged Through 2025, US Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 13 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/carbon-pollution-standards-cars-and-light-trucks-remain-unchanged-through-2025

[1668] U.S. Funding for the Green Climate Fund, U.S. State Department (Washington D.C.) 17 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://2009-2017.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2017/01/267067.htm

[1669] Executive Order Expediting Environmental Reviews and Approvals for High Priority Infrastructure Projects, The White House Office of the Press Secretary (Washington D.C.) 24 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/24/executive-order-expediting-environmental-reviews-and-approvals-high

[1670] Presidential Memorandum Regarding Construction of the Keystone XL pipeline, The White House Office of the Press Secretary (Washington D.C.) 24 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/01/24/presidential-memorandum-regarding-construction-keystone-xl-pipeline

[1671] President Trump: Putting Coal Country Back to Work, The White House, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington D.C.) 16 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/02/16/president-trump-putting-coal-country-back-work

[1672] Secretary Zinke Announces Proposed 73-Million Acre Oil and Natural Gas Lease Sale for Gulf of Mexico, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 6 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-zinke-announces-proposed-73-million-acre-oil-and-natural-gas-lease-sale-gulf

[1673] Secretary Zinke issues lease for 56 million tons of coal in central Utah, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 15 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-zinke-issues-lease-56-million-tons-coal-central-utah

[1674] EPA to Reexamine Emission Standards for Cars and Light Duty Trucks -- Model Years 2022-2025, US Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 15 March 2017. Access Date:30 May 2017. https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reexamine-emission-standards-cars-and-light-duty-trucks-model-years-2022-2025

On 16 March 2017, the Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Acting Director Walter Cruickshank announced the completion of the nation's seventh competitive lease sale for renewable wind energy in federal waters which was started during the Obama administration.[1675]

On 28 March 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed an executive order promoting energy independence and economic growth. The order required executive departments and agencies to immediately review existing regulations and other agency actions that potentially burden the development or use of domestically produced energy resources, with particular attention to oil, natural gas, coal and nuclear energy, and appropriately suspend, revise or rescind those that unduly burden the development of domestic energy resources beyond the degree of necessary to protect the public interest or otherwise comply with the law. The executive order further rescinded the following Presidential actions:

- Executive Order 13653 (Preparing the US for the Impacts of Climate Change);
- The Presidential Memorandum of June 25, 2013 (Power Sector Carbon Pollution Standards);
- The Presidential Memorandum of November 3, 2015 (Mitigating Impacts on Natural Resources from Development and Encouraging Related Private Investment) and
- The Presidential Memorandum of September 21, 2016 (Climate Change and National Security).

It also rescinded the following reports:

- The Report of the Executive Office of the President of June 2013 (The President's Climate Action Plan) and
- The Report of the Executive Office of the President of March 2014 (Climate Action Plan Strategy to Reduce Methane Emissions).

The order further asks for a review to amend or withdraw a number of regulations which put restrictions on coal, oil and gas industries.[1676]

On 29 March 2017, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke signed Secretarial Order 3348 which overturns the 2016 moratorium on new coal leases on federal lands.[1677]

On 27 April 2017, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced $55 million in competitive grant funds through FTA's Low or No Emission (Low-No) Bus Program.[1678]

On 28 April 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed an executive order on implementing an America — First offshore energy strategy which institutes a policy that encourages energy exploration and production,

[1675] Interior Department Auctions Over 122,000 Acres Offshore Kitty Hawk, North Carolina for Wind Energy Development, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 3 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2016. https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-department-auctions-over-122000-acres-offshore-kitty-hawk-north-carolina-wind

[1676] Presidential Executive Order on Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth, The White House Office of the Press Secretary (Washington D.C.) 28 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/28/presidential-executive-order-promoting-energy-independence-and-economi-1

[1677] Secretary Zinke Takes Immediate Action to Advance American Energy Independence, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior (Washington D.C.) 3 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-zinke-takes-immediate-action-advance-american-energy-independence

[1678] U.S. Department of Transportation Announces $55 Million Funding Opportunity for Clean-Energy Transit Bus Projects, US Department of Transportation (Washington D.C.) 27 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/fta0517 including on the Outer Continental Shelf. It calls for the review of the Offshore Arctic Drilling Rule and the reconsideration of the Well Control Rule and Offshore Air Rule.[1679]

On 1 May 2017, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke signed a secretarial order which directs the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to develop a new five-year plan for oil and gas exploration in offshore waters.[1680]

On 23 May 2017, the EPA announced a 90-day stay on the August 2016 New Source Performance Standards and Emissions Guidelines for municipal solid waste landfills.[1681]

The United States has not demonstrated commitment to sustainable development by removing various protections against the environmental degradation of its lands and oceans and by investing in traditional energy sources. The United States has also not shown strong and effective support and actions to address climate change as it has weakened its previous national climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, rules and strategies.

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

Analyst: Lauren Dalgliesh

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to sustainable development and strong and effective support and actions to address climate change.

The EU Nationally Determined Contribution commits the European Union and its member states to domestic greenhouse gas reductions of 40 per cent below 1990 levels by 2030.[1682]

On 4 October 2016, the European Parliament approved the ratification of the Paris Agreement by the EU.[1683]

On 7 October 2016, the European Commission announced that all EU members will participate in the landmark agreement reached by the International Civil Aviation Organization to adopt a Global Market-Based Measure (GMBM) which will reduce international aviation greenhouse gas emissions. The GMBM requires that post 2020 airlines offset any growth in the greenhouse gas emissions by buying emission credits generated from other sectors of the economy.[1684]

On 13 October 2016, the European Commission announced EUR3 million to help replace hydroflourocarbons (HFCs) in Latin America and the Caribbean.[1685]

[1679] Presidential Executive Order Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy, The White House Office of the Press Secretary (Washington D.C.) 28 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/04/28/presidential-executive-order-implementing-america-first-offshore-energy

[1680] Secretary Zinke Signs Orders Implementing America-First Offshore Energy Strategy, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior (Houston) 1 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-zinke-signs-orders-implementing-america-first-offshore-energy-strategy

[1681] EPA Stays Landfill Methane Rules, US Environmental Protection Agency (Washington D.C.) 13 May 2017. Access Date:30 May 2017. https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-stays-landfill-methane-rules

[1682] Submission by Latvia and the European Commission on Behalf of the European Union and its Member States, CAIT Climate Data Explorer (Riga) 6 May 2015. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://cait.wri.org/indc/

[1683] Paris Agreement to Enter into Force as EU Agrees Ratification, European Commission (Strasbourg) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3284_en.htm

[1684] Commission Welcomes Landmark International Agreement to Curb Aviation Emissions, European Commission (Brussels) 7 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3326_en.htm

[1685] Commission Announces New EUR 3 million Project to Kick-start HFC Action, European Commission Climate Action 13 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news_2016101301_en.htm

On 18 October 2016, the European Union and the Eastern Partner countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine) adopted a Ministerial Declaration stating that the European Union and the Eastern Partners will increase their cooperation on environmental issues and climate change as well as promoting sustainable and inclusive economic development.[1686]

On 20 October 2016, the European Commission announced three commitments to implement the New Urban Agenda. These commitments are to deliver the New Urban Agenda through the Urban Agenda for the EU, develop a global, harmonized definition of cities and foster cooperation between cities in the field of sustainable urban development.[1687]

On 3 November 2016, the European Commission announced the approval of EUR222.7 million to be invested in the EU's transition to a sustainable and low-carbon economy. This funding package will be used to help fund 144 innovative LIFE projects in a variety of areas including Environment & Resource Efficiency; Nature & Biodiversity; Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation; and Climate & Environmental Governance and Information. The LIFE programme is the programme through which the European Union funds its environment and climate projects and has been running since 1992.[1688]

On 22 November 2016, the European Commission released its strategy for achieving sustainable development both in Europe and around the world. The strategy lays out how the EU's top political priorities align with or contribute to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.[1689]

On 24 November 2016, the European Commission Vice-President for Energy Union Maroš Šefčovič and Energy Minister of Ukraine, Ihor Nasalyk signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on a Strategic Energy Partnership between the EU and the Ukraine. The MOU will enhance cooperation between the two countries on energy security, energy market integration, energy efficiency, decarbonizing the economy and energy research.[1690]

On 30 November 2016, the European Commission announced the program, Clean Energy for All Europeans, which is a series of measures to keep the EU competitive during the global energy markets' transition to clean energy. The program focuses on a wide range of initiatives including new regulations around Ecodesign, improving the energy efficiency of buildings and increasing access to financing.[1691]

On 12 December 2016, the European Commission approved EUR7.681 billion for four renewable energy projects (geothermal, biogas, hydroelectric and wind) to help France boost its renewable energy production capacity by approximately 2148MW.[1692]

On 14 December 2016, the European Parliament and the Council signed the National Emissions Ceilings (NEC) Directive into law. The directive sets stricter limits on each country's emissions of the five

[1686] EU and Eastern Partners to Step Up Cooperation on Environment and Climate Action, European Commission (Brussels) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3443_en.htm
[1687] Commission Puts Forward Commitments to Reach Global Targets in Sustainable Urban Development, European Commission (Quito) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3477_en.htm
[1688] Commission Invests Over 222 million EUR in Green and Low-Carbon Projects, European Commission (Brussels) 3 November 2016. Access Date: 3 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3482_en.htm
[1689] Sustainable Development: EU Sets Out its Priorities, European Commission (Strasbourg) 22 November 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3883_en.htm
[1690] EU-Ukraine Summit: EU and Ukraine Intensify Energy Partnership. European Commission (Brussels) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3926_en.htm
[1691] Clean Energy for All Europeans — Unlocking Europe's Growth Potential, European Commission (Brussels) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4009_en.htm
[1692] State Aid: Commission Approved Four Support Measures for Renewable Energy in France, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4355_en.htm

main pollutants in Europe, sulphur dioxide, ammonia, volatile organic compounds, nitrogen oxides and fine particulate matter. The law entered into force on 31 December 2016.[1693]

On 2 February 2017, the European Commission adopted a proposal for the EU to ratify the amendment to the Montreal Protocol on the global phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).[1694]

On 3 February 2017, the European Commission announced that it will amend the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) so it can address CO2 emissions from aviation. This is in response to the agreement made by the International Civil Aviation Organization to stabilize international aviation emissions, of which the EU was party to.[1695]

On 6 February 2017, the European Commission adopted the Environmental Implementation Review which helps member states apply EU rules on the environment.[1696]

On 17 February 2017, EU Member States approved the European Commission's proposal to invest EUR444 million in European energy infrastructure projects. The EUR444 million will be used to fund 18 electricity, smart grids and gas projects and contribute to achieving the Energy Union's goals by connecting European energy networks, increasing security of energy supply and contributing to the sustainable development by integrating renewable energy sources across the EU. The funding will come from the Connecting Europe Facility which is the EU's funding support programme for infrastructure.[1697]

On 7 March 2017, the European Commission approved a Czech Republic support scheme for electricity produced from high-efficiency combined heat and power plants commissioned from January 2016 to December 2020. The scheme has a total budget of EUR420 million, which will be financed by a combination of a surcharge levied on electricity consumers and contributions from the State budget. This scheme will help to increase energy efficiency, reduce CO2 emissions and help the Czech Republic achieve its 2020 environmental and climate change objectives.[1698]

On 28 March 2017, the European Commission approved Danish state support for a private offshore wind farm as it will help Demark reduce its CO2 emissions without unduly distorting competition.[1699]

The European Union has demonstrated commitment to sustainable development by increasing funding to renewable energy projects and enhancing cooperation on energy and the environment both within the EU and between the EU and surrounding countries. The European Union has provided strong and effective support and actions to address climate change by implementing multi-country programs.

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

Analyst: Lauren Dalgliesh

[1693] EU Approves New Rules for Member States to Drastically Cut Air Pollution, European Commission (Brussels) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4358_en.htm
[1694] EU paves way for global phase-down of climate-warming HFCs, European Commission. (Brussels) 2 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-paves-way-global-phase-down-climate-warming-hfcs_en
[1695] EU tackles growing aviation emissions, European Commission (Brussels) 3 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-189_en.htm
[1696] Improving the implementation of European environmental policy, European Commission (Brussels) 6 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_AC-17-228_en.htm
[1697] EU invests EUR444 million in key energy infrastructure, European Commission (Brussels) 17 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-280_en.htm
[1698] State aid: Commission clears EUR420 million Czech support scheme for combined heat and power. European Commission (Brussels) 7 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-483_en.htm
[1699] State aid: Commission approves Danish support for Kriegers Flak offshore wind farm, European Commission (Brussels) 28 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-782_en.htm

7. Trade: Anti-protectionism

"We extend our commitments to standstill and rollback of protectionist measures till the end of 2018, reaffirm our determination to deliver on them."

G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada			+1
China			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
India		0	
Indonesia			+1
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
Korea		0	
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia	−1		
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.30	

Background

The G20 commitment to reduce protectionist barriers has featured in G20 summit documents since the Washington Summit of 2008. This commitment was part of the response by the G20 to the 2008 financial crisis and has previously been extended three times: at the 2009 London Summit, at the 2010 Toronto Summit, and at the Los Cabos Summit until the end of 2014. At the St. Petersburg Summit the commitment was once again extended until the end of 2016. At the 2015 G20 Summit in Antalya, Turkey, G20 members once again reaffirmed their commitment to a standstill and rollback on protectionist measures.

During the most recent 2016 Hangzhou Summit, G20 members once again reaffirmed their commitment to a standstill and rollback protectionist measures.[1700] To achieve this aim, the G20 asked the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to share the responsibility of monitoring and measuring of trade and investment restrictive measures.[1701]

[1700] G20 Leaders' Communiqué, Hangzhou Summit, 4-5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 october 2016. http://g20.org/English/Dynamic/201609/t20160906_3396.html
[1701] G20 Leaders' Communiqué, Hangzhou Summit, 4-5 September 2016. Access Date: 26 october 2016. http://g20.org/English/Dynamic/201609/t20160906_3396.html

A 2015 report from the European Parliament has identified border measures, which includes export restrictions, as the predominant form of trade protectionism among G20 Member countries. In addition, the report highlights behind-the-border measures, including measures relating to government procurement and restrictions associated with technical regulations, as the second common form of trade protectionism. Furthermore, ongoing uncertainty in the global economy underlines the need for G20 economies to show restraint in the imposition of new measures and to actively eliminate existing ones. Of the 1,583 trade restrictive measures recorded by this exercise since the onset of the crisis in 2008, only 387 have been removed as of Mid-May 2016. The total number of restrictive measures still in place now stands at 1196, up by about 21 per cent by November 2015.

In response to the increasing stockpile of restrictive measures, the WTO, OECD and UNCTAD have called upon the G20 to roll back on existing forms of protectionism. Compliance with the trade commitment must therefore also be measured in terms of how each member country has rolled back on protectionist measures.

According to a 2015 report from the B20, the G20 must prioritize rolling back on localization barriers to trade (LBTs), as they has been identified as an emerging and damaging non-tariff barrier. LBTs can be defined as any measure that demands that a good or service maintains a certain amount of domestic input, at the expense of foreign investment. This includes forced local content requirements, forced local procurement, forced local ownership, or forced data storage and processing or obstacles to data migration.

Commitment Features

This commitment mandates that G20 members both 1) standstill — cease the implementation of new protectionist measures, and 2) rollback — reducing or eliminating, existing protectionist measures. Raising new measures includes both the act of implementing a protectionist measure as well as announcing or enacting plans to implement new barriers as it is considered critically important that the state act in a way that discourages protectionism.

Protectionist measures are implemented and designed to keep out imports while supporting domestic industries. Global Trade Alert (GTA), a monitoring service operated by the London-based Centre for Economic Policy Research, defines protectionism broadly as anything that hurts another country's commercial interests.[1702] It includes government bailouts of domestic companies, wage subsidies, export and VAT rebates, export credits and financing from state-owned banks.[1703] Whether the measures in question are positive or negative for the economy or country is not considered.[1704]

Protectionist trade barriers, according to the WTO include instruments such as "tariffs, non-tariff measures, subsidies, and burdensome administrative procedures regarding imports."[1705] Subsidies in particular cause competition-distorting effects. The WTO states, "the longer the subsidies remain in place, the more they will distort market-based production and investment decisions globally, the greater will become the threat of chronic trade distortions developing, and the more difficult it will become to correct

[1702] The Hidden Pressures, The Economist 12 October 2013. Access Date: 23 September 2015. http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21587381-protectionism-can-take-many-forms-not-all-them-obvious-hidden-persuaders

[1703] The Hidden Pressures, The Economist 12 October 2013. Access Date: 23 September 2015. http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21587381-protectionism-can-take-many-forms-not-all-them-obvious-hidden-persuaders

[1704] The Hidden Pressures, The Economist 12 October 2013. Access Date: 23 September 2015. http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21587381-protectionism-can-take-many-forms-not-all-them-obvious-hidden-persuaders

[1705] G20 governments refrain from extensive use of restrictive measures, but some slippage evident, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 14 September 2009. Access Date: 3 November 2010. www.wto.org/english/news_e/news09_e/trdev_14sep09_e.htm.

those distortions."[1706] Investment barriers include, but are not limited to measures that discriminate against foreign-based institutions or act as barriers to outward investment flows. Expanding existing, or implementing new, free trade agreements is a form of eliminating trade barriers and will count towards the rolling back of protectionist measures.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	The G20 member implemented new protectionist measures AND existing measures were not rolled back
0	The G20 member did not implement new protectionist measures BUT existing measures were not rolled back OR the G20 member did implement new protectionist measures BUT existing measures were rolled back.
+1	The G20 member did not implement new protectionist measures AND existing measures were rolled back

Lead Analyst: Philip Basaric

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment on the standstill and rollback of protectionist measures.

On 23 September 2017, ministers from Brazil and Argentina signed a document in order to guide the technical areas of both countries to continue with the Digital Certificate of Origin Pilot Project, aiming to extend and deepen the bilateral trade as well as to promote integration between Brazil and Argentina. In addition, the deal with the Digital Certificate of Origin may save 35 per cent of costs associated with issuing the certificate of origin, in addition to reducing logistics costs for the company.[1707]

On 17 November 2016, the leaders of Canada and Argentina met, and Argentina removed barriers to Canadian access to Argentina's pork market.[1708]

On 21 November 2016, the leaders of Japan and Argentina met, and in an official statement, "The two leaders expressed their expectation toward the promotion of trade and investment between the two countries."[1709] The two countries also signed a memorandum of cooperation between the Japan External Trade Organization and the International Investment and Trade Agency of Argentina.[1710] This is aimed at increasing trade volumes, cooperation and consultation between the two countries.

On 14 December 2016, Argentina also announced that it is seeking a bilateral trade agreement with the United Kingdom, and indicated openness to discussing the disputed Malvinas/Falkland Islands.[1711]

On 14 December 2016, Argentina also announced that it is seeking a bilateral trade agreement with the United Kingdom, and indicated openness to discussing the disputed Malvinas/Falkland Islands.[1712]

[1706] Report on the G20 Trade and Investment Measures, WTO 14 September 2009. Access Date 15 July 2015 https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news09_e/trdev_14sep09_e.htm
[1707] Brazil and Argentina – COD – Digital Certificate of Origin, Reuters 23 September 2017. Access Date: 20 January 2017. https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/onesource/brazil-and-argentina-cod-digital-certificate-of-origin/
[1708] Trudeau and Argentina's president say trade — not protectionism — will help the poor, unemployed, CBC (Ottawa) 17 November 2016. Date of Access: 31 May 2017. http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/trudeau-argentina-trump-trade-1.3855764
[1709] Argentina and Japan, strategic partners, agree on a investment accord to prop economic ties, Mercopress (Montevideo) 22 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. http://en.mercopress.com/2016/11/22/argentina-and-japan-strategic-partners-agree-on-a-investment-accord-to-prop-economic-ties
[1710] Argentina and Japan, strategic partners, agree on a investment accord to prop economic ties, Mercopress (Montevideo) 22 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. http://en.mercopress.com/2016/11/22/argentina-and-japan-strategic-partners-agree-on-a-investment-accord-to-prop-economic-ties
[1711] Argentina sees Brexit as Chance for Trade Talks with U.K. After Brexit, Bloomberg (New York City), 15 December 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-12-15/argentina-says-it-will-seek-trade-deal-with-u-k-after-brexit

On 16 December 2016, Chile's President Michelle Bachelet said that her country is "very interested" in Argentina joining the Pacific Alliance, a large trading bloc in South America.[1713] The comments came during an official visit with Argentine President Mauricio Macri, who has made it a priority to open Argentina's market and who seeks to join the Alliance.[1714] In April 2017 in Buenos Aires, Foreign Ministers from both Mercosur and the Pacific Alliance will meet for the first time, to discuss convergence between the two blocs.[1715] Argentine Foreign Minister Susana Malcorra declared she will try to do away with over 80 obstacles to this convergence that she has identified.[1716]

In January 2017 during the third meeting of the Brazil-Argentina Bilateral Production and Trade Commission, the two countries signed an agreement which will implement an agreement aimed at removing obstacles to increased trade flows between Brazil and Argentina.[1717]

On 19 January 2017, Mercosur and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) announced a conclusion to exploratory dialogue, emphasizing their readiness to obtain the necessary mandates in order to prepare for a quick start to negotiations.[1718] In late March 2017, Mercosur and the EFTA successfully completed an exploratory dialogue and preliminary negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement.[1719]

On 16 March 2017, Argentina signed an agricultural agreement with New Zealand, which boosts cooperation and agricultural trade between the two.[1720]

On 20 March 2017, the Argentine government signed a memorandum of understanding with the United Kingdom government, designed to "increase, promote and develop trade and investment" and an agreement designed to improve air connections between the two nations" according to officials.[1721] The two governments agreed to engage in a trade dialogue to promote "trade and investment with the objective of achieving economic growth, improving competitiveness through innovation, entrepreneurial spirit and sustainability."[1722] The memorandum was signed by Argentina's minister of production, Francisco Cabrera. It emphasizes "a favorable environment for the free, secure and transparent circulation

[1712] Argentina sees Brexit as Chance for Trade Talks with U.K. After Brexit, Bloomberg (New York City), 15 December 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-12-15/argentina-says-it-will-seek-trade-deal-with-u-k-after-brexit

[1713] Chile to Help Argentina Join Pacific Alliance, Panam Post (Miami) 20 December 2016. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. https://panampost.com/raquel-garcia/2016/12/20/chile-to-help-argentina-join-pacific-alliance/.

[1714] Chile to Help Argentina Join Pacific Alliance, Panam Post (Miami) 20 December 2016. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. https://panampost.com/raquel-garcia/2016/12/20/chile-to-help-argentina-join-pacific-alliance/.

[1715] There has Never Been a Better Time for Latin American Integration, The Economist (London) 23 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.economist.com/news/americas/21719478-fractured-region-needs-pull-together-trade-there-has-never-been-better-time-latin.

[1716] There has Never Been a Better Time for Latin American Integration, The Economist (London) 23 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.economist.com/news/americas/21719478-fractured-region-needs-pull-together-trade-there-has-never-been-better-time-latin.

[1717] Brazil and Argentina sign USD 250,000 partnership, BrazilGovNews (Brasilia) 1 February 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/02/brazil-and-argentina-sign-usd-250-000-partnership.

[1718] EFTA and MERCOSUR sign a Joint Statement announcing the conclusion of their exploratory dialogue on a possible comprehensive free trade agreement, European Free Trade Agreement (Geneva) 19 January 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.efta.int/Free-Trade/news/EFTA-and-MERCOSUR-sign-Joint-Statement-announcing-conclusion-their-exploratory-dialogue-possible-comprehensive-free-trade-agreement-501436.

[1719] How two new free trade agreements could transform Brazil, World Economic Forum (Geneva) 27 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/03/how-two-new-free-trade-agreements-could-transform-brazil/.

[1720] New Zealand-Argentina agricultural agreement signed, The Scoop (Wellington) 16 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PA1703/S00282/new-zealand-argentina-agricultural-agreement-signed.htm.

[1721] Argentina, UK, Sign Memorandum to Increase Investment, Trade, Latin American Herald Tribune (Caracas) 20 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=2433223&CategoryId=14093.

[1722] Argentina, UK, Sign Memorandum to Increase Investment, Trade, Latin American Herald Tribune (Caracas) 20 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=2433223&CategoryId=14093.

of goods and the provision of services" and also promotes "the cooperation and association among companies."[1723] An upgraded air services agreement was also signed between the two countries so as to better facilitate trade and linkages.[1724] Furthermore, it was agreed that a UK-Argentina Commercial Dialogue group will be established to draft a joint statement in September, focused on promoting bilateral trade and investment by helping to develop new commercial links and to reduce existing barriers.[1725]

Following meetings on 9 March 2017, the four countries of Mercosur, chaired by Argentina, announced that they had arrived at a common position ahead of free trade negotiations with the EU the following week.[1726] Argentine Foreign Minister Susana Malcorra said that Mercosur's open dialogue with the EU is "one of those opportunities that cannot be lost" and insisted that a "well-defined strategy" was needed before going to the negotiating table.[1727]

On 26 March 2017, Mexico's deputy economy minister Juan Carlos Baker confirmed that his country is has entered talks with Argentina and Brazil to create duty-free measures for imports of corn.[1728] Argentina's President Mauricio Macri said that the Mercosur trading bloc would seek closer links with Mexico.[1729]

However, in early March 2017 Ruben Garcia, the President of Argentina's Chamber of Importers, criticized President Macri for maintaining import restrictions, which he called "protectionism, plain and simple."[1730]

On 15 April 2017, Argentine President Macri announced and confirmed remarks that the Mercosur trade bloc would sign a trade agreement with the EU in 2017.[1731]

Argentina did not implement new protectionist measures and some existing measures were rolled back. It has led Mercosur to new trade dialogue has continuously pushed for freer trade with its international partners.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Josh Gold

[1723] Argentina, UK, Sign Memorandum to Increase Investment, Trade, Latin American Herald Tribune (Caracas) 20 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=2433223&CategoryId=14093.
[1724] UK £1bn export credit for British companies planning to trade with Argentina, Mercopress (Montevideo) 21 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017.
http://en.mercopress.com/2017/03/21/uk-1bn-export-credit-for-british-companies-planning-to-trade-with-argentina.
[1725] UK £1bn export credit for British companies planning to trade with Argentina, Mercopress (Montevideo) 21 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017.
http://en.mercopress.com/2017/03/21/uk-1bn-export-credit-for-british-companies-planning-to-trade-with-argentina.
[1726] Mercosur trade bloc agrees common position ahead of EU talks, Euractiv (Brussels) 10 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.euractiv.com/section/economy-jobs/news/mercosur-trade-bloc-agrees-common-position-ahead-of-eu-talks/.
[1727] Mercosur trade bloc agrees common position ahead of EU talks, Euractiv (Brussels) 10 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.euractiv.com/section/economy-jobs/news/mercosur-trade-bloc-agrees-common-position-ahead-of-eu-talks/.
[1728] Calling Donald Trump's anti-NAFTA bluff, Mexico is looking to get its corn from elsewhere, Quartz (New York City) 27 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. https://qz.com/942713/mexico-is-meeting-with-brazil-and-argentina-on-corn-duty-free-trade-deals-and-calling-donald-trumps-anti-nafta-bluff/.
[1729] Trump's aggressiveness toward Mexico could be good for everyone but the US, Business Insider (New York City) 31 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. (http://www.businessinsider.com/trumps-aggressive-trade-policies-a-huge-opportunity-for-latin-america-2017-3.
[1730] Argentina's Macri faces rising complaints over import policies, Reuters (London) 30 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-argentina-economy-trade-idUSKBN1712Y4.
[1731] Mercosur to sign trade deal with EU this year, Argentina says - NZZ, Reuters (London) 15 April 2017. Date of Access: 31 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/argentina-eu-trade-idUSL8N1HN051.

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with the commitment to roll back protectionist measures. On 20 December 2015, Australia commenced phased tariff elimination of its remaining tariffs on Chinese originating goods under the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement.[1732] In January 2017, full tariff reductions under the agreement were expected to come into effect.[1733] The phased tariff elimination for imports from China included products such as apparel, electronics, ground nuts, polymers.[1734]

In March 2016 negotiations on the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement were reactivated and are still ongoing.[1735]

On 20 April 2017, Australia concluded negotiations on the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus (PACER Plus).[1736] PACER Plus consists of Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific Island countries. The agreement includes the reduction of tariffs on goods and investments across the region and will be signed in June 2017.[1737]

On 16 May 2017, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment, Steven Ciobo announced the launch of Australia-Hong Kong FTA negotiations.[1738] The agreement will explore reducing tariffs in goods and services including fashion, investment, and food and beverage industries amongst others.[1739]

On 24 May 2017, Minister Steven Ciobo announced the launch of negotiations for a Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement.[1740] The agreement aims to reduce barriers to trade in goods and services so Australia can compete with other countries engaged in free trade agreements with Peru such as Canada,the United States, and the European Union.[1741]

Australia has rolled back existing protectionism measures, and also not implemented new ones. Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alessandra Jenkins

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to eliminate and roll back protectionist measures.

[1732] CHAFTA: Tariff cuts as agreement comes into effect December 20. The Australian. Date of Access: 30 March 2017. http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/chafta-tariff-cuts-as-agreement-comes-into-effect-december-20/news-story/18cceaf7c67bd60e3220a72452f6a679

[1733] New year brings new opportunities for Australian exporters, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment. 2 January 2017. Date of Access: 19 January 2017. http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/sc_mr_160102.aspx

[1734] FTA Text and Tariff Schedule. Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Date of Access: 19 January 2017. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/chafta/official-documents/Pages/official-documents.aspx

[1735] Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Date of Access: 30 March 2017. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/iacepa/pages/indonesia-australia-comprehensive-economic-partnership-agreement.aspx

[1736] Pacific trade and development agreement concluded, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment. 20 April 2017. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_170420.aspx

[1737] Pacific trade and development agreement concluded, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment. 20 April 2017. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_170420.aspx

[1738] Launch of Australia-Hong Kong FTA negotiations, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment. 16 May 2017. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_170516.aspx

[1739] Launch of Australia-Hong Kong FTA negotiations, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment. 16 May 2017. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_170516.aspx

[1740] Launch of Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment. 24 may 2017. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_170524.aspx

[1741] Launch of Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment. 24 may 2017. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_170524.aspx

On 23 September 2017, ministers from Brazil and Argentina signed a document in order to guide the technical areas of both countries to continue with the Digital Certificate of Origin Pilot Project (COD), aiming to extend and deepen the bilateral trade as well as to promote integration between Brazil and Argentina. In addition, the deal with the Digital Certificate of Origin may save 35 per cent of costs associated with issuing the certificate of origin (CO), in addition to reducing logistics costs for the company.[1742]

In January 2017 during the third meeting of the Brazil-Argentina Bilateral Production and Trade Commission, the two countries signed an agreement which will implement an agreement aimed at removing obstacles to increased trade flows between Brazil and Argentina.[1743]

On 19 January 2017, Mercosur and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) announced a conclusion to exploratory dialogue, emphasizing their readiness to obtain the necessary mandates in order to prepare for a quick start to negotiations.[1744] In late March 2017, Mercosur and the EFTA, which comprises of Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, successfully completed an exploratory dialogue and preliminary negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement.[1745]

On 14 March 2017, Brazil's Foreign Minister Aloysio Nunes said that "there is an intensification of our talks with the EU and we are moving into a decision-making phase."[1746] He further pledged that Mercosur would "sign a wide political accord this year and later negotiate more delicate issues."[1747]

On 26 March 2017, Mexico's deputy economy minister Juan Carlos Baker confirmed that his country is engaged in talks with Brazil and Argentina to create duty-free measures for imports of corn.[1748] Baker described the progress of the talks with Brazil as "pretty advanced."[1749]

Brazil has started to take some steps to remove protectionist measures, but they have not yet been implemented. Thus Brazil receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Josh Gold

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to reduce protectionist measures and barriers to trade.

[1742] Brazil and Argentina – COD – Digital Certificate of Origin, Reuters 23 September 2017. Access Date: 20 January 2017. https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/onesource/brazil-and-argentina-cod-digital-certificate-of-origin/

[1743] Brazil and Argentina sign USD 250,000 partnership, BrazilGovNews (Brasilia) 1 February 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/02/brazil-and-argentina-sign-usd-250-000-partnership.

[1744] EFTA and MERCOSUR sign a Joint Statement announcing the conclusion of their exploratory dialogue on a possible comprehensive free trade agreement, European Free Trade Agreement (Geneva) 19 January 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://www.efta.int/Free-Trade/news/EFTA-and-MERCOSUR-sign-Joint-Statement-announcing-conclusion-their-exploratory-dialogue-possible-comprehensive-free-trade-agreement-501436.

[1745] How two new free trade agreements could transform Brazil, World Economic Forum (Geneva) 27 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/03/how-two-new-free-trade-agreements-could-transform-brazil/.

[1746] Mercosur expects to sign a trade deal with the EU by year end taking advantage of Trump's isolationism, Mercopress (Montevideo) 15 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://en.mercopress.com/2017/03/15/mercosur-expects-to-sign-a-trade-deal-with-the-eu-by-year-end-taking-advantage-of-trump-s-isolationism.

[1747] Mercosur expects to sign a trade deal with the EU by year end taking advantage of Trump's isolationism, Mercopress (Montevideo) 15 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. http://en.mercopress.com/2017/03/15/mercosur-expects-to-sign-a-trade-deal-with-the-eu-by-year-end-taking-advantage-of-trump-s-isolationism.

[1748] Calling Donald Trump's anti-NAFTA bluff, Mexico is looking to get its corn from elsewhere, Quartz (New York City) 27 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. https://qz.com/942713/mexico-is-meeting-with-brazil-and-argentina-on-corn-duty-free-trade-deals-and-calling-donald-trumps-anti-nafta-bluff/.

[1749] Calling Donald Trump's anti-NAFTA bluff, Mexico is looking to get its corn from elsewhere, Quartz (New York City) 27 March 2017. Date of Access: 2 April 2017. https://qz.com/942713/mexico-is-meeting-with-brazil-and-argentina-on-corn-duty-free-trade-deals-and-calling-donald-trumps-anti-nafta-bluff/.

On 30 October 2016, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, and European Council President Donald Tusk signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).[1750] The agreement includes the elimination of tariffs on European exports entering Canada including agricultural products, wine, and spirits.[1751] The agreement also removes barriers to foreign competition from the European Union on Canadian public procurement markets.[1752]

On 16 December 2016, Canada ratified the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation (TFA).[1753] The TFA will reduce bilateral costs of trading with Canada by simplifying customs and borders procedures.[1754]

On March 17 2017, International Trade Minister Francois-Philippe Champagne met with government officials in Mexico. Minister Champagne emphasized Canada's commitment to NAFTA and the benefits of the agreement fro growing trade through the North American Partnership.[1755] Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland reaffirmed Canada's commitment to NAFTA and promoting free trade across the North American region on 18 May 2017.[1756]

Canada has taken steps to rollback existing protectionist measures, and also has not implemented any new protectionist policies. Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alessandra Jenkins

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to further free trade and roll back protectionist measures.

On 7 September 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang met with the leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries at the 19th ASEAN-China Summit. Premier Li made a proposal to advance opportunities for expanding economic and trade cooperation amongst ASEAN members. Specifically, Li proposed to upgrade the current China-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement to further trade liberalization, take steps to advance China's Belt and Road initiative and push for the development of major railway projects between China and ASEAN countries to deepen interconnectivity between markets.

[1750] Canada and the EU sign historic trade agreement during EU-Canada Summit, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada. 30 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/10/30/canada-and-eu-sign-historic-trade-agreement-during-eu-canada-summit

[1751] Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement, European Commission Trade. 11 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/

[1752] Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement, European Commission Trade. 11 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/

[1753] Canada ratifies WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation, Government of Canada (Ottawa). 16 December 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do;jsessionid=e08914cbf256fab13c89887651ac5a2682a40175a813f43eacdf34238f737685.e34Rc3iMbx8Oai0Tbx0SaxuSahf0?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=11&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=6673&nid=1170659&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=1&crtr.yrStrtVl=2015&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=15&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=1&crtr.yrndVl=2018&crtr.dyndVl=7

[1754] Canada ratifies WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation, Government of Canada (Ottawa). 16 December 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do;jsessionid=e08914cbf256fab13c89887651ac5a2682a40175a813f43eacdf34238f737685.e34Rc3iMbx8Oai0Tbx0SaxuSahf0?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=11&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=6673&nid=1170659&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=1&crtr.yrStrtVl=2015&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=15&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=11&crtr.page=1&crtr.yrndVl=2018&crtr.dyndVl=7

[1755] International Trade minister promotes free trade during visit to Mexico, Global Affairs Canada. 17 March 2017. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2017/03/international_tradeministerpromotesfreetradeduringvisittomexico.html

[1756] Statement by Foreign Affairs Minister on NAFTA, Global Affairs Canada. 17 May 2017. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2017/05/statement_by_foreignaffairsministeronnafta.html

ASEAN countries in return agreed to further enhance economic cooperation and accelerate talks on upgrading the China-ASEAN FTA.[1757]

On 7 November 2016, Premier Li Keqiang held talks with Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev in St. Petersburg, Russia to strengthen bilateral relations in numerous areas. Both sides agreed to strengthen economic cooperation, emphasizing the importance of increasing bilateral trade, encouraging mutual investments and expanding cooperation in supporting the active participation of small and medium-sized enterprises. Both sides also agreed to work towards furthering globalization and free trade by better connecting China's Silk Road Economic Belt initiative with the Eurasian Economic Union.[1758] Medvedev stated that Russia's trade turnover with China in 2016 exceeded USD40 billion and hoped to work towards reaching a turnover of USD200 billion with China in the next three to seven years.[1759]

On 5 March 2017, Premier of the State Council, Li Keqiang, in his annual speech reporting the work of the government, said "China will not shift in its commitment to promoting global economic cooperation, will uphold the multilateral trading regime as the main channel of international trade, and will play an active part in multilateral trade negotiations."[1760]

In April 2017, Finance Ministers of China, Japan and South Korea, in a trilateral meeting "agreed to resist all forms of protectionism," especially ones being advocated by the United States. This was strategically done just before the 2017 G20 Summit in Hamburg.[1761]

China has not implemented any new protectionist measures, and has reaffirmed and promoted its commitment to free trade. Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bryan Roh

France: 0

France has partially complied with the commitment to roll back protectionist measures.

No new protectionist measures were registered during the compliance period.

France has not implemented new protectionist measures, however no measures were rolled back. Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Philip Basaric & Ujwal Ganguly

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with the commitment to roll back protectionist measures.

No new protectionist measures were registered during the compliance period.

[1757] Li Keqiang Attends 19th China-ASEAN Summit, Emphasizing to Build up Confidence, and Forge Ahead to Push China-ASEAN Relations for More Comprehensive and In-depth Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/topics_665678/LKQCXDYHZLDRXLHYBDLWJXZSFW/t1396780.shtml

[1758] Li Keqiang Co-Chairs the 21st Regular Meeting Between Chinese Premier and Russian Prime Minister with Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev of Russia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/topics_665678/lkqfwjejssthskstltwyelsbcxxlgjhy/t1414015.shtml

[1759] Russian premier content with level of economic cooperation with China, Russian News Agency (Moscow) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://tass.com/economy/910789

[1760] REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE GOVERNMENT, Li Keqiang. 5 March 2017. Access date: 5 June 2017. http://online.wsj.com/public/resources/documents/NPC2017_WorkReport_English.pdf

[1761] Japan, China, South Korea pledge to resist protectionism, taking stand against Trump rhetoric. CNBC. 4 May 2017. Access date: 7 June 2017. http://www.cnbc.com/2017/05/04/japan-china-south-korea-pledge-to-resist-protectionism-taking-stand-against-trump-rhetoric.html

On 2 March 2017, Chancellor Angela Merkel spoke with Chinese Premier Xi Jin Ping and discussed the importance of "free trade and open markets." In a join statement, both heads of state "agreed to maintain their close cooperation" and discussed the automobile and electromobility expansion through partnership.[1762]

Germany plans to attach an additional document with the main G20 communiqué highlighting the importance of free trade resisting "all forms of protectionism."[1763]

Germany has promoted free trade, and not implemented new protectionist measures. However no measures were rolled back. Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Philip Basaric & Ujwal Ganguly

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment to roll back protectionist measures and barriers to trade.

On 23 September 2016, India reduced import tariffs on wheat from 25 per cent to 10 per cent. Tariffs on crude palm oil and refined vegetable oils were also reduced.[1764]

On 6 October 2016, Minimum Import Price on steel products was extended for a second period of two months.[1765]

On 9 December 2016, the import tariff on wheat was eliminated.[1766]

On 4 February 2017, the final extension of MIP on steel products was withdrawn, but was replaced with an anti-dumping duty for a period of six months. Furthermore, India imposed an anti-dumping duty on Chinese seamless tube and pipe imports.[1767]

India implemented new protectionist measures by extending the MIP for steel, but it also rolled back existing protectionist measures for other imported goods. Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ahmed Hasan

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to roll back protectionist measures and barriers to trade.

On 7 September 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang met with the leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries at the 19th ASEAN-China Summit. Premier Li made a proposal to advance opportunities for expanding economic and trade cooperation amongst ASEAN members.

[1762] Who will China trade with? Germany embraces open markets with Beijing after Trump threats. Newsweek. 16 March 2017. Access date: 6 June 2017. http://www.newsweek.com/china-trade-germany-embraces-open-markets-beijing-after-trump-569324

[1763] Germany to press g20 to sign off on free trade amid worries about US stance: Sources. CNBC. 15 March 2017. Access Date: 5 June 2017. http://www.cnbc.com/2017/03/15/germany-to-press-g20-to-sign-off-on-free-trade-amid-worries-about-us-stance-sources.html

[1764] India cuts import taxes on wheat, palm oil, refined oils 23 September 2016. Access Date: 21 January 2017. http://in.reuters.com/article/india-food-duty-idINKCN11T1HR

[1765] Indian trade barriers update: Government replacing MIP with anti-dumping duties in a phased manner 25 October 2016. Access Date: 21 January 2017. http://www.crugroup.com/about-cru/cruinsight/Indian_trade_barriers_update

[1766] 10 percent import duty scrapped on wheat as domestic prices rise. 9 December 2016. Access Date: 21 January 2017. http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/government-scraps-import-duty-on-wheat-source/articleshow/55870015.cms

[1767] Government of India Withdraws MIP on Steel Products. http://news.steel-360.com/steel/government-india-withdraws-mip-steel-products/ 17 March 2017. Access Date: 5 June 2017.

Specifically, Li proposed to upgrade the current China-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement to further trade liberalization, take steps to advance China's Belt and Road initiative and push for the development of major railway projects between China and ASEAN countries to deepen interconnectivity between markets. ASEAN countries in return agreed to further enhance economic cooperation and accelerate talks on upgrading the China-ASEAN FTA.[1768]

On 26 September 2016, Indonesia amended its quota system on cattle imported from Australia. The existing system was replaced by a requirement that one-sixth of all Australian cattle exports must be for designated breeding purposes.[1769]

On 25 October 2016, Deputy Chief of Staff Denni Purbasari indicated that Indonesia was looking into replacing its licensing system for importers of certain food commodities with a tariff system instead.[1770]

On 15 November 2016, Trade Minister Enggartiasto Lukita indicated that the Indonesian government was considering opening cattle imports to Brazil, Mexico, and Spain.[1771]

On 25 February 2017, Indonesian President Joko Widodo arrived in Australia to meet with Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, where the two discussed plans to finalize a free trade agreement by the end of the year[1772]. The visit concluded with Indonesia and Australia agreeing to relax trade barriers on cattle and pesticides[1773], as well as the reduction of tariffs on Australian sugar from 8 percent to 5 percent[1774].

Indonesia has both rolled back existing protectionist measures while refraining from introducing new ones. Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ahmed Hasan

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to roll back and eliminate protectionist measures and promote free trade.

On 18 January 2017, Foreign Affairs Secretary Perfecto Yasay Jr of the Philippines. and Italian Foreign Minister Angelino Alfano met to strengthen the Philippines-Italy Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). They aim to further strengthen Italy-Philippines trade relations. "We would like to pursue more

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[1768] Li Keqiang Attends 19th China-ASEAN Summit, Emphasizing to Build up Confidence, and Forge Ahead to Push China-ASEAN Relations for More Comprehensive and In-depth Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/topics_665678/LKQCXDYHZLDRXLHYBDLWJXZSFW/t1396780.shtml

[1769] Indonesia reportedly making sweeping changes to live cattle trade. 26 September 2016. Access Date: 22 January 2017. http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-09-27/indonesia-scraps-cattle-quotas-but-introduces-breeder-protocol/7879784

[1770] Indonesia may abolish licenses for food community imports — government official. 25 October 2016. Access Date: 22 January 2017. http://www.agriculture.com/markets/newswire/indonesia-may-abolish-licenses-for-food-commodity-imports-govt-official

[1771] Indonesian trade minister talks of opening gate to live cattle from Brazil, Mexico, and Spain. 15 November 2016. Access Date: 22 January 2017. http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-11-16/indonesia-willing-to-import-cattle-from-brazil-mexico-and-spain/8024500

[1772] Indonesian president Joko Widodo arrives in Australia for two-day visit. 25 February 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/feb/25/indonesian-president-joko-widodo-arrives-in-australia-for-two-day-visit

[1773] RI, Australia see eye to eye on sugar, cattle. 27 February 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. www.pressreader.com/indonesia/the-jakarta-post/20170227/281522225864358

[1774] Sugar lobby group welcomes Indonesia's announcement to lower export tariffs. 27 February 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. http://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2017-02-27/canegrowers-welcome-reduced-export-tariffs-into-indonesia/8305756 trade and investments cooperation with Italy. Philippine-Italian trade has been increasing through the years, but it still has not reached its full potential," said Secretary Yasay.[1775]

On 15 May 2017, during a two-day conference in Indonesia, Italy expressed interest in strengthening economic ties with Southeast Asia. "Italy is serious about its intention to increase investment in ASEAN despite global trends toward protectionism because the country believes that multilateralism and free trade are the future of the global economy, said chairman of the Italy-ASEAN Association Enrico Letta."[1776]

On 1 June 2017, Octopus Investments Ltd. started generating power from five subsidy-free solar plants in Italy in the latest sign that clean-energy can be profitable without government support.[1777]

Italy has not implemented new protectionist measures, however it has not rolled back existing ones. Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Tanzeel Fatima

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to further free-trade and roll back protectionist policies.

As of April 2017, Japan has encouraged free trade as exports increased 7.5 per cent since last April and imports 15.1 per cent. Since both rose more than forecasted, Japan's economy is experiencing a trade surplus of 481.7billion yen.[1778]

In April 2017, Finance Ministers of Japan, China and South Korea, in a trilateral meeting "agreed to resist all forms of protectionism," especially ones being advocated by the United States. This was strategically done just before the 2017 G20 Summit in Hamburg.[1779]

On 10 May 2017, Director General of Bancomext, Francisco N. González Díaz and Executive Director of the Infrastructure and Environmental Financing Area of Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) signed a memorandum of understanding to establish mechanisms granting credits to Mexican exports with Japanese content. The agreement seeks to increase annual trade volume while diversifying trade and markets and promoting business opportunities for Japanese and Mexican private sector companies. Furthermore, Bancomext and JBIC agreed to establish exchange mechanisms on development policies in sectors and regions which facilitate identification of business and trade opportunities.[1780]

Japan has not introduced any new protectionist measures, nor has it rolled back any existing protectionist policies. Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Bryan Roh

[1775] Philippines, Italy establish mechanism to strengthen partnership 20 January 2017. Access Date: 20 January 2017. http://www.update.ph/2017/01/philippines-italy-establish-mechanism-to-strengthen-partnership/13415
[1776] Italy seeks stronger economic ties with ASEAN. 14 May 2017. Access Date: 10 June 2017.http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/05/15/italy-seeks-stronger-economic-ties-with-asean.html
[1777] Italy Switches on Five New Subsidy-Free Solar Power Plants. 1 June 2017. Access Date: 10 June 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-06-01/italy-switches-on-five-new-subsidy-free-solar-power-plants
[1778] Japan April exports rise again, trade surplus with U.S. narrows. NASDAQ. 22 May 2017. Access date: 7 June 2017. http://www.nasdaq.com/article/japan-april-exports-rise-again-trade-surplus-with-us-narrows-20170522-00001
[1779] Japan, China, South Korea pledge to resist protectionism, taking stand against Trump rhetoric. CNBC. 4 May 2017. Access date: 7 June 2017. http://www.cnbc.com/2017/05/04/japan-china-south-korea-pledge-to-resist-protectionism-taking-stand-against-trump-rhetoric.html
[1780] Bancomext and and Japanese bank JBIC sign agreement to support trade and investment between Mexico and Japan, Bancomext 10 May 2017. Date of Access: May 29, 2017. http://www.bancomext.com/comunicados/16383.

Korea: 0

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to further free trade by eliminating protectionist measures not introducing any new ones.

On 8 September 2016, President Park Geun-hye held talks with Indian President Narendra Modi in Vientiane, Laos to deepen bilateral economic ties. Both sides agreed to continue to advance talks on improving the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), a free trade agreement (FTA) between Korea and India which came into effect in 2010. Park emphasized the importance of further promoting free trade and market opening in a time of global economic slowdown and rising trade protectionism. In particular, Park requested to Modi that India help address the issues Korean businesses encountered with India's import regulations in the steel and chemical sectors. Modi also shared Korea's concern with increasing protectionism across the globe and the need to improve CEPA.[1781]

On 16 November 2016, Korean Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Joo Hyung-hwan met with the trade ministers of Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Panama, and Nicaragua to conclude the final terms to the Korea-Central America FTA. "The free trade deals will help extend the trade and investment volume between Korean firms, including small and medium-sized enterprises, and our Central American partners," stated Hyung-hwan.[1782] Specifically, all parties agreed to eliminate approximately 95 per cent of goods made in each country within a time span of ten years after the FTA takes effect. The FTA will open sectors in Central American markets that Korea prominently exports out such as automobiles, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and home appliances. In return, the FTA will require Korea to eliminate tariffs on certain Central American exports such as coffee, raw sugar and tropical fruits within a seven year time frame.[1783]

On 6 December 2016, Korea began imposing a "definitive anti dumping duty" on imports of butyl glycol ether from the United States and France.[1784]

In April 2017, Finance Ministers of Korea, China and Japan, in a trilateral meeting "agreed to resist all forms of protectionism," especially ones being advocated by the United States. This was strategically done just before the 2017 G20 Summit in Hamburg.[1785]

Korea rolled back existing protectionist policies, but implemented new ones. Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Bryan Roh

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment on standstill and rollback of protectionist measures.

On 8 December 2016, Bancomext CEO Alejandro Díaz de León and Bancóldex President Luis Fernando Castro led talks at the "Mexico-Colombia Business Meeting: Opening New Markets." Inspired by the

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[1781] Korea and India share views on accelerating CEPA improvement talks, Korean Culture and Information Service (Sejong) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 12 October 2016. http://www.korea.net/NewsFocus/policies/view?articleId=140487

[1782] Korea, 6 Central American nations sign FTA, Korean Culture and Information Service (Sejong) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.korea.net/NewsFocus/policies/view?articleId=142218&pageIndex=6

[1783] Korea, 6 Central American nations sign FTA, Korean Culture and Information Service (Sejong) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.korea.net/NewsFocus/policies/view?articleId=142218&pageIndex=6

[1784] Republic of Korea: Definitive antidumping duty on imports of butyl glycol ether from the United States and France, Global Trade Alert 23 April 2016. Access Date: 11 June 2017. http://www.globaltradealert.org/measure/republic-korea-definitive-antidumping-duty-imports-butyl-glycol-ether-united-states-and-fran

[1785] Japan, China, South Korea pledge to resist protectionism, taking stand against Trump rhetoric. CNBC. 4 May 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. http://www.cnbc.com/2017/05/04/japan-china-south-korea-pledge-to-resist-protectionism-taking-stand-against-trump-rhetoric.html desire to expand bilateral trade and investment between the two countries, Bancomext and Bancóldex successfully financed, co-financed, and guaranteed investment projects while securing credit support developed to promote the import and export of trade goods and services.[1786]

On 26 December 2016, Mexico's Secretariat of Economy published in the Federal Register a report outlining the maximum quota allotment of sugar exports to the United States for the 2016 and 2017 sugar cycle. The figure of 870,688.94 metric tons represents an 11 per cent decrease in said quota compared to the 2015 and 2016 cycle.[1787]

On 24 April 2017, Bancomext signed two memoranda of understanding with Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego (BGK) and Korporacja Ubezpieczen Kredytów Eksportowych Spólka Akcyjna (KUKE) to establish cooperation mechanisms for trade and investment between Mexico and Poland. With BKG, Mexico agreed to support commercial and investment exchange between capital goods, equipment, parts and services, and cooperation in projects to be developed in Mexico and other countries. Additionally, each agreed to the establishment of exchange mechanisms on development policies in sectors and regions facilitating identification of business and trade opportunities. With KUKE, Mexico agreed to bolster bilateral trade via exchange of financial, economic, investment, and market information. Furthermore, the agreement established mechanisms facilitating the structuring of financing operations or guarantees to finance medium and long term economic activities between the two.[1788]

On 10 May 2017, Director General of Bancomext, Francisco N. González Díaz and Executive Director of the Infrastructure and Environmental Financing Area of Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) signed a memorandum of understanding to establish mechanisms granting credits to Mexican exports with Japanese content. The agreement seeks to increase annual trade volume while diversifying trade and markets and promoting business opportunities for Mexican and Japanese private sector companies. Furthermore, Bancomext and JBIC agreed to establish exchange mechanisms on development policies in sectors and regions which facilitate identification of business and trade opportunities.[1789]

On 6 June 2017, Mexico agreed to cut exports of refined sugar to the United States in a preliminary agreement of broader renegotiations of the North American Free Trade Agreement. While keeping 2014 agreements in place which limited price and volume of Mexican exports, the new deal lowers the percentage of refined sugar Mexico can send to the United States from 53 to 30 percent of exports. As a condition of the agreement, Mexico has the opportunity to supply 100 percent of annual excess sugar demand from the United States.[1790]

While Mexico has rolled back existing protectionist measures, new measures have been introduced to limit trade flows. Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Patrick Downey

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment on standstill or rollback of protectionist measures.

[1786] Bancomext and Bancoldex of Colombia hold a meeting to boost investment and trade, Bancomext (Washington) 8 December 2016. Access Date: January 11, 2017. http://www.bancomext.com/comunicados/15445.
[1787] Mexico: Mexico Announces Maximum Sugar Export Quota to the United States, United States Department of Agriculture (Washington) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017. https://www.fas.usda.gov/data/mexico-mexico-announces-maximum-sugar-export-quota-united-states.
[1788] Bancomext and financial institutions BKG and KUKE sign agreements to support trade and investment between Mexico and Poland, Bancomext 24 April 2017. Access Date: May 29, 2017. http://www.bancomext.com/comunicados/16318.
[1789] Bancomext and and Japanese bank JBIC sign agreement to support trade and investment between Mexico and Japan, Bancomext 10 May 2017. Access Date: May 29, 2017. http://www.bancomext.com/comunicados/16383.
[1790] Mexico Agrees to Sugar Trade Deal, but U.S. Refiners Remain Unhappy, The New York Times 6 June 2017. Access Date: June 6, 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/06/business/economy/sugar-nafta-mexico-trade-trump.html?_r=0.

On 26 September 2016 of the Russian Government decided to temporary abolish the export duties on wheat. It will remain in force from 23 September 2016 to 1 July 2018. Previously, the applied general export duty with respect to this particular tariff line was 50 per cent minus RUB6,500 per tonne but not less than RUB10 per tonne.[1791]

From 1 October 2016, Decree No. 1069 of the Russian Federation removed Value Added Tax (VAT) from the import and sales of certain breeding animals.[1792]

On 11 October 1016, the Russian Federation partially lifted a ban on imported fruit from Turkey, while further restrictions are to be lifted in stages following safety checks.[1793]

On 20 October 2016, the Russian Government decided to exempt from the payment of Value Added Tax (VAT) as of 1 October 2016 the imports and sales of certain breeding animals (cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, horses, etc.) and abolished previously applied a 10 per cent VAT rate.[1794]

On 11 November 2016, the Eurasian Economic Commission eliminated import customs for industrial fatty alcohols, terephthalic acid and its salts, knitted or crocheted fabric and tanage.[1795]

On 22 November 2016, the Russian Federation signed an agreement with Syria to establish a free trade zone for agricultural products.[1796]

On May 15 2017, at a Summit of the 'Belt and Road' initiative in Beijing, Russian President Vladimir Putin suggested that the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) is having ongoing trade agreement discussions with China and Israel and are in the initial stages of similar talks with Serbia, Egypt, Iran, india and Singapore.[1797]

On May 29 2017, the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) announced that it would aim to finalize a free-trade agreement with Iran by the end of 2017. The EEU's prime ministers had previously resolved in March 2017 to "make talks with Tehran a priority."[1798]

Russia has rolled back existing protectionist measures as well as refrained from implementing new ones. Thus, the Russian Federation receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Dillon Aube & Mark Rakhmangulov

[1791] Russian Federation: Temporary Cancelled Export Duty on a Certain Type of Wheat, Global Trade Alert 14 Oct 2016. http://www.globaltradealert.org/measure/russian-federation-temporary-cancelled-export-duty-certain-type-wheat

[1792] Russian Federation: Exempted from payment of VAT imports and sales of breeding animals. Global Trade Alert 24 October 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://www.globaltradealert.org/measure/russian-federation-exempted-payment-vat-imports-and-sales-breeding-animals

[1793]Russia partially lifts ban on fruit imports from Turkey, RT Today, 11 October, 2016. Accessed: January 19, 2017. https://www.rt.com/business/362371-turkish-food-russia-ban/

[1794] Russian Federation: Exempted from payment of VAT imports and sales of breeding animals, Global Trade Alert 24 October 2016. http://www.globaltradealert.org/measure/russian-federation-exempted-payment-vat-imports-and-sales-breeding-animals

[1795] The EEC has lowered duties on four types of raw materials for light industry development. Eurasian Economic Commission (Moscow) 11 November 2016. Access Date:19 January 2017. http://www.eurasiancommission.org/en/nae/news/Pages/01-12-2016-5.aspx

[1796] Russia sets up free trade zone with Syria, Russia Today, 22 November 2016. https://www.rt.com/business/367810-russia-syria-free-trade-deal/

[1797] Putin: Serbia interested in Eurasian Economic Union. InNews *15* May 2017. Access Date: 11 June 2017. https://inserbia.info/today/2017/05/putin-serbia-interested-in-eurasian-economic-union/

[1798] Henry Foy. Eurasian Economic Union close to free-trade deal with Iran, Financial Times (London) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 11 June 2017.

Saudi Arabia: –1

Saudi Arabia has not complied with its commitments to standstill and rollback on protectionist measures.

On 2 October 2016, an increase of immigration fees across several visa categories came into effect. a single entry visa now costs USD533, an increase from the previous fee of USD93. A multiple entry, six-month visa will cost USD800 and a one-year visa will cost USD1333. The revised visa fees affect all tourists, religious or business visitors, but exempts those traveling for the first time to perform the annual Hajj pilgrimage or the lesser, non-mandatory pilgrimage known as the Umrah.

In November 2016, Saudi Arabian and Ethiopian ministers met to discuss further partnerships. Saudi Arabian Minister of Agriculture Abdul Rahman bin Abdul Mohsen Al-Fadhli, held talks with Prime Minister Hailemaraim, on ways of bolstering Saudi investors involvement in the agriculture and livestock sectors of Ethiopia. The priority areas of engagement for Saudi investors are crop farming, livestock, energy and mining.[1799] While reducing its reliance on oil Saudi Arabia is looking to invest more in these areas.

On 2 June 2017, Goldman Sachs applied for a equities trade license in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Recently, Citigroup obtained an investment banking license recently which will allow it to return to the kingdom after more than 13 years, while Credit Suisse AG is seeking a banking license in the kingdom to build a fully-fledged onshore private banking business.The Saudi stock exchange opened itself to direct investment by foreign institutions in mid-2015 and last year eased restrictions on foreign ownership in its stock market in order to improve the investment environment.[1800]

Saudi Arabia has not rolled back existing protctionist measures and has implemented new ones. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of –1.

Analyst: Tanzeel Fatima

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment on standstill and rollback of protectionist measures.

On 16 September 2016m South Africa temporarily reduced import tariffs on cane and beet sugar (HS 1701.12; 1701.13; 1701.14; 1701.91; 1701.99) to R 31.89 c/kg. This represents a further reduction from an earlier measure effective as of 5 August 2016.[1801]

On 27 October 2016, South Africa completed all administrative processes necessary for the implementation of a preferential trade agreement between the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and the Common Market of the South. As a result, South Africa implemented the agreement retroactively from the date of the agreement's entry into force on 1 April 2016.[1802]

On 2 November 2016, the European Union and South Africa each submitted the necessary notifications pertaining to the protection of their respective geographical indicators in accordance with protocol three

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[1799] Ethiopia: Ethio-Saudi Relations On Rise — Ministry 10, All Africa, January 2017. Access Date: 19 January 2017. http://allafrica.com/stories/201701100581.html

[1800] Goldman reportedly applies for equity trade license in Saudi Arabia, 2 June 2017. Date of Access: 10 June 2017.http://www.bnn.ca/goldman-reportedly-applies-for-equity-trade-license-in-saudi-arabia-1.768439

[1801] WTO Report on G-20 Trade Measures (mid-May 2016 to mid-October 2016), Annex 1, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/g20_wto_report_november16_e.pdf.

[1802] Trade and Industry on implementation of SACU and MERCOSUR Preferential Trade Agreement, South African Government 27 October 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/trade-and-industry-implementation-sacu-and-mercosur-preferential-trade-agreement-27-oct of the SACU-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). The move indicates new market access for each party which became effective on 1 November 2016 under the SACU-EU EPA.[1803]

On 2 December 2016, the South African Revenue Service applied a 5 per cent import tariff on sweet corn, and a 20 per cent import tariff on mango juice.[1804]

On 11 January 2017, President Jacob Zuma signed the Tax Administration Laws Amendment Act, 2016 bill into law. Inter alia, the bill amends the Customs and Excise Tax Act, 1962, streamlining the scope of provisions relating to special economic zones and further aligning terminology used in the Special Economic Zones Act, 2014.[1805]

On 17 March 2017, Minister of Trade and Industry Dr. Rob Davies announced the launch of the Government's National Invest Africa One Stop Shop for investors. The service was established to lower costs and improve ease of establishing foreign direct investment by coordinating investors and relevant government departments to mitigate bureaucratic inefficiencies. Furthermore, the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission will accelerate foreign company registrations via the InvestSA One Stop Shop.[1806]

On 9 May 2017, the South African Revenue Service launched the Customs Preferred Trader Programme. The trade facilitation initiative awarded 28 customs clients Preferred Trader accreditation status who demonstrated compliance with audits and customs competency assessments. The programme gives compliant traders benefits to reduce frustrations and costs associated with trading on global markets including: appointment of a Customs Relationship Manager to facilitate client and Customs relationships; reduction of security required for compliance with customs procedures; reduced documentation and physical inspections; prioritization of requests for tariff and value determinations; emphasis on non-intrusive goods inspection techniques.[1807]

On 26 May 2017, the first Joint Administration Committee meeting between the SACU and MERCOSUR was convened, upholding legal obligations of the 1 April 2016 trade agreement. The meeting ensured all administrative and operational processes have been cleared to facilitate new market access opportunities. In addition, the two parties agreed on how to notify the agreement to the World Trade Organization.[1808]

South Africa has rolled back existing protectionist measures, however has also implemented new ones. Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Patrick Downey

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with its commitments on standstill and rollback of protectionist measures.

[1803] Trade and Industry on Protection of Geographical Indications, South African Government 2 November 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/geographical-indications-2-nov-2016-0000.

[1804] Annex: Customs And Excise Act, 1964. Amendment Of Schedule No. 1, South African Revenue Service 2 December 2016. Date of Access: 13 January 2016. LAPD-LSec-CE-TA-2016-56c — Notice R1471 GG 40460 2 December 2016.pdf.

[1805] President Jacob Zuma signs ten Bills into law, South African Government 11 January 2017. Date of Access: 13 January 1017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/bills-law-11-jan-2017-0000.

[1806] President Jacob Zuma: Launch of Invest South Africa One Stop Shop, South African Government 17 March 2017. Date of Access: May 29, 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/invest-south-africa-one-stop-shop-launch-17-mar-2017-0000.

[1807] Revenue Service on launch of Customs Preferred Trader Programme, South African Government 9 May 2017. Date of Access: May 9, 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/revenue-service-launch-customs-preferred-trader-programme-9-may-2017-0000.

[1808] Trade and Industry on Trade Agreement between Common Market of South and Southern African Customs Union, South African Government 26 May 2017. Date of Access: May 29, 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/trade-and-industry-trade-agreement-between-common-market-south-and-southern-african-customs.

On 7 September 2016, Turkey increased import tariffs to 21.8 per cent on new pneumatic types of rubber.[1809]

On 22 September 2016, Deputy Chairman of the Kazakhstan Customs Administration Gosman AMRIN and Undersecretary of the Ministry of Customs and Trade of the Republic of Turkey Cenap AŞCI formalized bilateral discussions with an agreement on finalizing negotiations of existing agreements between the two customs authorities.[1810]

On 10 November 2016, Turkey's Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Simsek and Qatar's Economy and Trade Minister Sheikh Ahmed Bin Jassim Al Thani signed a memorandum of understanding, recognizing cooperation between the two states in development of political and economic relations.[1811] Topics included cooperation on fair and free trade zones; parties expected significantly increased bilateral trade volume as a result of the agreement.[1812]

On 11 November 2016, Turkey's Minister of Customs and Trade Bülent Tüfenkci and Belarus's Chairman of the State Customs Committee Yuri Senko signed an Agreement on a Mutual Trade Promotion System. The agreement aims to reduce customs clearance time by streamlining procedures via information exchange pertaining to the movement of goods and vehicles between the two customs authorities.[1813]

On 18 December 2016, Turkey's Minister of Customs and Trade Bülent Tüfenkci and Qatar's Minister of Finance Ali Sherif AL-EMADI signed the Agreement on Co-Operations and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the State of Qatar. Parties will act to enforce customs legislation while ensuring accurate collection of import and export duties, taxes, and other trade-related charges through the combined efforts of the two customs authorities.[1814]

On 20 February 2017, Turkey and Malaysia notified the World Trade Organization of a regional free trade agreement between the two countries. The agreement establishes a free trade area between the two, aiming to increase and enhance economic cooperation; promote expansion of trade via integrated economic relations; eliminate difficulties and barriers to trade between the two; establish a framework of transparent and predictable rules to facilitate trade between parties; and broaden the scope of the agreement to include trade in services and bilateral investment.[1815]

[1809] WTO Report on G-20 Trade Measures (mid-May 2016 to mid-October 2016), Annex 1, World Trade Organization 10 November 2016. Date of Access: 30 January 2017. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/g20_wto_report_november16_e.pdf.

[1810] Visit of Kazakhstan Customs Administration, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Customs and Trade (Ankara) 29 December 2016. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/visit-of-kazakhstan-customs-administration.

[1811] Qatar and Turkey finalise financial trade deal, Middle East Monitor 11 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20161111-qatar-and-turkey-finalise-financial-trade-deal/?.

[1812] Qatar and Turkey finalise financial trade deal, Middle East Monitor 11 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20161111-qatar-and-turkey-finalise-financial-trade-deal/?.

[1813] Mutual Trade Promotion System between Turkey and Belarus, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Customs and Trade (Belarus) 11 November 2016. Date of Access: 12 January 2016. http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/mutual-trade-promotion-system-between-turkey-and-belarus.

[1814] The 2nd Turkey-Qatar Supreme Strategic Committee Meeting, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Customs and Trade (Trabzon) 23 December 2016. Date of Access: 12 January 2017. http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/the-2nd-turkeyqatar-supreme-strategic-committee-meeting.

[1815] World Trade Organization Document search results list, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 21 February 2017. Access Date: May 30, 2017. https://docs.wto.org/dol2fe/Pages/FE_Search/FE_S_S006.aspx?Query=(%20@Symbol=%20wt/reg*%20and%20n)%20and%20(%20@Title=%20turkey%20)&Language=ENGLISH&Context=FomerScriptedSearch&languageUIChanged=true#.

On 8 March 2017, Turkey reduced the import tariff on chickpeas from 19.3 percent to zero percent until 1 July 2017.[1816]

Turkey has expanded free trade however also implemented protectionist measures. Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Patrick Downey

United Kingdom: 0

The UK has partially complied with its commitments on standstill and rollback of protectionist measures.

On 6 September 2016, Secretary of State for International Trade of the UK Liam Fox and Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Steven Ciobo announced in a joint statement the establishment of a bilateral trade working group to begin meeting twice annually in an effort to establish parameters for a future Australia-UK free trade agreement.[1817]

On 10 November 2016, Turkish Economy Minister Nihat Zeybekci confirmed to a parliamentary commission in Ankara that a "wide-ranging trade agreement with Britain" would come into effect after it finalizes it exit from the European Union.[1818]

On 11 November 2016, UK Minister for Asia Pacific met with senior ministers in New Zealand to discuss the requirements for a formal free trade deal to be put in place after negotiations are finalized for leaving the European Union.[1819]

On March 15 2017, the UK government showcased 19 new domestic infrastructure projects open to international investment at MIPIM (Le marché international des professionnels de l'immobiler).[1820]

On April 3 2017, Prime Minister Theresa May travelled to Oman as the start of a three day trip to the region to promote trade and investment.[1821]

On April 4 2017, International Trade Minister Greg Hands met with UK businesses, policy makers, and representatives of the Chinese and Pakistani governments at a Department of International Trade Roundtable. At the meeting, Minister Hands affirmed that the UK wished to be a "free-trade influence," and affirmed that Britain had a "clear ambition to increased trade with Pakistan and China."[1822]

The United Kingdom has not implemented new protectionist measures, however has not rolled back existing ones. Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

[1816] Turkey Eliminates Chickpea Import Tariff Until July 1, Global Agricultural Information Network (Ankara) 10 March 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. https://gain.fas.usda.gov/Recent%20GAIN%20Publications/Turkey%20Eliminates%20Chickpea%20Import%20Tariff%20Until%20July%201_Ankara_Turkey_3-10-2017.pdf.

[1817] https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/launch-of-the-world-trade-report-2016-inclusive-trade-and-smes

[1818] Turkey says agreed to 'wide-ranging' trade deal with Britain once it leave EU. Reuters. Nov 10, 2016. Acess: Nov 10, 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-britain-trade-idUSKBN1350YW?il=0

[1819] UK minister in NZ for free trade discussions. RNZ Nov 11, 2016. Access: Nov 11, 2016 http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/political/317882/uk-minister-in-nz-for-free-trade-discussion

[1820] UK government unveils over 7 billion of Midlands Engine opportunities for international investors. Department of International Trade, Press Release (London) 15 March 2017. Access Date: 25 March 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-unveils-over-7-billion-of-midlands-engine-opportunities-for-international-investors

[1821] May begins Mideast trip focused on security, trade, The Guardian (London) 3 April 2017. Access Date: 25 April 2017. https://guardian.ng/news/britains-may-begins-mideast-trip-focused-on-security-trade/

[1822] DIT roundtable boosts UK business opportunities in Pakistan, Department for International Trade (London) 5 April 2017. Acces Date: 25 April 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dit-roundtable-boosts-uk-business-opportunities-in-pakistan

Analyst: Dillon Aube

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with the commitment to roll back protectionist measures.

On 30 September 2016, the Federal Communications Commission simplified foreign ownership filing for broadcast licensees in the United States. The change provides an extension of rules for foreign ownership review designed for common carriers and aeronautical licensees to broadcast licenses.[1823] This liberalizes investment through simplified indirect foreign ownership in the sector.

On 12 December 2016, the Federal Transit Administration waived Buy America requirements for different products. This included a Greater Dayton Transit Authority request for the purchase of radio consoles from Mexico.[1824] The Port Authority of New York also had the Buy America requirements waived for the procurement of equipment to replace damages from Hurricane Sandy in 2012.[1825]

On 16 December 2016, the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN Act) became public law in the United States Senate.[1826] The WIIN Act includes provisions for the Buy America policy in section 2114, stating State loan funds can only be allocated to projects if iron and steel products are produced in the United States.[1827]

On 23 January 2017, President Donald Trump, signed an executive order formally withdrawing the country from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) free trade agreement. The TPP had not been approved by Congress, however the executive order rolled back extensive negotiations that culminated in late 2015 with the endorsement of the 12 nations' trade chiefs.[1828]

On 23 January 2017, President Donald Trump delayed implementation of a rule allowing Argentine farmers to export lemons after a decade of talks, putting into doubt trade negotiations between the two countries. The White House ordered a stay of 60 days "on its final rule to allow the importation of fresh lemon fruit from northwest Argentina," the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service said on its website.[1829]

On 2 February 2017, President Donald Trump announced intentions to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).[1830] The renegotiation will begin on 16 August 2017 at the earliest. The Trump Administration is approaching the renegotiation with an "America First" policy, focusing on

[1823] Sixteenth Report on G20 Investment Measures, OECD (Paris) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/g20_oecd_unctad_report_november16_e.pdf

[1824] United States of America: Federal Transit Administration waives American requirements for radio consoles, Global Trade Alert. 11 December 2016. Access Date: January 19, 2017. http://www.globaltradealert.org/measure/united-states-america-federal-transit-administration-waiver-buy-american-requirements-radio-

[1825] United States of America: Federal Transit Administration waiver of requirements for replacement equipment following Hurricane Sandy, Global Trade Alert. 11 December 2016. Access Date: January 19, 2017. http://www.globaltradealert.org/measure/united-states-america-federal-transit-administration-waiver-buy-american-requirements-repl-0

[1826] S.612 — WIIN Act, 114th Congress. 16 December 2016. Access Date: January 19, 2017. https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/612/text

[1827] United States of America: Buy-American provisions in bill. Global Trade Alert. 15 December 2016. Access Date: January 19, 2017. http://www.globaltradealert.org/measure/united-states-america-buy-american-provisions-water-projects-bill

[1828] What Is TPP? Behind the Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Deal That Died, New York Times 23 January 2017. Access Date: 24 January 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/business/tpp-explained-what-is-trans-pacific-partnership.html

[1829] Trump Imperils Argentine Trade Talks as Lemon Deal Stalls, Bloomberg 23 January 2017. Access Date: 24 January 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-01-23/trump-white-house-orders-60-day-delay-on-argentine-lemon-exports

[1830] USTR: Trump Administration Announces Intent to Renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement, Office of the United States Trade Representative. 18 May 2017. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2017/may/ustr-trump-administration-announces benefits for US workers and industry.[1831] If countries refuse the renegotiation President Trump will give notice of the United States withdrawal from NAFTA.[1832]

The US has rolled back existing protectionist measures, however has also implemented new ones. Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Alessandra Jenkins

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitments on standstill and rollback on protectionist measures.

On 30 October 2016, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) was signed at the EU-Canada Summit. The free trade agreement will "remove customs duties, end restrictions on access to public contracts, open-up the services market, offer better conditions for investors and help prevent illegal copying of EU innovations and traditional products."[1833]

On 6 November 2017, the a new licence regime for agricultural products came into effect for the European Union, simplifying and standardizing procedures for obtaining import-export licences.[1834]

On November 15 2016, Indonesia was added to the list of eligible countries in the EU Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Regulation, allowing for the exports of some previously restricted timbers to now be allowed into the European Union.[1835]

On 1 December 2016, the European Parliament voted in favor of the interim Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and Ghana. The agreement guarantees Ghanaian exporters duty-free and quota free access.[1836]

On 14 December 2016, the European Parliament voted for Educator's inclusion to trade agreements in force with Peru and Colombia. The agreement will eliminate tariffs for all industrial and fisheries products, increase market access, and further reduce technical barriers to trade, while continuing to provide Ecuador with preferential access to the EU market.[1837]

[1831] America First Foreign Policy, The White House. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/america-first-foreign-policy
[1832] America First Foreign Policy, The White House. Date of Access: 4 June 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/america-first-foreign-policy
[1833] Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). European Commission, Trade. Oct 30, 2016. Access: Nov 4, 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ceta/
[1834] EC: New import and export license regime for agricultural products. Global Trade Alert. 18 May 2016. Accessed: January 3, 2017. http://www.globaltradealert.org/measure/ec-new-import-and-export-license-regime-agricultural-products
[1835] EC: Allowed Indonesian licenses for timber exports. Global Trade Alert. 31 Augest, 2016. Accessed: January 3, 2017. http://www.globaltradealert.org/measure/ec-allowed-indonesian-licenses-timber-exports
[1836] Malmstrom welcomes parliamentary vote on Ghana agreement. European Commission Press Release Database Nov 11, 2016. Accessed Date: Jan 5, 2017.
[1837] MEP's back trade deal with Ecuador. European Parliament News. Dec 14, 2016. Access Date Jan 8, 2017. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20161209IPR55467/meps-back-trade-deal-with-ecuador

On 1 February 2017, following a joint phone call between Trade Commissioner Malmstrom and Minister of the Economy Guajardo, the two parties agreed to accelerate trade talks and set dates for negotiations in April and June of 2017.[1838]

On 8 March 2017, EU trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom met with Singapore's Minister for TRade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang. The two trade representatives reiterated at the meeting their commitment to finalizing a free trade agreement between their two nations.[1839]

On 10 March 2017, representatives from the EU and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) agreed to work towards the resumption of trade talks. While negotiations on a free trade agreement between the two parties was initiated in 2007, it subsequently stalled due to the difficulty in creating an agreement for economically and developmentally asymmetric region.[1840]

On 31 March 2017, President of the European Council Donald Tusk announced that the EU would not begin work on a new trade agreement with United Kingdom until the end of its negotiated departure from the European Union.[1841]

On 24 March, the 17th round of EU-MERCOSUR bi-regional trade negotiations were successfully concluded with both sides agreeing to advance negotiation to the next round. Trade talks, which cover multiple areas such as "trade facilitation, services, intellectual property rights, government procurement and trade and sustainable development," are set to take place in Brussels in July 2017.[1842]

On 5 April 2017, the European Union completed the 18th round of trade talks with Japan. Talks are reported to have been productive, while both sides have taken a "renewed sense of urgency in order to respect the objective by the leaders to conclude as soon as possible."[1843]

On 15 April 2017, the European Union and Norway reached an agreement that will increase bilateral trade in agricultural products between the two.[1844]

On 9 May 2017, senior trade officials from the European Union met with Mexican Foreign Minister Louis Videgaray where they committed to revising and replacing the existing EU-Mexico trade agreement by the end of 2017.[1845]

[1838] EU and Mexico agree to accelerate trade talks, European Commission (Brussels) 1 February 2017. Access Date: 25 March 2017.
http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?&id=1617&lang=en&newsletter_id=230&utm_campaign=EU%20Trade%20&utm_content=EU%20and%20Mexico%20agree%20to%20accelerate%20trade%20talks&utm_medium=email&utm_source=trade_newsletter
[1839] EU and Singapore affirm commitment to putting free trade deal in place, European Commission (Brussels) 10 March 2017. Access Date: 25 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1630
[1840] EU and ASEAN gear up for possible re-launch of trade talks, European Commission (Brussels) 20 March 2017. Access Date: 25 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1631
[1841] Brexit: EU says no to free trade talks until 'progress' on final terms, The Guardian (London) 31 March 2017. Access Date: 31 March 2017.
https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/mar/31/eu-willing-to-discuss-free-trade-deal-before-final-terms-of-brexit
[1842] Joint EU-Mercosur Communique Following the XVIIth Round of Negotiations, European Commission (Brussels) 27 March 2017. Access Date: 31 March 2017.
http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1639
[1843] EU and Japan conclude 18th round of trade talks, European Commission (Brussels) 10 April 2017. Access Date: 25 April 2017.
http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1649
[1844] EU and Norway conclude negotiations to enhance trade of agricultural products, European Commission, (Brussels) 15 April 2017. Access Date: 25 April 2017.
https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/eu-and-norway-conclude-negotiations-enhance-trade-agricultural-products-2017-apr-07_en

On17 ay 2017, the European Union granted better access to Sri Lankan products in the common market and the full removal of duties on 66% of goods currently subject to tariffs.[1846]

The EU has rolled back existing protectionist measures while also not implementing new ones. Thus the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Dillon Aube

[1845] EU Trade Commissioner in Mexico: "Trade deal possible by year's end," European Commission (Brussels) 9 May 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1659
[1846] EU grants Sri Lanka improved access to its market as incentive for reform, European Commission (Brussels) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1663

8. Trade: E-commerce

"[We endorse the G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth, under which the G20 will lead by example to] promote e-commerce development"

G20 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia			+1
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States	−1		
European Union			+1
Average		+0.60	

Background

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, G20 members recognized that rapid development of digital trade and technology has caused a profound transformation of economic and trade structures presenting new opportunities and challenges.[1847] E-commerce was worth approximately USD22.1 trillion in 2015, an increase of 38 per cent from 2013.[1848] For the first time, G20 members mentioned and committed to e-commerce development. In Hangzhou, G20 members agreed to the "G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth," which is "as an integral part of the G20's agenda to achieve our ambition of two per cent additional growth by 2018 set by G20 leaders in Brisbane in 2014, and as part of its broader efforts to strengthen global growth and to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the following Strategy sets out concrete individual and collective actions to this end."[1849]

The Strategy committed to lowering trade costs, harnessing trade and investment policy coherence, boosting trade in services, enhancing trade finance, addressing trade and development and promoting e-

[1847] Annex II: G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth, G20 2016 China Official Website 15 July 2016. Access Date: October 23 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201607/t20160715_3057_2.html
[1848] New initiative to help developing countries grasp $22 trillion e-commerce opportunity, UNCTAD 19 July 2016. Access Date: 22 October 2016. http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1281
[1849] Annex II: G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth, G20 2016 China Official Website 15 July 2016. Access Date: October 23 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201607/t20160715_3057_2.html

commerce development to facilitate global trade growth while adhering and complementing other trade commitments.[1850]

Commitment Features

G20 members endorsed the Strategy for Global Trade Growth and committed to lead by example to promote e-commerce development.

On 9-10 July 2016, G20 trade ministers met in Shanghai, China for the G20 Trade Ministers Meeting. During this meeting, trade ministers issued the document "G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth (SGTG)," which includes the article "Promoting e-commerce development." G20 members agreed to "deepen discussions and cooperation on e-commerce issues" and took note of the B20's initiative on the eWTP.[1851]

According to the World Trade Organization (WTO) electronic commerce, commonly known as e-commerce, involves goods and services crossing borders electronically. Broadly, e-commerce is the sale or purchase of goods or services conducted over the internet or other computer networks. An e-commerce transaction can be between enterprises, households, individuals, governments and other public or private organizations.[1852]

The Strategy for Global Trade Growth defined two priorities to promote e-commerce development 1) deepen discussions and 2) deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

Part One: Deepen Discussions

In the Strategy for Global Trade Growth, the G20 emphasised that deepened discussion about the opportunities and challenges of e-commerce can facilitate global trade. Enhancing conversation will promote policy coherence, boost the participation of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and developing countries in global trade as well as provide better, more inclusive access to digital technology. Therefore, G20 members must engage in discussion specifically related to SMEs and developing countries, research on trade-related policy issues, standards and patterns as well as the general opportunities and challenges of e-commerce/e-commerce development. The Strategy also took note of the Business 20's (B20's) initiative on an Electronic World Trade Platform (eWTP) which aims to complement the WTO and reduce barriers for SMEs making it easier to expand their trading capabilities worldwide.[1853] Therefore, G20 members also must engage in discussion specifically regarding the eWTP.

Discussion is defined as a conversation, policy review, panel which critically assess e-commerce, e-commerce trade or e-commerce related activities and development. Discussion can take place with international organizations, businesses and/or governments as well as experts and professionals.

Part Two: Deepen Cooperation

The G20 developed several areas to deepen e-commerce cooperation in its Digital Economy Development and Cooperation Initiative:

[1850] Annex II: G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth, G20 2016 China Official Website 15 July 2016. Access Date: October 23 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201607/t20160715_3057_2.html

[1851] G20 Trade Ministers Meeting Statement, B20 Germany 10 July 2016. Access Date: 14 February 2017. https://www.b20germany.org/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/G20/g20-trade-ministers-statement-strategy-guidelines-investment-policymaking.pdf

[1852] Briefing note: Electronic commerce, World trade Organization (2013) Access Date: 28 October 2016. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/mc9_e/brief_ecom_e.htm

[1853] Electronic World Trade Platform, Alibaba Group (2016) Access Date: 28 October 2016. http://www.alizila.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/eWTP.pdf

- Promote cross-border trade facilitation for e-commerce by using trusted digital means, such as paperless customs clearance, electronic transaction documents, mutual recognition of digital authentication, electronic payment and online payment.
- Prevent barriers to market access and other barriers.
- Address issues relating to taxation, such as ensuring the efficient payment of appropriate taxes for international e-commerce, taking into account in particular the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) issues.
- Improve international efforts to measure e-commerce, and the macroeconomic consequences of digital economy.
- Protect consumers' rights and develop dispute resolution approaches, ensuring options for consumers that are adapted to the characteristics of e-commerce within the national framework of laws and regulations provided that they are consistent with member's international legal obligations.
- Build confidence of users which is an essential element of the digital economy by ensuring the respect of privacy and protection of personal data.

Therefore, G20 members must deepen discussions as well as deepen cooperation to achieve full compliance. G20 members must take multiple steps, as laid out in each part of the commitment, to be considered compliant. Partial compliance is achieved if the G20 member takes multiple steps to achieve one part of the commitment and not the other. No compliance is achieved if the G20 member takes few steps to achieve either part or no steps at all.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	The G20 member does not deepen discussions OR deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.
0	The G20 member deepens discussions OR deepens cooperation on e-commerce issues.
+1	The G20 member deepens discussions AND deepens cooperation on e-commerce issues.

Lead Analyst: Alissa Xinhe Wang

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 20 December 2016, the Argentine Central Bank issued Communication A 6118, an act that provides more flexibility to payments linked to e-commerce transactions. This act changed the requirements for payment processors entities and incorporated regulations to allow payments to be made through a payment processor. These changes aim to "increase and accelerate international e-commerce transactions."[1854]

On 9 January 2017, the Central Bank of Argentina issued a new online immediate debit payment service.[1855] The service is part of Argentina's "New Regulations towards a Digitized Financial Sector."[1856] This service secures user-friendly transaction tools for e-commerce.[1857]

[1854] International E-Commerce Transactions' payment flexibility, Lexology 20 December 2016. Access Date: 4 February 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=621b279c-07ff-413d-96db-b331d95da23b

[1855] The Central Bank Implemented a New Online Immediate Debit Payment Service, Mondaq 9 January 2017. Access Date: 6 February 2017. http://www.mondaq.com/Argentina/x/558448/Financial+Services/The+Central+Bank+Implemented+A+New+Online+Immediate+Debit+Payment+Service

On 4-5 April 2017, at the 15th Latin American and Caribbean Competition Forum, Argentina presented the findings of a study of markets for credit cards, debit cards, and other forms of electronic payment. The study concluded that competition was limited in financial markets through restrictions on competition in acquisition, consumer finance markets, and other related markets. As a result, the financial marketplace is dominated by a few major firms and efficiency gains within these financial markets do not result in lower prices levels for merchants. Based on recommendations made by this study, investigations were launched into anticompetitive actions by major firms and draft laws and resolutions were released to increase the competitiveness of the market.[1858]

On 5 April 2017, a revision was issued to add Argentina as a co-sponsor to a communication released in the World Trade Organization (WTO) by Brazil on 12 December 2016 on the subject of intellectual property in e-commerce. The communication encourages further discussion on transparency, the balance of rights and obligations, and territoriality of copyright so as to create a "basis of shared understandings among member states."[1859] The WTO member states place emphasis on intellectual property rights as they encourage "collaboration-based innovation and competitiveness" among SMEs and promote sustainable development in developing countries.[1860]

On 24-28 April 2017, the Friends of eCommerce for Development (FED), consisting of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Uruguay, met at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) E-commerce week. FED members presented a roadmap to encourage sustainable economic development for developing countries. The key issues include "identification of strategies for e-commerce readiness, access to [information and communication technology] infrastructure and services, trade logistics and trade facilitation, e-payment solutions, legal certainty and regulatory frameworks, capacity building and technical assistance and access to financing."[1861]

On 2 May 2017, President Mauricio Macri signed a memorandum of understanding with Executive Chairman Jack MA of the Chinese online retailer Alibaba. The agreement named Alibaba as an official channel for Argentinian product, food and wine in particular. Michael Evan, president of Alibaba, stated that "the ultimate beneficiaries will be the merchants, especially Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, who will gain access to unprecedented cross-border trade opportunities through Alibaba's platforms."[1862]

Argentina has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to small and medium-sized enterprises and developing countries through contributions made to Friends of eCommerce for

[1856] The Central Bank Implemented a New Online Immediate Debit Payment Service, Mondaq 9 January 2017. Access Date: 6 February 2017.
http://www.mondaq.com/Argentina/x/558448/Financial+Services/The+Central+Bank+Implemented+A+New+Online+Immediate+Debit+Payment+Service

[1857] The Central Bank Implemented a New Online Immediate Debit Payment Service, Mondaq 9 January 2017. Access Date: 6 February 2017.
http://www.mondaq.com/Argentina/x/558448/Financial+Services/The+Central+Bank+Implemented+A+New+Online+Immediate+Debit+Payment+Service

[1858] Addressing Competition Challenges in Financial Markets, Organization for Electronic Co-operation and Development Latin America and Caribbean Competition Forum (Managua) 23 March 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017.
http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DAF/COMP/LACF(2017)13&docLanguage=En

[1859] Electronic Commerce and Copyright, World Trade Organization 12 December 2016. Access Date: 20 May 2017.

[1860] Members debate intellectual property and e-commerce, innovation and access to medicines, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news17_e/trip_01mar17_e.htm

[1861] Friends of E-commerce for Development Launch Roadmap for International Trade and Development Policy, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development 4 May 2017. Access Date: 22 May 2017.
http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1477

[1862] Argentina Promotes Sales to China through E-commerce Alibaba, MercoPress (Montevideo) 3 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://en.mercopress.com/2017/05/03/argentina-promotes-sales-to-china-through-e-commerce-alibaba

Development and other international organizations. Argentina deepened e-commerce cooperation through facilitating international online payments and increasing the security of these payments.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kelly Cholvat

Australia: +1

Australia has partially complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 6 September 2016, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull witnessed Austrade sign an agreement with Chinese e-commerce group Alibaba's executive, Chairman Jack Ma.[1863] This agreement will help Australian businesses, particularly small and medium enterprises (SMEs), access new global markets through Alibaba's online platforms.[1864] Complementing the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement, this agreement builds on the prior commitment to reduce tariffs and strengthen business cooperation, while increasing exposure of Australian products to Chinese consumers.[1865]

On 6 September 2016, the ASEAN Australia Development Cooperation Program under its second phase (AADCP II) finalized the Master Plan of ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025.[1866] AADCP II "is a long-term (2008-19), AU$57 million program that supports ASEAN's goal of establishing an ASEAN Economic Community by 2015 and the post-2015 vision."[1867] The ASEAN-Australia Economic Cooperation Program (AAECP) is funded by the Australian Government.[1868] The MPAC strategies include supporting e-commerce development. It further acknowledges "the increasing importance of e-commerce trade in the [ASEAN] region" under its Initiative 9: Enhance Supply Chain Efficiency through Addressing Key Chokepoints.[1869] ASEAN includes developing countries.

In October 2016, Australia and Indonesia launched the Final Leaders Program. Among the topics discussed was e-commerce.[1870]

On 13 October 2016, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, Steven Ciobo, and the Singaporean Minister for Trade and Investment, Lim Hng Kiang, signed the Agreement to Amend Singapore-Australian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA).[1871] Amendments addressing e-commerce include not

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[1863] Alibaba, Austrade ink strategic deal, The Australian (Surry Hill) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016.http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/technology/alibaba-austrade-ink-strategic-deal/news-story/f705d8a7a8034522059541a2590e6e8f

[1864] Australian Businesses set to Benefit from new Alibaba Agreement, Australian Trade and Investment Commission 6 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.austrade.gov.au/news/media-releases/2016/australian-businesses-set-to-benefit-from-new-alibaba-agreement

[1865] Australian Businesses set to Benefit from new Alibaba Agreement, Australian Trade and Investment Commission. 6 September 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://www.austrade.gov.au/news/media-releases/2016/australian-businesses-set-to-benefit-from-new-alibaba-agreement

[1866] Formulation of Post-2015 Agenda for ASEAN Connectivity, Australian Aid ADCP II. Date of Access: 27 March 2017. http://aadcp2.org/formulation-of-post-2015-agenda-for-asean-connectivity/

[1867] About AADCP II, Australian Aid ADCP II. Date of Access: 27 March 2017. http://aadcp2.org/about-us/#about-aadcp

[1868] About AADCP II, Australian Aid ADCP II. Date of Access: 27 March 2017. http://aadcp2.org/about-us/#about-aadcp

[1869] Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025, Australian Aid ADCP II. 2016. Date of Access: 27 March 2017. http://asean.org/storage/2016/09/Master-Plan-on-ASEAN-Connectivity-20251.pdf

[1870] Australia-Indonesia Financial Leaders Program: October 2016, The Australia-Indonesia Centre. Date of Access: March 30, 2017. http://australiaindonesiacentre.org/projects/australia-indonesia-financial-leaders-program-october-2016/

[1871] Singapore-Australia FTA, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 13 October 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/safta/pages/singapore-australia-fta.aspx#news imposing duties on digital products, allowing the free flow of data across borders for businesses, online consumer protections and the maintenance of a legal framework governing electronic transactions.[1872,1873]

On 10 November 2016, Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Peter N. Varghese gave a speech to the Committee for Economic Development of Australia issuing his support for free trade agreements (FTA).[1874] He identified that his support for both the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA) and the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) involves provisions on e-commerce and a global economy.[1875]

Between 20 February 2017 and 24 February 2017, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade led the Australian Delegation during the sixth round of IA-CEPA negotiations, hosted by Australia in Canberra.[1876] There were negotiating and technical working groups dedicated to many trade related topics including e-commerce.[1877]

On 20 March 2017, the Honourable Steven Ciobo MP, Minister for Trade, Tourism, and Investment, tabled the text of the Agreement to Amend SAFTA, and accompanying National Interest Analysis in the Australian Parliament. The updates to SAFTA, which include amendments addressing e-commerce like not imposing duties on digital products, allowing the free flow of data across borders for businesses, online consumer protections and the maintenance of a legal framework governing electronic transactions, will be considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties.[1878]

On 24 March 2017, Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, Steve Ciobo and China's Commerce Minister Zhong Shan, signed an agreement that emphasized the intent to start reviewing the services and investment elements of the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement.[1879] The talks that accompanied this deal emphasized the work done to increase bilateral ties and distribution networks, like e-commerce.[1880]

On 16 May 2017, Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Steven Ciobo and Hong Kong Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development Mr Gregory So Kam-leung launched negotiations for a free trade agreement which would complement the China Australia Free Trade Agreement.[1881]

[1872] Singapore- Australia Free Trade Agreement, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 13 October 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/safta/Documents/safta-third-review-outcomes-at-a-glance.pdf
[1873] Agreement to Amend the Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 13 October 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2016. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/safta/Documents/agreement-to-amend-the-singapore-australia-free-trade-agreement.pdf
[1874] Speech to the Committee for Economic Development of Australia, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. http://dfat.gov.au/news/speeches/Pages/speech-to-ceda.aspx
[1875] Speech to the Committee for Economic Development of Australia, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. http://dfat.gov.au/news/speeches/Pages/speech-to-ceda.aspx
[1876] Fifth Round of Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA) negotiations. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/iacepa/Pages/fifth-round-of-ia-cepa-negotiations.aspx
[1877] Fifth Round of Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA) negotiations. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/iacepa/Pages/fifth-round-of-ia-cepa-negotiations.aspx
[1878] Singapore-Australia FTA, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Access Date: 15 May 2017. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/safta/pages/singapore-australia-fta.aspx#news
[1879] Joint Signing Ceremony Australia and China Photos, Inside Canberra 25 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://insidecanberra.com/joint-signing-ceremony-australia-and-china-photos/
[1880] Address To The China-Australia Cooperation On Economy and Trade Forum, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet 24 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.pm.gov.au/media/2017-03-24/address-china-australia-cooperation-economy-and-trade-forum
[1881] Australia Hong Kong Free Trade Agreement, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/a-hkfta/Pages/default.aspx

Australia is seeking a comprehensive free trade agreement that addresses digital trade like e-commerce.[1882,1883]

On 24 May 2017 the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment MP Steven Ciobo announced the launch of the Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement negotiations with Peru's Minister for Foreign Trade and Tourism, Eduardo Ferreyros. Australia will seek to address issues impacting trade, including digital trade like e-commerce.[1884]

Australia has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and developing countries. Australia deepened e-commerce cooperation through enhancing trade ties, facilitating data flow across borders, eliminating duties on digital products, enhancing online consumer protection, and maintaining the legal governance of digital transactions. Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hannah Girdler

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 25 October 2016, the Comissão de Defesa do Consumidor (Consumer Defense Commission) approved bill 1660/15 to protect internet users and e-commerce consumers.[1885] The bill aims to increase consumer comfort in e-commerce markets by making the tariff system clearer and introducing measures to protect data and privacy.[1886]

On 12 December 2016, Brazil released a communication to be circulated in the World Trade Organization (WTO) on the subject of intellectual property in e-commerce. The communication encourages further discussion on transparency, the balance of rights and obligations, and territoriality of copyright so as to create a "basis of shared understandings among member states."[1887] The WTO member states place emphasis on intellectual property rights as they encourage "collaboration-based innovation and competitiveness" among SMEs and promote sustainable development in developing countries.[1888]

On 15 December 2016, Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay jointly released a communication to be circulated in the WTO. The communication names the signatures as a "fundamental issue in any future consideration regarding electronic commerce in the WTO."[1889]The WTO held the Workshop on E-Commerce, Development and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) on 8-9 April 2013 and

[1882] Launch of Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment 24 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_170524.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D

[1883] Australia Hong-Kong Free Trade Agreement, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/a-hkfta/Documents/a-hkfta-factsheet.PDF

[1884] Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/agreements/pafta/Pages/peru-australia-fta.aspx

[1885] "Serviços de Proteção Ao Crédito Deverão Fornecer Informações a Consumidores Sem ônus," Câmara dos Deputados October 25 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www2.camara.leg.br/atividade-legislativa/comissoes/comissoes-permanentes/cdc/noticias/servicos-de-protecao-ao-credito-deverao-fornecer-informacoes-a-consumidores-sem-onus-1.

[1886] "E-Commerce Brasil Entrevista Presidente Da Camara-E.Net Sobre a Reforma Do Código de Defesa Do Consumidor (CDC) — Câmara Brasileira de Comércio Eletrônico," Câmara Brasileira de Comércio Eletrônico November 9 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.camara-e.net/2016/10/24/e-commerce-brasil-entrevista-presidente-da-camara-e-net-sobre-a-reforma-do-codigo-de-defesa-do-consumidor-cdc

[1887] Electronic Commerce and Copyright, World Trade Organization 12 December 2016. Access Date: 20 May 2017.

[1888] Members debate intellectual property and e-commerce, innovation and access to medicines, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 2 March 2017. Access Date: May 25 2017.

[1889] Work Program on Electronic Commerce: Electronic Signatures, World Trade Organization 15 December 2016.

confidence in the payments and the legal authentication of e signatures were identified as key policy issues in the growth of SMEs.[1890]

On 31 January 2017, Brazil and Argentina signed a trade facilitation deal with the Inter-American Development Bank during a meeting of the Brazil-Argentina Bilateral Production and Trade Commission. The agreement aims to decrease barriers to trade and strengthen trade integration in Mercosur, the regional trading bloc consisting of Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela.[1891]

Brazil has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries, particularly in relation to intellectual property issues. Brazil has not taken multiple steps to deepen e-commerce cooperation through enhancing enhancing data protection, improving the taxation system and facilitating international transactions.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Kelly Cholvat

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

As of 30 October 2016, European Union-Canada Leaders' Summit, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, President of the European Council Donald Tusk and President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).[1892] This ratifies Chapter 16 and all its respective articles, promoting e-commerce between Canada and the EU. The article includes provisions to not impose customs duty or fees on a delivery transmitted by electronic means, to adopt or maintains laws that protect consumer information, to facilitate the use of e-commerce by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and to maintain dialogue on issues raised by e-commerce.[1893]

On 8 November 2016, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced his upcoming participation in the 2016 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' meeting in Peru from November 19 to 20.[1894] APEC leaders focused on creating economic growth and facilitating freer trade amongst other topics, while in the presence of the Electronic Commerce Steering Group (ECSG).[1895] The ECSG is geared towards "enabling economies across all levels of development to be able to utilize Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to drive economic growth and social development."[1896]

[1890] Fredriksson, Torbjörn. 8-9 April 2013. "E-Commerce And Development: Key Trends And Issues". Presentation, Workshop on E-Commerce, Development and SMEs (Geneva).

[1891] Brazil and Argentina sign USD 250,000 partnership, BrazilGovNews 31 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/02/brazil-and-argentina-sign-usd-250-000-partnership

[1892] Canada and EU sign historic trade agreement during EU-Canada Summit, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 30 October 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/10/30/canada-and-eu-sign-historic-trade-agreement-during-eu-canada-summit

[1893] Text of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement – Chapter sixteen: Electronic commerce, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 6 November 2016. http://www.international.gc.ca/trade-commerce/trade-agreements-accords-commerciaux/agr-acc/ceta-aecg/text-texte/16.aspx?lang=eng

[1894] Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to travel to Cuba, Argentina, and Peru, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/11/08/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-travel-cuba-argentina-and-peru

[1895] Electronic Commerce Steering Group, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. http://www.apec.org/groups/committee-on-trade-and-investment/electronic-commerce-steering-group.aspx

[1896] Electronic Commerce Steering Group, APEC. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.apec.org/Groups/Committee-on-Trade-and-Investment/Electronic-Commerce-Steering-Group.aspx

On 15 February 2017, Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the European Union reiterated their support for the ratification of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement and the Strategic Partnership Agreement.[1897]

On 2 May 2017 and 3 May 2017 Canada hosted a round of exploratory negotiations on the future of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP).[1898] The proposed TPP would help improve SME access to global markets and is the first major trade deal that tackles e-commerce.[1899]

Canada has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. Canada has deepened e-commerce cooperation in trade facilitation, customs duties, consumer confidence. Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hannah Girdler

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitments to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 10 October 2016, the 13th China International small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) Fair, approved by the State Council, opened in the city of Guangzhou, China.[1900] The fair was co-hosted with the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire and India. The 11 countries joining the fair are Cote d'Ivoire, India, South Africa, Nigeria, Bulgaria, Kenya, Burma, Mexico, Vietnam, Russia and Poland.[1901] The event aimed to create a platform of "display, trade, exchange, and cooperation" for SMEs from around the world and showcase overseas and domestic exhibitions on cross-border e-commerce.[1902]

On 13 October 2016, Indian Commerce Minister Nirmala Sitharaman held a bilateral meeting with Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Shouwen. The discussion focused on the potential benefits that that Indo-China bilateral trade cooperation for local businesses. The two discussed in particular the potential of Information Technology and Information Technology Enabled Services (ITeS) projects.[1903]

On 18 October 2016, the EU and China held the sixth annual EU-China High-level Economic and Trade Dialogue. The EU and China agreed to explore further how to boost sustainable economic and societal development in line with the strategies for the Digital Single Market for Europe and Digital China.[1904]

[1897] Canada and the European Union support the ratification of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and the Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA), Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada 15 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2017/02/15/canada-and-european-union-support-ratification-comprehensive-economic-and-trade

[1898] TPP Nations Meet in Canada to Discuss Fate of Pact Without U.S., Bloomberg (US) 1 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-05-01/tpp-nations-meet-in-canada-to-discuss-fate-of-pact-without-u-s

[1899] Why the TPP is the right direction for e-commerce, Financial Post 7 January 2016. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://business.financialpost.com/fp-comment/why-the-tpp-is-the-right-direction-for-e-commerce

[1900] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1901] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1902] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1903] 5 things Indo-China bilateral trade cooperation could do for Indian Businesses, Entrepreneur India 13 October 2016. Date Accessed: 29 January 2017. https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/283695

[1904] EU and China discuss trade, investment, overcapacity and cooperation on state aid control at the 6th High-level Economic and Trade Dialogue, European Commission (Brussels) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3441_en.htm

On 29 October 2016, Korea and Japan agreed to further discussions for Korea-China-Japan trilateral free trade agreement, and the broader Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, at the 11th trilateral ministerial meeting held in Japan. Japan, China and Korea have agreed to strengthen economic cooperation, and they will work together to establish Digital Single Market, and conduct joint research on e-commerce.[1905]

On 25 October 2016, China's National Development and Reform Commission, announced that an agreement fighting credit manipulation would be part of creating a national "social credit system" aimed at promoting online trustworthiness. To support this initiative, China's largest internet companies including Alibaba, Tencent, JD.com, have agreed to share data with government authorities to eliminate 'brushing' — faking reviews and sales figure — for the healthy development of e-commerce.[1906]

On 27 October 2016, China launched the National Quality Monitoring Center for cross-border e-commerce in Hangzhou. The platform is comprised of a big data center to monitor cross-border e-commerce and will serve several functions, including risk monitoring, evaluation and treatment, quality source tracing, and credit rating.[1907]

On 5 November 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang attended the fifth summit of China and Central and Eastern European Countries. To address enhancement of pragmatic cooperation, the two parties discussed further cooperation on enhancing trade through e-commerce platforms. Also, they encouraged Chinese and Central and Eastern European companies to promote exports and imports of their high-quality and characteristic products through e-commerce.[1908]

On 16 November 2016, Prime Minister Matteo Renzi met with Chinese President Xi Jinping on the Sardinia Island of Italy. Renzi expressed Italy's willingness to actively participate in the "Belt and Road" construction and deepen cooperation with China in areas such as trade and economy.[1909] The "Belt and Road" initiative encompasses many e-commerce services and online trading platforms.[1910]

On 11-13 April 2017, the three-day 2017 China International Electronic Commerce Expo was held in Yiwu, Zhejiang province. This year's exhibitors included renowned Chinese and overseas e-commerce players such as Amazon, Alibaba, JD.com and Yhd.com. Plus, more traditional entities are exploring a new retail model for online-offline integration, which will derive new value from offline resources. The "Youxuangou" platform launched by Yiwugou.com is a new retail platform based on the huge market of Yiwu and featuring online-offline integration.[1911]

On 1 June 2017, at the China-Germany Forum, a bilateral forum on innovation cooperation, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said that China is ready to forge a closer innovative partnership with Germany. In his

[1905] South Korea, China, Japan Agree to Act against Trade Protectionism, Business Korea (South Korea) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/english/news/politics/16338-against-protectionism-south-korea-china-japan-agree-act-against-trade
[1906] China tech groups to share data with state in online fraud battle, Financial Times (United Kingdom) 25 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://www.ft.com/content/4ebc5fb6-9a70-11e6-8f9b-70e3cabccfae
[1907] China cross-border e-commerce quality monitoring center launched, China Daily (China) 27 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2016-10/27/content_27190593.htm
[1908] Premier's Latvia visit adds fresh impetus to China-CEE ties, Xinhua News (China) 6 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-11/06/c_135810001.htm
[1909] Xi Jinping Meets with Prime Minister Matteo Renzi of Italy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1416478.shtml
[1910] Chinese e-commerce services bring wealth, opportunities to "Belt-Road" countries, Global Times (Beijing) 16 August 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1000566.shtml
[1911] Yiwugou.com Promotes "Youxuangou" at the 2017 China International Electronic Commerce Expo, PR Newswire 17 April 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/yiwugoucom-promotes-youxuangou-at-the-2017-china-international-electronic-commerce-expo-300440123.html

speech, Li also encouraged innovation by small-and-medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and suggested the establishment of a governmental-level mechanism to serve the cooperation between SMEs of the two countries.[1912]

On 2 June 2017, more than 200 SMEs from China and all across Europe participated in Bank of China's EU-China SMEs Matchmaking Event in Brussels, in partnership with Eurochambres, and supported by the EU SME Center and EU-China Business Association. The event facilitated discussions on enterprise transformation and innovation, integration of traditional industries and internet, and the practice of China's national strategy, so called "made in China 2015."[1913]

China has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. China has deepened e-commerce cooperation through trade facilitation, enhancing consumer protection and improving online trustworthiness. Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Edward Ji Ho Kim & Natalia Valencia

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitments to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 7 October 2016, the French Digital Republic Bill was adopted by the Senate.[1914] The bill intends to align the French legal data protection framework with the EU General Data Protection Regulation requirements before the regulation becomes applicable in May 2018.[1915] This law introduces new provisions that will regulate the digital economy as a whole, such as open data, online cooperative economy, the right to data portability and enhanced information and control of the individual of personal data.[1916]

On 24-28 October 2016, nine selected French start-ups and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) visited India as part of the Trade & Investment Commission of France in India to promote French technology and build bridges and business synergies with Indian tech ecosystems.[1917]

On 21-22 November 2016, Slovakian President Andrej Kiska visited Paris, France, in a demonstration of the common will of the two countries to strengthen to strengthen their economic links, especially regarding digital technology.[1918]

On 2 June 2017, the Bank of China successfully held the 2017 EU-China SMEs Matchmaking Event in Brussels, in partnership with Eurochambres, and supported by the EU SME Center and EU-China Business Association. The event included 145 European enterprises from 22 countries, including France. Two hundred and forty-six pairs of SMEs reached preliminary cooperative intentions. Sixty-eight pairs

[1912] China, Germany pledge to forge closer innovative partnership, XinhuaNet 2 June 2017. Access Date: 4 June 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-06/02/c_136332747.htm

[1913] EU and Chinese SMEs matchmake in Brussels, euobserver 6 June 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. https://euobserver.com/stakeholders/138100

[1914] Entry into Force of the French Digital Republic Bill, Hunton & Williams 31 October 2016. Access Date: 1 February 2017. https://www.huntonprivacyblog.com/2016/10/31/entry-force-french-digital-republic-bill/

[1915] Entry into Force of the French Digital Republic Bill, Hunton & Williams 31 October 2016. Access Date: 1 February 2017. https://www.huntonprivacyblog.com/2016/10/31/entry-force-french-digital-republic-bill/

[1916] France Adopts Digital Republic Law, Fieldfisher 6 October 2016. Access Date: 1 February 2017. http://privacylawblog.fieldfisher.com/2016/france-adopts-digital-republic-law/

[1917] French Tech Tour to India 2016, French Embassy (New Delhi) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 1 February 2017. http://www.ambafrance-in.org/French-tech-tour

[1918] French Ambassador: Slovakia is very Pro-European, Spectator (Slovakia) 20 January 2017. Access Date: 1 February 2017. https://spectator.sme.sk/c/20437522/french-ambassador-slovakia-is-very-pro-european.html signed letters of intent to pursue business collaboration opportunities after the event. Discussions included the internet and e-commerce.[1919]

France has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. France has deepened e-commerce cooperation through data protection and economic cooperation. Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Natalia Valencia

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitments to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 20 October 2016, the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy released a monitoring report, which included an analysis of the current state of e-commerce in Germany.[1920]

On 3 November 2016, the German cabinet endorsed a draft for a law, which is intended to increase the protection of individual travel bookings online. This is part of the attempt to increase e-commerce security.[1921]

Germany has not deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and developing countries. On 16 and 17 March 2017, the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy hosted a conference for G20 countries with the goal to share concepts and best-practice examples in regards to digitisation and e-commerce.[1922]

On 6 April 2017, the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy hosted a stakeholder conference with representatives from politics, the industry, academics and civil society to discuss chances and challenges of digitisation (including the e-commerce market).[1923]

On 6 and 7 April 2017, the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy hosted a G20 summit of all ministers responsible for digitisation. The summit concluded with a joint statement urging closer cooperation in online trade and e-commerce.[1924]

On 10 April 2017, the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy released the results of a study regarding the startup scene (including e-commerce companies) at german universities. It concludes that

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[1919] EU and Chinese SMEs matchmake in Brussels, euobserver 6 June 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. https://euobserver.com/stakeholders/138100

[1920] Monitoring-Report Wirtschaft DIGITAL 2016, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/Infomaterial/BMWI/monitoring-report-wirtschaft-digital-2016_786208.html

[1921] Entwurf eines Dritten Gesetzes zur Änderung reiserechtlicher Vorschriften, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 3 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.bmjv.de/SharedDocs/Gesetzgebungsverfahren/Dokumente/RegE_Drittes_Gesetz_Pauschalreiserichtlinie.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=2

[1922] G20 Ministertreffen für eine digitale Zukunft, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie (Berlin) 5 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Monatsberichte/2017/05/onlinemagazin-schlaglichter-05-17.html?cms_textId=563238&cms_artId=563250

[1923] G20 Ministertreffen für eine digitale Zukunft, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie (Berlin) 5 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Monatsberichte/2017/05/onlinemagazin-schlaglichter-05-17.html?cms_textId=563238&cms_artId=563250

[1924] G20 Ministertreffen für eine digitale Zukunft, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie (Berlin) 5 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017.

federal funding for start-up culture yielded success. More support from the Federal Government is needed.[1925]

On 26 May 2017, the German Federal Government agreed to cooperate with Chinese quality assurance agencies to improve consumer security.[1926]

Germany has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. Germany has deepened e-commerce cooperation through taxation, improved efforts to measure e-commerce, and protection of customer confidence.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Anton Rizor

India: +1

India has fully complied with its commitments to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 10 October 2016, the 13th China International Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Fair was held in China. India was a co-host of the fair.[1927] 11 countries attended the fair: Cote d'Ivoire, India, South Africa, Nigeria, Bulgaria, Kenya, Burma, Mexico, Vietnam, Russia and Poland.[1928] The event aimed to create a platform of "display, trade, exchange, and cooperation" for SMEs from around the world and showcase overseas and domestic exhibitions on cross-border e-commerce.[1929]

On 13 October 2016, Indian Commerce Minister Nirmala Sitharaman held a bilateral meeting with Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Shouwen. The discussion focused on the potential benefits that that Indo-China bilateral trade cooperation for local businesses. The two discussed in particular the potential of Information Technology and Information Technology Enabled Services projects.[1930]

On 20 October 2016, Minister of Commerce and Industry of India Nirmala Sitharaman and US Trade Representative Ambassador Michael Froman met in Delhi for the tenth ministerial-level meeting of the India and US Trade Policy Forum. The released joint statement recognized the importance of e-commerce and India stated that "100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) is now permitted in the marketplace model of e-commerce as well as in the distribution of food products produced in India, including through e-commerce." The statement also noted, "to ensure that e-commerce companies can

[1925] Gründungsklima an deutschen Hochschulen hat sich verbessert, Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie (Berlin) 10 April 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Monatsberichte/2017/04/onlinemagazin-schlaglichter-04-17.html?cms_textId=555516&cms_artId=555522

[1926] E-Commerce: Deutschland und China kooperieren bei Verbraucherschutz, Bundesregierung (Berlin) 26 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. https://www.heise.de/newsticker/meldung/E-Commerce-Deutschland-und-China-kooperieren-bei-Verbraucherschutz-3726521.html

[1927] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1928] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1929] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1930] 5 things Indo-China bilateral trade cooperation could do for Indian Businesses, Entrepreneur India 13 October 2016. Date Accessed: 29 January 2017. https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/283695 take full advantage of this market opening, India noted the continuous efforts for facilitating investment in e-commerce."[1931]

On 12 December 2016, during a bilateral meeting between Indian Prime Minister Modi and Indonesian President Joko Widodo, the two sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on trade standardization. Indonesia invited India to step up investment cooperation in information technology, which is critical to developing the e-commerce industry.[1932]

On 16 January 2017, India and the US signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cyber security cooperation. The official statement said that "the MoU intends to promote closer cooperation and the exchange of information pertaining to the cyber security in accordance with the relevant laws, rules and regulations of each economy and this MoU and on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit."[1933]

On 1 February 2017, the Indian government released its 2017 budget which greatly emphasized digitization, technology and e-commerce. The budget was a clear continuation of the government's "Digital India" policy, which aims to digitize the economy as much as possible through various initiatives and e-commerce policies.[1934] For instance the introduction of the Aadhaar Pay App and BHIM app are directly related financial inclusion efforts through digital empowerment for the Indian population lacking access to traditional financial apparatus.

On 25-26 May 2017, following the 5th India Morocco Joint Commision Meeting, the two countries committed to intensifying bilateral relations including trade, e-commerce,and their shared digital economy.[1935]Indian Commerce and Industry Minister Nirmala Sitharaman met with Moroccan Minister of Industry, Investment, Trade and Digital Economy, Moulay Hafid El Alamy. Additionally, talks were held with Minister of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water, Abdelkader Amara, as well as Minister of Economy and Finance, Mohamed Boussaid.

On 1 July 2017, India will introduce its largest tax reform in history which will make SMEs more transparent. Businesses earning fewer than INR 100 million will be required to digitize their operations to counteract underreported income.[1936] The new policy will curb tax evasion and allow the Indian government to build an online database for their tax office.

[1931] India and United States Joint Statement on the Trade Policy Forum, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2016/october/%E2%80%8BIndia-US-Joint-Statement-TPF

[1932] Indonesia plans to cooperate with India in forming digital economy, Antara News (New Delhi) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.antaranews.com/en/news/108360/indonesia-plans-to-cooperate-with-india-in-forming-digital-economy

[1933] India, US sign another agreement on cyber security cooperation, Data Center 16 January 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.datacenterdynamics.com/content-tracks/security-risk/india-us-sign-another-agreement-on-cyber-security-cooperation/97606.fullarticle

[1934] India's Union Budget 2017 emphasizes digitization, technology and e-commerce, EY (Mumbai). 1 March 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/Indias_Union_Budget_2017_emphasizes_digitization,_technology_and_e-commerce/$FILE/2017G_00955-171Gbl_Indias%20Union%20Budget%202017%20emphasizes%20digitization,%20technology%20and%20e-commerce.pdf

[1935] India and Morocco call for closer cooperation in trade sectors, KNN (India) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://knnindia.co.in/news/newsdetails/global/india-and-morocco-call-for-closer-cooperation-in-trade-sectors

[1936] New Tax Reform to Draw Indian Businesses Into Digital Economy, Bloomberg News (New York City) 22 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2017-05-22/new-tax-reform-to-draw-indian-businesses-into-digital-economy

India has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. India has deepened cooperation on e-commerce related issues such as cyber security and trade and investment cooperation in information technology. Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alissa Wang

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitments to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 12 May 2016, Indonesian President Joko Widodo "signed Presidential regulation number 44 of 2016 that changed the rules of the Negative Investment List … which stipulates which sector is open to foreign investment in Indonesia as well as the percentage of foreign ownership permitted."[1937] Among the industries affected in the revised Negative Investment List are tourism, film, and e-commerce. The new policy allows for 100 per cent foreign ownership for investments that exceed IDR100 billion when establishing an e-commerce company in Indonesia.[1938] However, his policy has come under scrutiny as it limits the ability for foreign investors to open small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Indonesia without the necessary IDR100 billion — roughly equivalent to USD7.3 million. Without the necessary investment, the foreign investor is only able to own up to 49 per cent of the company, and must enter into a partnership with an Indonesian cohort.

On 5 July 2016, the permanent missions of Mexico, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey and Australia (MIKTA) hosted an e-commerce workshop for the World Trade Organization. MIKTA is a partnership among the member states that strives to advance the international community's common interests. The workshop analyzed "trends in trade and trade policy in electronic commerce and the digital economy."[1939] More importantly, the workshop helped to shine a light on the relationship between SMEs, e-commerce and development — an aim that directly reflects the spirit of the 2016 Hangzhou Summit.

On 9 September 2016, Communications and Information Minister Rudiantara announced that Alibaba's Jack Ma from China will become an adviser to the Indonesian e-commerce steering committee and the government is also looking for other global e-commerce figures for the advisory board."[1940]

On 21 September 2016, President Joko Widodo stated that the country has seen a drastic increase in cyber crime, especially in the e-commerce sector. He stated that the government can "expand or consolidate units at ministries or institutions that have cyber security functions" and that the country's e-commerce roadmap aims to strengthen surveillance and educate the society about the importance of cyber security, especially during transactions.[1941]

On 27 September 2016, President Joko Widodo emphasized the potential role of the e-commerce industry in Indonesia to support the country's 56 million SMEs. Communications and Information Minister Rudiantara said that the government is in the process of preparing 31 initiatives on human

[1937] FAQs: What Indonesia's New e-commerce Regulation Means for Foreign Players, ecommerceiq (Bangkok) 21 June 2016. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://ecommerceiq.asia/faqs-indonesias-new-ecommerce-regulations/
[1938] Where is Indonesian Ecommerce Headed?, CNBC (New York City) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.cnbc.com/2017/04/12/where-is-indonesian-e-commerce-headed.html
[1939] Workshop on Electronic Commerce 5 July, 10:00-16:10 — WTO, Room W, WTO (Washington D.C.) 16 July 2015. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.wto.org/english/forums_e/business_e/ecomkoreajuly16_e.htm
[1940] Indonesia seeks more global e-commerce champs to advise with Jack Ma, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 9 September 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/09/09/indonesia-seeks-more-global-e-commerce-champs-to-advise-with-jack-ma.html
[1941] Indonesia experiences "drastic increase" in cyber attacks, especially on e-commerce sites, E27 21 September 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. https://e27.co/indonesia-experiences-drastic-increase-cyber-attacks-especially-e-commerce-sites-20160921/

resources, education, funding, taxation, consumer protection, cybersecurity, logistics and communications infrastructure to support the President's e-commerce plans.[1942]

On 11 November 2016, the Indonesian government announced the 14th Economic Policy Package to turn "Indonesia into the biggest digital economy of the region by 2020 with a targeted value of USD130 billion. The policy addresses issues of funding, taxation, consumer protection, human resources, logistics, communication infrastructure, cyber security and the establishment of a project management office. For example, the road map of the policy package includes grants and subsidies to start-ups to "boost their chances of surviving in the tough e-commerce industry," reduction in taxes for locals investing in start-ups, a simplification of taxation procedure for e-commerce start-ups, and the repositioning of Indonesia as a logistical platform for Indonesian e-commerce.[1943]

On 12 December 2016, during a bilateral meeting between Indian Prime Minister Modi and Indonesian President Joko Widodo, the two sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on trade standardization. Indonesia invited India to step up investment cooperation in information technology, which is critical to developing the e-commerce industry.[1944]

On 12 December 2016, following a bilateral meeting with Indian Prime Minister Modi, Indonesian President Joko Widodo announced the signing of an MoU on trade standardization between Indonesia and India. He stated that Indonesia invited India to step up investment cooperation in information technology, which is critical to developing the e-commerce industry.[1945]

On 13 December 2016, President Joko Widodo asked Head of Investment Coordinating Board Thomas Trikasih Lembong to announce plans to cooperate with India in forming a digital economy and in supporting e-commerce. Lembong stated, "Indonesia is seeking opportunities to cooperate with India in the digital economy and e-commerce space. The digital economy and e-commerce in India is considered to be highly prospective."[1946]

On 9-11 May 2017, Indonesia hosted the Indonesia E-Commerce Summit expo 2017 for three days. Along with fomenting cooperation amongst Asia's largest economies — the theme was "Empowering the Digital Energy of Asia" — the expo reaffirmed the government's policy of "putting Indonesia as the front in the region."[1947] This position was reiterated in addresses made by the Minister of Communication and Information and the Chairman of Indonesia E-Commerce Association, which both stated that Indonesia will be the leading digital economy in Asia by 2020.

Indonesia has deepened on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. Indonesia has deepened e-commerce cooperation through taxation measures, investment cooperation,

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1942 Incentives sought to propel e-commerce, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 28 September 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/09/28/incentives-sought-to-propel-e-commerce-.html

1943 Indonesia wants to lead the region in e-commerce, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/11/11/indonesia-wants-to-lead-the-region-in-e-commerce.html

1944 Indonesia plans to cooperate with India in forming digital economy, Antara News (New Delhi) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.antaranews.com/en/news/108360/indonesia-plans-to-cooperate-with-india-in-forming-digital-economy

1945 Indonesia plans to cooperate with India in forming digital economy, Antara News (New Delhi) 13 December 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.antaranews.com/en/news/108360/indonesia-plans-to-cooperate-with-india-in-forming-digital-economy

1946 Indonesia plans to cooperate with India in forming digital economy, Antara News (New Delhi) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.antaranews.com/en/news/108360/indonesia-plans-to-cooperate-with-india-in-forming-digital-economy

1947 IESE 2017: Big Potential of E-Commerce Industry in Indonesia Becomes Biggest in Southeast Asia, Asosiasi E-Commerce Indonesia (Jakarta) 16 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.idea.or.id/berita/detail/iese-2017-potensi-besar-industri-e-commerce-indonesia-jadi-terbesar-di-asia-tenggara digital economy cooperation, consumer protection, cybersecurity, logistics and communications infrastructure.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alissa Xinhe Wang

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitments to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 16 November 2016, Prime Minister Matteo Renzi met with Chinese President Xi Jinping on the Sardinia Island of Italy. Renzi expressed Italy's willingness to actively participate in the "Belt and Road" construction and deepen cooperation with China in areas such as trade and economy.[1948] The Belt and Road initiative encompasses many e-commerce services and online trading platforms.[1949]

On 22 November 2016, the Italian E-commerce Association hosted the conference "The Digital Future of Business Between Companies: Models, Best Practices and Solutions for B2B companies." The conference focuses on the theme of the digital future of the Business-to-Business (B2B) model. This conference offered the occasion for meeting and networking between e-commerce operators and companies to learn about the opportunities from the online industry. The conference also presented a report named "The digital future of B2B" that describes the online presence of Italian B2B (business-to-business) companies.[1950]

On 12 December 2016, Italian Deputy Minister Ivan Scalfarotto and 37 Italian businesspeople met with Pakistan's Minister for Industries Sheikh Allaudin, Minister for Finance Aisha Ghaus Pasha and President of Pakistan's Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry Abdul Basit. Representatives discussed the potential of increasing trade volume.[1951] In particular, the two countries discussed the potential of Italian entrepreneurs participating in the China Pakistan Economic Corridor, which is supplemented by a China Pakistan E-Corridor component.[1952]

On 16 May, 2017, President Xi Jinping met with Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni at Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, who was in China for the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation. Both sides iterated the intention to implement the China-Italy Cooperation Action Plan for 2017-2020, expand two-way investment, promote construction of industrial parks and strengthen cooperation in e-commerce, innovation and other fields.[1953]

On 2 June 2017, the Bank of China successfully held the 2017 EU-China SMEs Matchmaking Event in Brussels, in partnership with Eurochambres, and supported by the EU SME Center and EU-China Business Association. The event included 145 European enterprises from 22 countries, including Italy.

[1948] Xi Jinping Meets with Prime Minister Matteo Renzi of Italy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1416478.shtml

[1949] Chinese e-commerce services bring wealth, opportunities to "Belt-Road" countries, Global Times (Beijing) 16 August 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1000566.shtml

[1950] The digital future of B2B, Ecommerce News (Milan) 22 November 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. https://ecommercenews.eu/events/the-digital-future-of-b2b/

[1951] Pakistan, Italy agree to boost trade, economic ties, Geo TV (Lahore) 12 December 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. https://www.geo.tv/latest/123410-Pakistan-Italy-agree-to-boost-trade-economic-ties

[1952] E-Corridor to supplement China-Pak Economic COrridor, Propakistani 1 February 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. https://propakistani.pk/2016/02/01/e-corridor-to-supplement-china-pak-economic-corridor/

[1953] Xi Jinping Meets with Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni of Italy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the people's Republic of China 16 May 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017. http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1463441.shtml

There werew 246 pairs of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) that reached preliminary cooperative intentions, and 68 pairs signed letters of intent to pursue business collaboration opportunities after the event. Discussions included the internet and e-commerce.[1954]

Italy has not deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries but has deepened e-commerce cooperation through trade facilitation and economic cooperation. Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Alissa Xinhe Wang & Natalia Valencia

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 12 October 2016, Japan's Financial Service Agency and Finance Ministry have discussed about ending an 8 per cent sales-tax collection on the Bitcoin. This change is poised to propel the growth of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies as alternatives to traditional money, by reducing costs for buyers and relieve operators of administrative burden associated with dealing with tax.[1955] However, no actions have been implemented.

On 29 October 2016, at the 11th trilateral ministerial meeting held in Japan, trade ministers from Japan, Korea and China agreed to further discussions for Korea-China-Japan trilateral free trade agreement and the broader Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, in order to take actions against trade protectionism issues addressed in the World Trade Organization and G20 summit. Three countries have agreed to strengthen economic cooperation, and they will work together to establish Digital Single Market, and conduct joint research on e-commerce.[1956]

On 16 March 2017, Snapdeal, an Indian Online Marketplace, and Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) announced an exclusive partnership to showcase products from popular brands from small and medium enterprises (SMEs) from Japan on Snapdeal. JETRO India's chief director general, Kazuya Nakajo commented "JETRO is delighted to partner with Snapdeal and bring a wide range of Japanese products to India. In Snapdeal, JETRO has found an ideal platform for new Japanese companies to promote products which will not only help them gain visibility in front of thousands of potential customers, but also act as a stepping stone for them to build their brand and presence in India."[1957]

On 8 April 2017, the Government of Japan has announced its plan to improve customs procedures and e-commerce in the ASEAN members, in order to boost progress in negotiations for a free trade agreement in the greater Asian region. Economic ministers from the ten Asian nations and the Japanese government met on the same day in Osaka, Japan. The Japanese government proposed to primarily focus on supporting the bloc's small and midsize businesses, that are seen as the key factors to the ASEAN's

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[1954] EU and Chinese SMEs matchmake in Brussels, euobserver 6 June 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. https://euobserver.com/stakeholders/138100

[1955] Japan set to drop sales tax on buying virtual currency, Nikkei (Japan) 12 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Policy-Politics/Japan-set-to-drop-sales-tax-on-buying-virtual-currency?n_cid=NARAN012

[1956] South Korea, China, Japan Agree to Act against Trade Protectionism, Business Korea (South Korea) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/english/news/politics/16338-against-protectionism-south-korea-china-japan-agree-act-against-trade

[1957] Snapdeal, Japan Trade Organization tie-up to bring Japanese products to India, ETRetail.com 16 March 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://retail.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/e-commerce/e-tailing/snapdeal-japan-trade-organization-tie-up-to-bring-japanese-products-to-india/57666907 economic growth. Three major topics were covered including e-commerce; customs procedures; and intellectual property protections.[1958]

On 9 June 2017, Japan and the EU met for bilateral talks on the final details of a proposed economic partnership that covers a wide range of topics including e-commerce regulations and intellectual property.[1959]

Japan has not deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. Japan has taken multiple steps to deepen e-commerce cooperation through trade cooperation and eliminating taxation.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Edward Ji Ho Kim

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 16 October 2016, Korea's Fair Trade Commission announced its plan to apply the same set of e-commerce laws that were applicable to the conventional e-commerce retailers, to the crowdfunding businesses. The application of e-commerce laws to the crowdfunding business is expected to reduce operating uncertainties for the corporations, while improving conflict resolution process for the consumers in case of fraud.[1960]

On 24 October 2016, Chairman of the Korea's Financial Services Commission, Yim Jong-yong stated that "the government will push for the systematization of digital currency on a full scale in tandem with a global trend in the US, Japan and other countries" He also said that the government will also offer KRW3 trillion (USD2.65 billion) in financial support over the next three years to develop fintech sector and remove unnecessary regulations on the field.[1961]

On 29 October 2016, at the 11th trilateral ministerial meeting held in Japan, trade ministers from South Korea, China and Japan agreed to further discussions for South Korea-China-Japan trilateral Free Trade Agreement, and the broader Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, in order to take actions against trade protectionism issues addressed in the World Trade Organization and G20 summit. Three countries have agreed to strengthen economic cooperation, and they will work together to establish a Digital Single Market, and conduct joint research on e-commerce.[1962]

On 9 November 2016, Korea Institute for Electronic Trade and Commerce Promotion (KIETaC) authorized a licensing system for e-trade and e-commerce system. KIETaC chairman Shim Dong-Sup stated that "Korea should train e-commerce experts to integrate Korea, China and Japan's digital markets

[1958] Japan eyes cooperation with ASEAN in customs, e-commerce, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 8 April 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/International-Relations/Japan-eyes-cooperation-with-ASEAN-in-customs-e-commerce

[1959] Japan, EU make final push for trade pact, Nikkei Asian Review (Tokyo) 9 June 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/International-Relations/Japan-EU-make-final-push-for-trade-pact

[1960] 'Korean Kickstarters' to protect consumers with e-commerce laws, Electronic News (South Korea) 16 October 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. http://www.etnews.com/20161014000416

[1961] Korea to expand system for digital currency, Korea Herald (South Korea) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20161024000876

[1962] South Korea, China, Japan Agree to Act against Trade Protectionism, Business Korea (South Korea) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/english/news/politics/16338-against-protectionism-south-korea-china-japan-agree-act-against-trade into single market and to make the country a leader in global e-commerce" The system will take effect starting November 11, 2016.[1963]

On 20 April 2017, the Bank of Korea launched the aforementioned pilot program. Shoppers at certain stores across the country could load change from purchases onto the prepaid cards instead of receiving change as a coin, as a country-wide trial. Some of the country's biggest convenience stores are taking part in the trial. If the trial is deemed successful, bank officials are planning to allow changes to be transferred directly into the shoppers' bank accounts as early as next year.[1964] Cha Hyeon-jin, an official who is in charge of the pilot program at the Bank of Korea, predicted that there is a good chance that the move to go coinless could possibly lead to a "cashless society."[1965]

On 11 May 2017, Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning and Ministry of the Interior announced a plan to prohibit the use of ActiveX in the governmental websites and in the websites with the most frequent visits. ActiveX is a security program that has prompted mandatory install for the users to navigate governmental and bank websites, and to carry out online transactions. A personnel from the Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning commented that "in order to have users feel tangible impact on the website usage, we are aiming to rid of ActiveX from top ten websites that have the most traffics from ten different categories including Shopping, Education, Finance and Online Portals."

Korea has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to small and medium enterprises) and developing countries. Korea deepened cooperation in e-commerce through financial support, creation of a licensing system, launch of a pilot program that would spur transition to a cashless society, commitment to abolishing ActiveX, protection of online consumers, and trade cooperation.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Edward Ji Ho Kim

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 10 October 2016, Mexico attended the the 13th China International Small and Medium Enterprises Fair.[1966] The participants of the included Cote d'Ivoire, India, South Africa, Nigeria, Bulgaria, Kenya, Burma, Mexico, Vietnam, Russia and Poland.[1967] The event aimed to create a platform of "display, trade, exchange, and cooperation" for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) from around the world and showcase overseas and domestic exhibitions on cross-border e-commerce.[1968]

On 11 January 2017, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Montenegro, Paraguay, Singapore, and Turkey released a communication on the role of

[1963] Government approves e-biz licensing system, Korea Times (South Korea) 9 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/biz/2016/11/123_217878.html
[1964] South Korea gets ready to embrace coinless society, Independent UK 21 April 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/south-korea-coinless-society-cash-tender-stores-prepaid-cards-trial-banks-a7694736.html
[1965] South Korea gets ready to embrace coinless society, Independent UK 21 April 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/south-korea-coinless-society-cash-tender-stores-prepaid-cards-trial-banks-a7694736.html
[1966] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm
[1967] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm
[1968] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

the World Trade Organization (WTO) in regulating and encouraging e-commerce. E-commerce was identified as important for inclusive economic development and the support of SMEs. The communication identifies transparency, issues relating to consumer confidence, and issues related to trade facilitation as important areas for regulation.[1969]

On 10 February 2017, Mexico released, in conjunction with Brunei Darussalam, Colombia, Costa Rica, Hong Kong, China, Israel, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Qatar, Seychelles, Singapore, and Turkey, a non-paper to the WTO. The non-paper discussed the role of e-commerce in creating new opportunities for SMEs by reducing the cost of doing business and increasing the size of the market. E-commerce issues relevant to developing countries were also identified, including trade facilitation, infrastructure gaps, access to payment solutions, and online security.[1970]

Between 24 and 28 April 2017, the Friends of eCommerce for Development (FED), consisting of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Uruguay, met at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development E-commerce week. FED members presented a roadmap to encourage sustainable economic development for developing countries. The key issues include "identification of strategies for e-commerce readiness, access to [information and communication technology] infrastructure and services, trade logistics and trade facilitation, e-payment solutions, legal certainty and regulatory frameworks, capacity building and technical assistance and access to financing."[1971]

Mexico deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. Mexico has not deepened cooperation in e-commerce. Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Kelly Cholvat

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 14 September 2016, the meeting of the working group on the implementation of Support of Access to Foreign Market and Export Action Plan (Roadmap) was held. Experts from the Federal Customs Service, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economic Development and other agencies concerned, as well as exporters and representatives of business associations discussed the implementation of individual items of the roadmap, including exports through e-commerce channels. The main goals of the updated roadmap include further improvement of e-commerce mechanisms. The document was submitted to the Russian Government for final approval.[1972]

On 30 September 2016, Oleg Belozerov, President of Russian Railways, and Dimitry Strashnov, CEO of the Russian Post, signed the Roadmap for transporting mail between China and Europe by interstate rail transport.[1973] Belozerov stated that "The advantages of this new mail route to all those involved in e-

[1969] Trade Policy, the WTO, and the Digital Economy, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 11 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017.
[1970] Electronic Commerce and Development, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 10 February 2017. Access Date: 22 May 2017.
[1971] Friends of E-commerce for Development Launch Roadmap for International Trade and Development Policy, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development 4 May 2017. Access Date: 22 May 2017. http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1477
[1972] Revised Version of Roadmap to Support Exports Submitted to the Government, Russian Export Center 15 September 2016. https://www.exportcenter.ru/en/news/revised-version-of-roadmap-to-support-exports-submitted-to-the-government/?navNum=1&page=1
[1973] Russian transport corridor connects China and Western Europe, Ecommerce News Europe 13 October 2016. Access Date: 6 February 2017. https://ecommercenews.eu/russian-transport-corridor-connects-china-western-europe/

commerce are obvious. This offers a good alternative to air delivery, both in terms of delivery times and quality. For us, it is important not only to provide a convenient transit corridor for freight traffic between East and West, but also to establish favourable conditions for Russian exports."[1974]

On 10 October 2016, Russia attended the the 13th China International Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Fair.[1975] The participants of the fair included Cote d'Ivoire, India, South Africa, Nigeria, Bulgaria, Kenya, Burma, Mexico, Vietnam, Russia and Poland.[1976] The event aimed to create a platform of "display, trade, exchange, and cooperation" for SMEs from around the world and showcases oversea and domestic exhibitions on cross-border e-commerce.[1977]

On 9 December 2016, at the meeting of the Presidium of the Russian Presidential Council on Strategic Development and Priority Projects the Government instructed the Ministry of Industry and Trade and other ministries and entities to develop a program of creating technical, regulatory, institutional and logistical environment conducive to increasing exports of SMEs through e-commerce channels. Ministry of Agriculture and other ministries and entities were instructed to develop proposal on creating logistical centers to export agricultural products to the Asia-Pacific countries, including through e-commerce channels.[1978]

On 23 December 2016, the Russian Export Center published a manual on entering international e-commerce platforms. It is aimed to help new exporters to start using e-commerce platforms.[1979] The Russian Export Center is a joint-stock company established under the mandate of the Russian Government to offer a specialised one-stop-shop for exporters, providing financial and non-financial support, and interacting with relevant ministries and agencies. The Russian Government designated the legal status of the center as a state export support institution.[1980]

On 14 February 2017, the Russian Export Center and SPSR Express entered into a partnership agreement which is expected to unleash opportunities of logistics services for Russian exports and create an e-commerce platform for listing products across online marketplaces and stores worldwide.[1981]

On 25 May 2017, the Bank of Russia, represented by its Deputy Governor Olga Skorobogatov, reportedly revealed that it may introduce legislation focused on bitcoin as early as next month.[1982] Chief International Officer of Ulmart Brian Kean stated that it welcomes the willingness that the Russian

[1974] Russian railways and Russian Post agree to develop postal transit freight between China-Russia-Europe, Russian Railways 1 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017.
http://eng.rzd.ru/newse/public/en?STRUCTURE_ID=15&layer_id=4839&refererLayerId=4537&refererPageId=704&id=106958

[1975] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1976] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1977] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1978] On the Decisions of the Meeting of the Presidium of the Russian Presidential Council on Strategic Development and Priority Projects Government of Russia, 9 December 2016. http://government.ru/orders/selection/401/25598/

[1979] Russian Export Center Published a Manual on Entering International E-Commerce Platforms, Russian Export Center 23 December 2016. https://www.exportcenter.ru/news/rets-vypustil-metodicheskoe-posobie-po-vykhodu-na-mezhdunarodnye-elektronnye-torgovye-ploshchadki/?navNum=1&page=1

[1980] About,, Russian Export Center. https://www.exportcenter.ru/en/company/

[1981] The Russian Export Center and SPSR Express team up for e-commerce initiative, Post & Parcel 16 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017.
http://postandparcel.info/78191/news/the-russian-export-center-and-spsr-express-team-up-for-e-commerce-initiative/

[1982] Russia's Central Bank is Writing a New Bitcoin Law, Coindesk 31 May 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017.
http://www.coindesk.com/russias-central-bank-writing-new-bitcoin-law/

government has demonstrated with regards to the review of the bitcoin technology and look forward to cooperating with the government in this area.[1983]

Russia deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. Russia has taken multiple steps to deepen cooperation in e-commerce. Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Sharon Ho & Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 15-16 November 2016, the fourth edition of the Saudi Trade Finance summit took place in Jeddah.[1984] This premier trade finance summit is one of the largest gathering of finance professionals from mid and large enterprises in the Kingdom along with key stakeholders from the government and regulatory authorities, financial institutions, technology providers, trade credit insurers, consulting and advisory firms.[1985] The summit aimed to discuss current trade trends and challenges, including the role of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in trade development and their contribution to Saudi Arabia's gross domestic product.[1986]

On 19 February 2017, the Prince Mohammed Bin Salman College (MBSC) of Business & Entrepreneurship, the first educational institution in Saudi Arabia dedicated to entrepreneurial development, hosted the Kingdom's first-of-its-kind SME Forum. The event was held at King Abdullah Economic City (KAEC) with MBSC as the knowledge partner and was attended by more than 400 entrepreneurs and owners of small and medium enterprises. The SME Forum 2017 is part of the MBSC's and KAEC's shared commitment to supporting and embracing Small and Medium Sized companies in recognition of their key role in Saudi Vision 2030.[1987]

On 4-5 April 2017, organized by the Saudi-British Joint Business Council, the Saudi/UK SME Partnership Forum took place in Dammam. The event followed a forum for Saudi-British tech entrepreneurs held in London in 2015. Sheikh Nasser Al-Mutawa Al-Otaibi, co-chair of the Saudi-British Joint Business Council, pointed out that Saudi private-sector firms look forward to exchanging experience on how SMEs can best access energy industry supply chains, for mutually beneficial partnership, as well as benefiting from finance and other support.[1988]

[1983] Ulmart plans to start accepting bitcoin, Ecommerce News Europe 12 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://ecommercenews.eu/ulmart-plans-start-accepting-bitcoin/

[1984] Technology and Vision 2030 the 'Main Attractions' at Saudi Trade Finance Summit 2016, Saudi Projects Magazine (Saudi Arabia) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 2 February 2017. http://www.saudiprojectsmagazine.com/news/2016/11/7/technology-and-vision-2030-the-main-attractions-at-saudi-trade-finance-summit-2016

[1985] Technology and Vision 2030 the 'Main Attractions' at Saudi Trade Finance Summit 2016, Saudi Projects Magazine (Saudi Arabia) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 2 February 2017. http://www.saudiprojectsmagazine.com/news/2016/11/7/technology-and-vision-2030-the-main-attractions-at-saudi-trade-finance-summit-2016

[1986] Saudi Trade Finance Summit opens in Jeddah today, i Dubai News 15 November 2016. Access Date: 2 February 2017. http://idubainews.com/saudi-trade-finance-summit-opens-in-jeddah-today/

[1987] MBSC and KAEC host landmark SME Forum, Saudi Gazette 13 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://saudigazette.com.sa/business/mbsc-kaec-host-landmark-sme-forum/

[1988] UK to cooperate with Saudi Arabia over Vision 2030 plan, Thomas Reuters Zawya.com 5 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/story/UK_to_cooperate_with_Saudi_Arabia_over_Vision_2030_plan-ZAWYA20170405034155/

Saudi Arabia has deepened discussion on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs but not developing countries. Saudi Arabia has not taken multiple steps to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues through investment cooperation, digital economy cooperation and consumer protection.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Natalia Valencia

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 9 September 2016, the South African chapter of the Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) Business Council launched the South Africa BRICS Business Council Portal. The portal presents a solution to address some of the challenges of doing business within Brazil, Russia, India and China. The portal was designed to "minimize business risk and equip individuals and business owners with relevant and up-to-date information to ensure they make informed trade and investment decisions."[1989]

On 10 October 2016, South Africa attended the the 13th China International Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Fair.[1990] The participants included Cote d'Ivoire, India, South Africa, Nigeria, Bulgaria, Kenya, Burma, Mexico, Vietnam, Russia and Poland. The event aimed to create a platform of "display, trade, exchange, and cooperation" for SMEs from around the world and showcase overseas and domestic exhibitions on cross-border e-commerce.[1991]

On 16-18 October 2016, South Africa hosted the fifth meeting of the African Internet Governance Forum. The forum concluded with an action plan focused on amongst others:

- ensuring wider participation in the online economy;
- the promotion and protection of intellectual property;
- the promotion of cyber-security;
- privacy and access to key technical resources, such as domain names and internet protocol addresses, that all make Internet services possible.[1992]

On 13 February to 16 February 2017, the 11th edition of the Africa Finance and Investment Forum 2017 "Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Growth" took place at the Strathmore University in Nairobi, Kenya. During the conference, the PAN-African meeting of governmental representatives, investors, SME and their managers and entrepreneurs took place within this time frame. The conference focused on entrepreneurship and innovation and access to finance in key sectors such as energy, water, ICT, health and agriculture.[1993]

[1989] S.A Launches BRICS Business Council, CNBC Africa 23 September 2016. Access Date: 1 February 2017. http://www.cnbcafrica.com/news/special-report/2016/09/23/brics-business-council-launches-trade-and-investment-portal/

[1990] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1991] The 13th China International SME Fair to open in Guangzhou on Monday, News GD 9 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.newsgd.com/news/2016-10/09/content_157161666.htm

[1992] International Cooperation, Trade and Security Cluster briefing, Government Communications (South Africa) 13 December 2016. Access Date: 1 February 2017. http://www.gcis.gov.za/newsroom/media-releases/international-cooperation-trade-and-security-cluster-briefing

[1993] Africa Finance and Investment Forum 2017 to be hosted in Kenya for the first time, African Review 7 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.africanreview.com/events/event-news/africa-finance-and-investment-forum-2017-to-be-hosted-in-kenya-for-the-first-time

On 13 March to 19 March 2017, delegates from 173 countries gathered at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress in Johannesburg to attend in-depth masterclasses and relevant discussions to foster entrepreneurs to start and scale new businesses. Beyond the sessions and discussions, world government leaders in entrepreneurship, small business and innovation, gathered at the congress for the third Global SME Ministerial. Led by the U.S. Small Business Administration and the South African Ministry of Small Business Development, ministers and policy leaders participated in a dialogue to share best practices, find collaborative solutions and to create a path for promoting entrepreneurship in any economy and community around the world.[1994]

On 6 April 2017, World Trade Organization members signalled considerable interest in e-commerce discussions at the meeting of the Council for Trade in Goods. South Africa, speaking on behalf of the African Group, said it would like the Goods Council to take up issues that place the needs of developing countries and least-developing countries at the centre.[1995]

South Africa has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to developing countries however not sufficiently in regards to SMEs. South Africa has deepened e-commerce cooperation through investment cooperation, digital economy cooperation, consumer protection and cybersecurity, logistics.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Natalia Valencia

Turkey: +1

Turkey has fully complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 6 October 2016, Turkey entered into negotiations over a free trade agreement with Pakistan that particularly aims at improving e-commerce between the two countries.[1996]

On 24 October 2016, the Ministry of Customs and Trade published two draft communiqués regarding “safety stamp” applications and notification obligations in e-commerce. The ministry granted public institutions and organizations, professional organizations, associations and unions the opportunity to comment and provide feedback on the two draft communiques.[1997]

On 25 October 2016, the Minister of Customs and Trade participated in the e-commerce Sector Council Meeting and presented the rising numbers of Turkish interest in e-commerce.[1998] In the same meeting he set the target for the e-commerce market at TRY180 billion.[1999]

On 11 November 2016, the Turkish government announced a plan to support the expenses of exporting e-commerce companies on a project basis in order to ensure that exporters have the potential to be part of the global e-commerce trade. The plan is worth TRY3 billion.

[1994] GEC 2017: Johannesburg, South Africa, Global Entrepreneurship Congress Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://gec.co/2017

[1995] Members Discuss Development Dimension of E-commerce at Goods Council, WTO 6 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news17_e/good_13apr17_e.htm

[1996] Ministry of Commerce starts negotiation with Thailand and Turkey for Free Trade Agreements, Lahore World (Lahore) 6 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://lahoreworld.com/2016/10/06/ministry-commerce-starts-negotiation-thailand-turkey-free-trade-agreements/

[1997] Turkey Presents Two Draft Communiqués on E-Commerce, Lexology (Istanbul) 27 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=b3e26853-6b67-4ee4-b1f0-4244c9691135

[1998] Gümrük ve Ticaret Bakanı Bülent Tüfenkci'den 'e-ticaret' açıklaması, Ihlas haber Ajansi (Ankara) 25 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.iha.com.tr/haber-gumruk-ve-ticaret-bakani-bulent-tufenkciden-e-ticaret-aciklamasi-596495/

[1999] TOBB Türkiye E-Ticaret Sektör Meclisi Toplantısı, Haberler (Ankara) 27 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.haberler.com/tobb-turkiye-e-ticaret-sektor-meclisi-toplantisi-8894253-haberi/

On 15 March 2017, the Turkish Ministry of Economy announced that it has created new incentives to support e-commerce sites in their hope of creating collective membership agreements. This is intended to increase effective cooperation and export through e-commerce.[2000]

On 10 April 2017, Turkey was revealed to be part of a market of small and medium enteprrises (SMEs). SMEs from Turkey, Georgia and Azerbaijan plan to expand e-commerce through this cooperation while also incorporating SMEs from Asia, Europe and Africa. This initiative was lead by Tunc Uyanik of the B20.[2001]

On 5 May 2017, the Turkish Minister of Environment and Urbanisation Mehmet Ozkan attended the launch of the DHgate-eWSF program, which intends to ensure closer Sino-Chinese cooperation the e-commerce sector.[2002]

On 13 May 2017, Turkish President Recep Erdogan met with the President of China, Xi Jinping to discuss among other things the growing e-commerce platform. While deeming the cooperation a success, both also addressed opportunities and challenges in further cooperation, specifically addressing the need to increase cooperation in shipbuilding and post management.[2003]

Turkey has deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. Turkey has deepened e-commerce cooperation through trade cooperation, safety applications and support of exports.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Anton Rizor

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 1 November 2016, the UK government committed to spend GBP2 billion over the next five years to improve cyber security in the country as part of its new cyber security strategy. The aim of the strategy is to make the UK "prosperous and confident in the digital world" and "the safest place to do business in the world."[2004] The UK Treasury also stated that it would work closely with industry partners to defend and safeguard citizens and businesses against cyber threats.[2005]

On 15 November 2016, the UK Department for International Trade created a digital platform, the "digital trade hub," to help UK businesses in the export market. The platform supports the government's e-exporting programme and will offer help to UK businesses in exporting to priority markets of India, China, Germany and the US. The platform aims to show the "international audience that [the UK is]

[2000] Ekonomi Bakanlığından E-ticaret Sitelerine Üyelik Desteği, Haberler 15 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.haberler.com/ekonomi-bakanligindan-e-ticaret-sitelerine-uyelik-9375679-haberi/

[2001] SMEs from Turkey, Azerbaijan and Georgia to meet in e-commerce platform, Daily Sabah 10 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.dailysabah.com/business/2017/04/11/smes-from-turkey-azerbaijan-and-georgia-to-meet-in-e-commerce-platform

[2002] DHgate Brings a Promising Breakthrough to Sino-Turkish E-commerce, PR Newswire 5 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/dhgate-brings-a-promising-breakthrough-to-sino-turkish-e-commerce-300452220.html

[2003] President Erdoğan, China's Xi discuss third nuclear plant, Daily Sabah 14 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.dailysabah.com/energy/2017/05/15/president-erdogan-chinas-xi-discuss-third-nuclear-plant

[2004] UK government re-announces 1.9bn cyber security spend, Computer Weekly 1 November 2016. Access Date: 2 February 2017. http://www.computerweekly.com/news/450402098/UK-government-re-announces-19bn-cyber-security-spend

[2005] UK government vows to sink $.23 billion into new cybersecurity plan, Ars Technica 1 November 2016. Access Date: 2 February 2017. https://arstechnica.com/security/2016/11/cyber-attacks-uk-vows-1-9-billion-cyber-security-strategy/

home to the most dynamic and innovative companies in the world and that BRitain is open for business as never before."[2006]

On 20 March 2017, the UK Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy launched a fund to help small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Northern Ireland with information and communication technology. SMEs could receive funding for accounts and order processing software, e-commerce websites, some software, some systems, ICT installations, implementation and training.[2007]

On 25 April 2017, the UK attended the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development e-Commerce Week in Geneva and delivered a statement. The UK discussed its support for E-Trade for All, the goals of which include supporting e-commerce projects in the developing world. The UK also discussed opportunities for micro, small and medium enterprises.[2008]

The UK deepened discussions on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. The UK deepened cooperation on e-commerce issues through the creation of a digital trade hub and improving cyber security.

Thus, the UK receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alissa Xinhe Wang

United States: −1

The United States has not complied with its commitment to deepen discussions on e-commerce and to deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 3 October to 7 October 2016, the United States and the European Union held the 15th Round of Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations in New York City.[2009] The TTIP includes provisions to use e-commerce to improve trade, committing to not impose custom duties on digital products and allow the movement of cross-border information flow.[2010]

On 20 October 2016, Minister of Commerce and Industry of India Nirmala Sitharaman and US Trade Representative Ambassador Michael Froman met in Delhi for the tenth ministerial-level meeting of the India and US Trade Policy Forum. The released joint statement recognized the importance of e-commerce and India stated that "100 per cent foreign direct investment is now permitted in the marketplace model of e-commerce as well as in the distribution of food products produced in India, including through e-commerce." The statement also noted, "to ensure that e-commerce companies can take full advantage of this market opening, India noted the continuous efforts for facilitating investment in e-commerce."[2011]

[2006] Government launches 'digital trade hub' in a bid to boost export market, Public Technology 15 November 2016. Access Date: 2 February 2017. https://www.publictechnology.net/articles/news/government-launches-%E2%80%98digital-trade-hub%E2%80%99-bid-boost-export-market

[2007] Management information scheme-Northern Ireland, UK Government 20 March 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/business-finance-support/management-information-scheme-northern-ireland

[2008] Launch of UNCTAD E-Trade for all, UK Government 25 April 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/launch-of-unctad-e-trade-for-all-uk-statement

[2009] T-TIP Round Information, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 3 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. https://ustr.gov/ttip/ttip-round-information

[2010] Electronic Commerce and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Services, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington). Access Date: 5 November 2016. https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/transatlantic-trade-and-investment-partnership-t-tip/t-tip-15

[2011] India and United States Joint Statement on the Trade Policy Forum, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2016/october/%E2%80%8BIndia-US-Joint-Statement-TPF

On 20 October 2016, Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry Nirmala Sitharaman and the US Trade Representative Ambassador Michael Froman met in Delhi for the tenth ministerial-level meeting of the India and United States Trade Policy Forum.[2012] E-commerce as a tool in facilitating trade was acknowledged by both parties.[2013]

On 7 November 2016, US Trade Representative Michael Froman traveled to Buenos Aires for the US-Argentina Trade and Investment Framework Agreement Council Meeting.[2014] The agreement was signed on 23 March 2016 and includes e-commerce as part of their initial work program.[2015]

On 30 March 2017, President Donald Trump signed executive orders to review all 14 United States trade deals.[2016] Currently, there are electronic commerce chapters in the free trade agreements with Australia, Bahrian, CAFTA-DR, Chile, Colombia, Korea, Morocco, Oman, Panama and Peru.[2017]

On 27 April 2017, President Donald Trump threatened to terminate the U.S. trade agreement with South Korea during an interview, stating that it was a "horrible deal."[2018] Chapter 15 of this trade agreement deals specifically with electronic commerce.[2019]

On 11 May 2017, the United States signed a 10-point trade deal with China.[2020] The deal does not address electronic commerce at any point.[2021]

The US has not deepened discussion on e-commerce issues related specifically to small and medium sized enterprises and developing countries. The US has not deepened cooperation on e-commerce through the facilitation of trade and cross-border information flow.

Thus, United States receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Hannah Girdler

[2012] India and United States Joint Statement on the Trade Policy Forum, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2016/october/%E2%80%8BIndia-US-Joint-Statement-TPF

[2013] India and United States Joint Statement on the Trade Policy Forum, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 20 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2016/october/%E2%80%8BIndia-US-Joint-Statement-TPF

[2014] Trade and Investment Framework Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Argentine Republic, Investment Policy Hub 23 March 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/Download/TreatyFile/5099

[2015] Trade and Investment Framework Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Argentine Republic, Investment Policy Hub 23 March 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2016. http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/Download/TreatyFile/5099

[2016] Trump signs executive orders ramping up trade enforcement. Date Accessed: 25 May 2017. http://thehill.com/policy/finance/326803-trump-signs-executive-orders-ramping-up-trade-enforcement

[2017] E-commerce FTA Chapters, Office of the United States Trade Representative. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/services-investment/telecom-e-commerce/e-commerce-fta-chapters

[2018] Trump: "We may terminate" U.S.-South Korea trade agreement, The Washington Post (United States) 28 April 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-we-may-terminate-us-south-korea-trade-agreement/2017/04/27/75ad1218-2bad-11e7-a616-d7c8a68c1a66_story.html?utm_term=.e2efeacceeb5

[2019] E-commerce FTA Chapters, Office of the United States Trade Representative. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/services-investment/telecom-e-commerce/e-commerce-fta-chapters

[2020] US and China sign trade agreement, BBC News 12 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.bbc.com/news/business-39894119

[2021] Why The China-U.S. Trade Deal Is A Win For Some, But Meaningless For Most, Forbes 15 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.forbes.com/sites/alexcapri/2017/05/15/the-cherry-picked-winners-of-the-u-s-china-trade-deal/#437230386428

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to deepen discussions and deepen cooperation on e-commerce issues.

On 15 September 2016, the European Commission published a preliminary report on an e-commerce sector inquiry. The preliminary report provides an overview of the main competition-relevant market trends identified in the e-commerce sector inquiry and points to possible competition concerns.[2022]

On 3 October 2016, the European Commission published its Inception Impact Assessment titled "European free flow of data initiative within the Digital Single Market," which reiterates the detriment to the digital economy when data is required to stay local.[2023]

On 3 October to 7 October 2016, the US and the EU held the 15th Round of Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations in New York City.[2024] The TTIP includes provisions to use e-commerce to improve trade, committing to not impose custom duties on digital products and allow the movement of cross-border information flow.[2025]

On 6 October 2016, the European Commission held a stakeholder conference in Brussels highlighting the preliminary findings of the e-commerce sector inquiry.[2026]

On 17 October 2016, the European Commission released a report at the European Consumer Summit about e-commerce consumer rights. Since October 2015, the European Commission has coordinated the work of 28 consumer authorities to ensure that e-commerce websites across the EU respect the pre-contractual information requirements of the Consumer Rights Directive. There were 743 websites checked. And the authorities found one or several confirmed irregularities in almost 60 per cent of those websites. 87 per cent of those that still exist are now fully compliant after the national consumer authorities asked for corrections to be made.[2027]

On 18 October 2016, the EU and China held the sixth annual EU-China High-level Economic and Trade Dialogue. The EU and China agreed to explore further how to boost sustainable economic and societal development in line with the strategies for the Digital Single Market for Europe and Digital China.[2028]

[2022] Sector inquiry into e-commerce, European Commission (Brussels) 10 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/competition/antitrust/sector_inquiries_e_commerce.html

[2023] Inception Impact Assessment: "European free flow of data initiative within the Digital Single Market," European Commission (Brussels) 3 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/roadmaps/docs/2016_cnect_001_free_flow_data_en.pdf

[2024] T-TIP Round Information, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 3 October 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2016. https://ustr.gov/ttip/ttip-round-information

[2025] Electronic Commerce and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Services, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington). Access Date: 5 November 2016. https://ustr.gov/trade-agreements/free-trade-agreements/transatlantic-trade-and-investment-partnership-t-tip/t-tip-15

[2026] Sector inquiry into e-commerce, European Commission (Brussels) 10 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/competition/antitrust/sector_inquiries_e_commerce.html

[2027] Keynote speech by European Commissioner Věra Jourová on the review of consumer policy — 2016 European Consumer Summit, European Commission (Brussels) 17 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-16-3464_en.htm

[2028] EU and China discuss trade, investment, overcapacity and cooperation on state aid control at the 6th High-level Economic and Trade Dialogue, European Commission (Brussels) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3441_en.htm

On 19 October 2016, the European Economic and Social Committee, an advisory board to the European Commission has urged the European Commission to follow through on promises related to geo-blocking, roaming and parcel delivery.[2029]

On 8 November 2016, the European Commissioner for the Digital Single Market Andrus Ansip attended a roundtable discussion at the Web Summit technology conference in Lisbon. At the conference he urged tax simplification concerning e-commerce in order to break down digital intra-EU trade barriers.[2030]

On 25 April 2017, the European Parliament tightened rules to end unjustified geo-blocking across the EU. The draft law aims to limit discrimination regarding general terms and conditions, including prices, on the bases of their nationality, place of residence or temporary location. This is meant to improve customer protection.[2031]

On 10 May 2017 the European Commission announced that it would launch more antitrust investigations into e-commerce companies after a two-year inquiry uncovered business practices that restrict competition.[2032]

On 11 May 2017, the European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality Vera Jourova and other members of the European Commission attended the 8th Annual European e-commerce conference in Brussels. In her speech Commissioner Jurova focussed on consumer rights and informed about the implementation process of the Digital Single Market Project within the EU.[2033]

On 2 June 2017, the Bank of China successfully held the 2017 EU-China SMEs Matchmaking Event in Brussels, in partnership with Eurochambres, and supported by the EU SME Center and EU-China Business Association. The event included 145 European enterprises from 22 countries. Two hundred and forty-six pairs of SMEs reached preliminary cooperative intentions. Sixty-eight pairs signed letters of intent to pursue business collaboration opportunities after the event. Discussions included the internet and e-commerce.[2034]

The EU has deepened discussion on e-commerce issues related specifically to SMEs and developing countries. The EU deepened cooperation through promoting barrier free-trade, urging the break down of barriers to market entry and addressing copyright, taxation and consumer rights issues.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Anton Rizor

[2029] EESC — Europe needs to do better for consumers on Geo-blocking, Roaming & Parcel delivery, European Economic and Social Committee (Brussels) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.press-releases.40633

[2030] EU Digital Single Market to Tackle Taxation Barriers, Bloomberg Bureau of National Affairs (Washington DC) 10 November 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.bna.com/eu-digital-single-n57982082564/

[2031] E-commerce: ending unjustified geo-blocking across the EU, European Parliament (Brussels) 25 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20170425IPR72324/e-commerce-ending-unjustified-geo-blocking-across-the-eu

[2032] EU to launch more e-commerce antitrust investigations, Reuters 10 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-competition-geoblocking-idUSKBN186143

[2033] Speech by Commissioner Jourová on consumers in the digital world at the 8th annual European e-commerce conference, European Commission (Brussels) 11 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-17-1272_en.htm

[2034] EU and Chinese SMEs matchmake in Brussels, euobserver 6 June 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. https://euobserver.com/stakeholders/138100

9. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

"We commit to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative collective and intended national actions in a wide range of areas."

G20 2016 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

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		0	
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.85		

Background

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 15 September 2015, and came into force on 1 January 2016.[2035] The 2030 Agenda lays out the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and sets a 15-year timeline for UN members to take action to fulfil the goals.[2036] The SDGs were intended to be the successor to the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), agreed to in September 2000, but differ from the MDGs in a few areas, as noted by the UN.[2037] The SDGs target a greater range of international problems than the MDGs, and include a numerically greater number of targets as well as goals in new issue areas, including access to justice, sustainable supply chain management, full employment, and sustainable urban development, amongst others.[2038]

The 17 SDGs are as follows:

[2035] The Sustainable Development Agenda, United Nations. Access Date: October 25 2016. http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/

[2036] The Sustainable Development Agenda, United Nations. Access Date: October 25 2016. http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/

[2037] The Sustainable Development Agenda, United Nations. Access Date: October 25 2016. http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/

[2038] The Sustainable Development Agenda, United Nations. Access Date: October 25 2016. http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality with and among countries
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystem, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

The G20 Antalya Leaders' Communiqué, drafted during the 2015 Antalya Summit, made two explicit references to the 2030 Agenda, the first introducing the agenda and the second introducing a commitment to: "develop an action plan in 2016 to further align our worth with the 2030 Agenda."[2039] The Agenda was also implicitly referenced in the Antalya Communiqué in the context of specific development priorities, as follows: "G20 National Remittance Plans developed this year include concrete actions towards our commitment to reduce the global average cost of transferring remittances to five per cent with a view to align with the SDGs and Addis Ababa Action Agenda."[2040] Those were the only references to the 2030 Agenda in the Communiqué, though there were several references to the SDGs more generally.[2041] Despite placing only limited emphasis on the 2030 Agenda in 2015, the G20 leaders delivered on their commitment and produced an action plan for the 2030 Agenda at the Hangzhou summit.

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, the G20 reaffirmed its commitment to "aligning its work with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," and released the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.[2042] The G20 Action Plan is intended to contribute to "global efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda, including the SDGs and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development."[2043] The Addis Ababa Agenda was launched in July 2015 at the United Nations Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and is intended to help coordinate financing for the realization of the SDGs, as well as follow-up to ensure that commitments are "implemented and

[2039] Antalya G20 Leaders' Communiqué, 2015 Antalya Summit, November 16 2015. Access Date: October 25 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communique.html
[2040] Antalya G20 Leaders' Communiqué, 2015 Antalya Summit, November 16 2015. Access Date: October 25 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communique.html
[2041] Antalya G20 Leaders' Communiqué, 2015 Antalya Summit, November 16 2015. Access Date: October 25 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communique.html
[2042] G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20.org. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160908661601548463.pdf
[2043] G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20.org. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160908661601548463.pdf

reviewed in an appropriate, inclusive, timely, and transparent manner."[2044] The G20 also emphasized that the Action Plan is open for revision and adjustment over time, describing it as a "living document with a timeframe of 15 years, consistent with the 2030 Agenda."[2045]

The G20 Action Plan includes 13 "high level principles" guiding the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, which help focus efforts on areas where the G20 believes it has "comparative advantage and can add value as a global forum for economic cooperation."[2046] The G20 identified its area of comparative advantage in the Action Plan as being related to "its convening power and its collective ability to adopt and support initiatives at the highest global level, including those that involve macro-economic framework, and to create the global enabling environment."[2047] The G20 Action Plan also included a section on collective actions around key Sustainable Development Sectors (SDS), which were intended to reflect "ongoing, mid and long term G20 commitments and are intended to be updated and adapted to reflect successive G20 presidency priorities."[2048] The SDS are drawn from past G20 commitments to sustainable development, including the Seoul Development Consensus, the St. Petersburg Development Outlook, and the G20 Low Income and Developing Countries Framework.[2049] Action plan lists ongoing G20 collective efforts related to infrastructure; agriculture, food security and nutrition; human resources development and employment; financial inclusion and remittances; domestic resource mobilization; industrialization; inclusive business; energy; trade and investment; anti-corruption; international financial architecture; growth strategies; climate finance and green finance; innovation; global health; and strengthening coordination on sustainable development.[2050] The G20 Action Plan also enlists the Development Working Group, together with existing groups within each of the outlined SDS, to generate a list of "concrete actions that contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda" and deliver the list to the G20 sometime before the 2017 Hamburg Summit.[2051]

Commitment Features

In order to achieve a score of full compliance, the G20 member must take "bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 agenda in a wide range of issues."

Bold, transformative action is interpreted to mean deliberate, widespread, unique and grand. Actions must be outside the status quo, generate a possibility for new strategies, ways to engage others, and create breakthrough results. For example, actions such as allocating additional funding to an existing program will not count towards compliance. Bold, transformative actions are evident as such. Actions that will contribute toward compliance include, but are not limited to, initiatives such as passing new and unique

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[2044] The Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, United Nations (Geneva) 7 July 2015. Access Date: 25 October 2016. http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/ffd3/wpcontent/uploads/sites/2/2015/07/Addis-Ababa-Action-Agenda-Draft-Outcome-Document-7-July-2015.pdf

[2045] G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20.org. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160908661601548463.pdf

[2046] G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20.org. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160908661601548463.pdf

[2047] G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20.org. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160908661601548463.pdf

[2048] G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20.org. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160908661601548463.pdf

[2049] G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20.org. Access Date: 25 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160908661601548463.pdf

[2050] G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20.org. Access Date: 24 October 2016, pp. 4-14. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160908661601548463.pdf

[2051] G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20.org. Access Date: 24 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Documents/Current/201609/P020160908661601548463.pdf wide-spread legislation, implementing new and innovative policy initiatives, and executing nation-wide programs or international programs.

"Collective action" can take the form of a formal partnership or an explicit act of collaboration or cooperation between two or more G20 members, an international organization or institution, or another country. Therefore, in order for the G20 member to achieve a score of full compliance, the member must take bold, transformative and intended national actions in at least one area, with one or more G20 members, international institutions or organizations, or another country or countries. If the G20 member takes bold, transformative and intended national actions only independently, a score of partial compliance will be awarded.

The commitment states "actions in a wide range of areas," therefore, G20 leaders must take bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions in two or more issue areas outlined within the 17 SDGS in order to achieve a score of full compliance. This can include a single bold, transformative, collective and intended national action that crosses over two or more of the SDGs, or two or more bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions that each target a specific, separate SDG.

"Intended" national action means that the bold, transformative collective action must be implicitly or explicitly intended for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Finally, the inclusion of "national" means that the bold, transformative collective action must be taken or implemented at the national level. Actions taken at the provincial or state-level will not count toward compliance.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	Member did not take bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in two or more issue areas.
0	Member took bold, transformative and intended national actions to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda targeting two or more SDGs, but there was no collective action with at least one other G20 member OR member took bold, transformative, intended national action but it only targeted one SDG.
+1	Member took bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in two or more SDGs in partnership or collaboration with at least one other G20 member, international organization or institution, or country.

Lead Analyst: Aylin Manduric

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions in a variety of areas.

On 15 September 2016, Argentina approved a new freedom of information law.[2052] This was related to the Argentinian government's Justice 2020 platform, which facilitates an overhaul of the national justice system in which to promote anti-corruption, transparency, and equal access to the judicial system.

On 10-18 October 2016, an Argentinian delegation visited South Africa as part of the Cooperation Plan with Africa.[2053] The mission focused on agricultural technology cooperation and a specific emphasis was

[2052] Argentina Approves FOI Bill; Senate Changes Rejected, Freedom info. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://www.freedominfo.org/2016/09/argentina-approves-foi-bill-senate-changes-rejected/
[2053] Delegation of the Argentine Government Visited African Countries, Argentine Republic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship. Access Date: 18 November 2016. http://www.cancilleria.gov.ar/en/delegation-argentine-government-visited-african-countries

placed on no-till farming, which produces higher yields at a lower environmental cost. During the trip, Argentina entered into bilateral agreements with South Africa, Botswana and Mozambique in which Argentina pledged to financially support multiple no-till farming projects, livestock farming technology, and a project with South Africa regarding metagenomic biotechnology.[2054] In a press release from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Argentina acknowledged that these actions are "in line" with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).[2055]

On 18 April 2017, Argentinian Foreign Minister Susan Malcorra signed a cooperation agreement with the International Criminal Court pertaining to enforcement of sentences.[2056] The agreement will largely influence the work of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights and the Foreign Ministry. In a press release, the Foreign Ministry acknowledged that this agreement "reaffirms Argentina's commitment to the international criminal justice system," as is related to the SDG goal of developing justice and strong institutions.[2057]

Argentina has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on two SDGs. Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Carey Roach

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

On 17 September 2016, Australia's Miniter for Foreign Affairs, announced the winners of the Blue Economy Aquaculture Challenge. According to the media release the winners of this $3 million challenge, "will invigorate the aquaculture sector to boost food security, and promote social and economic inclusion for some of the world's poorest people."[2058]

On 22 September 2016, the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs co-launched a new United Nations gender equality program called "Making Every Woman and Girl Count" which aims to improve government data collection "to better respond to gender inequality and violence against women and

[2054] Delegation of the Argentine Government Visited African Countries, Argentine Republic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship. Access Date: 18 November 2016. www.cancilleria.gov.ar/en/delegation-argentine-government-visited-african-countries

[2055] Delegation of the Argentine Government Visited African Countries, Argentine Republic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship. Access Date: 18 November 2016. www.cancilleria.gov.ar/en/delegation-argentine-government-visited-african-countries

[2056] Argentina Signed Cooperation Agreement with the International Criminal Court, 18 April 2017, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship. Date of Access: 26 May 2017. http://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/en/argentina-signed-cooperation-agreement-international-criminal-court

[2057] Argentina Signed Cooperation Agreement with the International Criminal Court, 18 April 2017, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship. Access Date: 26 May 2017. http://www.cancilleria.gob.ar/en/argentina-signed-cooperation-agreement-international-criminal-court

[2058] Blue Economy Aquaculture Challenge winners announced, 17 September 2016, Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Date of Access: 31 March 2017.
http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160917.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D

girls."[2059] In a press release, the Minister acknowledged the project's relevance to reaching gender equality.[2060]

On 11 October 2016, Australia reaffirmed its commitment to empowering girls and women in reaching their full potential on the International Day of the Girl Child.[2061]

On 1 November 2016, Australia signed a letter of intent alongside the Netherlands which created a bilateral agreement on water security.[2062] Focusing particularly on the Asia Pacific Region, the two countries pledged to "improve water management in international development programs" by engaging in natural disaster prevention and environmental sustainability practices.[2063] Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, the Australian Minister for International Development and the Pacific, said "she is looking forward to achieving water and sanitation for all by 2030."[2064]

On 21 November 2016, Australia appointed a third Ambassador for Women and Girls to "continue to promote Australia's efforts in gender equality and women's empowerment in bilateral, regional and global forums, including at the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum."[2065]

On 25 November 2016, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the Australian Government announced they will provide $6 million to the Vanuatu Women's Centre "for the provision of counselling services, community awareness and legal advocacy programs through to June 2021." They also released the country's second progress report titled Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development described as "Australia's flagship regional gender equality program, which shows how Australian aid is making a difference for women and girls across 14 Pacific Island countries."[2066]

On 28 November 2016, the Australian Government convened the eighth meeting of the National Roundtable on Human Trafficking and Slavery. Here the government announced that it will take a number of measures to strengthen its response to human trafficking and slavery.[2067]

[2059] Australia Supports Action to Prevent Violence Toward Women and Girls, Minister for Foreign Affairs. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160922a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

[2060] Australia Supports Action to Prevent Violence Toward Women and Girls, Minister for Foreign Affairs. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160922a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

[2061] International Day of the Girl Child, 11 October 2016, Ministry for International Development and the Pacific. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. http://ministers.dfat.gov.au/fierravanti-wells/releases/Pages/2016/cf_mr_161011.aspx?w=p2wUlmE1t7kKl1%2BiOm3gqg%3D%3D

[2062] Netherlands-Australia Agreement to Help Increase Water Security in the Asia Pacific Region, Dutch Water Sector. Access Date: 10 November 2016. www.dutchwatersector.com/news-events/news/21819-netherlands-australia-agreement-to-help-increase-water-security-in-the-asia.html

[2063] Netherlands-Australia Agreement to Help Increase Water Security in the Asia Pacific Region, Dutch Water Sector. Access Date: 25 January 2017. www.dutchwatersector.com/news-events/news/21819-netherlands-australia-agreement-to-help-increase-water-security-in-the-asia.html

[2064] Netherlands-Australia Agreement to Help Increase Water Security in the Asia Pacific Region, Dutch Water Sector. Access Date: 25 January 2017. www.dutchwatersector.com/news-events/news/21819-netherlands-australia-agreement-to-help-increase-water-security-in-the-asia.html

[2065] Ambassador for Women and Girls, 21 November 2016, Ambassador for Women and Girls. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_161121.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D

[2066] International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, 25 November 2017, Australia Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_161125.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D

[2067] Australian Government Announces Stronger Response to Trafficking and Slavery, Including Business Initatives, 28 November 2016, Global Compact Network Australia. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. http://www.unglobalcompact.org.au/2016/11/28/australian-government-announces-stronger-response-to-trafficking-and-slavery-including-business-initiatives/

On 27 January 2017, the Minister for International Devleopment and the Pacific announced a visit to Africa in which the minister was scheduled to announce a further commitment of $14 million for humanitarian and development assistance for Somalia and South Sudan. The minister was also scheduled to announce a $1 million partnership with the African Union Commission to create a Gender Equality Observatory "to support member states' national programs for the advancement of women."[2068]

On 31 January 2017, the Australian Government announced a AUD500,000 grant to Sonke Gender Justice (Sonke). Sonke is based in Johannesburg. The grant was awarded in order "to extend Sonke's existing work on community interventions aimed at preventing gender-based violence in South Africa and Tanzania."[2069]

On 15 February 2017, Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs announced Australia would be continuing its partnership with the International Planned Parenthood. Specifically, Australia committed to provide $9.5 million over three years to the Federation's Sexual and Reproductive Health Program in Crisis and Post Crisis Settings (SPRINT) in the Indo-Pacific region.[2070]

On 15 March 2017, the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs announced that Australia would pledge AUD20 million to the new Myanmar Education Quality Improvement Program, "which will assist Myanmar's Ministry of Education to better monitor education reforms, improve management across the sector and implement Myanmar's new National Education Strategic Plan."[2071]

Australia has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on two Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Carey Roach

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

On 16 November 2016, the Brazilian government launched the Biofuture Platform.[2072] The Biofuture Platform, linked with the 22nd Conference of the Parties, looks to boost the sales of biofuels in order to fulfill Brazil's emission reduction targets and promote fossil fuel alternatives worldwide, according to Brazilian Environment Minister Sarney Filho.[2073] The project is a joint initiative between 20 countries that have pledged to co-operate and find better solutions to environmental issues.

[2068] Visit to Africa, 27 January 2017, Ministry for International Development and the Pacific. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. http://ministers.dfat.gov.au/fierravanti-wells/releases/Pages/2017/cf_mr_170127.aspx?w=p2wUlmE1t7kKl1%2BiOm3gqg%3D%3D

[2069] Australian Government awards ZAR5 million Gender Equality Fund grant to Sonke Gender Justice, 31 January 2017, Date of Access: 31 March 2017. http://ministers.dfat.gov.au/fierravanti-wells/releases/Pages/2017/cf_mr_170131.aspx?w=p2wUlmE1t7kKl1%2BiOm3gqg%3D%3D

[2070] Supporting sexual and reproductive health in humanitarian crises, 15 February 2017, Australian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Date of Access: 31 March 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170215.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D

[2071] Supporting Education in Myanmar, Minister for Foreign Affairs. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170315.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D

[2072] Brazil Launches Platform to Boost Biofuel Market, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 20 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/11/brazil-launches-platform-to-boost-biofuel-market; Biofuture Platform Announced During COP22, AGWired.com. Access Date: 31 January 2017. http://energy.agwired.com/2016/11/18/biofuture-platform-announced-during-cop22/

[2073] Brazil Launches Platform to Boost Biofuel Market, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 20 November 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/11/brazil-launches-platform-to-boost-biofuel-market

On 27 December 2016, Brazilian President Michel Temer approved a water project investment worth BRL1.02 billion.[2074] BRL793 million is being invested into the construction of more than 130,000 micro-basins that can store safe water for a maximum of eight months.[2075] BRL230 million is also being invested into safe water distribution projects.[2076] All of these new projects are focused on ensuring safe water access throughout the country and especially in rural regions commonly affected by drought.

On 16 December 2016, the Brazilian government announced that they had completed the fourth phase of a deforestation project in the Amazon and Cerrado biomes.[2077] The next phase of the project was also announced, which will focus on ensuring economic alternatives for those living in the region.[2078] On 21 December, the federal government announced that it had changed the boundaries of multiple national parks and an Environmental Protection Area, resulting in "an additional 230,000 hectares of protected area and 500 hectares of 'strictly protected area.'"[2079]

On 27 March 2017, Brazilian President Michel Temer signed a law to instate a National Week of No Violence against Women.[2080] The week will be accompanied by an awareness campaign, which includes public lectures and seminars on women's rights issues.[2081]

On 31 March 2017, Brazil signed the Belém Charter, which is a document that summarizes the commitments taken by many countries in the region after participating in the Pan-Amazonian Seminar on Social Protection.[2082] The Charter ensures that the Amazonian countries will "promote social justice, equality and the sustainable use of the region's natural resources."[2083]

Brazil has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on two Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Carey Roach

[2074] Brazilian Government Invests over R$ 1 Billion in Water Project, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/12/government-invests-over-r-1-billion-in-water-projects-throughout-the-country

[2075] Brazilian Government Invests over R$ 1 Billion in Water Project, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/12/government-invests-over-r-1-billion-in-water-projects-throughout-the-country

[2076] Brazilian Government Invests over R$ 1 Billion in Water Project, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 30 December 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/12/government-invests-over-r-1-billion-in-water-projects-throughout-the-country

[2077] Deforestation Control Plans Approved for Amazon and Cerrado Biomes, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 31 December 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/12/deforestation-control-plans-approved-for-amazon-and-cerrado-biomes

[2078] Deforestation Control Plans Approved for Amazon and Cerrado Biomes, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 31 December 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/12/deforestation-control-plans-approved-for-amazon-and-cerrado-biomes

[2079] Amazon Adds 230,000 Hectares of Protected Area, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 31 December 2016. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/12/amazon-adds-230-000-hectares-of-protected-area

[2080] Temer Sanctions Law Establishing National Week of No Violence against Women, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/03/temer-sanctions-law-establishing-national-week-of-no-violence-against-women

[2081] Temer Sanctions Law Establishing National Week of No Violence against Women, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/03/temer-sanctions-law-establishing-national-week-of-no-violence-against-women

[2082] Countries Sign Charter to Promote Social Development in the Amazon Region, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/03/countries-sign-charter-to-promote-social-development-in-the-amazon-region

[2083] Countries Sign Charter to Promote Social Development in the Amazon Region, BrazilGovNews. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2017/03/countries-sign-charter-to-promote-social-development-in-the-amazon-region

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

On 6 October 2016, the 2016-2019 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy was officially tabled and published. Since then, the strategy has been described as a "dramatic change" from the previous strategies because it included more specific and measurable targets, was more transparent and accessible to the public, and contextualized each goal in the real social and economic framework.[2084] It includes 13 specific, long-term goals. Each of these goals includes a specific targets and indicators, short-term milestones and clearly outlined action plans.[2085]

On October 3 2016, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, announced a national carbon "floor price" that requires all provinces and territories to have some form of carbon pricing by 2018.[2086]

On 20 December 2016, the United States and Canada launched collaborative action with Indigenous and Northern peoples, and state, provincial and territorial governments to create a sustainable Arctic economy and ecosystem. The US is designating the majority of its waters in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas off-limits to offshore oil and gas leasing. The US Coast Guard is launching the Port Access Route Study to identify sustainable shipping lanes in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas.[2087]

On 11 May 2017, the Arctic Council adopted the Fairbanks Declaration 2017 and signed the Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation at the conclusion of the Council's Tenth Ministerial Meeting.[2088] Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland signed the Declaration with her counterparts from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the United States. The Declaration addresses Arctic Ocean stewardship, economic and living conditions in the region, climate change, and strengthening the Council itself. The Declaration will establish a Task Force on Improved Connectivity to the Arctic that creates infrastructure for pan-Arctic solutions and will adopt the Arctic Resilience Action Framework to identify priorities and coordinate efforts.[2089] The agreement focuses on building human capacity and sharing research infrastructure.[2090]

Canada has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on two Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Katrina Bland

[2084] Synthesis Report: Public Consultations on the Draft Federal Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa). 7 October 2016. Access Date: 20 November 2016 https://www.ec.gc.ca/dd-sd/default.asp?lang=en&n=A794E3A5-1

[2085] Introduction, Achieving a Sustainable Future: A Federal Sustainable Development Strategy for Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 November 2016. Access Date: 20 November 2016. http://fsds-sfdd.ca/index.html#/en/intro/

[2086] 5 Things to know about Canada's carbon pricing plans, Toronto Star (Toronto). October 3 2016. Access Date: January 31 2017.https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2016/10/03/5-things-to-know-about-canadas-carbon-pricing-plans.html

[2087] United States-Canada Joint Arctic Leaders' Statement, pm.gc.ca. Access Date: 2 February 2017. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/12/20/united-states-canada-joint-arctic-leaders-statement

[2088] Arctic Council Reaches Fairbanks Declaration, Agreement on Enhanced Scientific Cooperation, International Institute for Sustainable Development 16 May 17. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/arctic-council-signs-agreement-on-enhanced-scientific-cooperation/

[2089] Fairbanks Declaration 2017: On the Occasion of the Tenth Ministerial Meeting of the Arctic Council, U.S. Department of State (Fairbanks) 11 May 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.state.gov/e/oes/rls/other/2017/270802.htm

[2090] Arctic Council Reaches Fairbanks Declaration, Agreement on Enhanced Scientific Cooperation, International Institute for Sustainable Development 16 May 17. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/arctic-council-signs-agreement-on-enhanced-scientific-cooperation/

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

On 8 September 2016, China announced at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit that it would cooperate with Korea, Japan and 10 other member states to promote their cooperation in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).[2091] China and all members commit to "reducing poverty and narrowing the development gap within and between the countries, promoting sustainable development of micro, small and medium enterprises, boosting sustainable tourism cooperation and enhancing cultural exchange and cooperation."[2092]

On 19 September 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang published a national plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development during a United Nations Conference.[2093] China was among the first countries present to submit its National Plan for the 2030 agenda.[2094] At the UN Conference, Premier Li also announced the establishment of a RMB1 billion China-UN Peace and Development Fund. Finally, China announced that it would donate RMB18 million to the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria.[2095]

On 25 September 2016, United States President Barack Obama and President Xi Jinping of China announced joint commitments to combat wildlife trafficking, including the complete bans on ivory trade, the import of ivory as hunting trophies and a halt to the domestic commercial trade of ivory.[2096] This is a bold, transformative, collective and intended national action that targets one SDG.

On 27 October 2016, the State Council of the People's Republic of China announced a report on The Thirteenth Five-Year plan on Control Greenhouses Emissions. In this report, China proposed to reduce carbon dioxide emissions per unit of gross domestic product by 18 per cent by the end of 2020, compared to the emission level as of 2015.[2097]

On 13 December 2016, the State Council of the People's Republic of China announced the report to build demonstration zones nationwide. In this report, China proposed to build 10 national demonstration zones and development zones to look for answers for sustainable development.[2098] The report also listed how the national development zones will reduce infectious disease, provide senior care,

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[2091] ASEAN, China, S. Korea, Japan promise to promote sustainable development cooperation, Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-09/08/c_135672433.htm
[2092] ASEAN, China, S. Korea, Japan promise to promote sustainable development cooperation, Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-09/08/c_135672433.htm
[2093] China releases national plan for implementation of UN sustainable development agenda, The State Council, The People's Republic of China. Sep 2016. Access Date: 21 November. http://english.gov.cn/premier/news/2016/09/20/content_281475446661058.htm
[2094] China releases national plan for implementation of UN sustainable development agenda, The State Council, The People's Republic of China. Sep 2016. Access Date: 21 November. http://english.gov.cn/premier/news/2016/09/20/content_281475446661058.htm
[2095] China releases national plan for implementation of UN sustainable development agenda, The State Council, The People's Republic of China Sep 2016. Access Date: 21 November. http://english.gov.cn/premier/news/2016/09/20/content_281475446661058.htm
[2096] Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, US Fish and Wildlife Service. Access Date: 5 January 2017. https://www.fws.gov/international/cites/cop17/ussubmissions/combating_wildlife_trafficking.pdf
[2097] 国务院关于印发"十三五"控制温室气体排放工作方案的通知 The State Council, The People's Republic of China. Oct 2016. Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://www.gov.cn/zhengce/content/2016-11/04/content_5128619.htm
[2098] 国务院关于印发中国落实 2030 年可持续发展议程创新示范区建设方案的通知 The State Council, The People's Republic of China. Dec 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017.

and treatment of soil and water. The report also stated the government proposed to provide policy and budgetary support.[2099]

On 21 March 2017, China established an Energy Transition Coalition with Mexico, Denmark, Germany, Indonesia, Indonesia, Morocco, and the United Arab Emirates to accelerate the transition to a sustainable energy future. The coalition will assemble countries leading in developing long term energy transition strategies to foster investment in a low carbon energy sector.[2100]

On 11 May 2017, the Chinese Commerce Minister of the People's Republic of China, along with Germany Minister Gerd Muller, opened the Sino-German Center for Sustainable Development in Beijing.[2101] The centre aims to foster sustainable developments in Africa. The centre will provide African countries with green energy and environmental technology to achieve low-carbon development goals.[2102]

China has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on two SDGs. Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Magi Jury Leung

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

Agence française de Développement (AFD) started a blog (date unknown) that covers initiatives related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is intended for all development actors and the interested public. Contributors include experts from AFD, research institutes, universities, non-governmental organizations, etc. It is available in both French and English. The blog continues to be regularly updated, including within the relevant compliance period.[2103]

On 15-16 September 2016, at the Our Ocean Conference, France announced it would join the Partnership, a coalition to increase understanding about the role of blue carbon ecosystems and their adaptive and mitigating impact on climate change.[2104] The conference brought together leaders, scientists, entrepreneurs and civil society to discuss issues such as marine pollution and marine-protected areas.[2105] The partnership was established to amplify efforts to protect and restore blue carbon ecosystems.[2106]

[2099] **国务院关于印发中国落实 2030 年可持续发展议程创新示范区建设方案的通知** The State Council, The People's Republic of China. Dec 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017.

[2100] Building Global Momentum for Sustainable Energy as Polar Sea Ice Hits Record Lows, IISD.org. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/building-global-momentum-for-sustainable-energy-as-polar-sea-ice-hits-record-lows/

[2101] 中德可持续发展中心揭牌仪式在京举行 Minister of Commerce, The People's Republic of China. May 2017. Access Date: 5 June 2017. http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/article/shangwubangzhu/201705/20170502573588.shtml

[2102] 中德可持续发展中心揭牌仪式在京举行 Minister of Commerce, The People's Republic of China. May 2017. Access Date: 5 June 2017. http://www.mofcom.gov.cn/article/shangwubangzhu/201705/20170502573588.shtml

[2103] I'dées pour le développement, l'Agence Française de Développement. Date of Access: 02 April 2017. http://ideas4development.org

[2104] International Partnership for Blue Carbon: Unlocking the Potential of Coastal Blue Carbon Ecosystems, IISD.org. 10 November 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/commentary/guest-articles/international-partnership-for-blue-carbon-unlocking-the-potential-of-coastal-blue-carbon-ecosystems/

[2105] Our Ocean, United States Department of State. Access Date: 31 January 2017. https://www.state.gov/e/oes/ocns/opa/ourocean/index.htm

[2106]International Partnership for Blue Carbon: Unlocking the Potential of Coastal Blue Carbon Ecosystems, IISD.org. 10 November 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/commentary/guest-articles/international-partnership-for-blue-carbon-unlocking-the-potential-of-coastal-blue-carbon-ecosystems/

On 26-27 January 2017, France held a forum for resources for sustainable development education.[2107]

On 30 January 2017, France co-organized with UNEP Finance Initiative the Principles for Positive Impact Finance.[2108] The principles put forward a common framework to finance the SDGs. An estimated $5-7 trillion per year until 2030 is needed.[2109]

In February 2017, French Environment Minister Ségolène Royal launched the Ocean and Climate Intiatives Alliance, which brought together worldwide multi-stakeholder initiatives under a common action framework to implement the Paris Agreement. The launch took place at UNESCO Headquarters under the auspices of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the Ocean and Climate Platform, and the French Government.[2110]

On 7 March 2017, Ségolène Royal held a conference entitled "SDGs by and for women."[2111]

On 26-27 February 2017 France launced the forum des resources pour l'education au développement durable, a forum in Amiena to support the SDGs.[2112]

France has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on more than one SDG. Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Katrina Bland

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative actions in a variety of areas.

On 16 November 2016, Germany made a joint pledge with the European Union and seven other states to support the Climate Technology Centre and Network. The network will use the funds, which total USD23 million from all pledges, to encourage climate mitigation and adaptation technology transfer, and provide capacity building and technical assistance to developing countries across a range of sectors.[2113]

On 17 November 2016, Germany submitted the first long term climate strategies and set goals for deep greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions by 2050. It released its "Climate Action Plan" and set goals for deep GHG emission reductions by 2050. Germany has committed to pursue "essential GHG neutrality" or a reduction of 80-95 per cent compared to GHG levels in 1990. It has set an interim target

[2107] Neuvième edition du FOREDD, CRDP Amiens (Amiens) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 6 July 2017. https://crdp.ac-amiens.fr/foredd/
[2108] Lancement des "Principles for Positive Impact Finance," 15 February 2017, Paris Europlace. Date of Access: 03 April 2017. http://www.paris-europlace.com/fr/actualites/lancement-des-principles-positive-impact-finance
[2109] The Principles for Positive Impact Finance: A Common Framework to Finance the Sustainable Development Goals, 2017, UNEP Finance Initiative. Date of Access: 03 April 2017. http://www.paris-europlace.com/sites/default/files/public/positive-impact-principles-aw-web_0.pdf
[2110] 1st Meeting of the Ocean & Climate Initiatives Alliance, Ocean Climate (Paris) 22 February 2017. Access Date:6 July 2017. http://www.ocean-climate.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/1st-Meeting-of-Ocean-and-Climate-Initiatives-Alliance-2.pdf
[2111] Invitation presse« Les Objectifs de développement durable par les femmes et pour les femmes ,» Ministère de l'Environnement (Paris) 7 March 2017. Access Date: 6 July 2017. https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/2017.03.03%20Inv.%20ODD%20par%20les%20femmes%20et%20pour%20les%20femmes%20le%2007.03.2017.pdf
[2112] Neuvieme édition du FOREDD, Ministre de l'environnement de l'energie et de la mer. Date of Access: 02 April 2017. https://crdp.ac-amiens.fr/foredd/
[2113] Capacity Building and Technology Update: COP 22 Focuses on Paris Agreement Implementation, US$23 Million Pledged for Technology Transfer, IIDS.org 25 November 2016. Access Date: 26 December 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/capacity-building-and-technology-update-cop-22-focuses-on-paris-agreement-implementation-us23-million-pledged-for-technology-transfer/

of a 55 per cent reduction by 2030.[2114] The Climate Action Plan defines sector specific reduction targets including energy, buildings, transport, industry, agriculture and other sectors.[2115] The German government will also establish a commission for growth, structural change and regional development to help develop instruments for economic development, structural change, social compatibility and climate change.[2116]

On 6 February 2017, the German Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR) along with Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) announced a collaborative programme aimed at strengthening the sustainable management of mining resources in the Andean region.[2117]

On 7 February 2017, the German government released a plan for 2017-2019, to achieve the SDGs[2118] The plan specifically outlines the actions Germany will take internationally, within the EU as well as nationally.

On 1-3 March 2017, the Government of Germany co-hosted The Global Festival Ideas for Sustainable Development with the SDG Action Campaign and the Overseas Development Institute to spur new thinking on complex international development challenges and encourage collaboration between participants.[2119]

On 21 March 2017, Germany established an Energy Transition Coalition with China, Denmark, Mexico, Indonesia, Indonesia, Morocco and the United Arab Emirates to accelerate the transition to a sustainable energy future. The coalition will assemble countries leading in developing long term energy transition strategies to foster investment in a low carbon energy sector.[2120]

On 23 March 2017, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs Sigmar Gabriel pledged EUR235 million for "humanitarian aid and stabilisation measures" in Iraq and Syria.[2121]

In May 2017, Germany's Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture announced a contribution of USD1.1 million for the development and implementation of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources

[2114] Mitigation Update: Germany, Mexico and US Submit Long-term Climate Strategies as 2016 Breaks Global Temperature Records, IISD.org. Access Date: 26 December 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/mitigation-update-germany-mexico-and-us-submit-long-term-climate-strategies-as-2016-breaks-global-temperature-records/

[2115] Climate Action Plan 2050 Principles and goals of the German government's climate policy: Executive Summary, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 14 November 2016. Access Date: 26 December 2016. http://unfccc.int/files/focus/long-term_strategies/application/pdf/161114_climate_action_plan_2050_en_bf.pdf

[2116] Mitigation Update: Germany, Mexico and US Submit Long-term Climate Strategies as 2016 Breaks Global Temperature Records, IISD.org. Access Date: 26 December 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/mitigation-update-germany-mexico-and-us-submit-long-term-climate-strategies-as-2016-breaks-global-temperature-records/

[2117] Mining Update: Sustainable Mining Partnerships Discussed in Africa, South America, IISD.org. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/mining-update-sustainable-mining-partnerships-discussed-in-africa-south-america/

[2118] Work programme of the German Council for Sustainable Development, 2017 to 2019, pursuant to Section 1 (3) of the Rules of Procedure (GO) German Council for Sustainable Development 7 February 2017. Access Date: 24 March 2017. https://www.nachhaltigkeitsrat.de/en/the-council/work-programme/2017-2019/

[2119] Interactive Conference Explores SDG Solutions, IISD.org. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/interactive-conference-explores-sdg-solutions/

[2120] Building Global Momentum for Sustainable Energy as Polar Sea Ice Hits Record Lows, IISD.org. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/building-global-momentum-for-sustainable-energy-as-polar-sea-ice-hits-record-lows/

[2121] 235 million euros for humanitarian aid, Federal Foreign Office. Access Date: 5 June 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/AA/2017/2017-03-23-humanitaere-hilfe-syrien-irak-235-millionen_en.html;jsessionid=DBC709EA1A61DE06F6D79E2F3141ABAF.s6t2?nn=393794 for Food and Agriculture's Global Information System. This contribution is meant to increase states' capacities to conserve, manage, exchange and use plant genetic resources.[2122]

In May 2017, the governments of Germany and Spain and the World Bank funded and hosted 'Innovate4Climate Finance and Markets Week' to bring together partners from the private and public sector to combat climate change.[2123]

On 2 May 2017, the German government hosted the Energy Efficiency Forum in Hamburg, Germany, which gathered policy makers from G20 and guest countries, international organizations, research institutions and business representatives to discuss how energy efficiency can be progressed globally.[2124]

Germany has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on more than one Sustainable Development Goal. Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mariam Jammal

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative collective and intended national actions.

In November 2016, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) initiated Pradhan Mantri YUVA Yojana (PMYY), a INR499.94 crore project aimed at educating and training 700,000 students over a span of five years.[2125] There are 3050 institutes under the PMYY, which include 2200 universities and colleges, 500 Industrial Training Institutes, 300 schools and 50 Entrepreneurship Development Centres.[2126] The 2016-2017 Union budget has allocated USD 146.72 million for financing higher education and USD250 million for 1500 multi-skill development centres across India.[2127]

On 1 February, the Union Budget 2017-2018 was released, highlighting increased funds for Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana, a social welfare program aimed at providing housing for rural poor. Funding was increased from USD2254.7 million to USD3457.2 million, with an aim to provide 10,000 complete homes for the homeless.[2128]

In March 2017, the Indian Government extended maternity leave to 26 weeks for mothers expecting their first or second child.[2129] This is an amendment to the Maternity Act of 1971 which allowed for 12 weeks of maternity leave. PRS Legislative Research's analysis of the bill states, "Several expert bodies like the

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[2122] International Instruments Address Agriculture — Biodiversity Link, IISD.org. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/international-instruments-address-agriculture-biodiversity-link/

[2123] May 2017 Climate Finance Update: Whirlwind of Meetings Bring Multiple Stakeholders Together, IISD.org. Access Date: June 8 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/may-2017-climate-finance-update-whirlwind-of-meetings-bring-multiple-stakeholders-together/

[2124] G20 Energy Efficiency Task Group Launches Investment Toolkit, IISD.org. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/g20-energy-efficiency-task-group-launches-investment-toolkit/

[2125] Skill Development Sector Achievements Report,Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 21 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017 https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-Tv7_upCKANTndGX2l1NUpyTHc/view

[2126] Skill Development Sector Achievements Report,Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, 21 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-Tv7_upCKANTndGX2l1NUpyTHc/view

[2127] Education Sector in India,India Brand Equity Foundation, December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.ibef.org/industry/education-sector-india.aspx

[2128] Key Features of Budget 2017-2018, 01 February 2017. Access Date: 04 June 2017. http://indiabudget.nic.in/budget.asp

[2129] Risking lives of mothers and children': India condemned for cuts to benefits, 30 March 2017.. Access Date: 04 June 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2017/may/30/india-risking-lives-of-mothers-and-children-cuts-to-maternal-benefits

WHO have recommended that 24 weeks of maternity leave is required to protect maternal and child health." However, expectant mothers with two or more children will only be permitted to 12 weeks of maternity leave.[2130]

India has taken bold, transformative, and intended national action on one Sustainable Development Goal. Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Zarlasht Jamal

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative actions in a variety of areas.

On 26 October 2016, the Government of Indonesia launched the Tropical Landscapes Financing Facility, an initiative to provide access to long-term finance for projects and companies that stimulate green growth and improve rural livelihood. It is being run in partnership with United Nations Environmental Programme, BNP Paribas, and ADM Capital.[2131]

On 5 December 2016, President Joko Widodo announced a moratorium on all activities that damage the hydrological functions of peatlands. The peatlands are the world's largest terrestrial organic carbon stock in the world. The moratorium is expected to reduce greenhouse gases and generate health benefits for 43 million people and avoid economic losses.[2132]

On 14-15 February 2017, the Government of Indonesia agreed to co-finance a project for integrated participatory development and management of irrigation along with the Asian Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.[2133]

On 2 March 2017, Indonesia committed to cutting its marine litter by 70 per cent by 2025 during the World Ocean Summit 2017.[2134]

On 21 March 2017, Indonesia established an Energy Transition Coalition with China, Denmark, Germany, Indonesia, Mexico, Morocco, and the United Arab Emirates to accelerate the transition to a sustainable energy future. The coalition will assemble countries leading in developing long term energy transition strategies to foster investment in a low carbon energy sector.[2135]

On 6 June 2017, during the UN Ocean Conference, Indonesia's Deputy Minister for Maritime Sovereignty in the Coordinating Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Arif Havas Oegroseno, announced that

[2130] The Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 2016. (n.d.). Access Date: 04 June 2017. http://www.prsindia.org/billtrack/the-maternity-benefit-amendment-bill-2016-4370/

[2131] UN Environment, Indonesia and Partners Launch Tropical Landscapes Finance Facility, IIDS.org 1 November 2016. Access Date: 24 December 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/un-environment-indonesia-and-partners-launch-tropical-landscapes-finance-facility/

[2132] Mitigation Update: G20, EU and Indonesia Keep Paris Agreement Momentum, IISD.org 8 December 2016. Date to Access: 24 December 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/mitigation-update-g20-eu-and-indonesia-keep-paris-agreement-momentum/

[2133] IFAD Council Appoints President as Indigenous Peoples' Forum Discusses Participation, IISD.org. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/ifad-council-appoints-president-as-indigenous-peoples-forum-discusses-participation/

[2134] World Ocean Summit Highlights Financing of Blue Economy, UN Marine Litter Campaign, IISD.org. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/world-ocean-summit-highlights-financing-of-blue-economy-un-marine-litter-campaign/

[2135] Building Global Momentum for Sustainable Energy as Polar Sea Ice Hits Record Lows, IISD.org. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/building-global-momentum-for-sustainable-energy-as-polar-sea-ice-hits-record-lows/

Indonesia is setting a tax on plastic bags to combat maritime pollution and promote environmental sustainability.[2136]

Indonesia has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on two Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mariam Jammal

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

On 28 September 2016, the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development released a report detailing all actions that had been done since the creation of the 2030 Agenda a year before.[2137] The report outlines a number of proposals for action supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in Italy, but none have yet been implemented.

On 8 December 2016, Italy, Austria, Luxembourg and Spain approved Palau's proposal, entitled 'Increasing Palau's resilience to extreme drought events: Taking action for long-term adaptation to the impacts of climate change', through the countries' partnership with the Governments of the Small Islands Developing States.[2138] It was agreed upon that the Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land, and Sea would fund Palau's proposal through a grant of USD800,000.[2139]

In 2017, Italy volunteered to be a part of the Voluntary Review of the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the UN's central platform for following up on and reviewing actions taken on the 2030 agenda.[2140]

On 16 February 2017, at the United Nations Preparatory Meeting for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, Italy announced that the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land, and Sea would be organizing a workshop in coordination with UNEP/MAP to mainstream best practices of Regional Sea Programmes.[2141] The workshop would pay particular attention to marine litter as a part of implementing the G7 action plan to combat marine litter and the actions for the prevention and management of marine litter on a global scale.[2142]

[2136] Ocean Conference Side Events Highlight Cooperation on SDG 14, Blue Economy, Waste Management, IISD.org. Access Date: June 9, 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/ocean-conference-side-events-highlight-cooperation-on-sdg-14-blue-economy-waste-management/

[2137] Italy and the Sustainable Development Goals, 28 September 2016. Access Date: January 12 2016. http://www.asvis.it/public/asvis/files/Summary_English.pdf

[2138] Palau awarded $800 000 grant from Italy to increase resilience to extreme drought events, 6 January 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://islandtimes.us/palau-awarded-800000-grant-from-italy-to-increase-resilience-to-extreme-drought-events/

[2139] Palau awarded $800 000 grant from Italy to increase resilience to extreme drought events, 6 January 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://islandtimes.us/palau-awarded-800000-grant-from-italy-to-increase-resilience-to-extreme-drought-events/

[2140] Italy, Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform, United Nations, 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/italy

[2141] Statement delivered by Italy, UN Preparatory meeting, 6 February 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23554Italy%20relevant%20elements_Call%20for%20Action_16.2.2017.pdf

[2142] Statement delivered by Italy, UN Preparatory meeting, 6 February 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23554Italy%20relevant%20elements_Call%20for%20Action_16.2.2017.pdf

Italy has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on more than one SDG. Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Katrina Bland

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective, and intended national actions in wide range of areas.

On 13 December 2016, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe attended the World Assembly for Women and announced to provide over USD3 billion in assistance to women in developing countries by 2018.[2143] The funding will be used to improve "women's rights [and to build] a foundation for women to utilize their skills, and promoting women's leadership."[2144]

On 22 December 2016, the Japanese government announced guidelines for Japan's implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The guidelines cover eight tasks and 140 measures to implement the SDGs.[2145] However. The guideline will only count towards compliance once implemented.

On 26-27 January 2017, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) assisted the new Sustainable Development Goals Centre for Africa (SDGC/A) in creating an action plan for meeting the SDGs by 2030.[2146] The JICA suggested policies for the organization to adopt, and also "gathered and analyzed the information needed to create a framework for monitoring the Africa region's common efforts on the SDGs.[2147] The JICA also reiterated their dedication to partnerships with Africa at the conference, showing a commitment to collective action.

Japan has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on one SDG. Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Magi Jury Leung

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative actions in a variety of areas.

On 12 May 2017, Government of the Republic of Korea announced their partnership with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in empower Palestine Refugee Girls in Gaza. South Korea contributed US$ 450,000 to improve well-being and health conditions by building "girl-friendly recreational centres in UNRWA schools."[2148] Under the currently plan, this funding is used to conduct research about "socioemotional well-being of Palestine refugee children in Gaza' and improving the health

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[2143] Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality World Assembly for Women: WAW! 2016 Public Forum Access Date: 31 January 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page3e_000637.html
[2144] Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality World Assembly for Women: WAW! 2016 Public Forum Access Date: 31 January 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page3e_000637.html
[2145] Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters Access Date: 31 January 2017. http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/actions/201612/22article1.html
[2146] Africa Pioneers Regionwide Initiatives to Achieve the SDGs: JICA Assists with an Action Plan, Japan International Cooperation Agency. Access Date: 10 June 2017. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2017/170420_01.html
[2147] Africa Pioneers Regionwide Initiatives to Achieve the SDGs: JICA Assists with an Action Plan, Japan International Cooperation Agency. Access Date: 10 June 2017. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2017/170420_01.html
[2148] Korea Contributes US$ 450,000 to Improve Health and Well-Being of Palestine refugee Girls in Gaza UNRWA. Date of Access: 5 June 2017.
https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/korea-contributes-us-450000-improve-health-and-well-being-palestine-refugee

conditions of female refugees by providing health education sessions for female UNRWA schools students.[2149]

On 20 May 2017, Government of the Republic of Korea launched the three-year program — "A Better Life for Girls in Ghana" in partnership with the The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).[2150] The South Korean government pledged $5.2 million into this program which aims to improve quality education and strengthen health services to Ghana Girls.[2151] This program is a part of the larger South Korea initiated 'A Better Life for Girls' program which provides health and education to Girls in 15 countries worldwide.

Korea has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on more than one Sustainable Development Goal. Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Magi Jury Leung

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective, and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

On 8 November 2016, it was announced that General Director of the Consejo Nacional para el Desarrollo y la Inclusión de Personas con Discapacidad (CONADIS), and the Governor of the Guerrero State signed an agreement on the implementation of the National Program for the Development and Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities.[2152] The program aims to improve access for people with disabilities to health services, programs, inclusive education, transportation and public and private spaces.[2153]

On 17 November 2016, Mexico released its "Climate Change Mid-Century Strategy" report which outlines its action plan for upcoming environmental measures.[2154] Specific actions outlined in the report are related to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 15, as Mexico commits to protecting "vulnerable ecosystems, with appropriate policies and financial resources."[2155]

On 21 March 2017, Mexico established an Energy Transition Coalition with China, Denmark, Germany, Indonesia, Indonesia, Morocco, and the United Arab Emirates to accelerate the transition to a sustainable

[2149] Korea Contributes US$ 450,000 to Improve Health and Well-Being of Palestine refugee Girls in Gaza UNRWA. Date of Access: 5 June 2017. https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/korea-contributes-us-450000-improve-health-and-well-being-palestine-refugee

[2150] UNICEF and KOICA join forces for a fairer chance for adolescent girls, B&FT Online. Date of Access: 7 June 2017. http://thebftonline.com/business/economy/24559/unicef-and-koica-join-forces-for-a-fairer-chance-for-adolescent-girls-.html

[2151] UNICEF and KOICA join forces for a fairer chance for adolescent girls, B&FT Online. Date of Access: 7 June 2017. http://thebftonline.com/business/economy/24559/unicef-and-koica-join-forces-for-a-fairer-chance-for-adolescent-girls-.html

[2152] Firma CONADIS convenio de colaboración con el estado de Guerrero, Secretaria de Desarrollo Social. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.gob.mx/sedesol/prensa/firma-conadis-convenio-de-colaboracion-con-el-estado-de-guerrero?idiom=es

[2153] The 2014-2018 National Program for the Development and Inclusion on Persons with Disabilities is Published, Secretaría De Relaciones Exteriores. Access Date: 26 January 2017. https://embamex.sre.gob.mx/eua/images/pdf/factsheets/009_Boletin51programadiscapacidadingles.pdf

[2154] Mitigation Update: Germany, Mexico and US Submit Long-term Climate Strategies as 2016 Breaks Global Temperature Records, IISD.org. Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/mitigation-update-germany-mexico-and-us-submit-long-term-climate-strategies-as-2016-breaks-global-temperature-records/

[2155] Mitigation Update: Germany, Mexico and US Submit Long-term Climate Strategies as 2016 Breaks Global Temperature Records, IISD.org. Access Date: 21 November 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/mitigation-update-germany-mexico-and-us-submit-long-term-climate-strategies-as-2016-breaks-global-temperature-records/

energy future. The coalition will assemble countries leading in developing long term energy transition strategies to foster investment in a low carbon energy sector.[2156]

On 23-27 May 2017, Mexico hosted the thirty-sixth session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). At this meeting, the Member States "adopted resolution 700 (XXXVI) … which established the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development as a regional mechanism to follow up and review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."[2157]

Mexico has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national action on more than one SDG. Thus, Mexico receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Carey Roach

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective, and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

On 17 October 2016, Russia launched the Regional Disaster Resilience in the Pacific Small Island Developing States (RESPAC) Project in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).[2158] The Project aims to improve the preparation and recovery processes of 14 countries in the Pacific which are likely to be targeted by climate-related disasters.[2159] Ministry of Foreign Affairs Department of International Organizations Deputy Director Dmitry Maksimychev stated that "the Project is an important part of our effort to implement the Sustainable Development Goals, the [Small Island Developing States] SIDS Agenda and also the Russian Government's agenda to strengthen our relations with Asia and Pacific countries."[2160] RESPAC, to be fully implemented within the next three years, is funded by USD7.5 million from the UNDP-Russia Trust Fund.[2161]

On 25 October 2016, the Government of Russia approved the State Strategy to Combat the Spread of HIV in Russia through 2020 and beyond.[2162] While a plan for implementation has yet to be finalized, the strategy aims to "reduce HIV incidence, expand HIV screening and testing, increase the availability of complications and deaths as a result of HIV-associated conditions (tuberculosis, hepatitis B and C) and

[2156] Building Global Momentum for Sustainable Energy as Polar Sea Ice Hits Record Lows, IISD.org. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/building-global-momentum-for-sustainable-energy-as-polar-sea-ice-hits-record-lows/

[2157] ECLAC: Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development (LAC RFSD), Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform: Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2017/eclac

[2158] UNDP-Russia partnership launches disaster resilience project, UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji 17 October 2016. Access date: 3 February 2017. http://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2016/10/17/undp-russia-partnership-launches-disaster-resilience-project0.html

[2159] UNDP-Russia partnership launches disaster resilience project, UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji 17 October 2016. Access date: 3 February 2017. http://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2016/10/17/undp-russia-partnership-launches-disaster-resilience-project0.html

[2160] UNDP-Russia partnership launches disaster resilience project, UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji 17 October 2016. Access date: 3 February 2017. http://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2016/10/17/undp-russia-partnership-launches-disaster-resilience-project0.html

[2161] UNDP-Russia partnership launches disaster resilience project, UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji 17 October 2016. Access date: 3 February 2017. http://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2016/10/17/undp-russia-partnership-launches-disaster-resilience-project0.html

[2162] Approving the State Strategy to Combat the Spread of HIV in Russia through 2020 and Beyond, The Russian Government (Moscow) 25 October 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://government.ru/en/docs/24983/

AIDS."[2163] The directive has been in development since the Governmental Commission on Public Health in October 2015.[2164]

On 27 December 2016, President Vladimir Putin held a State Council meeting regarding "economic development, but with a focus on environmental issues" for Russia's future generations.[2165] Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment Sergei Donskoy outlined action plans to be implemented throughout 2017, such as the launch of five recycling plant pilot projects, the introduction of higher recycling standards, and the creation of ten new biodiversity conservation sites.[2166]

On 11 May 2017, the Arctic Council adopted the Fairbanks Declaration 2017 and signed the Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation at the conclusion of the Council's Tenth Ministerial Meeting.[2167] Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov signed the Declaration with his counterparts from Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and the United States. The Declaration addresses Arctic Ocean stewardship, economic and living conditions in the region, climate change, and strengthening the Council itself. The Declaration will establish a Task Force on Improved Connectivity to the Arctic that creates infrastructure for pan-Arctic solutions and will adopt the Arctic Resilience Action Framework to identify priorities and coordinate efforts.[2168] The Agreement focuses on building human capacity and sharing research infrastructure.[2169]

On 15 May 2017, President Vladimir Putin signed an Executive Order on the Russian Federation Economic Security Strategy until 2030.[2170] The strategy's main goals include "strengthening economic sovereignty, bolstering the economy's resistance to internal and external factors and threats, ensuring economic growth, maintaining scientific and technological potential at world levels, and raising living standards."[2171] Under the strategy, Russia must create a national risk-management system that will both identify and evaluate threats to economic security and devise measures to implement policy. Measures for implementation of the Strategy must be drafted within three months.

Russia has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on two Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ashley Lall

[2163] Approving the State Strategy to Combat the Spread of HIV in Russia through 2020 and Beyond, The Russian Government (Moscow) 25 October 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://government.ru/en/docs/24983/
[2164] Approving the State Strategy to Combat the Spread of HIV in Russia through 2020 and Beyond, The Russian Government (Moscow) 25 October 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://government.ru/en/docs/24983/
[2165] State Council meeting on Russia's environmental development for future generations, President of Russia (Moscow) 27 December 2016. Access date: 3 February 2017. http://en.kremlin.ru/events/state-council/53602
[2166] State Council meeting on Russia's environmental development for future generations, President of Russia (Moscow) 27 December 2016. Access date: 3 February 2017. http://en.kremlin.ru/events/state-council/53602
[2167] Arctic Council Reaches Fairbanks Declaration, Agreement on Enhanced Scientific Cooperation, International Institute for Sustainable Development 16 May 17. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/arctic-council-signs-agreement-on-enhanced-scientific-cooperation/
[2168] Fairbanks Declaration 2017: On the Occasion of the Tenth Ministerial Meeting of the Arctic Council, U.S. Department of State (Fairbanks) 11 May 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.state.gov/e/oes/rls/other/2017/270802.htm
[2169] Arctic Council Reaches Fairbanks Declaration, Agreement on Enhanced Scientific Cooperation, International Institute for Sustainable Development 16 May 17. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/arctic-council-signs-agreement-on-enhanced-scientific-cooperation/
[2170] National Economic Security Strategy until 2030 approved, President of Russia 15 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://en.kremlin.ru/acts/news/54497
[2171] National Economic Security Strategy until 2030 approved, President of Russia 15 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://en.kremlin.ru/acts/news/54497

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

On 26 September 2016, Saudi Arabia announced cuts to government ministers' salaries and public sector employee benefits, with the reduction of benefits effective 1 October 2016.[2172] The General Bureau of Control is tasked with overseeing the compliance of government bodies and other organizations with this royal decree.[2173] This measure was implemented by Prince Mohammed under the Kingdom's Vision 2030 plan, which aims to "reduce the public-sector wage bill to 40 per cent of spending by 2020, from 45 per cent today."[2174] In doing so, Vision 2030 plans to "boost private sector employment."[2175] This is a step to further diversify the economy away from its dependence on the public sector and oil dependency toward more sustainable forms of revenue.[2176]

On 22 December 2016, Saudi Arabia announced the release of the Kingdom's 2017 budget.[2177] The new budget allocates SAR42 billion for implementing initiatives under the National Transformation Program (NTP) in 2017 and SAR217 billion from 2018 to 2020, compared to SAR9 billion in 2016.[2178] The NTP is a strategic program that works "to identify the challenges faced by government bodies in the economic and development sectors" and introduce remedial initiatives in these sectors, specifically designed to facilitate easier implementation of the sustainable economic development reforms under Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030.[2179] This is a bold, transformative and intended national action but does not include collective action.

On 22 December 2016, Saudi Arabia launched a new program, Citizen's Account.[2180] The program entails a household cash allowance that will be given to low-income and middle-income households who may be negatively affected by economic and structural reforms.[2181] This social security program aims to deter rising income inequality. Registration for the program is expected to start in early February.[2182]

On 3 May 2017, Khalid Al-Falih, Minister of Energy, Industry, and Mineral Resources of Saudi Arabia and Chairman of National Industrial Clusters Development Program (IC), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Joe Kaeser, president and CEO of German technology conglomerate Siemens

[2172] Saudi Arabia slashes ministers' pay, cut public sector bonuses, Reuters (Riyadh) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-economy-idUSKCN11W1VS

[2173] Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Chairs Cabinet Session 5 Riyadh, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 3 January 2017. http://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1542872

[2174] Saudi King Touches Once Untouchable Wage Bill to Save Money, Bloomberg (New York) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 4 January 2016. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-09-26/saudi-arabia-cancels-bonus-payment-for-state-employees-spa-says

[2175] Saudi Arabia unveils first public sector pay cuts, BBC 27 September 2016. Access date: 1 February 2017. http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-37482690

[2176] Thriving Economy: Investing for the long-term, Vision 2030. Access date: 31 January 2017. http://vision2030.gov.sa/en/node/6

[2177] Press Conference on the State's General Budget, Saudi Press Agency (Riyadh) 22 December 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1573290

[2178] 2017 Budget: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Ministry of Finance (Riyadh) 22 December 2016. Access date: January 12 2017. https://www.mof.gov.sa/en/budget2017/Documents/The_National_Budget.pdf

[2179] National Transformation Program 2020, Vision 2030. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://vision2030.gov.sa/sites/default/files/NTP_En.pdf

[2180] Press Conference on the State's General Budget 2, Saudi Agency Press (Riyadh) 22 December 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.spa.gov.sa/viewstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1573294.

[2181] Blow of higher utility bills softened for low-income Saudis, Arab News (Jeddah) 24 December 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1028656/saudi-arabia.

[2182] New light sheds light on 'citizens account program', Arab News (Riyadh) 9 January 2017. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1036221/saudi-arabia.

AG. The MoU was signed in the presence of Saudi Arabia's King Salman bin Abdulaziz and Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel. Siemens will help fulfill Vision 2030 by "supporting economic growth, enabling technology transfer, increasing foreign direct investment and creating high-skilled training and employment opportunities." [2183] Al-Falih stated that it is necessary to "focus on the sustainable development of industries in Saudi Arabia, while acknowledging the importance of localization of technologies and the development of local talent" to achieve Vision 2030.[2184]

On 17 May 2017, Saudi Arabia gave the Kingdom's SAR1.9 billion Bus Rapid Transport (BRT) project to the Turkish construction company Yuksel.[2185] The BRT project is financed by Arriyadh Development Authority (ADA), the executive branch of the High Commission for the Development of Arriyadh.[2186] CEO and Chairman Emin Sazak stated that "every element of the BRT project is contributing to a more efficient, more sustainable and greener transport future for Riyadh" and will create over a thousand bus stations and "clean buses" to encourage public over private transportation.[2187] Sazak also stated that "BRT is only a starting point for collaboration … in supporting the sustainable development of the Kingdom within the framework of the Vision 2030."[2188]

On 30 May 2017, Chief Atomic Energy Officer Maher Alodan signed a Country Program Framework with Deputy Director General Dazhu Yang of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).[2189] This is the first country program framework that Saudi Arabia has signed with the IAEA. It is a medium-term planning framework that outlines 13 priority areas in which cooperation and the transfer of nuclear technology can help a Member State achieve its national development goals between 2017 and 2021. The priority areas include nuclear security, water resource management, environmental monitoring, and human health.

Saudi Arabia has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on more than one Sustainable Development Goal. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ashley Lall

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative collective and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

In November 2016, South Africa hosted an African Union meeting where the implementation strategy for the Catalytic Framework to end AIDS, TB and Eliminate Malaria by 2030 was strengthened and

[2183] Siemens inks deal with IC for industrial development, Arab News 3 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1093621/corporate-news
[2184] Siemens inks deal with IC for industrial development, Arab News 3 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1093621/corporate-news
[2185] Saudi Arabia awards SR1.9bn transport project to Turkey's Yuksel, Arab News (Riyadh) 14 May 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1099286/business-economy
[2186] Overview, High Commission for the Development of Arriyadh 2015. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.ada.gov.sa/ADA_e/DocumentShow_e/?url=/res/ADA/en/Projects/AboutADA/AboutADA.html
[2187] Saudi Arabia awards SR1.9bn transport project to Turkey's Yuksel, Arab News (Riyadh) 14 May 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1099286/business-economy
[2188] Saudi Arabia awards SR1.9bn transport project to Turkey's Yuksel, Arab News (Riyadh) 14 May 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1099286/business-economy
[2189] Saudi Arabia Signs its First Country Programme Framework (CPF) for 2017-2021, International Atomic Energy Agency 31 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/saudi-arabia-signs-its-first-country-programme-framework-cpf-for-2017-2021

finalized.[2190] The plan prioritizes collective action amongst the member states and stresses the importance of the inclusion of regional and non-state actors to strengthen policies, health care systems, and capacity building.[2191] The representatives at the meeting pledged to "pass laws on national health insurance," strengthen their respective existing healthcare systems; and review laws on plastic bags and pollution.[2192]

On 28-29 March 2017, South Africa participated in a validation workshop on the draft African Union Transitional Justice Policy in which the draft was revised and refined, and ownership of the policy by all African Union member states was agreed.[2193] The policy, which is related to the Human Rights Strategy for Africa, is meant to promote the protection of human rights and the implementation of transitional justice within African legal systems.[2194] This collective action contributes to the creation of peace, justice and strong institutions.

On 31 March 2017, South Africa launched its most recent National Strategic Plan on HIV, TB and STIs [sexually transmitted infections].[2195] The plan outlines the action plan that South Africa will take to combat these diseases, which includes "a combination of high-impact programmes in the locations and among the populations most impacted by HIV" by ensuring that the proper medications and services are accessible to all South Africans who need it.[2196]

South Africa has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national action on more than one Sustainable Development Goal. Thus, South Africa receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Carey Roach

Turkey: +1

Turkey has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective, and intended national actions in wide range of areas.

[2190] Strengthened Partnerships Way to Meet African Targets to end AIDS, TB and Malaria by 2030, African Union. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.au.int/en/pressreleases/31624/strengthened-partnerships-way-meet-african-targets-end-aids-tb-and-malaria-2030

[2191] Strengthened Partnerships Way to Meet African Targets to end AIDS, TB and Malaria by 2030, African Union. Access Date: 10 January 2017. https://www.au.int/en/pressreleases/31624/strengthened-partnerships-way-meet-african-targets-end-aids-tb-and-malaria-2030

[2192] African parliamentarians commit to monitor implementation of the Catalytic Framework to end AIDS, TB and Malaria in Africa by 2030, African Union. Access Date: 31 January 2017. https://www.au.int/en/pressreleases/31737/african-parliamentarians-commit-monitor-implementation-catalytic-framework-end

[2193] African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs' Taskforce Meeting on the Draft AU Transitional Justice Policy, African Union. Access Date: 3 June 2017. https://www.au.int/web/en/pressreleases/20170405/african-union-specialized-technical-committee-justice-and-legal-affairs%E2%80%99

[2194] Consultative Meeting on the Implementation of the AU Transitional Justice Policy Framework as part of the Action Plan of the Human Rights Strategy for Africa, African Union. Access Date: 3 June 2017. https://www.au.int/web/en/newsevents/19492/consultative-meeting-implementation-au-transitional-justice-policy-framework-part

[2195] South Africa Launches the New National Strategic Plan (NSP) on HIV, TB and STIs, UNDP. Access Date: 3 June 2017. http://www.za.undp.org/content/south_africa/en/home/presscenter/articles/2017/04/03/south-africa-launches-the-new-national-strategic-plan-nsp-on-hiv-tb-and-stis-.html

[2196] South Africa Launches the New National Strategic Plan (NSP) on HIV, TB and STIs, UNDP. Access Date: 3 June 2017. http://www.za.undp.org/content/south_africa/en/home/presscenter/articles/2017/04/03/south-africa-launches-the-new-national-strategic-plan-nsp-on-hiv-tb-and-stis-.html

On 23 December 2016, the United Nations formally established a Technology Bank in Turkey.[2197] Turkey also played an instrumental role in the establishment of the bank. The resolution was drafted on 20 December 2016 by the General Assembly.[2198] The bank aims to "help least developed countries strengthen their science, technology and innovation capacities, foster the development of national and regional innovation ecosystems that can attract outside technology and generate homegrown research and take these advancements to market" in order to fight poverty and encourage sustainable growth.[2199] The creation for the bank was first suggested in the Istanbul Declaration adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Istanbul in May 2011.[2200] Turkey has also pledged USD1 million to the bank's operational trust fund.[2201] This is a bold, transformative, collective and intended national action that targets a wide range of areas.

On 2 February 2017, Sadrettin Karahocagil, the President of the Southeastern Anatolia Project Regional Development Administration (GAP RDA), participated in the protocol signing ceremony of a vocational training program.[2202] The training activities are to improve the employability of Syrian populations and their host communities in Anatolia in the agriculture, manufacturing, and services sectors. 1,375 Syrian and 375 Turkish citizens will receive this training. This program is jointly implemented under the Strengthening Social Stability in Southeast Anatolia Project, approved in December 2016, by GAP RDA and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and funded by Japan.

On 29 May 2017, Turkey established a biological control laboratory in Antalya under the Integrated Forest Management Project, which is a part of Turkey's response to climate change.[2203] This project is funded by the Global Environment Facility), and jointly implemented by Turkey's General Directorate of Forestry and the UNDP. Activity at the laboratory includes the breeding of insects to naturally control the pest population that damages forests in Turkey.

Turkey has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national action on more than one Sustainable Development Goal. Thus, Turkey receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ashley Lall

[2197] Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries established by UN General Assembly, United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (New York) 23 December 2016. Access Date: 4 January 2017. http://unohrlls.org/technologybank/

[2198] Establishment of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (New York) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 5 January 2017. http://unohrlls.org/technologybank/

[2199] Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries established by UN General Assembly, United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (New York) 23 December 2016. Access Date: 4 January 2017. http://unohrlls.org/technologybank/

[2200] Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action — 2011, United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States 12 May 2011. Access Date: 5 January 2017. http://unohrlls.org/about-ldcs/istanbul-programme-of-action/

[2201] UN Establishes Technology Bank For Least-Developed Countries, Including An IP Bank, Intellectual Property Watch 6 January 2017. Access date 2 February 2017. http://www.ip-watch.org/2017/01/06/un-establishes-technology-bank-least-developed-countries-including-ip-bank/

[2202] Most Comprehensive Vocational Training Programme Southeastern Anatolia Region Launched, UNDP in Turkey 9 February 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.tr.undp.org/content/turkey/en/home/presscenter/articles/2017/02/most-comprehensive-vocational-training-programme-southeastern-an.html

[2203] Biological Control Laboratory established in Antalya, UNDP in Turkey 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.tr.undp.org/content/turkey/en/home/presscenter/articles/2017/05/biological-control-laboratory-established-in-antalya/

United Kingdom: 0

United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective, and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

On 14 September the National Institute for Health Research announced an investment of GBP816 million for mental health research.[2204] Mental health research "will see funding increase to nearly £70 million, dementia to over £45 million, deafness and hearing problems will receive over £15 million and antimicrobial resistance research rises to around £45 million." The five-year funding for 20 National Health Service and university partnerships will begin on 1 April 2017.[2205]

In March 2017, the Culture Secretary launched the Digital Strategy, a strategy aiming at improving UK's digital economy by curating four million free digital skills training opportunities. The strategy aims to create partnerships between Government, individual, business, charity and volunteer organizations to ensure productivity, efficiency and boost digital economic growth. As part of the government partnerships, Lloyds Banking Group has committed to provide 2.5 million individuals with face-to-face digital training by 2020. Around 45,000 children will be provided basic coding skills by Barclays, and free five hours of digital skills will be made available in seaside towns by Google. The strategy also aims at the creation of five international tech hubs, a competition to jumpstart the development of Financial Technology products, and a business connectivity forum. Lastly, the strategy is still awaiting confirmation of GBP1 billion funding for the rapid growth of digital infrastructure.[2206] This is a bold, transformative, and intended national action but it is not a collective action.

The United Kingdom has taken bold, transformative, and intended national actions on one Sustainable Development Goal. Thus, United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Zarlasht Jamal

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective, and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

From 15-16 September 2016, at the Our Ocean Conference, the US government announced it will join The Partnership. The Partnership is a coalition set up to increase understanding about the role of blue carbon ecosystems and their adaptive and mitigating impact on climate change.[2207] The Our Ocean Conference focused on ocean related issues that bring together leaders, scientists, entrepreneurs and members of civil society to discuss ocean related issues such as marine pollution and marine protected

[2204] National Institute for Health Research, 14 September 2016. Access Date: 04 June 2017. https://www.nihr.ac.uk/news/record-816-million-nihr-investment-into-ground-breaking-health-research/4605
[2205] New £816 million investment in health research, 14 September 2016. Access Date: 04 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-816-million-investment-in-health-research
[2206] Press release:Digital Strategy to make Britain the best place in the world to start and grow a digital business, 01 March 2017. Access Date: 14 June 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/digital-strategy-to-make-britain-the-best-place-in-the-world-to-start-and-grow-a-digital-business
[2207] International Partnership for Blue Carbon: Unlocking the Potential of Coastal Blue Carbon Ecosystems, IISD.org. 10 November 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/commentary/guest-articles/international-partnership-for-blue-carbon-unlocking-the-potential-of-coastal-blue-carbon-ecosystems/

areas.[2208] The Partnership was established to amplify efforts to protect and restore blue carbon ecosystems.[2209]

On 25 September 2016, US President Barack Obama and President Xi Jinping of China announced joint commitments to combat wildlife trafficking, including the complete bans on ivory trade, the import of ivory as hunting trophies and a halt to the domestic commercial trade of ivory.[2210]

On 17 November 2016, the US submitted the first long term climate strategies and set goals for deep greenhouse gas emission reductions by 2050. The US has committed to reduce emissions by 80 per cent in comparison to 2005 emission levels.[2211]

On 20 December 2016, the US and Canada launched collaborative action with Indigenous and Northern peoples, state, provincial and territorial governments to create a sustainable Arctic economy and ecosystem. Specifically, the US is designating the majority of its waters in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas off-limits to offshore oil and gas leasing. The US Coast Guard is launching the Port Access Route Study to identify sustainable shipping lanes in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas.[2212]

In December 2016, US President Barack Obama created the Northern Bering Sea Climate Resilience Area and an associated task force — the Northern Bering Sea Climate Resilience Area Task Force — to improve consultation with tribes in the region, maintains prohibition on bottom trawling and prohibits oil, gas and mineral leasing in certain areas.[2213]

On 15 March 2017, the US made a commitment to ban microbeads in cosmetics in support of the Clean Seas initiative.[2214]

On 28 March 2017, a Presidential Executive Order on promoting energy independence and economic growth was released. It includes the promotion of clean and safe development across the US, a review of existing environmental policies and several social impact analyses.[2215]

On 10 April 2017, Rick Perry, the US energy secretary reaffirmed the United States' commitment to Fossil Fuel Subsidies.[2216]

On 11 May 2017, the Arctic Council adopted the Fairbanks Declaration 2017 and signed the Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation at the conclusion of the Council's Tenth

[2208] Our Ocean, United States Department of State. Access Date: 31 January 2017. https://www.state.gov/e/oes/ocns/opa/ourocean/index.htm
[2209] International Partnership for Blue Carbon: Unlocking the Potential of Coastal Blue Carbon Ecosystems, IISD.org. 10 November 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/commentary/guest-articles/international-partnership-for-blue-carbon-unlocking-the-potential-of-coastal-blue-carbon-ecosystems/
[2210] Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, US Fish and Wildlife Service. Access Date: 5 January 2017. https://www.fws.gov/international/cites/cop17/ussubmissions/combating_wildlife_trafficking.pdf
[2211] Mitigation Update: Germany, Mexico and US Submit Long-term Climate Strategies as 2016 Breaks Global Temperature Records, IISD.org. Access Date: 26 December 2016. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/mitigation-update-germany-mexico-and-us-submit-long-term-climate-strategies-as-2016-breaks-global-temperature-records/
[2212] United States-Canada Joint Arctic Leaders' Statement, pm.gc.ca. Access Date: 2 February 2017. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/12/20/united-states-canada-joint-arctic-leaders-statement
[2213] Northern Bering Sea Climate Resilience Area, oceana.org. Access Date: 2 February 2017. http://usa.oceana.org/northern-bering-sea-climate-resilience-area.
[2214] Ocean Conference Registry Receives First Commitments, IISD.org. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/ocean-conference-registry-receives-first-commitments/
[2215] Presidential Executive Order on Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth, whitehouse.gov. 28 March 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/03/28/presidential-executive-order-promoting-energy-independence-and-economi-1
[2216] G7 Rome Energy Ministerial Meeting, g7italy.it. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.g7italy.it/sites/default/files/documents/energy_chairs_summary.pdf

Ministerial Meeting.[2217] Secretary of State Rex Tillerson signed the Declaration with his counterparts from Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, and Sweden. The Declaration addresses Arctic Ocean stewardship, economic and living conditions in the region, climate change, and strengthening the Council itself. The Declaration will establish a Task Force on Improved Connectivity to the Arctic that creates infrastructure for pan-Arctic solutions and will adopt the Arctic Resilience Action Framework to identify priorities and coordinate efforts.[2218] The Agreement focuses on building human capacity and sharing research infrastructure.[2219]

The US has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions on several Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, the US receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mariam Jammal

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by setting an example through bold, transformative, collective and intended national actions in a wide range of areas.

On 22 November 2016, the European Union released three documents outlining its new approach to aiding the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).[2220] The first of these documents is a communication on the next steps for a sustainable European future and outlines how the European Commission's ten political priorities contribute to implementation of the 2030 Agenda.[2221] The second is a new European Consensus on Development and presents a new framework for collective action between the European Union and its Member States for development, aligned with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda.[2222] Finally the third document communicates a renewed partnership with African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries that proposes reinforcement and continuation of the EU-ACP relationship outlined in the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, which expires in 2020, with a new focus on sustainability.[2223] However, until actions are implemented, the documents do not count towards compliance.

In June 2017, the European Union's programme for education in emergencies began the first payments to refugee families in Turkey.[2224] The programme, Conditional Cash Transfer for Education, "receives [EUR

[2217] Arctic Council Reaches Fairbanks Declaration, Agreement on Enhanced Scientific Cooperation, International Institute for Sustainable Development 16 May 17. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/arctic-council-signs-agreement-on-enhanced-scientific-cooperation/

[2218] Fairbanks Declaration 2017: On the Occasion of the Tenth Ministerial Meeting of the Arctic Council, U.S. Department of State (Fairbanks) 11 May 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.state.gov/e/oes/rls/other/2017/270802.htm

[2219] Arctic Council Reaches Fairbanks Declaration, Agreement on Enhanced Scientific Cooperation, International Institute for Sustainable Development 16 May 17. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/arctic-council-signs-agreement-on-enhanced-scientific-cooperation/

[2220] European Commission: Environment: Sustainable Development: EU's Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 1 December 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/environment/sustainable-development/SDGs/implementation/index_en.htm

[2221] Sustainable Development: EU sets out its priorities, European Commission. 22 November 2016, Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3883_en.htm

[2222] Sustainable Development: EU sets out its priorities, European Commission. 22 November 2016, Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3883_en.htm

[2223] Sustainable Development: EU sets out its priorities, European Commission. 22 November 2016, Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3883_en.htm

[2224] EU's largest ever education in emergencies programme in Turkey reaches first refugee families. 8 June 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-1567_en.htm.

34 million] in EU funding through the EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey."[2225] The EU is partnered with UNICEF and the Turkish Red Crescent in order to implement the project.[2226]

The EU has taken bold, transformative, collective and intended national action in more than one Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) areas. Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Katrina Bland

[2225] EU's largest ever education in emergencies programme in Turkey reaches first refugee families. 8 June 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-1567_en.htm.
[2226] EU's largest ever education in emergencies programme in Turkey reaches first refugee families. 8 June 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-1567_en.htm.

10. Employment: Gender

"We will 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."

G20 2016 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia		0	
Brazil		0	
Canada			+1
China		0	
France		0	
Germany		0	
India		0	
Indonesia		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Korea		0	
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.25		

Background

Around the world, the labour force continues to grow faster than the number of jobs created. The International Labour Organization (ILO), in World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2015, notes that "by 2019, more than 212 million people will be out of work, up from 201 million now." Reversing these trends and creating quality jobs remains the G20's highest priority and comprehensive growth strategies will assist with this. At the 2014 Brisbane Summit, the G20 members developed member-specific Employment Plans to address individual employment challenges and future strategies to combat them.

In addition to the Employment Plans, the G20 during the Brisbane Summit for the first time declared a goal with a specific timeline to reduce the inequality in the labour force between men and women. G20 members specifically stated, "We agree to the goal of reducing the gap in labour force participation rates between men and women in our countries by 25 per cent by 2025, taking into account national circumstances. This will bring more than 100 million women into the labour force [and] significantly increase global growth." Individual actions to lift employment and participation are outlined in each G20 member's Employment Plans. All G20 members committed to taking action to raise female participation and tackle youth unemployment.

At the 2015 G20 Antalya Summit, leaders recommitted to the country-specific Employment Plans and to reduce the gender participation gap, as well as to monitor the implementation of these goals. G20 members also published individual reports detailing country-specific growth strategies and the status of the implementation of Employment Plan strategies.

As of 18 October 2015, all G20 members albeit Indonesia submitted self-reports regarding the implementation status of member-specific Employment Plans.[2227] Reports were based on a template developed by the G20 Employment Working Group (EWG) consisting of five sections: employment and labour market trends; checklist of implementation; short notes reporting on key policy commitments in the Employment Plan; reporting on multi-year collective commitments; any new policy commitments.[2228] On 16 November 2015, the Synthesis Paper of Self-Reports on the Implementation of G20 Country Employment Plans was published alongside the 2015 G20 Antalya Summit communiqué, summarizing the findings of those reports.[2229] The Synthesis Report is available to the public. However, the country-specific reports are not.

In 2016, under the Chinese Presidency, the self-assessment template was developed further by the G20 EWG within the G20 established assessment framework. On 28-29 April 2016, delegates from G20 member governments, G20 guest countries, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, International Labour Organization, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and the L20 and B20 took part in the Second G20 EWG Meeting, held in Shanghai. Other "Consultation Groups," the W20, the T20 and the Y20 also attended.[2230] The status of the self-assessments is ongoing but reports have not been made public as of yet.

On 27 September 2016, at the G20 Labour and Employment Ministerial Meeting, the ministers reiterated their commitment to further develop and implement Employment Plans and monitor progress in a systematic and transparent manner.

Commitment Features

This commitment has three parts 1) develop employment plans in 2017 to address new commitments and 2) monitor the implementation of employment plans and 3) specifically monitor youth employment and female labor participation goals.

Part One: Develop Employment Plans

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, G20 members reaffirmed that generating quality employment is indispensable for sustainable development and that this is at the center of the G20's domestic and global agenda. The G20 endorsed the Sustainable Wage Policy Principles as well as strategies, action plans and initiatives developed by G20 labor and employment ministers to enhance the growth and development agenda by taking effective actions to address changes in skill needs, support entrepreneurship and employability, foster decent work, ensure safer workplaces including within global supply chains and strengthen social protection systems. The G20 recognized entrepreneurship as an important driver for job creation and economic growth and reinforced its commitments in the G20 Entrepreneurship Action Plan, and welcomed China's contribution in the establishment of an Entrepreneurship Research Center on G20 Economies. The G20 also endorsed the G20 Initiative to Promote Quality Apprenticeship with policy

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[2227] Synthesis Paper of Self-Reports on the Implementation of G20 Country Employment Plans, G20 16 November 2015. Access Date: 7 March 2016. http://g20.org.tr/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Synthesis-Paper-of-Self-Reports-on-the-Implementation-of-G20-Country-Employment-Plans-2015.pdf

[2228] G20 National Employment Plans: Proposed Self-Reporting Template, OECD Access Date: 7 March 2016. http://www.oecd.org/g20/topics/employment-and-social-policy/G20-National-Employment-Plan-proposed-self-reporting-template.pdf

[2229] Synthesis Paper of Self-Reports on the Implementation of G20 Country Employment Plans, G20 16 November 2015. Access Date: 7 March 2016. http://g20.org.tr/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Synthesis-Paper-of-Self-Reports-on-the-Implementation-of-G20-Country-Employment-Plans-2015.pdf

[2230] Second G20 Employment Working Group meeting – Main L20 Take-Aways, International Trade Union Confederation 19 May 2016. Access date: 6 August 2016. ht//www.ituc-csi.org/second-g20-employment-working?lan priorities of increasing the quantity, quality and diversity of apprenticeships. G20 members therefore committed to further developing employment plans in 2017 to address these commitments. "Develop G20 employment plans" is defined as amending or reissuing member-specific employment plans. G20 members committed to develop employment plans within 2017. Please note that this assessment only takes actions between 6 September 2016 and 13 January 2017 despite the fact that the commitment extends beyond the compliance cycle of this report.

Part Two: Monitor implementation of employment plans

Monitoring includes, but is not limited to, issuing reports, collecting data, and conducting surveys. Monitoring can also include public consultation and/or an internal bureaucratic assessment in which staff are assigned to an oversight body. Monitoring can be done directly by the government and its agencies or in partnership with other actors such as non-governmental or international organizations.[2231] The G20 member must monitor the implementation of all goals laid out in each member-specific employment plan. The monitoring of any implementation of the goals and strategies of the member's plan will be assessed for compliance. Transparent is defined as the monitoring process is accessible to the public, civil societies, and non-governmental organizations. A systemic assessment would not include a tangential report on employment levels or a report on levels of female unemployment, but instead is an action will evident roots in the government's system.

Part Three: Monitor youth and female participation goals

The youth aspect of this goal is to evaluate if youth's involvement in labour force is being monitored transparently and systematically, when looking specifically at the aforementioned G20 2017 employment plans. Youth will be defined in accordance with the International Labour Organization (ILO) standards, which identify Youth as individuals between the age 15 to 24.[2232]

Each G20 member has committed to the goal of reducing the gap in labour force participation rates between men and women in G20 countries by 25 per cent by 2025. Monitoring of actions or inaction surrounding the advancement of the goal to reduce the gender participation gap will count towards compliance. Monitoring of previously implemented policies, policy reviews and consultations, collecting of gender employment data, and reports relating to the status of women's employment and are some examples.

Full compliance is achieved if the G20 complies with all three parts of the commitment. The G20 member both monitors its employment plan goals as well as specifically monitors its youth and female participation goals as well as develops its employment plan. The G20 member must develop its employment plan to address new commitments in 2017. Partial compliance will be achieved if the G20 member complies with two parts of the commitment but not all. No compliance will result if the G20 member has complied with one or no part of the commitment.

[2231] 2015 Antalya Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto). 3 September 2016. Access Date: 23 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2015antalya-final/index.html.
[2232] Youth Employment, International Labour Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 23 October 2016. http://www.ilo.org/washington/areas/youth-employment/lang--en/index.htm.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	The G20 member does not further develop employment plans, does not monitor the implementation of its employment plan in a systemic and transparent manner AND does not monitor youth and gender goals
0	The G20 member further develops employment plans OR monitors the implementation of its employment plan in a systemic and transparent manner OR monitors youth and gender goals.
+1	The G20 member further develops employment plans, monitors the implementation of its employment plan in a systemic and transparent manner AND monitors youth and gender goals.

Lead Analyst: Julia Tops

Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 12 to 14 September 2016, the Argentinian Investment and Trade Promotion Agency hosted the Argentina Business & Investment Forum in Buenos Aires as a part of President Mauricio Macri's "strategies for invigorating the country's key economic sectors and presenting attractive opportunities to local, regional, and global investors."[2233]

On 27 October 2016, the Ministry of Work, Employment and Social published the Evolution of Employment Registered in private sector in major urban centers. The report recorded a 0.1 per cent increase in formal private employment comparing to the low level of 0.8 per cent in 2015 of the same month.[2234] The ministry identified the reasons for the increase in private sector employment as 0.8 per cent increase in construction and 0.5 per cent increase in trade, restaurants and hotels.[2235]

Argentina has partially comply with a commitment to development employment plans to address new commitments, failed to monitor the implementation of employment plans through transparent and systematic assessments, and failed to specifically monitor youth employment and female participation goals.

Thus, Argentina has received a score of 0.

Analysts: Kaylee Mak & Kaylee Mak

Australia: 0

Australia has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 11 October 2016, the Department of Employment published a document titled "Innovation Framework," outlining the Department's aim to connect innovative individuals and ideas together to further develop their Employment Plan in order to create better economic conditions.[2236]

[2233] Government of Argentina Announces Argentina Business & Investment Forum during September in Buenos Aires, Ministerio de Relaciones y Culto 12 September 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://eisra.cancilleria.gov.ar/en/content/government-argentina-announces-argentina-business-investment-forum-during-september-buenos-0

[2234] Evolución del empleo registrado del sector privado en los principales centros urbanos, Ministerio de Trabajo, Empleo y Seguridad Social Presidencia de la Nacion 27 October 2016. Access date: 14 November 2016 http://www.trabajo.gob.ar/left/estadisticas/descargas/eil/Mensual/Informe_Final_EIL_Septiebre_2016.pdf

[2235] Evolución del empleo registrado del sector privado en los principales centros urbanos, Ministerio de Trabajo, Empleo y Seguridad Social Presidencia de la Nacion 27 October 2016. Access date: 14 November 2016 http://www.trabajo.gob.ar/left/estadisticas/descargas/eil/Mensual/Informe_Final_EIL_Septiebre_2016.pdf

[2236] Innovation Framework 2016-2018, Australian Government Department of Employment (Canberra) 11 October 2016. Access Date: 28 January 2017. https://docs.employment.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/innovation_framework_2016-18.pdf

On 12 October 2016, the Department of Employment published its annual report for 2015-2016. The 196-page report outlines its performance for the year and explains in detail different aspects of their capability and accountability on monitoring various aspects of their employment plan, with specific sections focusing on youth and women.[2237]

The Australian Bureau of Statistics continues to release employment monthly reports that track monthly changes in the employment labour force. The latest report was released on 19 January 2016.[2238] The report outlines the changing trend in employed persons, unemployed persons, unemployment rate and participation rate between November 2016 and December 2016.[2239] In addition, the report lists the November key points, such as an increase in employment by 3,100 and decrease in unemployment by 700.[2240] The report also tracks trends in unemployment rate among different Australian state and territories.

On 8 December 2016, the Australian Department of Employment issued a report projecting the expected changes in employment levels of the country by 2020, titled Employment Projections. The report states that employment is projected to increase in 16 out of 19 broad industries and provides predictions on fluctuations in employment levels across industries, occupations, states, territories, and regions.[2241]

On 9 May 2017, the Government of Australia issued a data set titled Labour Force Region (SA4).[2242] The data set details labour market data, industry data, and occupation data by state and territory, age group, and gender.

On 18 May 2017, the Australian Bureau of Statistics issued a report titled 6202.0 — Labour Force, Australia, April 2017.[2243] The report details employment changes trends in April 2017, particularly noting the fluctuation rate of employment and unemployment.

Australia has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. Australia has not developed its employment plan. Thus, Australia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mary Zelenova

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

[2237] Department of Employment Annual Report 2015--2016, Australian Government Department of Employment (Canberra) 12 October 2016. Access Date: 28 January 2017. https://docs.employment.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/final_department_of_employment_annual_report_2015-16_accessible.pdf

[2238] 6202.2 — Labour Force, Australia, Dec 2016, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 19 January 2017. Access Date: 28 January 2017. http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/0/F756C48F25016833CA25753E00135FD9?Opendocument

[2239] 6202.2 — Labour Force, Australia, Dec 2016, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 19 January 2017. Access Date: 28 January 2017. http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/0/F756C48F25016833CA25753E00135FD9?Opendocument

[2240] 6202.2 — Labour Force, Australia, Nov 2016, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 12 December 2017. Access Date: 28 January 2017. http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/allprimarymainfeatures/3A50CD6078367859CA2580AC0013485C?opendocument

[2241] Employment Projections, Australian Government Department of Employment, 8 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2016. http://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/GainInsights/EmploymentProjections

[2242] Labour Force Region (SA4), Australian Government, 9 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/LFR_SAFOUR.

[2243] 6202.0 — Labour Force, Australia, Apr 2017, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 18 May 2017. Access date: 31 May 2017. http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/6202.0Main+Features1Apr%202017?OpenDocument.

On 15 December 2016, the Ministry of Education (MEC) and Labour, in their announcement of the key themes for the Inter-Sectoral Seminar on Youth Employment: Articulation between Education and Labor, cited the National Institute of Applied Economic Research (Ipea) report, which was published on 8 November 2016.[2244] This report reveals that the unemployment rate between 14 and 24 years of age [increased to] 26.5% in the [first half] of this year."[2245]

On 22 February 2017, the MEC's Secretariat for Professional and Technological Education published that the Thousand Women Program "has already offered more than 100,000 training opportunities for women in situations of socio economic vulnerability."[2246] The secretariat was also developing an education census to gauge participant feedback to improve the program.

On 9 March 2017, the Ministry of Labour reported that as of 2016, women occupy 44 per cent of the vacancies in the formal labour market. According to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), the General Register of Employment and Unemployment (Caged), and the Annual Information Ratio (Rais), data reveals that "unemployment has affected fewer women in the last five years than men."[2247]

Brazil has partially systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. Brazil has not developed its employment plan. Thus, Brazil received a score of 0.

Analyst: Grace Marshall

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment on employment.

On 5 December 2016, Statistics Canada published a new report that indicated that there are less young Canadians, who are not full-time students, working in full-time jobs today than in 1976. The report also indicated that male worker between the age of 17 and 24 experienced a 15 per cent drop of their buying power, and women of the same age group experienced a 10 per cent drop.[2248]

On 30 December 2017, the Government of Canada published a report titled Understanding the Realities: Interim Report of the Expert Panel on Youth Employment, 2016.[2249] The report details youth employment levels in Canada as compared to other G7 and members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, compares youth employment amongst Canadian provinces, and

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[2244] Unemployment among young people up to 24 years old, says ipea, EBC, 8 November 2016. Access Date: 31 January 2017. http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/economia/noticia/2016-11/cresce-desemprego-entre-os-jovens-de-ate-24-anos-diz-ipea

[2245] Formação de jovens e oportunidades de trabalho são temas de seminário em Brasília, Ministério da Educação (Brasília). 15 December 2016. Access Date: 17 December 2016. http://portal.mec.gov.br/component/content/article?id=43171

[2246] Mulheres Mil oferece 100 mil oportunidades de capacitação. 22 February 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://www.brasil.gov.br/educacao/2017/02/mulheres-mil-oferece-100-mil-oportunidades-de-capacitacao.

[2247] Mulheres ganham espaço no mercado de trabalho. 9 March 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2017/03/mulheres-ganham-espaco-no-mercado-de-trabalho.

[2248] Youth Job Quality Has Declined, Unemployment Rate Unchanged: StatCan, Huffington Post (Toronto) 5 December 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2016/12/05/statcan-study-highlights-drop-in-wage-job-quality-for-young-workers_n_13432378.html

[2249] Understanding the Realities: Interim Report of the Expert Panel on Youth Employment, 2016, Government of Canada, 30 December 2016. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/youth-expert-panel/interim-report.html#section1.

employment levels amongst youth of different demographics.[2250] As well, the report explores the history of youth employment patterns in Canada, and potential strategies of increasing youth employment levels.[2251]

On 3 January 2017, the Canadian government issued an updated guideline to the First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy. The new guidelines focuses on assisting First Nations and Inuit youth acquire required skills and overcome barriers to employment for employment. Furthermore, in order to ensure funding recipients act in accordance with the provisions, "activities including audits, evaluations, as well as desk and on-site compliance reviews will be conducted with all funding recipients."[2252] During the compliance period, Statistics Canada has continued to publish various employment statistics.[2253]

On 6 January 2017, Statistics Canada issued a Labour Force Survey detailing the fluctuations in employment statistics of the country in the past year. The survey states that employment increased by 0.6 per cent in the last quarter of 2016.[2254] The survey also specifically outlines employment increases for women aged 25 to 54, stating that in December, employment for women in this category increased by 31,000 and unemployment rate also increased by 0.2 per cent to 5.4 per cent.[2255] The survey also analyzes fluctuations in employment levels in different provinces of the country and states in 2016, employment gains totalled 1.2 per cent.[2256] Lastly, the survey states that employment grew by 2.8 per cent among people aged 55 and older.[2257]

On 3 March 2017, Statistics Canada published an article titled The Surge of Women in the Workforce.[2258] The article discusses the steady rise of labour force participation rates of women between the 1950s and 1990, and from 1990 onwards.[2259] Statistics Canada continues to issue monthly labour force reports, titled Labour Force Survey. The survey details estimates for employment and unemployment across the country, and provides employment estimates by industry, occupation, public and private sector, etc.

On 5 May 2017, the most recent report titled Labour Force Survey, April 2017 was released.[2260] The report details fluctuations in employment levels in April 2017, and specifically notes fluctuations in

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[2250] Understanding the Realities: Interim Report of the Expert Panel on Youth Employment, 2016, Government of Canada, 30 December 2016. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/youth-expert-panel/interim-report.html#section1.

[2251] Understanding the Realities: Interim Report of the Expert Panel on Youth Employment, 2016, Government of Canada, 30 December 2016. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/youth-expert-panel/interim-report.html#section1.

[2252] First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy — Skills Link Program — National Program Guidelines 2016-2017, Government of Canada, 3 January 2017. Date of Access: 7 January 2017. https://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1450118413943/1450118431958#chp2

[2253] First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy — Skills Link Program — National Program Guidelines 2016-2017, Government of Canada, 3 January 2017. Date of Access: 7 January 2017. https://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1450118413943/1450118431958#chp2

[2254] Labour and Force Survey, December 2016, Statistics Canada, 6 January 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/170106/dq170106a-eng.htm

[2255] Labour and Force Survey, December 2016, Statistics Canada, 6 January 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/170106/dq170106a-eng.htm

[2256] Labour and Force Survey, December 2016, Statistics Canada, 6 January 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/170106/dq170106a-eng.htm

[2257] Labour and Force Survey, December 2016, Statistics Canada, 6 January 2017. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/170106/dq170106a-eng.htm

[2258] The Surge of Women in the Workforce, Statistics Canada, 3 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11-630-x/11-630-x2015009-eng.htm.

[2259] The Surge of Women in the Workforce, Statistics Canada, 3 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11-630-x/11-630-x2015009-eng.htm.

[2260] Labour Force Survey, April 2017, Statistics Canada, 5 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/170505/dq170505a-eng.htm.

employment amongst women aged 25 to 54 and youths aged 15 to 24.[2261] The report also compares fluctuations in employment levels amongst Canadian provinces.[2262]

Canada has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. Canada has developed its employment plan. Thus, Canada received a score of +1.

Analyst: Mary Zelenova

China: 0

China has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 26 October 2016, the state council of China released statistical progress of 2016. In the first nine months of 2016, 10.67 million new jobs were created and surpassed the annual target of 10 million. The report detailed numbers in several sectors such as tourism, culture, sports, health and elderly care.[2263]

On 24 January 2017, the central government issued a guideline to encourage college graduates to work at the community level, small/medium-sized enterprises or to start their own businesses. The government estimates that 7.95 million college students will graduate this year, accounting for over a half of newly-added urban labour force.[2264]

On 28 February 2017, the National Bureau of Statistics of China releases a statistical communiqué for the economic and social development for 2016 that includes employment data. By the end of 2016, the number of employed people in China 776.03 million, in which numerous employment categories experienced an increase from 2015. Urban employment increased 13.14 million, registering an unemployment rate of 4.02 per cent. The number of migrant workers went up 1.5 per cent of which migrant workers who left their hometowns to work elsewhere in China increased 0.3 per cent and those who worked in their own localities went up by 3.4 per cent.[2265]

On 1 March 2017, the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security released figures that showed that China has managed to create more than 13 million urban jobs for four consecutive years, in spite of downward pressure and industrial restructuring within the Chinese economy.[2266]

On 25 April 2017, China releases a quarterly job report which announced that 3.34 million new jobs were created in the first quarter and unemployment fell to 3.97. From January to March, job vacancies

[2261] Labour Force Survey, April 2017, Statistics Canada, 5 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/170505/dq170505a-eng.htm.

[2262] Labour Force Survey, April 2017, Statistics Canada, 5 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/170505/dq170505a-eng.htm.

[2263] China sees growth in employment, structure upgrading, The State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 26 October 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/policies/policy_watch/2016/10/26/content_281475475626275.htm

[2264] China issues guideline encouraging college grads to work in grassroots. The State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing). 24 January 2017. Date of Access: 26 May 2017 http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2017/01/24/content_281475550567080.htm

[2265] Statistical communiqué of the People's Republic of China on the 2016 National Economic and Social Development. National Bureau of Statistics of China (Beijing) 28 February, 2017. Date of Access: 26 May 2017 http://www.stats.gov.cn/english/PressRelease/201702/t20170228_1467503.html

[2266]China creates over 13 million new urban jobs for 4 consecutive years. 1 March 2017. Date of Access: 26 May 2017 http://english.gov.cn/state_council/ministries/2017/03/01/content_281475581645530.htm rose 7.8 per cent while applicants increased 2.1 per cent, indicating a need for more workers, particularly in the manufacturing sector.[2267]

Although China has made efforts to monitor and stimulate job growth for its youth, it has not explicitly applied systematic and transparent monitoring of the the implementation of its employment plan, specifically towards females.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Xun (Sean) Gong

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 7 October 2016, Minister of Families, Children and Women's Rights Laurence Rossignol launched the first regional network of companies for equality as part of Equality Week in Provence Alpes Côte D'Azur. This network of companies and administrations for equality brings together 120 French companies who have a shared interest in measuring their results of reaching equality with the support of the Ministry of Families, Children and Women's Rights.[2268]

On 31 January 2017, an Action Plan on gender diversity in the digital sector was signed between the Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research; the Ministry of Families, Children and Women's Rights; and the State Secretariat for Digital Affairs, Economy and Finance. The plan is a commitment to implement actions to increase opportunities for women in the digital professions, particularly in male-dominated areas. Each signatory is charged with a unique plan of implementation. It is also a public-private initiative as it engages private actors to mobilize and act to promote gender equality in the digital sector. Measures by these actors cover fighting cybersexism and cyberviolence, working on the representations associated with digital jobs at the initial traning stages, such as working with youth, promoting diversity and the attractiveness of digital jobs to women, and supporting women entrepreneurs in the digital sector. The plan also provides statistics on the gender gap in specific labour sectors.[2269]

On 15 March 2017, the European Commission published a report on France's contribution and efforts the Youth Guarantee initiative. The European Commission specifically noted that one of the main challenges for France is "to develop a comprehensive monitoring system of the YG scheme."[2270]

France has provided some data on labour force participation rates between ment and women, but has not systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. France has developed its employment plan. Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mojann Zibapour

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

[2267] China adds 3.34 million jobs in Q1, jobless rates falls. The State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 25 April 2017. Date of Access: 26 May 2017. http://english.gov.cn/news/top_news/2017/04/25/content_281475636575640.htm.

[2268] Laurence Rossignol Lance le 1es Réseau des Entreprises pour L'égalité en PACA (Paris) Access Date: November 13, 2016. http://www.familles-enfance-droitsdesfemmes.gouv.fr/laurence-rossignol-lance-le-1er-reseau-des-entreprises-pour-legalite-en-paca/

[2269] Signature du plan sectorial mixité numérique, 31 January 2017, Government of France. Date of Access: 04 April 2017. http://www.familles-enfance-droitsdesfemmes.gouv.fr/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/DP-Plan-sectoriel-mixite-numerique.pdf

[2270] Youth Guarantee country by country: France, European Commission 15 March 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. www.ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=13638&langId=en/.

In November 2016, the German Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs published a White Paper on Work 4.0, identifying the opportunities and challenges arising from the digitization of work. This paper delivers answers on the question how the government aims to guarantee a good work life balance and fair working conditions in the digital age.[2271]

Throughout the compliance period, Destatis, the Federal Statistical Office, has continued to report employment statistics and trends. On 27 September 2016, Destatis announced that the employment rate of 65 to 69-year-olds is markedly higher between 2005 to 2015, from 6.5 per cent to 14.5 per cent.[2272] On 2 November 2016, Destatis published a press release reporting that employment is up 0.9 per cent in September 2016 since the previous year.[2273] On 3 January 2017, Destatis announced that 43.8 million persons were in employment in November 2016, a 0.7 per cent increase from the year before.[2274] In the same report, Destatis reported that the youth unemployment rate decreased to 6.7 per cent.[2275] The German unemployment rate decreased to 3.9 per cent.[2276]

In March 2017, the German Parliament passed a new law that aims to make away with the gender pay gap. Private companies with more than 200 employees have to provide women with the right to obtain information from the employer on the salary of men with similar tasks in the company. Firms with more than 500 employees are in addition urged to introduce screening processes to avoid pay discrimination.[2277]

On 23 May 2017, Destatis reported that the economic performance in the first quarter of 2017 was achieved by 43.7 million persons in employment, which was an increase of 638,000 or 1.5 per cent on a year earlier.[2278]

Germany has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, however, not specifically female and youth goals. Germany has not developed its employment plan. Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Briana MacLeod

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

[2271] Weißbuch Arbeiten 4.0 – Diskussionsentwurf, BMZ Access Date: 7 July 2017. http://www.arbeitenviernull.de/dialogprozess/weissbuch.html

[2272] Press release: Employment rate of 65 to 69-year-olds markedly higher, Destatis (Wiesbaden) 27 September 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.destatis.de/EN/PressServices/Press/pr/2016/09/PE16_343_122.html

[2273] Press release: Employment up 0.9% in September 2016 on a year earlier, Destatis (Wiesbaden), 2 November 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.destatis.de/EN/PressServices/Press/pr/2016/11/PE16_390_132.html;jsessionid=B199BC36A94A48CDE92BDF2159DF3607.cae3

[2274] Press release: 43.8 million persons in employment in November 2016, Destatis (Wiesbaden) Access Date: 3 January 2017. https://www.destatis.de/EN/PressServices/Press/pr/2017/01/PE17_002_132.html;jsessionid=DA9CC441C5EB9A5E31551E7FECE23BD0.cae2

[2275] Press release: 43.8 million persons in employment in November 2016, Destatis (Wiesbaden) Access Date: 3 January 2017. https://www.destatis.de/EN/PressServices/Press/pr/2017/01/PE17_002_132.html;jsessionid=DA9CC441C5EB9A5E31551E7FECE23BD0.cae2

[2276] Press release: 43.8 million persons in employment in November 2016, Destatis (Wiesbaden) Access Date: 3 January 2017. https://www.destatis.de/EN/PressServices/Press/pr/2017/01/PE17_002_132.html;jsessionid=DA9CC441C5EB9A5E31551E7FECE23BD0.cae2

[2277] Bundestag verabschiedet umstrittenes Entgelttransparenzgesetz, 30 March 2017. Access Date: 6 July 2017. http://www.bundestag.de/dokumente/textarchiv/2017/kw13-de-lohngleichheit-maenner-frauen/499932

[2278] Press release: Detailed gross domestic product results for the 1st quarter of 2017, Destatis (Wiesbaden) Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.destatis.de/EN/PressServices/Press/pr/2017/05/PE17_169_811.html.

On 15 September 2016, Labour Bureau, the labour statistics organization functioning under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, published the "Report on Fifth Annual Employment-Unemployment Survey (2015-2016)."[2279] This report, the first of four volumes to be published, reported statistics on parameters including Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), worker population ratio, unemployment rate, distribution of employment, extent of underemployment, etc.[2280] The LFPR was 50.3 per cent, female LFPR was 23.7 per cent, and male LFPR was 75 per cent, at the national level.[2281] The unemployment rate was 5 per cent, female unemployment rate was 8.7 per cent, and male unemployment rate was 4 per cent, at the national level.[2282] Separate statistics for rural and urban areas were reported as well.

On 16 December 2016, the Ministry of Labour and Employment introduced a new scheme by the Employee's State Insurance Corporation to provide social protection to more workers.[2283] Operating for a period of three months from 1 January 2017 to 31 March 2017, the scheme will provide employers as well as employees who were left out of coverage, to register themselves.[2284]

India has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. India has not developed its employment plan. Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Nishita Agrawal

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 5 October 2016, the Institute for Community Research and Development Malang chapter and the International Labour Organization opened up a course in Malang City aimed at improving domestic worker's skills, in order to better position them to seek employment rights and protect them from mistreatment.[2285]

On 11 November 2016, the Public Works and Public Housing Ministry has set a target to certify 750,000 construction workers within the next five years in order to provide them with better employment opportunities. The director of Construction at the Minstry said that the government had set a target to certify 200,000 construction workers by 2017.[2286]

[2279] Report on Fifth Annual Employment-Unemployment Survey (2015-2016), Labour Bureau (Chandigarh) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://labourbureaunew.gov.in/UserContent/EUS_5th_1.pdf

[2280] Report on Fifth Annual Employment-Unemployment Survey (2015-2016), Labour Bureau (Chandigarh) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://labourbureaunew.gov.in/UserContent/EUS_5th_1.pdf

[2281] Report on Fifth Annual Employment-Unemployment Survey (2015-2016), Labour Bureau (Chandigarh) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://labourbureaunew.gov.in/UserContent/EUS_5th_1.pdf

[2282] Report on Fifth Annual Employment-Unemployment Survey (2015-2016), Labour Bureau (Chandigarh) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://labourbureaunew.gov.in/UserContent/EUS_5th_1.pdf

[2283] ESIC introduces a new Scheme to promote Registration of Employers/Employees, Ministry of Labour and Employment 16 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=21

[2284] ESIC introduces a new Scheme to promote Registration of Employers/Employees, Ministry of Labour and Employment 16 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=21

[2285] Malang opens courses for domestic workers. 05 October 2016. Date of Access 27 May 2017. https://en.tempo.co/read/news/2016/10/05/056809726/Malang-Opens-Courses-for-Domestic-Workers-.

[2286] Gov't to certify 750,000 construction workers by 2021. 07 November 2016. Date of Access 27 May 2017. https://en.tempo.co/read/news/2016/11/07/056818441/Govt-to-Cerrtify-750000-Construction-Workers-by-2021.

On 20 December 2016, the House of Representatives Commision VI deputy chairman Muhammed Haikal called on local governments to monitor foreign workers influx to control job competition and the local economy.[2287]

On 13 February 2017, Deputy Chairman of Commission III of the Regional Representatives Council Fahira Idris, stated that the number of Indonesian migrant workers has decreased by 40 per cent throughout the last five years, indicating that economic conditions have improved and workers don't need to find work abroad as opposed to domestically.[2288]

Indonesia has not systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. Indonesia has partially developed its employment plan. Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Xun (Sean) Gong

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 27 October 2016, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy announced its plan to record the gender percentage in sectors and professions.[2289]

On 9 January 2017, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies announced the positive increase of the employment market since the previous check of the market in November 2016.[2290] The announcement also indicated that the youth employment rate was still low but would be continuously monitored and released.[2291]

On 31 May 2017, the Italian National Institute of Statistics published a report titled "Employment and unemployment: provisional data April 2017," outlining the status of the Italian labour market as of April 2017. The report indicated that the youth unemployment rate was 34 per cent and the youth unemployment ratio was 8.8 per cent. Updated statistics are published each month with the same methodologies and focus areas.[2292]

Italy has monitored its employment initiatives in a systematic or transparent manner, and specifically focused on youth. However, Italy has also not developed its employment plan.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Meagan Byrd

[2287] House Calls on Local Governments to Monitor Foreign Workers, Tempo Media Group (Jakarta) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://en.tempo.co/read/news/2016/12/20/056829072/House-Calls-on-Local-Governments-to-Monitor-Foreign-Workers.

[2288] Fahira Idris: Number of Indonesian workers decrease 40 per cent. 13 February 2017. Date of Access 27 May 2017. https://en.tempo.co/read/news/2017/02/13/055846062,uk.html/Fahira-Idris-Number-of-Indonesian-Workers-Decrease-40-Percent.

[2289] Sectors and occupations characterized by rate of woman man disparities, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (Italy) 26 October 2016. Access date: 22 November 2016. http://www.lavoro.gov.it/notizie/Pagine/Settori-e-professioni-caratterizzati-da-tasso-di-disparita-uomo-donna.aspx

[2290] Istat data on the employed and unemployed in November 2016, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Italy) 9 January 2017. Access date: 10 January 2017. http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/comunicati/pagine/dati-istat-relativi-ad-occupati-e-disoccupati-di-novembre-2016.aspx/

[2291] Istat data on the employed and unemployed in November 2016, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Italy) 9 January 2017. Access date: 10 January 2017. http://www.lavoro.gov.it/stampa-e-media/comunicati/pagine/dati-istat-relativi-ad-occupati-e-disoccupati-di-novembre-2016.aspx/

[2292] Employment and unemployment: provisional data April 2017, Italian National Institute of Statistics 31 May 2017. Access date: 9 June 2017. http://www.istat.it/en/archive/200551

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment on employment.

On 13 September 2016, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published statistics on job openings and recent high school and junior high school graduates in 2016 with a 1.75 job opening-to-application ratio for high school students.[2293]

On 7 October 2016, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published a white paper on Prevention of Karoshi — death caused by overwork — for the first time.[2294] The white paper outlines the current status of karoshi, current and suggestive measures on preventing karoshi.[2295]

On 25 October 2016, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published data on the status of job separation for students graduated in 2013.[2296]

On 31 October 2016, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare announced the opening of the portal site "Labor Conditions in Start-Ups" on 1 November 2016.[2297] This site assists new start-ups to self-diagnose on aspects such as, labor management and safety and health management.[2298]

On 18 November 2016, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published statistics on job openings and recent high school and junior high school graduates in 2016.[2299]

On 22 November 2016, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published the Final Report of Monthly Labor Survey September 2016.[2300] This survey records, cash earnings, hours worked and days worked, regular employment and labor turnover, wage indices, hours worked indices, employment indices, and seasonally adjusted indices.[2301]

On 14 December 2016, the Bank of Japan release "Tankan," a business short-term economic sentiment survey.[2302] This survey shows statistics related to the status of the Japanese economy with a specific section on employment condition and the number of new graduates hired.[2303]

On 21 December 2016, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published the Special Monthly Labor Survey,[2304] recording statistics on:

[2293] What's New 2016, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 30 September 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2016.html

[2294] What's New 2016, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 7 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2016.html

[2295] The White Paper on Prevention of Karoshi published, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 7 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000139008.html

[2296] Status of Graduates, Ministry of Health Labor and Welfare 25 October 2016. Access dates: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000140526.html

[2297] We will open a portal site "Start-Up Work Conditions" on November 1, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 31 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000141133.html

[2298] We will open a portal site "Start-Up Work Conditions" on November 1, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 31 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000141133.html

[2299] Summary of Heisei 28, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 18 November 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000142666.html

[2300] Final Report of Monthly Labour Survey, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 22 November 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/database/db-l/28/2809re/2809re.html

[2301] Final Report of Monthly Labour Survey, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 22 November 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/database/db-l/28/2809re/2809re.html

[2302] Tankan (Summary) from 2016, Bank of Japan 14 December 2016.Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.boj.or.jp/en/statistics/tk/gaiyo/2016/index.htm/

[2303] Tankan (Summary) from 2016, Bank of Japan 14 December 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.boj.or.jp/en/statistics/tk/gaiyo/2016/index.htm/

- Wage rate of male and female categorized by occupation type[2305]
- Wage rate of male and female categorized by age[2306]
- Wage rate of male and female categorized by both age and occupation type[2307]
- Number of workdays categorized by both sex and occupation type[2308]
- Daily work hours categorized by both sex and occupation type[2309]

On 22 December 2016, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published the Final Report of Monthly Labor Survey October 2016.[2310]

On 16 January 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published data monitoring the implementation of after-school children clubs in 2016.[2311] These data include categories such as the number of children registered for the service and the number of afterschool care centres.[2312]

On 20 January 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, released data on the amount of subsidies given to respective cities' day-care centers in 2016.[2313]

On 20 January 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published "a report on job openings, applications, and offers for recent high school and junior high school graduates"[2314] in the fall of 2016, recording a one-point-two percentage point increase in high school graduates job offering rate as of the end of November 2016.[2315]

On 20 January 2017, 22 February 2017, 23 March 2017, 20 April 2017 and 23 May 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published the "Final Report of Monthly Labour Survey" with November 2016, December 2016, January 2017, February 2017, and March 2017 data respectively.[2316] This survey reports cash earnings, hours worked and days worked, regular employment and labor turnover, wage indices, hours worked indices, employment indices, and seasonally adjusted indices.[2317]

[2304] Monthly Labour Survey [Special Survey] 2016, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 22 December 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/monthly/tokubetu/16/28maitoku.html
[2305] Monthly Labour Survey [Special Survey] 2016, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 22 December 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/monthly/tokubetu/16/28maitoku.html
[2306] Monthly Labour Survey [Special Survey] 2016, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 22 December 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/monthly/tokubetu/16/28maitoku.html
[2307] Monthly Labour Survey [Special Survey] 2016, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 22 December 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/monthly/tokubetu/16/28maitoku.html
[2308] Monthly Labour Survey [Special Survey] 2016, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 22 December 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/monthly/tokubetu/16/28maitoku.html
[2309] Monthly Labour Survey [Special Survey] 2016, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 22 December 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/monthly/tokubetu/16/28maitoku.html
[2310] Final Report of Monthly Labour Survey, Ministry of Health Labour and Welfare 22 December 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/database/db-l/28/2810re/2810re.html
[2311] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 16 January 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.
[2312] Implementation status of Heisei 28 child child health development project (after school child club), Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 16 January 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000142666.html.
[2313] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 20 January 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.
[2314] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 20 January 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.
[2315] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 20 January 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.
[2316] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 20 January 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.
[2317] Final Report of Monthly Labour Survey, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 20 January 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/database/db-l/28/2811re/2811re.html.

On 31 January 2017, 3 March 2017, 31 March 2017, 28 April 2017 and 30 May 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published data on employment referrals from December 2016, January 2017, February 2017, March 2017 and April 2017 respectively.[2318] These data monitor factors including active applications, job openings by industry, number of persons who found employment and job-opening-to-applicants' ratio.[2319]

On 22 February 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published a final report based on the results of the monthly labour surveys from 2016.[2320] This report records data on monthly salary, monthly work hours and attendance days, permanent employment and labor transfer rate.[2321]

On 22 February 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published the results of the "basic survey on wage structure" with data from 2016.[2322,2323] The survey monitors gender, age, education background, industry, employment type, prefecture, job title, duration of employment and the scale of the company.[2324]

On 28 February 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published a report based on the "general survey on working conditions" gathered in 2016.[2325,2326] The survey monitors work hour system, retirement system, wage system, labour cost and temporary worker related expenses.[2327]

On 15 March 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published a summary report based on data collected with the "survey on labor economy trend" in February 2017.[2328,2329] This report includes topics such as work hours, employment situation, excess or shortage of workers, recruitment of new graduates and the promotion of regular workers.[2330]

[2318] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 20 January 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.

[2319] Employment Referrals for General Workers, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 31 January 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/database/db-l/g_workers_dec2016.html

[2320] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 22 February 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.

[2321] Monthly Labor Survey Survey Results Fiscal Year for Fiscal Year 28, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 22 February 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/monthly/28/28r/28r.html.

[2322] Overview of wage structure basic statistics survey results in Heisei 28, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 22 February 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/chingin/kouzou/z2016/index.html.

[2323] Overview of wage structure basic statistics survey results in Heisei 28, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 22 February 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/chingin/kouzou/z2016/index.html.

[2324] Overview of wage structure basic statistics survey results in Heisei 28, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 22 February 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/chingin/kouzou/z2016/index.html.

[2325] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 28 February 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.

[2326] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 28 February 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.

[2327] Overview of the results of comprehensive survey on employment conditions in Heisei 28, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 28 February 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/jikan/syurou/16/index.html.

[2328] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 15 March 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.

[2329] What's New 2017, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 15 March 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2017.html.

[2330] Overview of Labor Economic Trends Survey, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 15 March 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/toukei/itiran/roudou/koyou/keizai/1702/index.html.

On 21 March 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published a preliminary reports on the "occurrence of occupational accidents" in March 2017.[2331,2332] This report monitors the number of deaths and injuries related to occupational accidents, the industry it occurred in and the cause of the accident.[2333]

On 19 May 2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare published a report on the "occurrence of occupational accidents in 2016" with confirmed data.[2334,2335] This report monitors the number of deaths and injuries related to occupational accidents, the industry it occurred in and the cause of the accident.[2336] On the same day, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare also published two preliminary reports on the "occurrence of occupational accidents" in April 2017 and May 2017 respectively.[2337,2338]

Japan has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. Japan has not developed its employment plan.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Lam Ho Ching (Crystal)

Korea: 0

Korea has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 12 October 2016, Statistics Korea publishes the Economically Active Population Survey, with September data.[2339] The survey includes:

- Economically active population and labor force participation rate, with specification on female participation rate and unemployment rate[2340]
- Employed persons and employment-population ratio[2341]
- Unemployed persons and unemployment rate[2342]
- Economically inactive population[2343]

[2331] On occupational accident occurrence situation in Heisei 29, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 21 March 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/roudoukijun/anzeneisei11/rousai-hassei/dl/17-03.pdf.
[2332] On occupational accident occurrence situation in Heisei 29, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 21 March 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/roudoukijun/anzeneisei11/rousai-hassei/dl/17-03.pdf.
[2333] On occupational accident occurrence situation in Heisei 29, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 21 March 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/roudoukijun/anzeneisei11/rousai-hassei/dl/17-03.pdf.
[2334] About occupational accident occurrence situation in Heisei 28, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 19 May 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/roudoukijun/anzeneisei11/rousai-hassei/dl/16_kakutei.pdf.
[2335] About occupational accident occurrence situation in Heisei 28, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 19 May 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/roudoukijun/anzeneisei11/rousai-hassei/dl/16_kakutei.pdf.
[2336] About occupational accident occurrence situation in Heisei 28, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 19 May 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/roudoukijun/anzeneisei11/rousai-hassei/dl/16_kakutei.pdf.
[2337] Occurrence of occupational accidents, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 19 May 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/roudoukijun/anzeneisei11/rousai-hassei/index.html.
[2338] Occurrence of occupational accidents, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare 19 May 2017. Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/roudoukijun/anzeneisei11/rousai-hassei/index.html.
[2339] Total, Statistics Korea 12 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://kostat.go.kr/portal/eng/pressReleases/5/1/index.board?rowNum=10
[2340] Total, Statistics Korea 12 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://kostat.go.kr/portal/eng/pressReleases/5/1/index.board?rowNum=10
[2341] Total, Statistics Korea 12 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://kostat.go.kr/portal/eng/pressReleases/5/1/index.board?rowNum=10
[2342] Total, Statistics Korea 12 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://kostat.go.kr/portal/eng/pressReleases/5/1/index.board?rowNum=10
[2343] Total, Statistics Korea 12 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. http://kostat.go.kr/portal/eng/pressReleases/5/1/index.board?rowNum=10

On 16 October 2016, the Ministry of Employment and Labor released analysis on the labor market and characteristics of older people.[2344] This document outlines the current employment and reemployment situation of older people aged between their 50s and 60s.[2345]

On 9 November 2016, 14 December 2016 and 11 January 2017 Statistics Korea published the Economically Active Population Survey, with October, November and December data which monitored the active population, labor force participation rate, employed and unemployed population ratio and rate, and the economically inactive population.[2346]

On 7 December 2016, the Ministry of Employment and Labor announces results of "interim survey on private sector's compliance with the obligation to establish workplace childcare center,"[2347] a key work-life balance policy.

On 27 December 2016, the Ministry of Employment and Labor announces the tightening of monitoring system on management of work environment starting in 2017,[2348] through:

- "Conducting a survey on the actual state of chemical management mainly in manufacturing businesses"[2349]
- Establish an on-going detection system[2350]
- Taking action against those which fail to comply[2351]

On 15 February 2017, 15 March 2017, 12 April 2017, and 11 May 2017, Statistics Korea published the monthly Economically Active Population Survey with data from January 2017, February 2017, March 2017 and April 2017 respectively.[2352] This survey monitors the active population, labor force participation rate by gender, the employed and unemployed population ratio and rate according to both gender and education background, and the economically inactive population.[2353]

Korea has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. Korea has not developed its employment plan. Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Lam Ho Ching (Crystal)

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

[2344] Employment Policy, Ministry of Employment and Labor 16 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliLaw_view.jsp?idx=1295
[2345] Employment Policy, Ministry of Employment and Labor 16 October 2016. Access date: 22 January 2017. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliLaw_view.jsp?idx=1295
[2346] Total, Statistics Korea 9 November 2016. Date of Access: 22 January 2017. http://kostat.go.kr/portal/eng/pressReleases/5/1/index.board?rowNum=10
[2347] Employment Policy, Ministry of Employment and Labor 7 December 2016. Access date: 20 January 2017. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliLaw_view.jsp?idx=1318
[2348] Employment Policy, Ministry of Employment and Labor 27 December 2016. Access date: 20 January 2017. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliLaw_view.jsp?idx=1313
[2349] Employment Policy, Ministry of Employment and Labor 27 December 2016. Access date: 20 January 2017. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliLaw_view.jsp?idx=1313
[2350] Employment Policy, Ministry of Employment and Labor 27 December 2016. Access date: 20 January 2017. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliLaw_view.jsp?idx=1313
[2351] Employment Policy, Ministry of Employment and Labor 27 December 2016. Access date: 20 January 2017. https://www.moel.go.kr/english/poli/poliLaw_view.jsp?idx=1313
[2352] Total, Statistics Korea 15 February 2017, Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://kostat.go.kr/portal/eng/pressReleases/5/1/index.board?rowNum=10.
[2353] Total, Statistics Korea 15 February 2017, Date of Access: 30 May 2017. http://kostat.go.kr/portal/eng/pressReleases/5/1/index.board?rowNum=10.

In 18 January 2017, the Secretariat of Labour and Social Welfare updated the statistical report for monitoring the gender-gap participation rate of national formal labor by branch of economic activity. According to the employment rate by gender statistic, there are currently 61.7 percentage point of men and 38.3 percentage point of women participated in the formal economy.[2354]

Prior employment plans are systematically and transparently monitored through data provided to non-governmental organizations such as the World Bank.[2355] However, Mexico's commitment on employment has not been monitored.

Mexico has failed to comply with a commitment to develop employment plans to address new commitments, monitor the implementation of employment plans through transparent and systematic assessments, but had monitored female participation goals.

Thus, Mexico has received a score of 0.

Analyst: Kaylee Mak and Aisha Ryan

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment on employment.

As of 12 September 2016, the Russian Ministry of Labour and Social Security has publically posted the draft order "On approval of the target forecast indicators in the field of employment promotion."[2356] Indicators will be approved annually and will be used as minimums for the entire Russian Federation. The Ministry of Labour and Social Security believes that the introduction of performance per employment service measures will increase the level of responsibility of each individual employee and positively impact performance. The draft order document entered into force on 1 January 2017.[2357]

On 14 October 2016, the Director of the Department of Demographic Policy and Social Welfare Svetlana Petrova announced a national strategy to benefit women will be launched at a meeting organized by the Commission of the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation, with the Public Council under the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection. The meeting had the goal of discussing supports for the family, children, and motherhood. Petrova recognized that although the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women had been ratified in Russia, women's rights remain an issue. One of the three central themes of the strategy will be to "to identify tools that will ensure the effectiveness of the involvement of women in the economy and to increase their representation in various decision-making levels," according to Petrova.[2358] As a third theme, Petrova aims to address the problem of the gender wage gap and the conflicting responsibilities women have, professionally and domestically. This meeting pertains to the further development of Russia's 2014 employment plan, which made the

[2354] Estado de Mexico,Secretariat For Employment And Labor Productivity. January 2017. Access Date 29 January 2017 http://www.stps.gob.mx/gobmx/estadisticas/pdf/perfiles/perfil%20nacional.pdf

[2355] Mexico, The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 2017. Date Accessed: 31 May 2017. http://data.worldbank.org/country/mexico.

[2356] Минтруд России установит для регионов показатели по трудоустройству, Министерство труда и социальной защиты РФ (Moscow). 12 September 2016. Access Date: 19 December 2016. http://www.rosmintrud.ru/employment/employment/559

[2357] Минтруд России установит для регионов показатели по трудоустройству, Министерство труда и социальной защиты РФ (Moscow). 12 September 2016. Access Date: 19 December 2016. http://www.rosmintrud.ru/employment/employment/559

[2358] Директор департамента Светлана Петрова: До конца года будет подготовлена Национальная стратегия действий в интересах женщин на 2017-2022 годы, Министерство труда и социальной защиты РФ (Moscow). 14 October 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.rosmintrud.ru/social/family/224 new commitment "To increase economic incentives for employers to hire the disabled and women with children."[2359]

On 8 March 2017, National Strategy Towards Women Empowerment for 2017-2022 was approved by the Russian Government. This strategy implies among other goals increased women's competitiveness in the labour market through the adoption of anti-discrimination measures and a gradual increase in wages in the budget sectors of the economy, in which women are predominantly employed.[2360]

On 7 April 2017, preliminary monitoring of countries' suggestions to the International Labour Organization's initiative on the Future of Labour Market was held. The Russian Ministry of Labour presented its vision of the Russian labour market. It was stated that the major parts of the future employment strategy will include creation of highly efficient jobs, improving the quality and changing the structure of the workforce, building a modern national system of qualifications, ensuring a sustainable transition from an informal economy to a formal economy, ensuring decent working conditions in the workplace, including encouraging employers to improve working conditions and development of social partnership.[2361]

On 10 May 2017, a plan to increase the employment of disabled people for 2017-2020 was issued by the Ministry of Labour of Russia. The plan provides for measures aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the mechanism for quoting jobs for people with disabilities, increasing employment opportunities for people with disabilities, improving the system for registering disabled people, and optimizing the work of the employment service.[2362]

On 19 May 2017, the Russian Minister of Labour and Social Protection, Maxim Topilin spoke at the eighth meeting of the Ministers of Labour and Employment of G20 countries "about the implementation of the collective commitment to reduce the gender gap in the Russian labour market."[2363] Minister Topilin stated that the gender wage gap fell from 36.8 per cent in 2001 to 24.4 per cent in 2015. Also, women reportedly had an employment rate of 60.1 per cent in 2016, lower than the level of men. But 5.3 per cent of women are unemployed, while 5.8 per cent of men are.The Minister also discussed Russia's adoption of a National Strategy for Action on women for 2017 to 2022. This strategy aims to accomplish the following goals with regard to gender policy and measuring implementation:

- "Reducing of the gender pay gap;
- Promoting women's entrepreneurship;
- Reducing in women's occupational segregation and improvement of occupational safety;
- Ensuring a better balance of work and family life;
- Increasing employment and improving the competitiveness of women."[2364]

[2359] G20 Employment Plan 2014 — Russia, Australia 2014 (Brisbane) November 2014. Access Date: 22 December 2016. http://www.g20australia.org/sites/default/files/g20_resources/library/g20_employment_plan_russian_federation.pdf
[2360] About National Strategy Towards Women Empowerment for 2017-2022, Government of the Russian Federation 8 March 2017. Access date: 22 June 2017. http://government.ru/docs/26698/
[2361] Russia presents a report on the ILO initiative "The Future at Work" in April in Geneva, Ministry of Labor of the Russian Federation. Access date: 22 June 2017. http://www.rosmintrud.ru/labour/relationship/279/
[2362] A plan to increase the employment of disabled people for 2017-2020 was adopted, Ministry of Labor of the Russian Federation 11 May 2017. Access date: 22 June 2017. http://demo.rosmintrud.ru/employment/resettlement/3
[2363] Министр Максим Топилин: Положение российских женщин в сфере труда позволяет говорить о значительном гендерном равенстве, Министерство труда и социальной защиты РФ, (Moscow). 19 May 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://demo.rosmintrud.ru/labour/cooperation/53.
[2364] Министр Максим Топилин: Положение российских женщин в сфере труда позволяет говорить о значительном гендерном равенстве, Министерство труда и социальной защиты РФ, (Moscow). 19 May 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://demo.rosmintrud.ru/labour/cooperation/53.

Additionally, Minister Topilin explained how the development of programs to provide vocational education for women during maternity leave will contribute to increasing the competitiveness of women in the labour market.

On 19 May 2017, the Minister of Labour and Social Protection of the Russian Federation shared that the level of youth unemployment for those 15 to 29 years old was 10 per cent in 2016, as opposed to 14 per cent in 2009.[2365] Minister Topilin said that this is viewed as favourable, especially considering that due to vocational training many young Russians do not become economically active until afterwards, when they are 20 to 22 years of age.

Russia has developed its employment plan, systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, and monitored female and youth goals.

Thus, Russia received a score of +1.

Analyst: Grace Marshall

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

During the compliance period, the General Authority for Statistics (GAS), has continued to publish employment statistics. According to the GAS, there was an 12.7 per cent increase in the number of expatriates in Saudi Arabia. According to GAS data, there were a total of 1,419,905 expatriates, and the women expatriates population increased by 13.59 per cent. In terms of employment, expatriates occupied 72 per cent of jobs in the tourism and hospitality sector against 28 percent Saudis. According to GAS surveys, Saudi Arabian total unemployment number is 693,784, with 254,108 being men and 439,676 being women.[2366]

On 12 December 2016, Labour Minister, Ali Al Ghafis, was quoted as saying that the ministries were informed by the Deputy Crown Prince to develop a strategy within the next three months to lower unemployment. Labour Minister Al Ghafis explained the new strategy "should aim to link higher education and vocational training with the labour market to reduce joblessless among young Saudis."[2367]

Saudi Arabia has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. Saudi Arabia has not developed its employment plan. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Meagan Byrd

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 9 November 2016, the Department of Labour of South Africa issued a report titled Annual Performance Plan, 2016/2017. The report outlines the challenges to the performance in the workplace

[2365] Министр Максим Топилин: Молодежный рынок труда в России характеризуется сравнительно благополучными показателями, Министерство труда и социальной защиты РФ, (Moscow). 19 May 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://demo.rosmintrud.ru/labour/cooperation/54,].

[2366] Expats' number rise by 12.17 percent in Saudi, Al Arabiya English (Riyadh) 28 November 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://english.alarabiya.net/en/business/economy/2016/11/28/Expats-number-rise-by-12-17-percent-in-Saudi.html

[2367] Saudi Arabia urges plan to cut youth unemployment, Arabian Business (Dubai) 12 December 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://m.arabianbusiness.com/saudi-arabia-urges-plan-cut-youth-unemployment-655970.html and the strategic goals for improving workplace environment.[2368] The report outlines that "four research reports in line with the Research, Monitoring and Evaluation agenda … [are] aimed at assessing the impact of labour legislation and labour programmes to be produced."[2369] The programs monitored are:

- "Assessing the effectiveness of collective bargaining exemption process"[2370]
- "Reduction of working hours to a 40 hour week"[2371]
- "Analysis of the knowledge level of the public on the services of the Department of Labour"[2372]
- "Evaluation of the attitude of work-seekers"[2373]

Statistics South Africa continues to release Quarterly Labour Force Surveys. The latest survey was issued on 14 February 2017.[2374] The survey details employment statistics by industry, occupation, province, and municipality. The survey also details changes in patterns of youth and female employment.

On 31 May 2017, Statistics South Africa published an article titled Municipalities: Where Are the Staff Vacancies?[2375] The article details trend changes in unemployment levels in the municipal sector.

South Africa has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, however, not specifically female and youth goals. South Africa has not developed its employment plan. Thus, South Africa has been awarded a score of 0.

Analyst: Mary Zelenova

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 15 December 2016, the Turkish Statistical Institute announced that the unemployment rate realized 11.3 per cent with one percentage point increase.[2376] Additionally, it announced that the youth unemployment rate including persons aged 15-24 was 19.9 per cent with a 1.4 percentage point increase.[2377]

[2368] Annual Performance Plan, Department of Labour, December 2016. Access date: 8 January 2017. http://www.labour.gov.za/DOL/downloads/documents/annual-reports/annual-performance-plan-2011-2012/2016-2017/app2016.pdf

[2369] Annual Performance Plan, Department of Labour, December 2016. Access date: 8 January 2017. http://www.labour.gov.za/DOL/downloads/documents/annual-reports/annual-performance-plan-2011-2012/2016-2017/app2016.pdf

[2370] Annual Performance Plan, Department of Labour, December 2016. Access date: 8 January 2017. http://www.labour.gov.za/DOL/downloads/documents/annual-reports/annual-performance-plan-2011-2012/2016-2017/app2016.pdf

[2371] Annual Performance Plan, Department of Labour, December 2016. Access date: 8 January 2017. http://www.labour.gov.za/DOL/downloads/documents/annual-reports/annual-performance-plan-2011-2012/2016-2017/app2016.pdf

[2372] Annual Performance Plan, Department of Labour, December 2016. Access date: 8 January 2017. http://www.labour.gov.za/DOL/downloads/documents/annual-reports/annual-performance-plan-2011-2012/2016-2017/app2016.pdf

[2373] Annual Performance Plan, Department of Labour, December 2016. Access date: 8 January 2017. http://www.labour.gov.za/DOL/downloads/documents/annual-reports/annual-performance-plan-2011-2012/2016-2017/app2016.pdf

[2374] Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Statistics South Africa, 14 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.statssa.gov.za/publications/P0211/P02114thQuarter2016.pdf.

[2375] Municipalities: Where Are the Staff Vacancies?, Statistics South Africa, 31 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.statssa.gov.za/?p=9901.

[2376] Press release: Labour Force Statistics, September 2016, 15 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://web.turkstat.gov.tr/HbPrint.do?id=21575

[2377] Press release: Labour Force Statistics, September 2016, 15 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://web.turkstat.gov.tr/HbPrint.do?id=21575

On 15 May 2017, the Turkish Statistical Institute announced that the unemployment rate realized 12.6 per cent with a 1.7 percentage point increase. The youth unemployment rate including persons aged 15-24 was 23.3 per cent with a 4.7 percentage point increase. The employment rate remained unchanged at 45.3 per cent. Female youth unemployment rose to 26.6 per cent as compared to 20.7 per cent the year before.[2378]

On 16 May 2017, the Turkish Statistical Institute published a report titled "Youth in Statistics, 2016," outlining various key statistical information on youth, particularly youth employment. The report noted that the rate of youth who were neither employed nor in education were at 24 per cent, with the rate of 14 per cent for male and 33.5 per cent for female. The unemployment rate in 2016 for youth was 19.6 per cent, with the male rate at 17.4 per cent and the female rate at 23.7 per cent. The unemployment rate increased by 0.9 per cent for male youth and 1.5 per cent for female youth. This report also took note of the sectors that youth work in; 51.1 per cent of youth work in service sectors, 17.6 per cent were in agriculture sector, and 31.3 per cent in industrial sector.[2379]

On 26 May 2017, the Turkish Statistical Institute published an index report titled "Industrial Labor Input Indices, I. Quarter: January-March, 2017," which indicated that the industrial labour decreased by 0.7 per cent, while the hours worked in industry decreased by 0.3 per cent. Additionally, the index showed that the gross wage-salaries increased by 3.5 per cent. The next update on the index report will be on 25 August 2017.[2380]

Turkey has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically youth goals, however not female participation. Turkey has not developed its employment plan. Thus, Turkey receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Briana MacLeod

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 19 October 2016, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) released a statistical bulletin, "United Kingdom Labour Market: October 2016."[2381] This bulletin reported employment statistics for the UK including the employment rate, unemployment rate, economic inactivity rate, etc.[2382] The employment and unemployment rate, from March 2016 to May 2016, was 74.5 per cent and 4.9 per cent respectively.[2383] The youth unemployment rate, for June to August 2016, was 13.7 per cent.[2384] The number of unemployed women, from April to June 2016, was 728,000.[2385]

[2378] Press release: Labour Force Statistics, February 2017, 15 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.turkstat.gov.tr/PreHaberBultenleri.do?id=24941.

[2379] Youth in Statistics, 2016, Turkish Statistical Institute (Ankara) 16 May 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.turkstat.gov.tr/PreHaberBultenleri.do?id=24648.

[2380] Industrial Labor Input Indices, I. Quarter: January-March, 2017, Turkish Statistical Institute (Ankara) 26 May 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. http://www.turkstat.gov.tr/PreHaberBultenleri.do?id=24765.

[2381] UK Labour Market: October 2016, Office for National Statistics 19 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/latest

[2382] UK Labour Market: October 2016, Office for National Statistics 19 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/latest

[2383] UK Labour Market: October 2016, Office for National Statistics 19 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/latest

On 26 October 2016, the Office for National Statistics released the "Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings."[2386] Data from this survey is used to calculate the gender pay gap at the national level.[2387] The most recent data showed that in April 2016, the gender pay gap for full-time employees was 9.4 per cent compared to 9.6 per cent in 2015.[2388] For part-time employees, the gender pay gap in April 2016 was minus 6.0 per cent which showed that on average women were paid higher than men.[2389]

On 31 October 2016, the Department of Work and Pensions and the Department of Health jointly issued a press release proposing new plans to help citizens with long-term health conditions benefit from work and advance their health.[2390] The proposed plan included:

- "A review of Statutory Sick Pay and GP fit notes to support workers back into their jobs faster, and for longer
- Encouraging Jobcentre Plus work coaches to signpost claimants to therapy
- The launch of a consultation on Work Capability Assessment reform
- Encouraging employers to work with their employees with long-term health conditions to stop them from falling out of work
- A wide-ranging debate about recognising the value of work as a health outcome"[2391]

On 14 December 2016, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) released a statistical bulletin, "UK Labour Market: December 2016."[2392] The employment and unemployment rate, from August to October 2016, was 74.4 per cent and 4.8 per cent respectively.[2393] The youth unemployment rate, for August to

[2384] UK Labour Market: October 2016, Office for National Statistics 19 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/latest

[2385] UK Labour Market: October 2016, Office for National Statistics 19 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/latest

[2386] Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings: 2016 provisional results, Office for National Statistics 26 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/bulletins/annualsurveyofhoursandearnings/2016provisionalresults#main-points

[2387] Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings: 2016 provisional results, Office for National Statistics 26 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/bulletins/annualsurveyofhoursandearnings/2016provisionalresults#main-points

[2388] Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings: 2016 provisional results, Office for National Statistics 26 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/bulletins/annualsurveyofhoursandearnings/2016provisionalresults#main-points

[2389] Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings: 2016 provisional results, Office for National Statistics 26 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/bulletins/annualsurveyofhoursandearnings/2016provisionalresults#main-points

[2390] Work and health plan to help disabled people into employment, UK Government 31 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/work-and-health-plan-to-help-disabled-people-into-employment#history

[2391] Work and health plan to help disabled people into employment, UK Government 31 October 2016. Access Date: 10 November 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/work-and-health-plan-to-help-disabled-people-into-employment#history

[2392] UK Labour Market: December 2016, Office for National Statistics 14 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2016. https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/dec2016

[2393] UK Labour Market: December 2016, Office for National Statistics 14 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2016. https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/dec2016

October 2016, was 13.1 per cent.[2394] The number of unemployed women, from August to October 2016, was 728,000.[2395]

On 22 January 2017, the UK released its plan for a modern Industrial Strategy.[2396] The Strategy has 10 pillars. One of these pillars in developing skills in which the objective is to "build a proper system of technical education, and boost key skills in science, technology, engineering, maths and digital proficiency, to ensure people have the skills employers need now and in the future."[2397] The green paper outlines areas in which the UK government will take further action to improve skills, including through further supporting apprenticeships. It states that the UK "will work with local areas to test new approaches to closing the skills gap." It identifies improved pre-school education, new schemes to support the retention and attraction of graduates, and measures to increase the take up of apprenticeships, as examples of possible actions.[2398]

On 12 April 2017, the ONS released employment statistics for the period December 2016 to February 2017.[2399] According to the report, the employment rate during the period was 74.6 per cent and the unemployment rate was 4.7 per cent.[2400]

The UK has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals and has worked to develop its employment plan. Thus, UK receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nishita Agrawal

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment on employment.

On 6 January 2017, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics under the Department of Labor updated the unemployment rate of the population by age, sex, and marital status. The statistics are seasonally adjusted and are on a monthly basis. In the month of December 2016, the unemployment rate for male youths from the age of 16-19 was 17.1 per cent and from the age of 20-24 was 9.2 per cent. In the same month, female youths from the age of 16-19 was 12 per cent and from the age of 20-24 was 7 per cent. The unemployment rate of all women over the age of 16 was 4.6 per cent.[2401] As well, the Bureau of Labor

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[2394] UK Labour Market: December 2016, Office for National Statistics 14 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2016. https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/dec2016

[2395] UK Labour Market: December 2016, Office for National Statistics 14 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2016. https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/dec2016

[2396] PM unveils plans for a modern Industrial Strategy fit for Global Britain, 22 January 2017, UK Government. Date of Access: 04 April 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-unveils-plans-for-a-modern-industrial-strategy-fit-for-global-britain

[2397] Building our Industrial Strategy, HM Government. Date of Access: 04 April 2017. http://www.coast2capital.org.uk/storage/downloads/industrial_strategy_10_pillars-1486469958.pdf

[2398] Building our Industrial Strategy, January 2017, UK Government. Date of Access: 04 April 2017. https://beisgovuk.citizenspace.com/strategy/industrial-strategy/supporting_documents/buildingourindustrialstrategygreenpaper.pdf

[2399] Employment remains at record high rate of 74.6%, UK Government 12 April 2017. Access Date: 13 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/employment-remains-at-record-high-rate-of-746.

[2400] Employment remains at record high rate of 74.6%, UK Government 12 April 2017. Access Date: 13 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/employment-remains-at-record-high-rate-of-746.

[2401] Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey, United States Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 6 January 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2017. https://www.bls.gov/web/empsit/cpseea10.htm

Statistics published a news release explaining the employment situation as of December 2016, and more specifically, explaining the methodology behind data and statistics collection.[2402]

On 6 January 2017, the US Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez issued a statement about the December 2016 Employment Situation report which stated that December 2016 saw the strongest wage growth since 2009 and the economy added 156,000 jobs, raising the unemployment rate to 4.7 per cent.[2403]

On 2 June 2017, the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics published a report titled "The Employment Situation — May 2017," updating the current employment and unemployment rates and other key statistics of the labour force. The report indicated that the unemployment rate, as of May 2017, for male youths between the age of 16 to 19 was 15.7 per cent and age 20 to 24 was 7.9 per cent. For female youths between the age of 16 to 19, the unemployment rate was 12.8 per cent and between the age of 20 to 24 is 5.3 per cent. Additionally, the overall unemployment rate for women was 4.3 per cent. An Employment Situation report is released every month with updated figures, using the same methodologies and surveys.[2404]

The US has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. The US has not developed its employment plan. Thus the US receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mojann Zibapour

European Union: +1

European Union has fully complied with its commitment on employment.

On 4 October 2016, the European Commission adopted a Communication which highlights the achievements of the Youth Guarantee Scheme and the Youth Employment Initiative.[2405] In its employment plan issued at the 2014 Brisbane Summit, the EU specified the Youth Guarantee Scheme as a priority for implementation.[2406] Hence, the Communication provides updates to the results achieved due to the Scheme since its launch in 2013.[2407] The key statistic reported in the Communication was a reduction in the youth unemployment rate from 24.4 per cent in the first quarter of 2013 to 18.9 per cent in the second quarter of 2016.[2408] On the same day, the European Commission also adopted a proposal to revise the Europass which is a tool to improve transparency of skills and qualifications across

[2402] The Employment Situation — December 2016, Bureau of Labor Statistics — United Stated Department of Labor (Washington D.C.) 6 January 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2017. https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf

[2403] Statement of US Labor Secretary Perez on December employment numbers (Washington D.C.) Access date: January 12, 2017. https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/opa/opa20170106

[2404] The Employment Situation — May 2017, Bureau of Labor Statistics (Washington D.C.) 2 June 2017. Access Date: 9 June 2017. https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf.

[2405] Questions and Answers: Communication on the Youth Guarantee and Youth Employment Initiative, European Commission (Strasbourg) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-3215_en.htm

[2406] G20 Employment Plans, G20 Employment Working Group. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://www.g20ewg.org/index.php/2015-07-09-20-38-21/employment-plans

[2407] Questions and Answers: Communication on the Youth Guarantee and Youth Employment Initiative, European Commission (Strasbourg) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-3215_en.htm

[2408] Questions and Answers: Communication on the Youth Guarantee and Youth Employment Initiative, European Commission (Strasbourg) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-3215_en.htm the European Union.[2409] Developing and improving such tools was another key theme in EU's 2014 Brisbane Summit Employment Plan.[2410]

On 11 October 2016, the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions published a report titled 'The Gender Employment Gap: Challenges and Solutions'.[2411] The report highlighted statistics on women's and men's labour market participation. It also listed policies and measures which could help reduce the gender gap in the labour market.

On 20 October 2016, the European Commission launched a public consultation to evaluate the EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI).[2412] This programme is a financing instrument which is used for:

- "guaranteeing adequate and decent social protection,
- combating social exclusion and poverty
- improving working conditions."[2413]

This consultation will obtain feedback from stakeholders, participants and beneficiaries involved in the programme during 2014-2016 to help monitor and assess the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the programme.[2414]

On 3 November 2016, a news release by Eurostat reported the Euro area seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate to be 10.0 per cent in September 2016.[2415] The news release also reported the youth unemployment rate which was 20.3 per cent in the Euro area.[2416] Unemployment rates and youth unemployment rates for individual member countries were also reported.

On 16 November 2016, the European Commission published the Annual Growth Survey 2017.[2417] EU's 2014 Brisbane Summit Employment Plan highlighted this survey as a tool to monitor the implementation of recommendations given by the European Commission to the various member states regarding their fiscal and structural reform policies.[2418] The 2017 Survey reported key employment

[2409] A new Europass Framework: helping people make their skills and qualifications more visible, European Commission (Strasbourg) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3213_en.htm
[2410] G20 Employment Plans, G20 Employment Working Group. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.g20ewg.org/index.php/2015-07-09-20-38-21/employment-plans
[2411] The gender employment gap: Challenges and Solutions, Eurofound 11 October 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/sites/default/files/ef_publication/field_ef_document/ef1638en_1.pdf
[2412] Evaluating the EU programme for Employment and Social Innovation — launch of an open consultation, European Commission 20 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2650&furtherNews=yes
[2413] Evaluating the EU programme for Employment and Social Innovation — launch of an open consultation, European Commission 20 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2650&furtherNews=yes
[2414] Evaluating the EU programme for Employment and Social Innovation — launch of an open consultation, European Commission 20 October 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2650&furtherNews=yes
[2415] Euro area unemployment at 10.0%, Eurostat 3 November 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/7720354/3-03112016-AP-EN.pdf/bf3d493b-9596-4ac9-b5ff-4e078523622a
[2416] Euro area unemployment at 10.0%, Eurostat 3 November 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/7720354/3-03112016-AP-EN.pdf/bf3d493b-9596-4ac9-b5ff-4e078523622a
[2417] Annual Growth Survey 2017, European Commission (Brussels) 16 November 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/2017-european-semester-annual-growth-survey_en_0.pdf
[2418] G20 Employment Plans, G20 Employment Working Group. Access Date: 10 November 2016. http://www.g20ewg.org/index.php/2015-07-09-20-38-21/employment-plans

statistics and amongst several recommendations it pledged additional funding to the Youth Guarantee Scheme along with the announcement of a new Youth Initiative.[2419]

On 20 December 2016, the latest annual review of Employment and Social Developments in Europe (ESDE) was published.[2420] The ESDE review is EU's primary report which provides evidence and analysis of employment and social trends and challenges.[2421] ESDE reported that about 3 million jobs were created, however unemployment remained high with 8.6 per cent of Europeans being unemployed.[2422] Youth unemployment was above 20 per cent and hence, remained a concern.[2423]

On 21 January 2017, a mid-term evaluation of EaSI was launched.[2424] All individuals and institutions familiar with employment and social affairs issues could contribute to the survey.[2425] The results would be used to assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and European added value of EaSI.[2426]

On 3 March 2017, the European Council adopted the 2017 Joint Employment Report which provides data on employment and the social situation in member countries.[2427] The report stated that unemployment decreased by 2 million in 2016 as compared to 2015 as there was substantial job creation.[2428]

On 10 April 2017, the European Council launched a public consultation to gather new ideas and evaluate the effectiveness of four of its employment agencies including, the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, the European Training Foundation, and the European Agency for Safety and

[2419] Annual Growth Survey 2017, European Commission (Brussels) 16 November 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/2017-european-semester-annual-growth-survey_en_0.pdf

[2420] 2016 Review of Employment and Social Developments in Europe highlights more employment, less poverty and a changing world of work, European Commission 20 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2704&furtherNews=yes

[2421] Review of Employment and Social Developments in Europe highlights more employment, less poverty and a changing world of work, European Commission (Brussels) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4429_en.htm

[2422] 2016 Review of Employment and Social Developments in Europe highlights more employment, less poverty and a changing world of work, European Commission 20 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2704&furtherNews=yes

[2423] 2016 Review of Employment and Social Developments in Europe highlights more employment, less poverty and a changing world of work, European Commission 20 December 2016. Access Date: 7 January 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2704&furtherNews=yes

[2424] Contribute to the performance monitoring and the mid-term evaluation of the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI), European Commission, 27 January 2017. Access Date: 8 May 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2721&furtherNews=yes

[2425] Contribute to the performance monitoring and the mid-term evaluation of the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI), European Commission, 27 January 2017. Access Date: 8 May 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2721&furtherNews=yes.

[2426] Contribute to the performance monitoring and the mid-term evaluation of the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI), European Commission, 27 January 2017. Access Date: 8 May 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2721&furtherNews=yes.

[2427] Joint Employment Report 2017, European Commission 3 March 2017. Access Date: 8 May 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2767&furtherNews=yes.

[2428] Joint Employment Report 2017, European Commission 3 March 2017. Access Date: 8 May 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2767&furtherNews=yes.

Health at Work.[2429] The consultation seeks contributions from citizens, public and private institutions until 5 July 2017, after which the results would be published.[2430]

The EU has systematically and transparently monitored the implementation of its employment plan, specifically female and youth goals. The EU has developed its employment plan. Thus, EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nishita Agrawal

[2429] Commission launches public consultation for the evaluation of Eurofound, Cedefop, ETF and EU-OSHA, European Commission, 10 April 2017. Access Date: 8 May 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2781&furtherNews=yes.
[2430] Commission launches public consultation for the evaluation of Eurofound, Cedefop, ETF and EU-OSHA, European Commission, 10 April 2017. Access Date: 8 May 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2781&furtherNews=yes.

11. Migration and Refugees

"The G20 will continue to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions."

G20 2016 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

Assessment

Country	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia		0	
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China		0	
France		0	
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea		0	
Mexico		0	
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa		0	
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.45	

Background

G20 leaders first noted global migration issues at the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit by indicating migrants as one of the "vulnerable groups."[2431] At the 2015 Antalya Summit, they made a commitment in response to the global refugee crisis, where they agreed to "commit to further strengthening [their] support for all efforts to provide protection [for the unprecedented numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in various parts of the world]."[2432] G20 leaders also made a statement on anti-terrorism by addressing that "the fight against terrorism is a major priority" and "reiterate [their] resolve to work together to prevent and suppress terrorist acts through increased international solidarity and cooperation."[2433]

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, G20 leaders recognized that "worldwide massive forced displacement of people, unprecedented since the Second World War, especially those generated from violent conflicts"[2434]

[2431] G20 Leaders' Declaration: St. Petersburg Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2013. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/summits/2013stpetersburg.html.
[2432] G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Antalya Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 19 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communique.html.
[2433] G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Antalya Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communique.html.
[2434] G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 19 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html.

are a global concern and pose significant challenges to the global economic order. Thus, G20 leaders re-emphasized their calls at Antalya to address the "effects, protection need and root causes of [the] refugee crisis to share in the burden associated with it"[2435] and strengthen "humanitarian assistance for refugees and refugee resettlement"[2436] to "find durable solutions"[2437] to the crisis.

Globally, forced displacement has hit a record high in light of various insurgencies and violence around the world. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in 2015 there were 65.3 million forcibly displaced people worldwide, up from 59.5 million in the year prior.[2438] Of the 65.3 million, 21.3 million were refugees, 40.8 million were IDPs, and 3.2 million were asylum seekers. The UNHCR estimates that in 2015, 34,000 people were forcibly displaced every day.[2439]

G20 leaders have recognized that the severity of forced displacement around the world requires a coordinated, global G20 response. Thus, at the 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit, G20 leaders agreed to "continue to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions."[2440]

Commitment Features

The G20 committed to "continue to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions."

"Forced displacement" refers to the forced movement of people from their locality or environment and occupational activities.[2441] It usually occurs as a result of security risks such as an armed conflict, civil war, generalized violence, and persecution on the grounds of nationality, race, religion, etc. It also occurs when people are under the threat of natural disasters, famine, development and economic change. People who are forcibly displaced may be identified as refugees, asylum seekers, or internally displaced persons (IDPs). According to the 1951 United Nations Refugee Convention, a refugee is someone who, "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, or is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself to the protection of that country."[2442]An asylum seeker is someone whose request for sanctuary as a refugee has yet to be processed.[2443] Unlike refugees and asylum seekers, IDPs have not crossed an international border to find safety and remain within their own country, even if their government is the cause of their displacement.[2444]

"Continue" refers to commitments that are established and implemented. It should be interpreted to mean new actions will be added to the already existing ones. For example, funding to the UN, other

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2435 G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 19 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html.
2436 G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 19 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html.
2437 G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 19 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html.
2438 Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2015, UNHCR (Geneva) 20 June 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2016. http://www.unhcr.org/576408cd7.pdf.
2439 Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2015, UNHCR (Geneva) 20 June 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2016. http://www.unhcr.org/576408cd7.pdf.
2440 G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 19 October 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html.
2441 Displaced Person/Displacement, UNESCO (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/international-migration/glossary/displaced-person-displacement/.
2442 Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, UNHCR (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 31 October 2016. http://www.unhcr.org/3b66c2aa10.
2443 Asylum-seekers, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2016. http://www.unhcr.org/asylum-seekers.html.
2444 Internally Displaced People, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2016. http://www.unhcr.org/internally-displaced-people.html.

countries, or non-governmental organizations to support refugees, IDPs, or migrants will count as a sustained initiative as all G20 members have previously donated to them and thus it is not a new, concrete action. The exception to this is if funding was substantially increased, for example if it was doubled. In that case, the change is big enough that it goes beyond merely continuing an existing commitment. Another example is maintaining an existing program at the same functioning capacity, such as continuing to resettle refugees as promised under a previously agreed to resettlement scheme.

"Developing concrete actions" refers to the creation of new initiatives taking effect in 2017 that involve physical and tangible steps towards addressing forced displacement. Concrete actions are new, strong, and bold actions that go beyond providing affirmative support. They are efforts that change the status quo. Examples of developing concrete actions include creating new programs to support refugee populations, developing new cooperative efforts to support host countries with their refugee populations, or improving an existing initiative, such as enhancing the efficiency of an existing asylum procedure.

To achieve full compliance, G20 members must sustain existing initiatives and develop concrete actions in 2017 to address the massive forced displacement. While actions must focus on addressing forced displacement in 2017, preparatory steps taken in 2016 after the 2016 G20 Hangzhou Summit may count towards compliance. Affirmations of support do not count towards compliance.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	G20 member did not sustain existing initiatives AND did not develop new concrete actions.
0	G20 member did not sustain existing initiatives OR develop new concrete actions.
+1	G20 member sustained existing initiatives AND developed new concrete actions.

Lead Analyst: Arthur Lui

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 9 September 2016, the Ministry of Interior and Transport enhanced the Syria Program by simplifying the procedure for processing permits for entry and visas.[2445] Originally created on 14 October 2014, the Syria Program grants special humanitarian visas for Syrian refugees.[2446] Refugees receive temporary and renewable residence permits, which become permanent after two years.[2447] The special humanitarian visa also entitles refugees the right to acquire same social services as national citizens, including access to lawful work and education.[2448] Additionally, the Government of Argentina announced that a team from the Federal Intelligence Agency (AFI), the National Commission for Refugees, and the Ministry of Security

[2445] Ministry of the Interior, Public Works and Housing National Direction of Migration, Official Bulletin of the Republic of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 9 September 2016. Access Date: 31 December 2016. https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/#!DetalleNorma/150528/20160908.
[2446] The government accelerates the process to bring the country to 200 Syrian refugees, La Nacion (Buenos Aires) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.lanacion.com.ar/1942683-el-gobierno-acelera-los-tramites-para-traer-al-pais-a-200-refugiados-sirios.
[2447] Special humanitarian visa program for foreigners affected by the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, Ministry of the Interior, Public Works and Housing (Buenos Aires) 14 October 2014. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.migraciones.gov.ar/programasiria/?acercaprograma.
[2448] Special humanitarian visa program for foreigners affected by the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, Ministry of the Interior, Public Works and Housing (Buenos Aires) 14 October 2014. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.migraciones.gov.ar/programasiria/?acercaprograma.

conducted the final screening process for 200 Syrian refugees who will soon arrive in Argentina from Aleppo and Lebanon.[2449]

On 16 September 2016, the Argentinian government created the National Office of the Syrian Program (Syria Bureau), a cabinet program that will be coordinated by Head of National Directorate of Migration Horacio García.[2450] It is composed of the Chief of Staff, Ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs, Social Development, Education, Labor, Health, Justice, Security and Culture, Federal Bureau of Intelligence, and Bureau of Labor Syria Program.[2451] The Syria Bureau aims to integrate refugees into their host communities in Argentina through collaboration with non-governmental organizations and religious institutions to provide humanitarian assistance to them upon arrival in Argentina.[2452]

On 20 September 2016, at the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants, President Mauricio Macri agreed to resettle 3,000 Syrian refugees.[2453]

On 7 November 2016, Minister of Foreign Affairs Susana Malcorra announced the beginning of a training process for an interdisciplinary team to help families under the Syria Program with social integration into their host communities.[2454] The team is composed of the White Helmets Commission of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and members from the Ministries of Social Development and Justice and Human Rights.[2455] It will help families with integration by acting as an intercultural mediator and identifying their special needs and requirements according to age, gender, and abilities.[2456]

On 7 April 2017, Minister of Education Esteban Bullrich announced at the World Economic Forum for Latin America that Argentina will grant 1,000 university scholarships to Syrian refugees over the next five years.[2457] Additionally, Minister Bullrich indicated that Argentina would introduce a new humanitarian visa to provide refugees a pathway to obtain permanent residency.[2458]

[2449] The government accelerates the process to bring the country to 200 Syrian refugees, La Nacion (Buenos Aires) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.lanacion.com.ar/1942683-el-gobierno-acelera-los-tramites-para-traer-al-pais-a-200-refugiados-sirios.
[2450] National Office of Syria Program, Official Bulletin of the Republic of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/#!DetalleNorma/151199/20160922.
[2451] National Office of Syria Program, Official Bulletin of the Republic of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/#!DetalleNorma/151199/20160922.
[2452] National Office of Syria Program, Official Bulletin of the Republic of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/#!DetalleNorma/151199/20160922.
[2453] Macri in Manhattan, Buenos Aires Herald (Buenos Aires) 23 September 2016. Access Date: 9 December 2016. http://www.buenosairesherald.com/article/221958/macri-en-manhattan.
[2454] Programa Siria: Malcorra inauguró hoy la capacitación del equipo de ayuda para la inserción social y la integración, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto (Buenos Aires) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 9 January 2017. http://www.mrecic.gov.ar/programa-siria-malcorra-inauguro-hoy-la-capacitacion-del-equipo-de-ayuda-para-la-insercion-social-y.
[2455] Programa Siria: Malcorra inauguró hoy la capacitación del equipo de ayuda para la inserción social y la integración, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto (Buenos Aires) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 9 January 2017. http://www.mrecic.gov.ar/programa-siria-malcorra-inauguro-hoy-la-capacitacion-del-equipo-de-ayuda-para-la-insercion-social-y.
[2456] Programa Siria: Malcorra inauguró hoy la capacitación del equipo de ayuda para la inserción social y la integración, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto (Buenos Aires) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 9 January 2017. http://www.mrecic.gov.ar/programa-siria-malcorra-inauguro-hoy-la-capacitacion-del-equipo-de-ayuda-para-la-insercion-social-y.
[2457] Argentina grants 1,000 scholarships to Syria refugees, urges others to follow, Reuters (Buenos Aires) 7 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-argentina-refugees-scholarships-idUSKBN1792PU.
[2458] Argentina grants 1,000 scholarships to Syria refugees, urges others to follow, Reuters (Buenos Aires) 7 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-argentina-refugees-scholarships-idUSKBN1792PU.

In 2016, Argentina contributed USD523,420 to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2459] As of 6 June 2017, it has yet to contribute anything in 2017.

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to address the issue of forced displacement by developing concrete actions such as strengthening the Syria Program and creating the Syria Bureau and sustaining existing initiatives such as continued funding contributions to the UNHCR. Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Engin Polar

Australia: 0

Australia has partially complied with its commitment to continue to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 8 September 2016, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection Peter Dutton reported that Australia has now issued visas to more than half the additional 12,000 Syrian and Iraqi refugees that it committed to resettle a year ago.[2460]

As of 9 September 2016, one year since the Syrian/Iraqi Refugee Intake project was first announced, official statistics indicated that 4,086 refugees had arrived in Australia and 2,772 visas had been granted during that time.[2461]

On 21 September 2016, Minister Dutton and Minister for Foreign Affairs Julie Bishop issues a joint statement at the Leaders' Summit on Refugees.[2462] At the Summit, the Ministers stated that Australia will "provide an extra AUS130 million over the next three years to further increase support for refugees and communities in key countries of first asylum, such as Jordan, Lebanon, and Pakistan.[2463] This is in addition to the recently announced AUS220 million Syrian humanitarian assistance package."[2464] Australia will also "maintain [its] Humanitarian Program at an increased level of 18,750 places from 2018-19 onwards.[2465] This is in addition to the 12,000 places that it committed for refugees from Syria and Iraq."[2466] Australia will also "dedicate a minimum number of places over the next three years to displaced people from specific protracted refugee situations" to support the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)'s planning and management.[2467] Furthermore, Australia will create new pathways for refugees to resettle in Australia through the establishment of 1,000 places under a Community Support Program, where communities and businesses can sponsor applications and support

[2459] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2460] Syrian and Iraqi intake boosts humanitarian resettlement, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Canberra) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/2016/Pages/syrian-iraqi-intake-boosts-resettlement.aspx.
[2461] The Australian approach to integrating Syrian refugees, Devex International Development (Canberra) 22 September 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.devex.com/news/the-australian-approach-to-integrating-syrian-refugees-88789.
[2462] Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160921.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.
[2463] Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160921.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.
[2464] Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160921.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.
[2465] Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160921.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.
[2466] Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160921.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.
[2467] Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160921.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

new arrivals.[2468] Lastly, Australia will participate in a US-led multilateral program to resettle refugees from Central America.[2469]

On 18 October 2016, Minister Bishop announced that Australia will provide an additional AUS10 million in life-saving support for the civilians displaced by conflict in Mosul, Iraq.[2470] The support will include emergency food, medical assistance, temporary shelter, and support to women and girls for reproductive health.[2471] This is in addition to the AUS60 million that Australia has provided to Iraq since 2014, bringing the total humanitarian assistance provided by Australia to Iraq since June 2014 to AUS70 million.[2472]

On 13 November 2016, the Australian government reached a refugee resettlement agreement with the United States.[2473] This agreement is in addition to two resettlement agreements already in effect with Papua New Guinea and Cambodia.[2474] Under the agreement with the US, the priority is for the resettlement of those who are most vulnerable, namely women, children, and families.[2475] US authorities are to conduct their own assessment or refugees and decide which people are resettled in the US, and refugees will need to satisfy standard requirements for admission into the US.[2476]

On 24 November 2016, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull stated that the Australian government will increase Australia's annual refugee intake from 13,750 to almost 19,000.[2477]

On 22 December 2016, the Department of Social Services stated that as of 2 December 2016, nearly 1,000 of a pledged 12,000 Syrian and Iraqi refugees have been resettled in Queensland since 1 July 2015.[2478] A further 3,500 are to be resettled in Brisbane, Logan, the Gold Coast, and Toowoomba.[2479]

[2468] Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160921.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

[2469] Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160921.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

[2470] Humanitarian assistance for the Mosul Operation, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017.
.http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_161018.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

[2471] Humanitarian assistance for the Mosul Operation, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017.
.http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_161018.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

[2472] Humanitarian assistance for the Mosul Operation, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 18 October 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017.
.http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_161018.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

[2473] Refugee resettlement from Regional Process Centre, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Canberra) 13 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/Pages/Refugee-resettlement-from-Regional-Process-Centres.aspx.

[2474] Refugee resettlement from Regional Process Centre, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Canberra) 13 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/Pages/Refugee-resettlement-from-Regional-Process-Centres.aspx.

[2475] Refugee resettlement from Regional Process Centre, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Canberra) 13 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/Pages/Refugee-resettlement-from-Regional-Process-Centres.aspx.

[2476] Refugee resettlement from Regional Process Centre, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Canberra) 13 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/Pages/Refugee-resettlement-from-Regional-Process-Centres.aspx.

[2477] Australian Government Focuses on Job Support for Syrian Refugees, VOA News (Sydney) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.voanews.com/a/more-job-support-for-syrian-refugees-in-australia/3609767.html.

[2478] Thousands of Syrian, Iraqi refugees to be settled in four south-east Queensland cities, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Sydney) 22 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-12-23/syrian-iraqi-refugees-to-be-settled-in-four-se-qld-cities/8143972.

On 22 March 2017, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection Peter Dutton reported that the Government of Australia has now completed its commitment of resettling an additional 12,000 people displaced by the conflicts in Syria and Iraq.[2480]

As of 22 March 2017, more than 10,000 refugees have arrived in Australia and 12,000 visas have been granted to Syrian and Iraqi refugees under the Syrian/Iraqi Refugee Intake project since it was first announced one and a half years ago.[2481]

On 24 April 2017, Minister Bishop announced that the Government of Australia will provide a new AUS10 million emergency aid package to be delivered to internally displaced people in Yemen.[2482] The AUS10 million will help deliver food, healthcare, water and sanitation with the intention of protecting the lives of vulnerable people affected by the crisis.[2483]

On 25 April 2017, Minister Bishop announced that the Government of Australia will provide an additional AUS110 million over three years in humanitarian and stabilization assistance in Iraq.[2484] This new funding will bring the Government of Australia's total humanitarian assistance to Iraq and Syria to more than AUS530 million since 2014.[2485]

On 29 May 2017, Minister Bishop announced that the Government of Australia will provide further assistance to the millions of Africans forcibly displaced from their homes.[2486] The Government of Australia will provide AUS19.3 million to people in South Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Nigeria and Kenya.[2487] This new funding will bring Australia's contribution towards the international response to conflict, drought and famine in Africa to approximately AUS68 million since July 2016.[2488] The Government of Australia's funding to Uganda and Ethiopia will help those countries work with the UNHCR to meet the humanitarian needs of more than 800,000 South Sudanese refugees and others fleeing conflict in the region.[2489]

On 30 May 2017, Minister Bishop announced that the Government of Australia will provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Sri Lanka affected by heavy rain, flash flooding and

[2479] Thousands of Syrian, Iraqi refugees to be settled in four south-east Queensland cities, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Sydney) 22 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-12-23/syrian-iraqi-refugees-to-be-settled-in-four-se-qld-cities/8143972.
[2480] 12,000 Visa issued to Syrian and Iraqi refugees, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Canberra) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 14 May 2017. http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/Pages/12000-visa-issued-to-syrian-and-iraqi-refugees.aspx.
[2481] 12,000 Visa issued to Syrian and Iraqi refugees, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Canberra) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 14 May 2017. http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/Pages/12000-visa-issued-to-syrian-and-iraqi-refugees.aspx.
[2482] Humanitarian assistance to Yemen, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 24 April 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170424.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D% 3D.
[2483] Humanitarian assistance to Yemen, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 24 April 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170424.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D% 3D.
[2484] Additional assistance to Iraq, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 25 April 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170425.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D% 3D.
[2485] Additional assistance to Iraq, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 25 April 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170425.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D% 3D.
[2486] Humanitarian assistance to Africa, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170529.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.
[2487] Humanitarian assistance to Africa, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170529.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.
[2488] Humanitarian assistance to Africa, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170529.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.
[2489] Humanitarian assistance to Africa, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170529.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

landslides.[2490]More than 70,000 people living in Sri Lanka have been displaced by the catastrophe since it began on 18 May 2017.[2491]

In 2016, Australia contributed USD39.9 million to the UNHCR.[2492] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD25.3 million in 2017.[2493]

Australia has partially complied with its commitment to address the issue of forced displacement by sustaining existing initiatives such as granting visas, increasing refugee intake, and providing training programs and assistance. However, it has failed to develop concrete actions. Thus, Australia receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Annie Luo & Henry Adlam

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to continue to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 3 October 2016, the Ministry of Justice and Citizenship launched a call for proposals for projects aiming to promote the social and economic inclusion of immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless persons in Brazil.[2494] Successful projects will receive financial resources of up to BRL300,000 for a period of up to twelve months.[2495]

On 16 November 2016, free Portuguese language and Brazilian culture courses for refugees under the National Program for the Access to Technical Education and Employment (PRONATEC) started.[2496] These courses are the result of a previous agreement signed between the Ministry of Justice and Citizenship, National Committee for Refugees, and Ministry of Education.[2497] In addition to the free classes, PRONATEC provides financial aid to students to pay for food and transportation.[2498]

On 21 March 2017, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that the Government of Brazil will send a Hercules C-130 aircraft to support the logistic operations in the regions of Peru most affected by floods and landslides caused by heavy rains.[2499]

In 2016, Brazil contributed USD662,778 to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2500] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD662,778 in 2017.[2501]

[2490] Humanitarian assistance to Sri Lanka, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 30 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170530b.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.
[2491] Humanitarian assistance to Sri Lanka, Minister for Foreign Affairs (Canberra) 30 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170530b.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FlS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D %3D.
[2492] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2493] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.
[2494] MJC lanca edital para selecionar projetos voltados aos refugiados, Ministerio da Justica e Cidadania (Brasilia) 3 October 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.justica.gov.br/noticias/mjc-lanca-edital-para-selecionar-projetos-voltados-aos-refugiados.
[2495] MJC lanca edital para selecionar projetos voltados aos refugiados, Ministerio da Justica e Cidadania (Brasilia) 3 October 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.justica.gov.br/noticias/mjc-lanca-edital-para-selecionar-projetos-voltados-aos-refugiados.
[2496] Curso de lingua portuguesa para imigrantes a refugiados, Ministerio da Justica e Cidadania (Brasilia) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.justica.gov.br/noticias/curso-de-lingua-portuguesa-para-imigrantes-e-refugiados.
[2497] Curso de lingua portuguesa para imigrantes a refugiados, Ministerio da Justica e Cidadania (Brasilia) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.justica.gov.br/noticias/curso-de-lingua-portuguesa-para-imigrantes-e-refugiados.
[2498] Curso de lingua portuguesa para imigrantes a refugiados, Ministerio da Justica e Cidadania (Brasilia) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.justica.gov.br/noticias/curso-de-lingua-portuguesa-para-imigrantes-e-refugiados.
[2499] Support for the logistic operations in the regions affected by the rains in Peru, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Brasilia) 21 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/en/press-releases/15933-support-for-the-logistic-operations-in-the-regions-affected-by-the-rains-in-peru.

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to address the issue of forced displacement by sustaining existing initiatives, such as continuing to contribute funds to the UNHCR and implementing existing agendas. It has also developed new concrete actions by launching a call for projects to promote refugees' social and economic inclusion in host communities. Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Annie Luo & Henry Adlam

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 8 September 2016, Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship John McCallum and Minister of Science Kirsty Duncan announced that the Government of Canada would invest CAD600,000 in short-term grants to fund 25 research projects focusing on issues affecting the effective resettlement of refugees.[2502] These projects will ensure that Canada provides the best possible support for refugees and assists in their integration through resettlement programs.[2503] Researchers for the projects will also showcase their preliminary results at various events in 2017.[2504]

On 19 September 2016, the Government of Canada, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the Open Society Foundations agreed to launch a joint initiative to increase the private sponsorship of refugees around the world under the Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative.[2505] The joint initiative has three primary objectives to 1) contribute to enhanced responsibility sharing by expanding the use of private sponsorship as a pathway for refugees in need of protection and solutions, 2) encouraging the expansion of resettlement by building the capacity of states, civil society actors, and private citizens to launch private sponsorship programs, and 3) providing a vehicle that mobilizes citizens in direct support of refugees and encourages a broader political debate that is supportive of refugee protection.[2506]

On 16 November 2016, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie Marie-Claude Bibeau announced that the Government of Canada would contribute CAD25 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).[2507] CAD20 million of the funding

[2500] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2501] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.
[2502] Government of Canada invests in research on the settlement and integration of Syrian refugees, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://www.news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1121609&_ga=1.83191829.2006734256.1480481307.
[2503] Government of Canada invests in research on the settlement and integration of Syrian refugees, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://www.news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1121609&_ga=1.83191829.2006734256.1480481307.
[2504] Government of Canada invests in research on the settlement and integration of Syrian refugees, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://www.news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1121609&_ga=1.83191829.2006734256.1480481307.
[2505] Canada, UNHCR & the Open Society Foundations Seek to Increase Refugee Resettlement through Private Sponsorship, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 September 2016. Access Date: 17 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1126819&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=refugee&crtr.dyStrtVl=6&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=9&crtr.page=3&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=18
[2506] Canada, UNHCR & the Open Society Foundations Seek to Increase Refugee Resettlement through Private Sponsorship, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 September 2016. Access Date: 17 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=1&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=&nid=1126819&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=refugee&crtr.dyStrtVl=6&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=9&crtr.page=3&crtr.yrndVl=2017&crtr.dyndVl=18
[2507] Minister Bibeau announces new funding to support the needs of vulnerable Palestinian refugees, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 November 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.mnthndVl=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=&crtr.page=4&nid=1154819&crtr.yrndVl=&crtr.kw=refugees&crtr.yrStrtVl=&crtr.dyStrtVl=&crtr.dyndVl=.

will support education, health and social services for Palestinian refugees, while CAD5 million of the funding will support humanitarian assistance.[2508]

On 13-15 December 2016, the Government of Canada hosted a high-level meeting of the Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative to expound 90 participants, including sponsorship groups, international delegates, partners, and government officials, on Canada's private sponsorship model.[2509] Participants spoke with more than 30 experts from Canadian civil society, sponsors and sponsored refugees, and shared advice with other countries interested in creating private sponsorship programmes.[2510] Notably, government officials from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, Germany, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States attended the high-level meeting.[2511]

On 31 December 2016, the Government of Canada cancelled the Syrian Family Links Initiative, a program that matched private Canadian sponsors with Syrian refugees abroad who have relatives in Canada.[2512] The Ministry for Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship claimed that the number of refugees registered far exceeded the number of sponsors available.[2513]

On 29 January 2017, the Government of Canada reported that 40,081 refugees had arrived in Canada since 4 November 2015. This includes 21,876 government-assisted refugees, 3,931 blended visa office-referred refugees, and 14,274 privately sponsored refugees.

On 27 February 2017, Minister Bibeau announced that CAD52 million of the CAD840 million of humanitarian aid that the Government of Canada pledged in Iraq, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon would be directed to different NGOs supporting refugees in Iraq. The funding will focus on health care, clean water and sanitation and provide psychological help especially for women and children who have been affected by conflict. A further CAD187.5 million will also be directed towards similar initiatives in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.

On 3 May 2017, the Government of Canada published regulatory changes to raise the maximum age of a dependent child from under 19 to under 22. The new age limit will be implemented beginning 24 October 2017 and will enable more family members of refugees to qualify as dependents and reunite with their families. The increased maximum age will apply to applicants for programs administered by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.

[2508] Minister Bibeau announces new funding to support the needs of vulnerable Palestinian refugees, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 November 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.mnthndVl=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=&crtr.page=4&nid=1154819&crtr.yrndVl=&crtr.kw=refugees&crtr.yrStrtVl=&crtr.dyStrtVl=&crtr.dyndVl=.

[2509] Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative promotes Canada's private refugee sponsorship model, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.mnthndVl=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=&crtr.page=1&nid=1170259&crtr.yrndVl=&crtr.kw=refugees&crtr.yrStrtVl=&crtr.dyStrtVl=&crtr.dyndVl=.

[2510] Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative promotes Canada's private refugee sponsorship model, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.mnthndVl=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=&crtr.page=1&nid=1170259&crtr.yrndVl=&crtr.kw=refugees&crtr.yrStrtVl=&crtr.dyStrtVl=&crtr.dyndVl=.

[2511] Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative promotes Canada's private refugee sponsorship model, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.mnthndVl=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=&crtr.page=1&nid=1170259&crtr.yrndVl=&crtr.kw=refugees&crtr.yrStrtVl=&crtr.dyStrtVl=&crtr.dyndVl=.

[2512] Ottawa ends program reuniting Syrian refugees with relatives in Canada, Globe and Mail (Ottawa) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 17J January 2017. http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/ottawa-ends-program-reuniting-syrian-refugees-with-relatives-in-canada/article33610264/.

[2513] Ottawa ends program reuniting Syrian refugees with relatives in Canada, Globe and Mail (Ottawa) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 17J January 2017. http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/ottawa-ends-program-reuniting-syrian-refugees-with-relatives-in-canada/article33610264/.

On 10 May 2017, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Ahmed Hussen announced the renewal of a cost-sharing agreement with an amount of CAD50,000 with the Rainbow Refugee Society (RRS). RRS is a community group based in Vancouver that promotes LGBTQ2 Canadians to sponsor refugees who are persecuted for their HIV status, gender expression, gender identity or sexual orientation. In their cost-sharing capacity, the Government of Canada provides monetary support to LGBTQ2 refugees who are privately sponsored through the RRS. The funding supports the refugees' needs when they arrive in Canada, including clothes, household items and partial income.

In 2016, Canada contributed USD116.2 million to the UNHCR. As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD71.8 million in 2017.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to address the issue of forced displacement by developing new concrete actions such as investing in new projects to discover how to improve resettlement programs and supporting other countries in adopting a private refugee sponsorship model similar to Canada's. It has also sustained existing initiatives by continuing to contribute funds to the UNRWA. Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Joy Lizette Aguilar

China: 0

China has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 19 September 2016, Premier Li Keqiang pledged USD100 million in humanitarian aid at the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants to help nations and organizations tackle the migrant crisis.[2514] Premier Li also affirmed that China will provide USD50 million to multilateral humanitarian organizations and relevant UN initiatives on an annual basis over the next three years, along with another USD50 million in the form of bilateral humanitarian aid.[2515] This brings China's new refugee and migrant humanitarian aid pledged at the Summit to a total sum of USD300 million.[2516]

On 13 January 2017, at a ceremony held at the Council of Development and Reconstruction (CDR) in Lebanon, the Government of China donated USD10 million in aid to alleviate the suffering of Syrian refugees in Lebanon.[2517]

On 20 January 2017, President Xi Jinping announced that China will provide an additional USD29.1 million in humanitarian assistance to help refugees and the homeless in the Syrian crisis.[2518] The initiative is an extension of an impending plan devised by the Government of China in November 2016, which pledged to deliver USD33.5 million in humanitarian aid and 10,000 tonnes of food to refugees and displaced people in Syria, Jordan, Yemen and Libya.[2519]

[2514] Premier Li pledges financial aid for refugees, The State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 22 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/premier/video/2016/09/22/content_281475448244359.htm.
[2515] Premier Li pledges financial aid for refugees, The State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 22 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/premier/video/2016/09/22/content_281475448244359.htm.
[2516] Premier Li pledges financial aid for refugees, The State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 22 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://english.gov.cn/premier/video/2016/09/22/content_281475448244359.htm.
[2517] China offers aid to Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Xinhuanet (Beirut) 13 January 2017. Access Date: 15 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-01/14/c_135981160.htm.
[2518] Xi says more help on the way for Syria refugees, ChinaDaily (Beijing) 20 January 2017. Access Date: 16 May 2017. http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2017-01/20/content_28005354.htm.
[2519] Xi says more help on the way for Syria refugees, ChinaDaily (Beijing) 20 January 2017. Access Date: 16 May 2017. http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2017-01/20/content_28005354.htm.

On 9 March 2017, China distributed USD100 million in aid to more than 330 refugee families in Afghanistan.[2520]

On 12 May 2017, Ambassador of China to Lebanon Wang Kejian represented the Chinese government to deliver school supplies worth USD1 million to Syrian refugee students in Lebanon.[2521] This initiative is a part of China's pledge at last year's UN General Assembly in order to alleviate the refugee crisis by providing USD100 million in aid.[2522] The school supplies will be distributed to refugee children by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).[2523]

On 16 May 2017, China pledged to provide a total of USD6 million of aid to refugees in Somalia and Kenya through UN agencies.[2524] The Government of China contributed USD5 million to the World Food Programme (WFP) to acquire adequate food for 420,000 food-insecure refugees living in camps in northern Kenya.[2525] The Chinese government also signed an agreement with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) worth USD1 million in multi-sector assistance that will support IOM efforts to help internally displaced persons, vulnerable communities and returnees in Somalia.[2526]

In 2016, China contributed USD2.8 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2527] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD1 million in 2017.[2528]

China has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 by sustaining existing initiatives such as continuing to contribute funds to the UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM and the World Food Programme, and providing humanitarian aid to host countries. However, it has failed to develop new concrete actions. Thus, China receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Emilia Lochowska

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 6 September 2016, Minister of Immigration Robert Goodwill announced that the United Kingdom struck a USD23 million deal with France to begin constructing a wall in Calais to prevent refugees and migrants from crossing over from France to the UK.[2529]

On 6 September 2016, Mayor of Paris Anne Hidalgo announced that the Governments of Paris and France will spend EUR6.5 million to construct refugee camps in Paris and Ivry-sur-Seine.[2530] The

[2520] China offers fresh aid to Afghanistan to assist refugees, ChinaDaily (Kabul) 10 March 2017. Access Date: 16 May 2017. http://www.chinadailyasia.com/nation/2017-03/10/content_15584075.html.
[2521] China delivers educational aid to Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Xinhuanet (Beirut) 12 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/13/c_136278268_2.htm.
[2522] China delivers educational aid to Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Xinhuanet (Beirut) 12 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/13/c_136278268_2.htm.
[2523] China delivers educational aid to Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Xinhuanet (Beirut) 12 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/13/c_136278268_2.htm.
[2524] China's multi-mln-USD donations to help refugees in Somalia, Kenya, Xinhuanet (Nairobi) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/17/c_136292396.htm.
[2525] China's multi-mln-USD donations to help refugees in Somalia, Kenya, Xinhuanet (Nairobi) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/17/c_136292396.htm.
[2526] China's multi-mln-USD donations to help refugees in Somalia, Kenya, Xinhuanet (Nairobi) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/17/c_136292396.htm.
[2527] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2528] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.
[2529] UK to build "big new wall" in Calais to stop migrants, CNN (London) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://edition.cnn.com/2016/09/07/europe/calais-wall-migrants/.

Governments of Paris and France will pay EUR1.2 million to create the camps[2531]and EUR15 million annually thereafter to maintain them.[2532] The camp in Paris will support 400 men, while the camp in Ivry-sur-Seine will support 350 women and children.[2533] The refugee camps also provide short-term health services to asylum seekers for 5 to 10 days.[2534]

On 15 September 2016, the EU Parliament adopted a resolution demanding that EU member states step up the process. On 16 September 2016, the European Council on Refugees and Exiles reported that only 3% of the pledge to relocate 160,000 asylum seekers from Greece and Italy had been met. Of this amount, France had relocated the most people at a total of 1,662 from both countries.[2535]

On 24 September 2016, President Francois Hollande announced the closing of the refugee camp in Calais during a visit to a reception centre in Tours. Following the closure, the President stated that refugees would then be sent to 450 reception centres across the country for medical checks and applications for asylums.[2536]

On 24 October 2016, the refugee camp in Calais was dismantled and 9,000 refugees were moved to 164 reception centres around France.[2537] These reception centres are funded by the Government of France in collaboration with the Office for Immigration and Integration (OFII).[2538] They have a capacity to hold 40-50 people for four months and offer medical checks and applications for asylum.[2539] However, there have been reports from non-governmental organizations working in the camp that many children have been left behind and are at risk of going missing. It is estimated that over 1,000 people remain in the camp.[2540]

On 4 November 2016, the biggest makeshift refugee camp in Paris, made up of "tents and cardboard shelters that [stretched] for almost 1,000 meters," was dismantled,[2541] and 3,852 refugees from Sudan,

[2530] France migrant crisis: Paris to open refugee camp in October, BBC News (London) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-37287321.

[2531] Paris to open first refugee camp in October to 'keep migrants off the streets' of French capital, The Telegraph (London) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/09/06/paris-to-open-first-refugee-camp-in-october-to-keep-migrants-off/.

[2532] Paris to open first refugee camp by mid-October, France 24 (Paris) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.france24.com/en/20160906-france-paris-first-refugee-camp-open-mid-october-migrant-crisis.

[2533] Paris to open first refugee camp by mid-October, France 24 (Paris) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.france24.com/en/20160906-france-paris-first-refugee-camp-open-mid-october-migrant-crisis.

[2534] France migrant crisis: Paris to open refugee camp in October, BBC News (London) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-37287321.

[2535] Relocation of asylum seekers from Greece and Italy needs to be at a faster and increased rate, UNHCR urges, 16 September 2016, European Council on Refugees and Exiles. Date of Access: 03 April 2017. http://www.ecre.org/relocation-of-asylum-seekers-from-greece-and-italy-needs-to-be-at-a-faster-and-increased-rate-unhcr-urges/

[2536] France: Calais 'jungle' camp refugees clash with police, Al Jazeera (Doha) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/10/france-calais-jungle-camp-refugees-clash-police-161023102348342.html.

[2537] France: Calais 'jungle' camp refugees clash with police, Al Jazeera (Doha) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/10/france-calais-jungle-camp-refugees-clash-police-161023102348342.html.

[2538] Calais: working towards the complete and definitive closure of the makeshift migrant camp, Government of France (France) 28 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/calais-working-towards-the-complete-and-definitive-closure-of-the-makeshift-migrant-camp.

[2539] Calais: working towards the complete and definitive closure of the makeshift migrant camp, Government of France (France) 28 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/calais-working-towards-the-complete-and-definitive-closure-of-the-makeshift-migrant-camp.

[2540] Calais Jungle closed: Hundreds of children remain unaccounted for despite official closure, 26 October 2016, Independent. Date of Access: 03 April 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/calais-jungle-closed-children-unaccounted-official-closure-camp-refugees-a7381626.html

[2541] French police move 4,000 people out of Paris migrant camp, The Guardian (London) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/nov/04/french-police-move-4000-migrants-out-of-paris-camp.

Ethiopia and other countries were moved to 78 temporary centres in the city.[2542] Among them, 339 migrants who were identified as "vulnerable" were given special care.[2543]

On 23 November 2016, the Government of France and the OFII temporarily increased compensation for refugees that voluntarily leave France before 31 December 2016 to EUR2,500.[2544] This includes a paid-for air fare and up to EUR10,000 in financial aid upon arrival to their home country.[2545]

On 30 November 2016, Minister of Housing Emmanuelle Cosse introduced a two-year housing project where 1,400 refugees will be living in the homes of private individuals with no housing fees.[2546] The Ministry will pay EUR1,500 per person to each of the 11 associations selected to offer assistance to refugee families throughout their transition.[2547]

On 30 November 2016, Executive Director of Operations of the French Development Agency Laurence Breton-Moyet signed a EUR32 million loan agreement with the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of Jordan.[2548] The loan aims to support the Government of Jordan's project on improving "access to water, water distribution performance and related sewerage in Irbid Governorate for host communities of Syrian refugees."[2549]

As of 10 December 2016 and since the closure of the Calais refugee camp on 24 October 2016, over 750 refugee minors were transported from France to the United Kingdom as part of the fast-track program.[2550]

On 9 December 2016, Minister of the Interior Bruno Le Roux announced the transfer of 200 unaccompanied refugee minors to Ireland.[2551] This came as a result of the dismantlement of the Calais refugee camp.[2552]

[2542] French clear out makeshift migrant camp along Paris canals, Daily Mail (Paris) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-3904146/After-Calais-French-authorities-clear-migrant-camp-Paris.html.
[2543] French clear out makeshift migrant camp along Paris canals, Daily Mail (Paris) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-3904146/After-Calais-French-authorities-clear-migrant-camp-Paris.html.
[2544] A bonus of 2500 euros to encourage migrants to return to their country. Le Figaro (Paris) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 5 January 2017. http://www.lefigaro.fr/actualite-france/2016/11/23/01016-20161123ARTFIG00389-une-prime-de-2500-euros-pour-inciter-les-migrants-a-rentrer-dans-leur-pays.php.
[2545] A bonus of 2500 euros to encourage migrants to return to their country. Le Figaro (Paris) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 5 January 2017. http://www.lefigaro.fr/actualite-france/2016/11/23/01016-20161123ARTFIG00389-une-prime-de-2500-euros-pour-inciter-les-migrants-a-rentrer-dans-leur-pays.php.
[2546] 1400 refugees hosted by private individuals. Le Figaro (Paris) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 5 January 2017. http://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/2016/11/30/97001-20161130FILWWW00248-1400-refugies-accueillis-chez-des-particuliers.php.
[2547] 1400 refugees hosted by private individuals. Le Figaro (Paris) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 5 January 2017. http://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/2016/11/30/97001-20161130FILWWW00248-1400-refugies-accueillis-chez-des-particuliers.php.
[2548] Planning Ministry, French Development Agency sign 132-million euro loan, Jordan News Agency (Amman) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public_News/Nws_NewsDetails.aspx?lang=2&site_id=1&NewsID=279664&Type=P.
[2549] Planning Ministry, French Development Agency sign 132-million euro loan, Jordan News Agency (Amman) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public_News/Nws_NewsDetails.aspx?lang=2&site_id=1&NewsID=279664&Type=P.
[2550] More than 750 children brought to UK From jungle Camp In Calais. The Huffington Post (London) 10 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2016/12/09/more-than-750-children-brought-to-uk-from-jungle-camp-in-calais_n_13542586.html?1481360533.
[2551] Process of bringing 200 child migrants from France begins. The Irish Times (Dublin) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/process-of-bringing-200-child-migrants-from-france-begins-1.2899861.
[2552] Process of bringing 200 child migrants from France begins. The Irish Times (Dublin) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 January 2017. http://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/process-of-bringing-200-child-migrants-from-france-begins-1.2899861.

On 15 March 2017, Minister Le Roux announced that the Grande-Synthe refugee camp near the port of Dunkirk would be dismantled due to overcrowding and growing tensions between the refugees.[2553]

On 12 April 2017, 1,500 refugees at the Grande-Synthe refugee camp were transferred to five sports halls after a fire destroyed 230 shelter huts.[2554]Minister of the Interior Matthias Fekl stated that the camp would not be rebuilt after the fire.[2555] Minister Cosse stated that refugees will be placed in permanent shelters around the country.[2556]

On 9 May 2017, 350 French authorities began resettling 1,000 refugees from a refugee camp near Porte de la Chapelle to housing facilities in Ile-de-France.[2557]

In 2016, France contributed USD43.4 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2558] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD36.6 million in 2017.[2559]

While France has created a new program to help refugees transition into society in France via its two-year housing program. It has also continued existing initiatives by continuing its aid to the UNHCR as well as its commitment to continue receiving asylum seekers from Italy and Greece. However, the construction of a wall to prevent the flow of migrants and refugees and the closure of the Grande-Synthe refugee camp prevents France from achieving a full compliance score. Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mariya-Kvitlana Tsap

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 7 September 2016, Chancellor Angela Merkel stressed that the Government of Germany would spend more for refugees in 2017 during the budget debate in the Bundestag.[2560] The draft of the 2017 federal budget allocates almost EUR19 billion to address migration and tackle root causes of displacement.[2561] Approximately EUR1 billion will support the reception of asylum seekers and timely handling of asylum procedures. Funding for integration courses is to be doubled to EUR610 million.[2562] In addition, more than EUR1.5 billion will be dedicated to labour market integration, while EUR410 million will be allocated to support occupation-specific German language courses.[2563] EUR300 million will be directed

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[2553] "Tear It Down ASAP": French Minister Issues Warning Over Dunkirk Migrant Camp. Express (London) 16 March 2017. Access Date: 15 May 2017. http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/780146/French-minister-warning-Dunkirk-migrant-camp-refugee-Grande-Synthe.
[2554] Hundreds of Refugees Missing After Dunkirk Fire. The Guardian (London) 11 April 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/11/hundreds-of-refugees-missing-after-dunkirk-camp-fire.
[2555] Riot Police Stop Refugees Returning to Dunkirk Camp Destroyed By Fire. The Guardian (London) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 18 May 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/12/riot-police-stop-refugees-returning-to-dunkirk-camp-destroyed-by-fire.
[2556] Hundreds of Refugees Missing After Dunkirk Fire. The Guardian (London) 11 April 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/11/hundreds-of-refugees-missing-after-dunkirk-camp-fire.
[2557] Police Evict Refugees From Makeshift Paris Camp. Al Jazeera (Doha) 9 May 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/05/police-evict-refugees-makeshift-paris-camp-170509083947201.html.
[2558] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2559] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.
[2560] Germany will still be Germany, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2016/09_en/2016-09-07-merkel-haushaltsdebatte.html.
[2561] Germany will still be Germany, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2016/09_en/2016-09-07-merkel-haushaltsdebatte.html.
[2562] Germany will still be Germany, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2016/09_en/2016-09-07-merkel-haushaltsdebatte.html.
[2563] Germany will still be Germany, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2016/09_en/2016-09-07-merkel-haushaltsdebatte.html.

towards job opportunities for refugee integration measures and EUR2.8 billion will be allocated to the Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development to tackle root causes of displacement.[2564]

On 20 September 2016, Federal Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier co-hosted the Leaders' Summit on Refugees with United States President Barack Obama in New York City.[2565] Gathering representatives of 52 countries and organizations,[2566] the Summit aimed to spur country's commitments to increase funding to humanitarian appeals and international organizations, accept more refugees through resettlement and other legal ways, and increase refugees' self-reliance and inclusion through opportunities for education and legal work.[2567]

On 4 November 2016, Federal Foreign Minister Steinmeier announced that the Government of Germany would contribute EUR61 million in humanitarian aid to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2568] The funding will be directed to provide assistance for refugees in sub-Saharan Africa, especially in South Sudan, Somalia, Burundi, and the Lake Chad region.[2569]

In early December 2016, Foreign Minister Steinmeier pledged EUR50 million in humanitarian aid for civilians fleeing their homes in and surrounding Aleppo, Syria during his visit to Lebanon.[2570] The aid will be implemented by non-governmental organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, as well as the World Food Programme (WFP) and the UNHCR.[2571]

On 14 December 2016, Federal Foreign Minister Steinmeier pledged EUR5 million in humanitarian aid to the UN Humanitarian Pooled Fund in Gaziantep.[2572] The funding will support cross-border measures

[2564] Germany will still be Germany, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2016/09_en/2016-09-07-merkel-haushaltsdebatte.html.
[2565] Summit on Refugees in New York: Foreign Minister Steinmeier called for fairness in sharing the burden, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/160920_Fluechtlingsgipfel_NY.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.
[2566] Summit on Refugees in New York: Foreign Minister Steinmeier called for fairness in sharing the burden, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/160920_Fluechtlingsgipfel_NY.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.
[2567] Leaders' Summit on Refugees, United States Department of State (Washington) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2016. https://www.state.gov/p/io/c71574.htm.
[2568] Foreign Minister Steinmeier promises UN High Commissioner for Refugees Grandi 61 million euros for acute crises in Africa, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2016/161104_BM_UNHCR_Grandi.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.
[2569] Foreign Minister Steinmeier promises UN High Commissioner for Refugees Grandi 61 million euros for acute crises in Africa, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 4 November 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2016/161104_BM_UNHCR_Grandi.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.
[2570] A wide range of assistance for the Syrian people, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2016/12_en/2016-12-15-hilfe-fuer-aleppo_en.html?nn=709674.
[2571] A wide range of assistance for the Syrian people, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2016/12_en/2016-12-15-hilfe-fuer-aleppo_en.html?nn=709674.
[2572] Germany provides additional funding for emergency aid, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/nn_740580/sid_7D09587ACCEF71E1FE942B1060FB5C45/EN/Aussenpolitik/Laender/Aktuelle_Artikel/Syrien/161214_Aleppo_NEU.html.

from Turkey to northern Syria and will be implemented by the UN and Syrian non-governmental organizations.[2573]

On 16 December 2016, Special Representative of the Federal Government for the Middle East Stability Partnership Joachim Rücker announced that the Government of Germany would contribute EUR46 million to Jordan to support education and employment protection for refugees.[2574]

On 16 December 2016, the Federal Foreign Office of Germany announced its contribution of EUR48 million for the European Union-International Organization for Migration initiative on migrant protection.[2575] The initiative will include construction of migration centres along primary migration routes to provide better access to information (i.e. information on target countries) to migrants, and to help migrants locate their family members.[2576] In addition, the centres will offer food, medical care, and psycho-social care.[2577] The centres will also help migrants return to their countries of origin.[2578] The initiative aims to alter political responses by developing a better understanding of the reasons for displacement and migration through the collection of data on refugee numbers and kinds of refugee flows.[2579]

On 1 January 2017, the Federal Government of Germany assumed joint chairmanship of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) with the Government of Morocco.[2580] The GFMD is an initiative of UN members that examines the relationship between legal migration and development

[2573] Germany provides additional funding for emergency aid, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/nn_740580/sid_7D09587ACCEF71E1FE942B1060FB5C45/EN/Aussenpolitik/Laender/Aktuelle_Artikel/Syrien/161214_Aleppo_NEU.html.

[2574] Statement by the Special Representative of the Federal Government for the Middle East Stability Partnership on his visit to Jordan, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2016/161216_SMO_B_JOR.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.

[2575] Refugee flows and migration: Germany provides 48 million euros of support for EU-IOM migrant protection initiative, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/161216_Initiative_IOM.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.

[2576] Refugee flows and migration: Germany provides 48 million euros of support for EU-IOM migrant protection initiative, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/161216_Initiative_IOM.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.

[2577] Refugee flows and migration: Germany provides 48 million euros of support for EU-IOM migrant protection initiative, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/161216_Initiative_IOM.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.

[2578] Refugee flows and migration: Germany provides 48 million euros of support for EU-IOM migrant protection initiative, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/161216_Initiative_IOM.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.

[2579] Refugee flows and migration: Germany provides 48 million euros of support for EU-IOM migrant protection initiative, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/161216_Initiative_IOM.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.

[2580] Global Forum on Migration and Development: German-Moroccan co-chairmanship 2017-2018, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 9 January 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/GFMD/GFMD.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.

from a practical approach.[2581] The GFMD aims to provide an informal framework in which political decision-makers can discuss relevant legislations and to exchange experiences and practices.[2582] In addition, the forum aims to identify political and institutional relationships needed to promote coherence between migration and development policy, establish partnerships and cooperation between states and other stakeholders, and shape international priorities for migration and development.[2583]

On 20 February 2017, Federal Foreign Office Spokesperson Martin Schäfer announced that the Government of Germany would provide an additional EUR16.5 million in humanitarian assistance in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia.[2584] The aid will be used for supplying food and water and for coordinating humanitarian relief measures.[2585] Apart from the additional funding, the Government of Germany is already providing EUR107.6 million for Somalia.[2586] The aid is directed towards implementing water supply and sanitation projects, improving health, addressing the root causes of displacement and reintegrating refugees.[2587]

On 24 February 2017, the Government of Germany co-hosted an international donor conference with Norway, Nigeria and the UN in Oslo.[2588] Federal Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel announced that Germany will contribute EUR120 million of humanitarian aid in the Lake Chad region.[2589] The funding will be allocated for food, water and education programmes for children and youth.[2590] The Government

[2581] Global Forum on Migration and Development: German-Moroccan co-chairmanship 2017-2018, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 9 January 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/GFMD/GFMD.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.
[2582] Global Forum on Migration and Development: German-Moroccan co-chairmanship 2017-2018, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 9 January 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/GFMD/GFMD.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.
[2583] Global Forum on Migration and Development: German-Moroccan co-chairmanship 2017-2018, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 9 January 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Fluechtlinge/GFMD/GFMD.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=refugee&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.
[2584] Assistance for Africa as hunger looms, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 24 February 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/02_en/2017-02-24- nordostafrika-hungerkrise_en.html?nn=709674.
[2585] Assistance for Africa as hunger looms, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 24 February 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/02_en/2017-02-24- nordostafrika-hungerkrise_en.html?nn=709674.
[2586] Assistance for Africa as hunger looms, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 24 February 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/02_en/2017-02-24- nordostafrika-hungerkrise_en.html?nn=709674.
[2587] Assistance for Africa as hunger looms, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 24 February 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/02_en/2017-02-24- nordostafrika-hungerkrise_en.html?nn=709674.
[2588] Assistance for 11 million people: Gabriel attends Oslo Humanitarian Conference, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 24 February 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/HumanitaereHilfe/7_Aktuelles/170224_Tschadseekonferenz.html.
[2589] Assistance for 11 million people: Gabriel attends Oslo Humanitarian Conference, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 24 February 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/HumanitaereHilfe/7_Aktuelles/170224_Tschadseekonferenz.html.
[2590] Assistance for 11 million people: Gabriel attends Oslo Humanitarian Conference, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 24 February 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/HumanitaereHilfe/7_Aktuelles/170224_Tschadseekonferenz.html.

of Germany also formed an advisory group with Norway, Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and the UN to coordinate humanitarian assistance measures.[2591]

On 5 April 2017, Federal Foreign Minister Gabriel announced that the Government of Germany would provide another EUR1.17 billion to support Syrian refugees and those at risk in Syria.[2592] The funding will prioritize children and families in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey.[2593] EUR800 million of the funding will be directed towards education, training and education for refugees.[2594]

On 24 May 2017, the Cabinet of the Government of Germany decided that German troops will continue to be a part of Operation SOPHIA, an EU-mandated naval force dedicated to rescuing refugees and migrants in distress at sea in the Central and Southern Mediterranean Sea.[2595] The German troops will remain as a part of Operation SOPHIA until 30 June 2018.[2596]

In 2016, Germany contributed USD360.1 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2597] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD78.2 million in 2017.[2598]

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 by developing concrete actions such as increasing its 2017 budget to better support its refugee population and sustaining existing initiatives such as continued donations to the UNHCR, the WFP, and other host countries. Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Joy Lizette Aguilar

India: 0

India has partially complied with its commitment to continue to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 30 November 2016, the Union Cabinet of the Government of India, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved of a INR20 billion development package for displaced people from Pakistan occupied Kashmir living in India.[2599] It aims to provide enhanced financial aid to 36,384 Hindu and Sikh families,[2600] who are mostly living in the Jammu-Kashmir region.[2601] It is estimated that each of these families will receive around INR0.55 million as aid.[2602]

[2591] Assistance for 11 million people: Gabriel attends Oslo Humanitarian Conference, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 24 February 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/HumanitaereHilfe/7_Aktuelles/170224_Tschadseekonferenz.html.
[2592] War crimes must not go unpunished, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 5 April 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/04_en/2017-04-05-giftgas-in-syrien_en.html?nn=709674.
[2593] War crimes must not go unpunished, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 5 April 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/04_en/2017-04-05-giftgas-in-syrien_en.html?nn=709674.
[2594] War crimes must not go unpunished, Federal Foreign Office of Germany (Berlin) 5 April 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/04_en/2017-04-05-giftgas-in-syrien_en.html?nn=709674.
[2595] The fight against human traffickers and arms smugglers, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 24 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/05_en/2017-05-24-eu-operation-im-mittelmeer_en.html?nn=709674.
[2596] The fight against human traffickers and arms smugglers, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 24 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/05_en/2017-05-24-eu-operation-im-mittelmeer_en.html?nn=709674.
[2597] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2598] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.
[2599] Cabinet approves Rs 2,000 crore package for refugees from PoK, The Times of India (New Delhi) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Cabinet-approves-Rs-2000-crore-package-for-refugees-from-PoK/articleshow/55709344.cms.
[2600] India approves $300mln fund for refugees from West Pakistan, Sputnik International (New Delhi) 1 December 2016. Access Date 25 January 2017. https://sputniknews.com/asia/201612011048061619-india-pakistan-refugees/.

In 2016, India contributed USD14,788 to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2603] As of 6 June 2017, India has yet to contribute anything in 2017.

India has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 by sustaining existing initiatives such as continuing to provide financial aid to displaced persons and the UNHCR. However, it has not developed concrete actions. Thus, India receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Annie Luo & Henry Adlam

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 31 December 2016, President Joko Widodo signed a presidential regulation to streamline procedures for handling asylum seekers, called Perpres. Perpres details protocols for how foreign nationals escaping their homelands due to life threats should be treated in the country.[2604]It contains detailed instructions on which institutions are responsible for managing refugees in Indonesia and their respective responsibilities.[2605] Perpres also serves as the legal basis for for regional administrations to propose operational funds for handling asylum seekers and refugees and providing temporary shelters.[2606] It is expected to help the Government of Indonesia support the 14,000 refugees and asylum seekers that it currently hosts.[2607]

In 2016, Indonesia contributed USD60,000 to the UNHCR.[2608] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD60,000 in 2017.[2609]

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 by sustaining existing initiatives, such as continuing to contribute funds to the UNHCR, and developing concrete actions by streamlining domestic procedures to manage asylum seekers and refugees in the country. Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tea Cimini

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

[2601] Cabinet approves Rs 2,000 crore package for refugees from PoK, The Times of India (New Delhi) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Cabinet-approves-Rs-2000-crore-package-for-refugees-from-PoK/articleshow/55709344.cms.
[2602] Cabinet approves Rs 2,000 crore package for refugees from PoK, The Times of India (New Delhi) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Cabinet-approves-Rs-2000-crore-package-for-refugees-from-PoK/articleshow/55709344.cms.
[2603] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2604] Indonesia widens arms for refugees, the Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 18 January 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/01/18/indonesia-widens-arms-for-refugees.html.
[2605] Indonesia widens arms for refugees, the Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 18 January 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/01/18/indonesia-widens-arms-for-refugees.html.
[2606] Indonesia widens arms for refugees, the Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 18 January 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/01/18/indonesia-widens-arms-for-refugees.html.
[2607] Indonesia widens arms for refugees, the Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 18 January 2017. Access Date: 1 June 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/01/18/indonesia-widens-arms-for-refugees.html.
[2608] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2609] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.

On 30 September 2016, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Italian Development Cooperation donated EUR800,000 of emergency aid to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to provide economic and nutritional support to 548,000 refugees and internally displaced persons from Afghanistan and Pakistan.[2610]

On 3 October 2016, the Government of Italy gave EUR1 million of emergency funds to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to support Palestinian refugees in the Gaza Strip.[2611]

On 4 October 2016, Permanent Representative and Ambassador of Italy to the International Organizations in Geneva Maurizio Enrico Serra delivered a statement at the 2016 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Executive Committee.[2612] Ambassador Serra stated that the Government of Italy has pledged USD24.5 million for refugee crises in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia in 2016.[2613] Ambassador Serra also stated that since 2011, Italian Development Cooperation, the governmental agency responsible for Italy's official development aid overseas, has contributed approximately EUR84 million of aid for over 4 million Syrian refugees in Libya, Turkey, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt.[2614]

On 14 October 2016, the Government of Italy allocated EUR3.9 million to provide essential services to South Sudanese refugees and the most vulnerable segments of the hosting populations in South Sudan and neighbouring countries.[2615]

On 24 October 2016, 75 Syrian refugees arrived in Rome from UNHCR camps in Lebanon as a part of the Human Corridors Resettlement Programme.[2616] The programme is a pilot project stemming from an initiative signed in December 2015 by the Government of Italy[2617] to resettle 1,000 refugees from

[2610] Afghanistan: Italy gives WFP 800,000 euros to assist refugees and the internally displaced, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2016/09/afghanistan-dall-italia-800-mila.html.

[2611] Palestine: Italy gives a one million euro emergency contribution to UNRWA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 3 October 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. .http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2016/10/palestina-dall-italia-1-milione.html.

[2612] Italian Statement at 2016 UNHCR Executive Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Geneva) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://www.italiarappginevra.esteri.it/rappginevra/en/ambasciata/news/dall-ambasciata/2016/10/intervento-italiano-al-comitato.html.

[2613] Italian Statement at 2016 UNHCR Executive Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Geneva) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://www.italiarappginevra.esteri.it/rappginevra/en/ambasciata/news/dall-ambasciata/2016/10/intervento-italiano-al-comitato.html.

[2614] Italian Statement at 2016 UNHCR Executive Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Geneva) 4 October 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://www.italiarappginevra.esteri.it/rappginevra/en/ambasciata/news/dall-ambasciata/2016/10/intervento-italiano-al-comitato.html.

[2615] Italy allocates 3.9 million Euros for South Sudanese refugees and for hosting communities in South Sudan and in the Neighbouring Countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 14 October 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. .http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2016/10/l-italia-stanzia-3-9-milioni-di.html

[2616] 75 Syrian refugees arrive in Italy under resettlement program, Middle East Observer (Stockholm) 25 October 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. https://www.middleeastobserver.org/2016/10/25/75-syrian-refugees-arrive-in-italy-under-resettlement-program/.

[2617] ACCREDITATION NOTE — Human Corridors — Refugees from Lebanon to land at Rome Fiumicino airport on 24 October, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Geneva) 21 October 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/areagiornalisti/notestampa/2016/10/nota-di-accreditamento-corridoi.html.

Morocco, Lebanon, and Ethiopia over the next two years.[2618] 279 refugees have already been resettled under the programme, and an additional 53 refugees were resettled on 25 October 2016.[2619]

On 27 October 2016, the Government of Italy contributed EUR3 million in emergency funds to Palestine to support and strengthen basic services, with a particular goal to guarantee decent living conditions for refugees and displaced persons.[2620]

On 31 October 2016, the Ministry of the Interior created a working group to deal with asylum seekers beyond the "logic of emergency."[2621] The working group aims to create a framework to successfully redistribute 1200 asylum seekers currently residing in refugee centres in Modena.[2622]

On 31 October 2016, Minister of Foreign Affairs Angelino Alfano greeted the first 75 Lebanese refugees to be resettled in Italy through the Human Corridors Resettlement Programme upon their arrival at at the Leonardo Da Vinci — Fiumicino Airport in Rome.[2623]

On 10-11 November 2016, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Paolo Gentiloni visited Niger, Mali, and Senegal to reaffirm Italy's commitment to support the removal of the causes of underdevelopment and help local governments to combat illegal migrations, terrorism, and illegal trafficking.[2624] Italy pledged to raise funds for this cause.[2625] However, the exact amount is unknown.[2626]

On 21 November 2016, the Government of Italy contributed EUR2 million to the UNHCR for health-related projects in Jordan and Lebanon.[2627] In Jordan, EUR1 million will go towards the improvement of

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[2618] ACCREDITATION NOTE — Human Corridors — Refugees from Lebanon to land at Rome Fiumicino airport on 24 October, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Geneva) 21 October 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/areagiornalisti/notestampa/2016/10/nota-di-accreditamento-corridoi.html.
[2619] ACCREDITATION NOTE — Human Corridors — Refugees from Lebanon to land at Rome Fiumicino airport on 24 October, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Geneva) 21 October 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/areagiornalisti/notestampa/2016/10/nota-di-accreditamento-corridoi.html.
[2620] Palestine: Italy gives a 3 million euro emergency contribution, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 27 October 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2016/10/palestina-dall-italia-3-milioni.html.
[2621] Richiedenti asilo, oltre la logica dell'emergenza, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. http://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/richiedenti-asilo-oltre-logica-dellemergenza&usg=ALkJrhiPEC0-DU12lSD4Gl_bX2ygidOTbA.
[2622] Richiedenti asilo, oltre la logica dell'emergenza, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. http://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/richiedenti-asilo-oltre-logica-dellemergenza&usg=ALkJrhiPEC0-DU12lSD4Gl_bX2ygidOTbA.
[2623] Accolti i migranti del progetto 'Corridoi Umanitari,' Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. http://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/accolti-i-migranti-progetto-corridoi-umanitari&usg=ALkJrhiI9DE_e85fPiBJMpDX8VlPcWCBzA.
[2624] Minister Paolo Gentiloni Visits Niger, Mali and Senegal, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Geneva) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2016/11/il-ministro-paolo-gentiloni-in.html.
[2625] Minister Paolo Gentiloni Visits Niger, Mali and Senegal, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Geneva) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2016/11/il-ministro-paolo-gentiloni-in.html.
[2626] Minister Paolo Gentiloni Visits Niger, Mali and Senegal, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Geneva) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/2016/11/il-ministro-paolo-gentiloni-in.html.
[2627] Siria — Dall'Italia due milioni di euro a UNHCR per assistenza ai rifugiati in Libano e Giordania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/siria-dall-italia-due-milioni-di.html.

sanitation facilitates in a refugee camp hosting 25,000 Syrian refugees.[2628] In Lebanon, EUR1 million will be allocated to support the UNHCR Programme titled "Cash for Health."[2629]

On 17 December 2016, Minister Alfano stated that the Italian government has allocated EUR25 million to fund humanitarian activities in Syria and the region.[2630] Since the beginning of the crisis, Italy has contributed EUR120 million to support humanitarian interventions in Syria and neighboring countries such as Jordan and Lebanon.[2631]

On 30 December 2016, the Department of Civil Liberties and Immigration released a decree pertaining to the funding arrangements for small organizations working on refugee resettlement for the years 2017-2019.[2632] Under the decree, 95 per cent of the total operating costs of selected organization will be subsidized by the Department.[2633]

On 27 January 2017, the Ministry of the Interior pledged to admit 500 refugees from Ethiopia, whose refugee status will be confirmed by the UNHCR by the end of 2017.[2634] This measure represents the continuation of a previous protocol initiated in 2015 whose focus was mainly on Lebanese refugees.[2635]

On 7 February 2017, Minister Alfano declared that the refugee crisis would be a focal point of the Italian presidency of the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in 2018.[2636]

On 7 March 2017, Minister of the Interior Marco Minniti signed a decree on the management and finance of refugee centres.[2637] The decree mandates more transparent and standardized procedures across various refugee centres in Italy.[2638]

[2628] Siria — Dall'Italia due milioni di euro a UNHCR per assistenza ai rifugiati in Libano e Giordania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/siria-dall-italia-due-milioni-di.html.

[2629] Siria — Dall'Italia due milioni di euro a UNHCR per assistenza ai rifugiati in Libano e Giordania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/approfondimenti/siria-dall-italia-due-milioni-di.html.

[2630] Alfano: "Syria, 25 million euros to support humanitarian activities," Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 17 December 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2016/12/alfano-siria-25-milioni-di-euro.html.

[2631] Alfano: "Syria, 25 million euros to support humanitarian activities," Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 17 December 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2016/12/alfano-siria-25-milioni-di-euro.html.

[2632] Accoglienza richiedenti asilo e rifugiati, nuovi fondi agli enti locali per il triennio 2017-2019, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 30 December 2016. Access Date: 31 January 2017. http://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/accoglienza-richiedenti-asilo-e-rifugiati-nuovi-fondi-enti-locali-triennio-2017-2019&usg=ALkJrhjPrZcFU9uOLPM3My1i06EZPteFMw.

[2633] Accoglienza richiedenti asilo e rifugiati, nuovi fondi agli enti locali per il triennio 2017-2019, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 30 December 2016. Access Date: 31 January 2017. http://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/accoglienza-richiedenti-asilo-e-rifugiati-nuovi-fondi-enti-locali-triennio-2017-2019&usg=ALkJrhjPrZcFU9uOLPM3My1i06EZPteFMw.

[2634] Aperto "corridoio umanitario" con l'Etiopia, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/aperto-corridoio-umanitario-letiopia&usg=ALkJrhgRqNrlq8QkvbwhjzJ66cpbgevUng.

[2635] Aperto "corridoio umanitario" con l'Etiopia, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.interno.gov.it/it/notizie/aperto-corridoio-umanitario-letiopia&usg=ALkJrhgRqNrlq8QkvbwhjzJ66cpbgevUng.

[2636] Osce: Il ministro Alfano illustra al segretario generale Zannier i temi prio ritari della Presidenza italiana del 2018, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 7 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2017/02/osce-il-ministro-alfano-illustra.html.

[2637] Firmato il decreto per la trasparenza delle strutture di accoglienza dei migrant, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 7 March 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.interno.gov.it/it/sala-stampa/comunicati-stampa/firmato-decreto-trasparenza-strutture-accoglienza-dei-migranti.

On 5 May 2017, Minister of the Interior Marco Minniti established a permanent observer body within the Minister of the Interior in order to monitor the refugee centres and prevent illegal employment.[2639]

On 23 May 2017, Minister Alfano met with Commissioner of the UNHCR Filippo Grandi at the Farnesina. Minister Alfano pledged EUR10 million to the UNHCR's 'Fondo per l'Africa,' or Africa fund, to consolidate partnerships with North African countries.[2640]

In 2016, Italy contributed USD31.4 million to the UNHCR.[2641] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD11.5 million in 2017.[2642]

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 by sustaining existing initiatives, such as continuing to implement the Human Corridors Resettlement Programme and contributing funds to the UNRWA, UNHCR, and WFP, and developing concrete actions by creating a working group to support asylum seekers and deciding to fund majority of total operating costs of small refugee resettlement organizations. Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ben Xu and Tea Cimini

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 8 September 2016, the Government of Japan delivered USD1.8 million to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to provide food and nutrition assistance to more than 200,000 refugees in northwest Tanzania.[2643] With these funds, the WFP purchased 1,800 metric tonnes of food commodities.[2644]

On 20 September 2016, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stated at the Leader's Summit on Refugees that Japan will commit USD2.8 million in humanitarian and self-reliance assistance to refugees and migrants.[2645] Furthermore, Japan will contribute USD100 million to the World Bank's Global Crisis Response Platform, which aims to address pressing global threats, such as the massive displacement of

[2638] Firmato il decreto per la trasparenza delle strutture di accoglienza dei migrant, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 7 March 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.interno.gov.it/it/sala-stampa/comunicati-stampa/firmato-decreto-trasparenza-strutture-accoglienza-dei-migranti.
[2639] Lotta al lavoro nero: bloccata organizzazione che sfruttava i migranti, Ministry of the Interior (Rome) 5 May 2017. Access Date: 29 May 2017. http://www.interno.gov.it/it/sala-stampa/comunicati-stampa/lotta-lavoro-nero-bloccata-organizzazione-sfruttava-i-migranti.
[2640] Alfano incontra Grandi, Alto Commissario ONU per i Rifugiati, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2017/05/alfano-incontra-grandi-alto-commissario.html.
[2641] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2642] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.
[2643] Japan Donation Boosts WFP's Assistance To Refugees In Tanzania, World Food Programme (Dar Es Salaam) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/japan-donation-boosts-wfp-assistance-refugees-tanzania.
[2644] Japan Donation Boosts WFP's Assistance To Refugees In Tanzania, World Food Programme (Dar Es Salaam) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/japan-donation-boosts-wfp-assistance-refugees-tanzania.
[2645] Statement by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Leader's Summit on Refugees, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (New York) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/statement/201609/1219204_11015.html.

people.[2646] Prime Minister Abe also stated that Japan will accept 150 Syrian students and their families in the coming five years starting from 2017 provide educational assistance and vocational training to approximately one million people affected by conflicts.[2647] The Government of Japan has already supplied vocational training to Syrian refugees and Lebanese youth in Lebanon in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2648] Prime Minister Abe also claimed that the Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteers will work to create safe learning environments for Syrian refugee children.[2649]

On 12 December 2016, the Government of Japan contributed USD1.4 million to the WFP to supply food and nutrition to Burundian and Congolese refugee camps in Rwanda.[2650]

On 22 December 2016, the Government of Japan pledged USD500 million in assistance for refugees as part of the country's commitment to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.[2651]

On 9 January 2017, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Kentaro Sanoura announced that the Government of Japan will grant Lebanon USD17.9 million of aid to support Syrian refugees.[2652]

On 15 February 2017, the Government of Japan delivered USD16 million to the UNHCR to support its expansion of the provision of shelters, cash assistance and emergency items to Syrian refugees and Iraqi families in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq who were displaced due to the conflict in Mosul.[2653]

On 23 February 2017, Japanese Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs Takeshi Okubo signed a USD28.4 million contribution agreement with Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) Pierre Krähenbühl.[2654] Japan will hand over the financial package to the UNRWA in support of the UNRWA's core programs, emergency response efforts and priority projects for Palestinian refugees.[2655]

[2646] Statement by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Leader's Summit on Refugees, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (New York) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/statement/201609/1219204_11015.html.
[2647] Statement by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Leader's Summit on Refugees, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (New York) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/statement/201609/1219204_11015.html.
[2648] Statement by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Leader's Summit on Refugees, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (New York) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/statement/201609/1219204_11015.html.
[2649] Statement by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Leader's Summit on Refugees, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (New York) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/statement/201609/1219204_11015.html.
[2650] Japan contributes $1.4 million to feed refugees in Rwanda, Rwanda News Agency (Kigali) 12 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2016. http://www.rnanews.com/economy/12467-japan-contributes-14m-to-feed-refugees-in-rwanda.
[2651] Japan pledges $500 million in fresh aid for refugees, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 22 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/12/22/national/japan-pledges-500-million-fresh-aid-refugees/#.WHj52ymEib8.
[2652] Japan offers Lebanon $17.9 million in aid to Syrian refugees, The Daily Star (Beirut) 9 January 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Lebanon-News/2017/Jan-09/388503-japan-offers-lebanon-179m-in-aid-syrian-refugees.ashx.
[2653] Japan provides $17m in aid for displaced people in Iraq, Emirates News Agency (New York) 15 February 2017. Access Date: 21 May 2017. http://wam.ae/en/details/1395302598046.
[2654] Japan contributes US$28.4 million in support of Palestine refugees, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (East Jerusalem) 2 March 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/videos/japan-contributes-us-284-million-support-palestine-refugees.
[2655] Japan contributes US$28.4 million in support of Palestine refugees, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (East Jerusalem) 2 March 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/videos/japan-contributes-us-284-million-support-palestine-refugees.

On 9 March 2017, the Government of Japan released a grant of USD7 million to the UNHCR and WFP to support Afghan refugees and host communities in Pakistan.[2656] Of the USD7 million, USD3 million is allocated to the UNHCR for implementing legal, educational, vocational and healthcare programs for refugees in Pakistan.[2657] The Government of Japan will contribute the remaining USD4 million of aid to the WFP to support 82,389 beneficiaries including 42,874 children between the ages of 6 to 69 months as well as 39,515 pregnant and lactating women over a six-month period.[2658]

On 12 March 2017, the Government of Japan funded the installation of 680 solar street lights in different locations in the Salaheddine, Diyala, Kirkuk and Baghdad governorates of Iraq.[2659] The project aims to improve the safety of internally displaced persons (IDPs), thousands of refugees, returnees, and members of the host communities in Iraq.[2660]

On 28 March 2017, Ambassador of Japan to Egypt Takehiro Kagawa signed a grant contract with the Fard Foundation,[2661]amounting to USD213,983. The grant will be used to improve self-reliance and livelihoods of vulnerable refugees and Egyptian residents in the refugee host communities in the 6th of October City by offering vocational opportunities and soft skill trainings.[2662]

On 31 March 2017, the Government of Japan announced that it will allocate USD2 million as emergency aid to the Rohingya refugees who fled to Bangladesh in the face of persecution in their home state of Northern Rakhine in Myanmar.[2663] The IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF will use the grant to provide the Rohingya refugees with humanitarian assistance such as shelter, non-food items, health services, water and sanitation and protection.[2664]

[2656] Japanese government grants $7 million aid for Afghan refugees, host communities in Pakistan, The Express Tribune (Pakistan) 9 March 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. https://tribune.com.pk/story/1350860/japanese-govt-grants-7-million-aid-afghan-refugees-host-communities-pakistan/.
[2657] Japanese government grants $7 million aid for Afghan refugees, host communities in Pakistan, The Express Tribune (Pakistan) 9 March 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. https://tribune.com.pk/story/1350860/japanese-govt-grants-7-million-aid-afghan-refugees-host-communities-pakistan/.
[2658] Japanese government grants $7 million aid for Afghan refugees, host communities in Pakistan, The Express Tribune (Pakistan) 9 March 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. https://tribune.com.pk/story/1350860/japanese-govt-grants-7-million-aid-afghan-refugees-host-communities-pakistan/.
[2659] Japan supports the safety of IDPs, Refugees, Returnees, and Host Communities in Iraq, United Nations Iraq (Baghdad) 13 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.uniraq.com/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=6425:japan-supports-the-safety-of-idps,-refugees,-returnees,-and-host-communities-in-iraq&Itemid=605&lang=en.
[2660] Japan supports the safety of IDPs, Refugees, Returnees, and Host Communities in Iraq, United Nations Iraq (Baghdad) 13 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.uniraq.com/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=6425:japan-supports-the-safety-of-idps,-refugees,-returnees,-and-host-communities-in-iraq&Itemid=605&lang=en.
[2661] Japan assists project for supporting self-reliance for vulnerable refugees and the Egyptian local populations of the 6th of October City, Giza, Embassy of Japan in Egypt (Egypt) 28 March 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. http://www.eg.emb-japan.go.jp/e/assistance/archives/2017/20170328.htm.
[2662] Japan assists project for supporting self-reliance for vulnerable refugees and the Egyptian local populations of the 6th of October City, Giza, Embassy of Japan in Egypt (Egypt) 28 March 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. http://www.eg.emb-japan.go.jp/e/assistance/archives/2017/20170328.htm.
[2663] Japan to provide $2m for Rohingya refugees, The Daily Star (Bangladesh) 31 March 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017. http://www.thedailystar.net/city/japan-provide-2m-rohingya-refugees-1384123.
[2664] Japan to provide $2m for Rohingya refugees, The Daily Star (Bangladesh) 31 March 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017. http://www.thedailystar.net/city/japan-provide-2m-rohingya-refugees-1384123.

On 25 April 2017, the Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Uganda announced that Japan will contribute a total of USD6.3 million to the UNHCR, WFP and UNDP to support refugees and host communities in Uganda for a period of one year from April 2017 to March 2018.[2665]

On 8 May 2017, the Government of Japan provided an emergency grant-in-aid of $2 million to Myanmar refugees in Bangladesh through the IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF.[2666] The financial package will help UNICEF provide Maternal Neonatal Child and Adolescent Health (MNCAH) to 61,822 children under the age of five, 58,299 women between 15-49 years of age and 2,000 adolescents in the refugee communities.[2667] It will also help the agencies distribute health information and education services, immunisation, latrines, hygiene and hand-washing devices.[2668]

In 2016, Japan accepted 28 refugees — one more than the 27 it received in 2015.[2669]

In 2016, Japan contributed USD164.7 million to the UNHCR.[2670] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD102 million in 2017.[2671]

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 by developing concrete actions such as pledging to accept 150 Syrian students over the next five years, and sustaining existing initiatives by continuing to contribute financial support to host countries, the UN, and its organizations. Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Emilia Lochowska

Korea: 0

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 4 October 2016, Ambassador Song Woong-Yeob of Korea to Iraq attended an official ceremony hosted by the Kurdistan Regional Government Minister of Interior and donated USD300,000 in medical supplies to internally displaced persons and refugees from Syria and Iraq who are currently residing in Kurdistan.[2672]

[2665] Japan contributes US$6.3 million to support efforts towards refugees and host communities in Uganda, United Nations Development Programme in Uganda (Kampala) 25 April 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.ug.undp.org/content/uganda/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2017/04/25/joint-press-release-japan-contributes-us-6-3-million-to-support-efforts-towards-refugees-and-host-communities-in-uganda-.html.

[2666] Japan gives $2 million in emergency aid for Myanmar refugees in Bangladesh, BDnews (Bangladesh) 8 May 2017. Date of Access: 27 May 2017. http://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/2017/05/08/japan-gives-2-million-in-emergency-aid-for-myanmar-refugees-in-bangladesh.

[2667] Japan gives $2 million in emergency aid for Myanmar refugees in Bangladesh, BDnews (Bangladesh) 8 May 2017. Date of Access: 27 May 2017. http://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/2017/05/08/japan-gives-2-million-in-emergency-aid-for-myanmar-refugees-in-bangladesh.

[2668] Japan gives $2 million in emergency aid for Myanmar refugees in Bangladesh, BDnews (Bangladesh) 8 May 2017. Date of Access: 27 May 2017. http://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/2017/05/08/japan-gives-2-million-in-emergency-aid-for-myanmar-refugees-in-bangladesh.

[2669] Japan took in 28 refugees in 2016, despite record applications, Reuters (Tokyo) 9 February 2017. Date of Access: 21 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-japan-asylum-idUSKBN15O0UV.

[2670] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.

[2671] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.

[2672] South Korea continues to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs and refugees in Kurdistan Region, Kurdistan Regional Government Ministry of Interior Joint Crisis Coordination Center (Erbil) 5 October 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://www.jcckrg.org/en/article/read/48.

On 21 September 2016, Minister of Foreign Affairs Yun Byung-se announced at the Leader's Summit on Refugees that Korea will allocate USD230 million over the next three years in multilateral humanitarian aid to solve the global refugee crisis.[2673]

On 2 November 2016, Korea received 34 refugees from Myanmar as a part of a 2015 refugee resettlement program initiated by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2674] The Ministry of Justice will run the pilot program until 2017, at which point it will decide whether or not to continue the project based on public reception of refugees and the success of integration.[2675]

On 16 December 2016, the Government of Korea contributed USD2 million in humanitarian assistance to Greece, Armenia and Serbia to support those countries with their refugee populations.[2676] The contributions are expected to help reduce socio-economic difficulties caused by the refugee crisis and improve the humanitarian situation of refugees in these countries.[2677] The assistance to Greece and Armenia will be provided through the UNHCR, while the assistance to Serbia will be offered through a bilateral channel.[2678]

On 24 January 2017, Korea contributed USD500,000 to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to promote safe spaces and healthy lifestyles for Palestinian refugee children in Syria.[2679] The grant will also support UNRWA efforts in Syria to develop safe, child-friendly and gender-sensitive health centres and schools, facilitate health education for Palestine refugee children and guarantee healthy lifestyle counseling for Palestinian refugee girls.[2680]

On 26 January 2017, the Government of Korea concluded a USD350,000 agreement with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) at Rwanda to improve prevention and response mechanisms for children and adolescents in Mahama camp for Burundian refugees over a one-year period.[2681]

[2673] South Korea pledges to contribute US $230 mln to global support for refugees, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/northkorea/2016/09/21/0401000000AEN20160921005500315.html.
[2674] Korea to take in Myanmar refugees, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20150921001224.
[2675] Korea to take in Myanmar refugees, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20150921001224.
[2676] ROK to Offer US$2 Million in Humanitarian Assistance for Mediterranean Refugees, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Seoul) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 6 June 2017. .http://www.mofa.go.kr/webmodule/htsboard/template/read/engreadboard.jsp?typeID=12&boardid=302&seqno=317917&c=TITLE&t=humanitarian&pagenum=1&tableName=TYPE_ENGLISH&pc=&dc=&wc=&lu=&vu=&iu=&du.
[2677] ROK to Offer US$2 Million in Humanitarian Assistance for Mediterranean Refugees, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Seoul) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 6 June 2017. .http://www.mofa.go.kr/webmodule/htsboard/template/read/engreadboard.jsp?typeID=12&boardid=302&seqno=317917&c=TITLE&t=humanitarian&pagenum=1&tableName=TYPE_ENGLISH&pc=&dc=&wc=&lu=&vu=&iu=&du.
[2678] ROK to Offer US$2 Million in Humanitarian Assistance for Mediterranean Refugees, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Seoul) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 6 June 2017. .http://www.mofa.go.kr/webmodule/htsboard/template/read/engreadboard.jsp?typeID=12&boardid=302&seqno=317917&c=TITLE&t=humanitarian&pagenum=1&tableName=TYPE_ENGLISH&pc=&dc=&wc=&lu=&vu=&iu=&du.
[2679] Republic of Korea contributes US$500,000 to promote a better and safer life for Palestine refugee children in Syria, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (East Jerusalem) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/republic-korea-contributes-us-500000-promote-better-and-safer-life-palestine.
[2680] Republic of Korea contributes US$500,000 to promote a better and safer life for Palestine refugee children in Syria, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (East Jerusalem) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/republic-korea-contributes-us-500000-promote-better-and-safer-life-palestine.
[2681] Korea supports Burudian refugee response protection, The New Times (Rwanda) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.newtimes.co.rw/section/article/2017-01-26/207442/.

On 5 April 2017, the Government of Korea pledged USD14 million in humanitarian assistance to Syria and its neighbouring countries including Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan at the Brussels Conference on Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region.[2682]

In 2016, Korea contributed USD7.1 million to the UNHCR.[2683] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD7.3 million in 2017.[2684]

Korea has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 by sustaining existing initiatives such as the 2015 UNHCR resettlement program and continuing to contribute financial aid to host countries and the UNHCR. However, it has failed to develop concrete actions. Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Emilia Lochowska

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 20 September 2016, at the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants, President Enrique Peña Nieto outlined seven specific actions that the Government of Mexico is promoting. These include increasing the number of the Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance (COMAR) personnel by 80 per cent in places where the highest number of applications are registered over the coming months.[2685] Additionally, President Nieto committed to finding alternatives to prevent the administrative detention of asylum seekers.[2686]

As of 11 December 2016, Mexico has contributed a total of USD2 million to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and its emergency operation to deliver food assistance to vulnerable Syrian populations in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey, and Egypt affected by conflict in Syria.[2687]

In 2016, Mexico contributed USD55,000 to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2688] As of 6 June 2017, it has yet to contribute anything in 2017.

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 by sustaining existing initiatives such as financial contributions to the WFP and UNHCR. However, it has failed to develop new concrete actions. Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Engin Polar

[2682] ROK Government Pledges US$14 Million in Humanitarian Assistance at Brussels Conference on Supporting Future of Syria and Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Seoul) 6 April 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. .http://www.mofa.go.kr/webmodule/htsboard/template/read/engreadboard.jsp?typeID=12&boardid=302&seqno=318312&c=TITLE&t=humanitarian&pagenum=1&tableName=TYPE_ENGLISH&pc=&dc=&wc=&lu=&vu=&iu=&du.

[2683] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.

[2684] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.

[2685] Mexico urges international community to show solidarity with refugees and ensure their integration into host communities, Gobierno de México (Mexico City) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 9 December 2016. https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/mexico-urges-international-community-to-show-solidarity-with-refugees-and-ensure-their-integration-into-host-communities-epn.

[2686] Mexico urges international community to show solidarity with refugees and ensure their integration into host communities, Gobierno de México (Mexico City) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 9 December 2016. https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/mexico-urges-international-community-to-show-solidarity-with-refugees-and-ensure-their-integration-into-host-communities-epn.

[2687] Donor Profiles, WFP (Rome) 2016. Access Date: 14 December 2016. http://www.wfp.org/about/funding/governments/mexico.

[2688] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

In May 2016, the President of Russia signed the Law on simplified procedure for obtaining permanent residence in Russia. The Federal Law provides for a simplified procedure for obtaining Russian permanent residence (without first having to obtain a temporary residence permit and live at least one year in Russia on the basis of this permit). This simplified procedure is open to foreign citizens and stateless persons "coming in large numbers to Russia as a result of an emergency situation, provided they receive temporary asylum or refugee status and are involved in the state programme for assistance to compatriots living abroad in voluntary resettlement in Russia."[2689]

On 28 March 2017, Head of the Russian Reconciliation Center in Syria Sergey Rachuk announced the delivery of 13.5 tonnes of food to a refugee camp near Manbij in Syria.[2690]

In 2016, Russia contributed USD2 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2691] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD2 million in 2017.[2692]

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement by sustaining existing initiatives such as continuing to contribute funding to the UNHCR. However, it has not developed concrete actions. Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Mariya-Kvitlana Tsap & Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to continue to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 21 September 2016, at the Leaders' Summit on Refugees in New York, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Nayef announced that Saudi Arabia will contribute an additional USD75 million to aid refugees in coordination with international aid organizations.[2693]

On 22 October 2016, the Government of Saudi Arabia, represented by the Saudi Fund for Development, signed an agreement with the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) in Riyadh of USD6 million to provide support to refugees in Jordan and Syria, for USD3 million each.[2694] The Saudi National Campaign also distributed school bags and stationery to 747 Syrian students in a Jordanian refugee camp in Irbid.[2695]

[2689] Law on Simplified Procedure for Obtaining Permanent Residence in Russia, President of Russia 2 May 2016. http://kremlin.ru/acts/news/51861

[2690] Russia Delivers 13.5 Tonnes of Aid to Syrian Refugee Camp. Sputnik (Russia) 28 March 2017. Access Date: 15 May 2017. https://sputniknews.com/middleeast/201703281052026270-russia-syria-humanitarian-aid/.

[2691] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.

[2692] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.

[2693] Saudi Arabia pledges $75 million to refugees, The New Arab (London) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 24 January 2017. https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/news/2016/9/22/saudi-arabia-pledges-75-million-to-refugees.

[2694] Saudi Arabia to provide food aid for 4m Syrian refugees through WFP, Arab News (Riyadh) 22 October 2016. Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1000986/saudi-arabia.

[2695] Saudi Arabia to provide food aid for 4m Syrian refugees through WFP, Arab News (Riyadh) 22 October 2016. Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1000986/saudi-arabia.

As of 10 February 2017, the Government of Saudi Arabia has contributed USD27.9 million out of the pledged USD200 million for humanitarian relief efforts in Syria at the Supporting Syria and the Region conference held on 4 February 2016 in London.[2696]

On 15 April 2017, Royal Court Advisor and General Supervisor of the King Salman Centre for Relief and Humanitarian Aid (KSRelief) Abdullah Al-Rabeeah announced that the Government of Saudi Arabia, working through KSRelief, has implemented 124 relief programs in the fields of food security, shelters, health, environmental reform, water, mother and child health and community programs spanning all parts of Yemen since KSRelief was founded on 13 May 2015.[2697]

On 7 May 2017, Advisor Al-Rabeeah announced that KSRelief carried out three more projects in Yemen, taking the total to 127 projects aimed at providing relief and humanitarian aid.[2698] He also stated that Saudi Arabia received 603,833 refugees from Yemen along with their families, and received 291,341 Syrian refugees since the conflict in Syria began in 2011.[2699] Furthermore, the government of Saudi Arabia, working through KSRelief has provided USD700 million worth of aid to 37 countries since 13 May 2015.[2700]

In 2016, Saudi Arabia contributed USD14.7 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2701] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD15.9 million in 2017.[2702]

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement by sustaining existing initiatives to continue to support refugees by continuing to contribute to humanitarian organizations such as the UNHCR and WFP. However, it has failed to develop concrete actions in 2017. Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Annie Luo & Henry Adlam

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 16 September 2016, Minister of Home Affairs Malusi Gigaba held a roundtable discussion with representatives of the civil society to discuss issues related to the 1996 Green Paper on International Migration.[2703] The discussion is part of a public consultation process held by the Department of Home Affairs from 1 July 2016 to 30 September 2016 to review the Green Paper and discovery ways to improve the Government of South Africa's immigration policy.[2704]

2696 Who really paid up to help Syria?, British Broadcasting Corporation (London) 10 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.bbc.com/news/education-38896547.
2697 Saudi Arabia 'at forefront of global humanitarian effort', Arab News (London) 15 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1084821/saudi-arabia.
2698 Saudi Arabia hosts 895,175 Yemeni, Syrian refugees as guests: KSRelief chief, Arab News (London) 7 May 2017. Access Date: May 30 2017 http://www.arabnews.com/node/1095621/saudi-arabia.
2699 Saudi Arabia hosts 895,175 Yemeni, Syrian refugees as guests: KSRelief chief, Arab News (London) 7 May 2017. Access Date: May 30 2017 http://www.arabnews.com/node/1095621/saudi-arabia.
2700 Saudi Arabia hosts 895,175 Yemeni, Syrian refugees as guests: KSRelief chief, Arab News (London) 7 May 2017. Access Date: May 30 2017 http://www.arabnews.com/node/1095621/saudi-arabia.
2701 Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
2702 Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.
2703 Minister Gigaba to host International Migration Roundtable with Civil Society, Department of Home Affairs (Johannesburg) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. http://www.home-affairs.gov.za/index.php/statements-speeches/855-minister-gigaba-to-host-international-migration-roundtable-with-civil-society.
2704 Green Paper on International Migration, Department of Home Affairs (Pretoria) 2017. Access Date: 19 January 2017. http://www.home-affairs.gov.za/index.php/notices/815-green-paper-on-international-migration.

On 30 September 2016, delegations from South Africa and other African countries as well as representatives from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the African Union held a ministerial meeting in Geneva to agree on the final steps of a 2009 comprehensive solutions strategy to support the integration of Rwandan refugees into their host communities in South Africa and other African countries.[2705] During the meeting, participants agreed to continue promoting the option of voluntary repatriation to Rwanda in safety and dignity.[2706] As of 30 September 2016, of the 3.5 million Rwandans that became refugees between 1997 and 1998, all but 268,500 refugees have found a solution.[2707] The strategy aims to find durable solutions for the remaining refugees by December 2017.[2708]

On 11 December 2016, Minister Gigaba announced the winners of the Second Annual Mkhaya Migrants Awards.[2709] The Department of Home Affairs launched the Awards in 2015 to promote the "building of a united, democratic and prosperous society where citizens, residents and migrants live together in peace and harmony."[2710] They are awarded to individuals, groups of individuals, or communities that make positive contributions towards enhancing South Africa's social cohesion and supporting international migration.[2711]

On 17 February 2017, President Jacob Zuma visited Pretoria to relaunch the Marabastad Refugee Reception Office Renovation Project.[2712] In the months preceding the official announcement, the center received an upgrade following complaints by foreign nationals regarding slow processing times as well as charges of corruption and mismanagement.[2713]

[2705] African host countries agree on final steps to resolve Rwandan refugee situation, UNHCR (Geneva) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2016/9/57f20dd54/unhcr-african-host-countries-agree-final-steps-resolve-rwandan-refugee.html.
[2706] African host countries agree on final steps to resolve Rwandan refugee situation, UNHCR (Geneva) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2016/9/57f20dd54/unhcr-african-host-countries-agree-final-steps-resolve-rwandan-refugee.html.
[2707] African host countries agree on final steps to resolve Rwandan refugee situation, UNHCR (Geneva) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2016/9/57f20dd54/unhcr-african-host-countries-agree-final-steps-resolve-rwandan-refugee.html.
[2708] African host countries agree on final steps to resolve Rwandan refugee situation, UNHCR (Geneva) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2016/9/57f20dd54/unhcr-african-host-countries-agree-final-steps-resolve-rwandan-refugee.html.
[2709] Speech by Minister of Home Affairs Malusi Ggaba to the Second Mkhaya South African Migrants Awards, Department of Home Affairs (Johannesburg) 12 December 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. .http://www.home-affairs.gov.za/index.php/statements-speeches/910-address-by-the-minister-of-home-affairs-malusi-gigaba-mp-on-the-occasion-of-the-second-mkhaya-south-african-migrants-awards-in-johannesburg-on-11-december-2015.
[2710] Media Statement on Mkhaya Migrants Awards Nominees, Department of Home Affairs (Pretoria) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. http://www.home-affairs.gov.za/index.php/statements-speeches/909-media-statement-on-mkhaya-migrants-awards-nominees.
[2711] Speech by Minister of Home Affairs Malusi Ggaba to the Second Mkhaya South African Migrants Awards, Department of Home Affairs (Johannesburg) 12 December 2016. Access Date: 19 January 2017. .http://www.home-affairs.gov.za/index.php/statements-speeches/910-address-by-the-minister-of-home-affairs-malusi-gigaba-mp-on-the-occasion-of-the-second-mkhaya-south-african-migrants-awards-in-johannesburg-on-11-december-2015.
[2712] President Zuma to Launch Marabastad Refugee Reception Centre, Department of Home Affairs (Pretoria) 17 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/statements-speeches/930-president-zuma-to-launch-marabastad-refugee-reception-centre.
[2713] President Zuma to Launch Marabastad Refugee Reception Centre, Department of Home Affairs (Pretoria) 17 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/statements-speeches/930-president-zuma-to-launch-marabastad-refugee-reception-centre.

On 23 February 2017, Minister Gigaba declared that the Refugee Amendment Bill has been brought to the Parliament.[2714] The amendment includes measures to ensure protection of asylum seekers and to curb exploitation of the system by economic migrants who capitalize on loopholes in legislation.[2715]

On 8 May 2017, Home Affairs Minister Hlengiwe Mkhize introduced new features to the 2011 Modernization Programme.[2716] As part of the programme, the Department of Home Affairs has also initiated a project to modernize the system in processing asylum seeker and refugee management.[2717]

In 2016, South Africa contributed USD125,217 to the UNHCR.[2718] As of 6 June 2017, it has yet to contribute anything in 2017.

South Africa has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement by sustaining existing initiatives such as continuing to contribute funding the UNHCR. However, it has not developed concrete actions. Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Ben Xu & Tea Cimini

Turkey: +1

Turkey has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 9 September 2016, the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD), the Foreign Ministry, and the Turkish Red Crescent jointly coordinated to send a ship carrying 11,000 tons of humanitarian aid to East Africa, including around 178,000 diapers and foodstuff, to help alleviate the needs of internally displaced people in Ethiopia and Somalia. The AFAD noted that this is the 12th humanitarian aid ship sent to Somalia since 2011, and the amount of Turkish humanitarian aid to Somalia will reach 62,000 tons.[2719]

On 20 September 2016, the Government of Turkey announced the creation of a special task force to accelerate the integration of Syrian refugees into the labour market in cooperation with the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK), Council of Higher Education (YÖK), National Education Ministry (MEB), Directorate of Turks Living Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) and the AFAD.[2720] Furthermore, the AFAD, the Housing Development Administration of Turkey (TOKI)

[2714] Minister Malusi Gigaba: Media briefing on tensions between citizens and foreign nationals, Department of Home Affairs (Pretoria) 23 February 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-malusi-gigaba-media-briefing-tensions-between-citizens-and-foreign-nationals-23
[2715] Minister Malusi Gigaba: Media briefing on tensions between citizens and foreign nationals, Department of Home Affairs (Pretoria) 23 February 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-malusi-gigaba-media-briefing-tensions-between-citizens-and-foreign-nationals-23
[2716] Minister Hlengiwe Mkhize presents Smart ID Card to Speaker Baleka Mbete, Department of Home Affairs (Pretoria) 8 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-hlengiwe-mkhize-presents-smart-id-card-speaker-baleka-mbete-8-may-2017-0000.
[2717] Minister Hlengiwe Mkhize presents Smart ID Card to Speaker Baleka Mbete, Department of Home Affairs (Pretoria) 8 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-hlengiwe-mkhize-presents-smart-id-card-speaker-baleka-mbete-8-may-2017-0000.
[2718] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2719] Turkish humanitarian aid ship leaves for East Africa, Anadolu Agency (Mersin) 9 September 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/africa/turkish-humanitarian-aid-ship-leaves-for-east-africa/644086.
[2720] Turkey to provide employment for Syrian refugees based on qualifications, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://www.dailysabah.com/legislation/2016/09/21/turkey-to-provide-employment-for-syrian-refugees-based-on-qualifications.

and the Environment and Urban Planning Ministry are jointly coordinating to expedite efforts to provide affordable housing to refugees in Kilis and Hatay.[2721]

On 20 September 2016, at the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan noted that Turkey is currently hosting nearly three million Syrian refugees.[2722] Furthermore, President Erdogan announced that Turkey has started to provide citizenship and work permits to Syrian refugees residing in Turkey after making the necessary legislative changes.[2723] The President noted that 310,000 school-age Syrian children have started to attend school in Turkey due to collaborative efforts between the Government of Turkey and non-governmental organizations.[2724] President Erdogan also noted that Turkey's registered spending for refugees has surpassed USD12 billion, and that external financial support from other countries has amounted to USD512 million.[2725]

On 28 September 2016, Deputy Minister of Education Orhan Erdem announced Turkey's plan to provide education for 450,000 school-aged Syrian refugees for the 2016-2017 academic year. In the 2015-2016 academic year, of the 814,000 school-age Syrian children currently in Turkey, only 340,000 received an education.[2726]

On 21 October 2016, the Government of Turkey delivered 500 tons of humanitarian aid to 30 villages near Mosul, Iraq. The aid consisted of food and clothes for 45,000 internally displaced people.[2727]

On 8 November 2016, the Ministry of Health released new data on refugee access to healthcare. Nearly one million Syrian refugees have received medical treatment in Turkey in 2016. Of the one million, over 967,000 have received in-patient treatment, around 800,000 have received operations, and over 177,000 babies have been born. Furthermore, medicines have been supplied free of charge.[2728]

On 2 December 2016, the Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the World Health Organization and the European Union, established a new initiative to provide approximately 600 Syrian refugees who are doctors in Syria with training to work at special clinics in Turkey. Under the program, Syrian doctors receive education from Turkish doctors on the Turkish health care system and ultimately obtain a certification allowing them to work in special clinics for refugees.[2729]

[2721] Turkey to provide employment for Syrian refugees based on qualifications, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://www.dailysabah.com/legislation/2016/09/21/turkey-to-provide-employment-for-syrian-refugees-based-on-qualifications.

[2722] Turkey's Erdogan challenges world leaders at UN Assembly to end bloodshed in Syria, UN News Centre (New York) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=54972#.WEzbWaIrI6V.

[2723] Turkey Announces Start of Process to Naturalize Syrian Refugees, The Syrian Observer (New York), 22 September 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://syrianobserver.com/EN/News/31679/Turkey_Announces_Start_Process_Naturalize_Syrian_Refugees.

[2724] President Erdoğan Attends Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Presidency of the Republic of Turkey (New York) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://www.tccb.gov.tr/en/news/542/52368/cumhurbaskani-erdogan-multeciler-konulu-liderler-zirvesi-toplantisina-katildi.html.

[2725] President Erdoğan Attends Leaders' Summit on Refugees, Presidency of the Republic of Turkey (New York) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://www.tccb.gov.tr/en/news/542/52368/cumhurbaskani-erdogan-multeciler-konulu-liderler-zirvesi-toplantisina-katildi.html.

[2726] Turkey to educate up to 450,000 Syrian refugee children, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 28 September 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://www.dailysabah.com/politics/2016/09/29/turkey-to-educate-up-to-450000-syrian-refugee-children.

[2727] Turkey sends 500 tons of aid to Mosul amid humanitarian concerns, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 21 October 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://www.dailysabah.com/nation/2016/10/21/turkey-sends-500-tons-of-aid-to-mosul-amid-humanitarian-concerns.

[2728] Turkey releases refugee healthcare data, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 8 November 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://aa.com.tr/en/health/turkey-releases-refugee-healthcare-data/681187.

[2729] Training, certificate help Syrian refugee doctors become legitimate, Daily Sabah (Gaziantep) 2 December 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. http://www.dailysabah.com/legislation/2016/09/21/turkey-to-provide-employment-for-syrian-refugees-based-on-qualifications.

On 7 December 2016, Deputy Prime Minister Veysi Kaynak said 78,824 Syrian children are being educated at temporary refugee centres. He said that around 133,400 Syrian students are being educated in state schools run by the Ministry of National Education.[2730] Furthermore, he said that the Government of Turkey had established just over 2,000 vocational training courses for adult refugees, and about 222,900 trainees have graduated in hairdressing, sewing, weaving, handicrafts, computing and language courses.[2731]

On 9 December 2016, Deputy Prime Minister Numan Kurtulmus announced that the Presidency of Religious Affairs has launched a humanitarian campaign to deliver aid to civilians lacking access to basic humanitarian needs in Aleppo, Syria.[2732]

On 16 December 2016, Minister of Health Recep Akdag stated that the Government of Turkey deployed three field hospitals and dispatched ambulances, as well as medical personnel on the Turkish-Syrian border for admission of the influx of injured Syrians evacuating Aleppo.[2733]

On 19 December 2016, the AFAD built a refugee camp with a capacity of 25,000 in Kahramanmaras.[2734] The camp offers facilities ranging from sixteen public training centers, four schools, eight children's playgrounds, four soccer fields, four basketball courts, a mosque, a grocery store, and two rehabilitation centres.[2735] Furthermore, Deputy Prime Minister Kaynak stated that following Operation Euphrates Shield, the Turkish military intervention in Syria, a permanent safe-zone was established in in the village of Kafaldin where civilians from Aleppo will be placed.[2736]

On 21 December 2016, the AFAD distributed USD150,000 in humanitarian aid, including 6,500 food parcels to refugees from Central African Republic displaced in Chad.[2737]

On 24 December 2016, the Prime Ministry Directorate General of Press and Information announced that Turkey is readying tent camps for refugees in Idlib, Syria.[2738]

On 27 December 2016, the AFAD upgraded a refugee camp in Osmaniye that was originally created in 2012 by improving the camp's facilities and increasing its capacity, so that it will be able to shelter just

[2730] Turkey schooling almost 79,000 Syrian children, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-schooling-almost-79-000-syrian-children/701035.
[2731] Turkey schooling almost 79,000 Syrian children, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 7 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-schooling-almost-79-000-syrian-children/701035.
[2732] Turkey launches humanitarian campaign in war-torn Aleppo, TRT World (Ankara) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 10 December 2016. http://www.trtworld.com/mea/turkey-launches-humanitarian-campaign-in-war-torn-aleppo-248427.
[2733] Turkey mobilized for Aleppo with tent camp, treatment of injured, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 31 December 2016. http://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/2016/12/17/turkey-mobilized-for-aleppo-with-tent-camp-treatment-of-injured.
[2734] Turkey opens 25,000-person capacity camp for Aleppo refugees, Daily Sabah (Kahramanmaraş) 19 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://www.dailysabah.com/politics/2016/12/19/turkey-opens-25000-person-capacity-camp-for-aleppo-refugees.
[2735] Two-story refugee camp in Turkey offers the best for Syrians, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 25 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/2016/12/26/two-story-refugee-camp-in-turkey-offers-the-best-for-syrians.
[2736] Turkey opens 25,000-person capacity camp for Aleppo refugees, Daily Sabah (Kahramanmaraş) 19 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://www.dailysabah.com/politics/2016/12/19/turkey-opens-25000-person-capacity-camp-for-aleppo-refugees.
[2737] Turkey Delivers Aid to Central African Refugees, AFAD (Ankara) 21 December 2016. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.afad.gov.tr/tr/14941/Turkey-Delivers-Aid-to-Central-African-Refugees.
[2738] Over 200 civilians from Aleppo receive treatment in Turkey, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 24 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/2016/12/24/over-200-civilians-from-aleppo-receive-treatment-in-turkey.

over 16,700 people.[2739] According to the AFAD, Turkey is sheltering close to 260,000 Syrians across twenty-six temporary housing facilities equipped with schools, hospitals, and athletic facilities.[2740]

On 27 December 2016, Deputy Prime Minister Veysi Kaynak said that the Government of Turkey is planning to set up a refugee camp in Syria near the Turkish-Syrian border that will host up to 80,000 internally displaced people who have fled Aleppo.[2741] The camp will be jointly set up by the Turkish Red Crescent, the AFAD, and the Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief. It will be protected by the Turkish air defense system. Additionally, the Deputy Prime Minister said that the Turkish government will also establish little villages in the southern border province of Kilis where hundreds of thousands of refugees will be able to take temporary refuge.[2742]

On 28 December 2016, the Sanliurfa Governor's Office, in cooperation with the International Middle East Peace Research Center established a 24/7 call centre designed to help Syrian refugees find solutions to health, education and security issues. It will be operated by 22 qualified personnel, including translators, lawyers, and psychologists, who will provide a range of services to Syrian refugees.[2743]

On 6 January 2017, President Erdogan announced that certain Syrian and Iraqi refugees who pass a screening process conducted by the Ministry of Interior will be granted Turkish citizenship.[2744]

On 26 January 2017, Health Minister Recep Akdag announced that Turkey will set up 170 Refugee Health Centres and 500 affiliated health units across the country.[2745] Furthermore, the Ministry of Health announced that special work permits will be granted to Syrian medical professionals in order to better integrate Syrian medical staff into the Turkish healthcare system and offer a broader range of health services to refugees.[2746]

On 27 January 2017, the Government of Turkey signed a USD150 million grant with the EU and World Bank to provide education to Syrian refugees in Turkey.[2747] Ministry of Education Deputy Undersecretary Murat Demirci indicated that around 500,000 Syrian schoolchildren are currently receiving free education in Turkey as of January 2017.[2748]

[2739] Turkey readies improved camp for Aleppo civilians, Anadolu Agency (Osmaniye) 27 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-readies-improved-camp-for-aleppo-civilians/714964.
[2740] Turkey readies improved camp for Aleppo civilians, Anadolu Agency (Osmaniye) 27 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-readies-improved-camp-for-aleppo-civilians/714964.
[2741] Turkey to set up new refugee camp for war-wounded Aleppo evacuees, al-Bawabla News (Abu Dhabi) 17 December 2016. Access Date: 31 December 2016. http://www.albawaba.com/news/turkey-set-new-refugee-camp-war-wounded-aleppo-evacuees-915908.
[2742] Turkey to set up safe zone for Syrian refugees, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 27 December 2016. Access Date: 31 December 2016. http://www.dailysabah.com/politics/2016/12/28/turkey-to-set-up-safe-zone-for-syrian-refugees.
[2743] Turkey introduces 24/7 call center for Syrian refugees, Anadolu Agency (Sanliurfa) 28 December 2016. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/todays-headlines/turkey-introduces-24-7-call-center-for-syrian-refugees/715907.
[2744] Erdogan offers citizenship to Syrian and Iraqi refugees, Al Jazeera (Ankara) 6 January 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2017. http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/01/erdogan-offers-citizenship-syrian-iraqi-refugees-170106195134961.html.
[2745] Turkish gov't to set up new refugee healthcare centers, employ Syrian medical staff, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/2017/01/27/turkish-govt-to-set-up-new-refugee-healthcare-centers-employ-syrian-medical-staff.
[2746] Turkish gov't to set up new refugee healthcare centers, employ Syrian medical staff, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 26 January 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/2017/01/27/turkish-govt-to-set-up-new-refugee-healthcare-centers-employ-syrian-medical-staff.
[2747] New $150M deal for Syrian refugees in Turkey, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 27 January 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/new-150m-deal-for-syrian-refugees-in-turkey/736439.
[2748] New $150M deal for Syrian refugees in Turkey, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 27 January 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/new-150m-deal-for-syrian-refugees-in-turkey/736439.

On 15 February 2017, Interior Minister Suleyman Soylu announced that Turkey has spent USD25 billion on refugees and the exact number of Syrian refugees hosted in Turkey is 3,551,078.[2749]

On 24 March 2017, Turkey sent 13 aid trucks full of stationery and educational supplies to the internally displaced Syrians in Jarabulus and Al-Bab.[2750]

On 4 April 2017, the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) donated electrical equipment, including an electric generator and 1,100 solar lamps, to the Minawao refugee camp in northern Cameroon.[2751] Additionally, TIKA distributed humanitarian aid to 1,300 South Sudanese refugees in a refugee camp in Kosti city, Sudan.[2752]

On 21 May 2017, Turkey and Qatar jointly opened an orphanage compound in the city of Reyhanli.[2753] The orphanage will house 990 orphaned Syrian refugee children in 55 homes.[2754]

In 2016, Turkey contributed USD1 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2755] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD300,000 in 2017.[2756]

Turkey has fully complied with its commitment to address the issue of forced displacement by developing concrete actions such as creating new refugee camps and integrating refugees into Turkish society by offering education, citizenship, and lawful work, and sustaining existing initiatives such as continuing to provide humanitarian aid and contribute funds to the UNHCR. Thus, Turkey receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Engin Polar

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 6 September 2016, Minister of Immigration Robert Goodwill announced that the UK struck a USD23 million deal with France to begin constructing a wall in Calais to prevent refugees and migrants from crossing over from France to the UK.[2757]

On 20 September 2016, Prime Minister Theresa May announced at the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants that the UK government will provide an additional "almost $2 billion" in humanitarian support for the refugee crisis. May also announced the following: a new jobs compact between the UK, Ethiopia, the World Bank, the EIB and the EU, to which the UK will contribute $104 million; and an initial $3.25 million contribution to the UN and IOM emerging countries resettlement

[2749] Turkey spent $25B on 3.5 million refugees, says interior minister, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 15 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/2017/02/16/turkey-spent-25b-on-35-million-refugees-says-interior-minister.
[2750] Turkey sends 13 truckfuls of school supplies to Syria, Anadolu Agency (Antalya) 24 March 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-sends-13-truckfuls-of-school-supplies-to-syria-/778786.
[2751] Turkish agency provides aid to refugees in Cameroon, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 4 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/africa/turkish-agency-provides-aid-to-refugees-in-cameroon/787211.
[2752] Turkish agency provides aid to refugees in Sudan, Anadolu Agency (Khartoum) 3 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/africa/turkish-agency-provides-aid-to-refugees-in-sudan/786931.
[2753] Turkey and Qatar open orphanage compound for Syrian kids, TRT World (Reyhanli) 21 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.trtworld.com/turkey/turkey-and-qatar-open-orphanage-compound-for-syrian-kids-361084.
[2754] Turkey and Qatar open orphanage compound for Syrian kids, TRT World (Reyhanli) 21 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.trtworld.com/turkey/turkey-and-qatar-open-orphanage-compound-for-syrian-kids-361084.
[2755] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2016. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2756] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.
[2757] UK to build "big new wall" in Calais to stop migrants, CNN (London) 7 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://edition.cnn.com/2016/09/07/europe/calais-wall-migrants/.

fund.[2758] The UK government will allocate GBP20 million from this financial package to the UNHCR to ensure the return of Somali refugees to their home country from camps in Kenya, and contribute the remaining GBP80 million to support Ethiopia in creating 100,000 jobs in the country, 30,000 of which have to be for Eritrean refugees.[2759]

Also on 20 September 2016, Prime Minister May announced that the UK will contribute USD3.25 million to the UN and International Organization for Migration (IOM) emerging countries resettlement fund.[2760] Prime Minister May also pledged that the UK will provide a total of USD2 billion of financial assistance to refugees, marking a 10 per cent increase from last year.[2761]

On 28 September 2016, the Government of the UK pledged USD3.9 million to the Sudan Humanitarian Fund to strengthen Sudan's ability to assist South Sudanese refugees and other vulnerable people.[2762]

On 10 October 2016, Home Secretary Amber Rudd announced that the UK will accept as many child refugees as possible from the refugee camp in Calais, France before its closure.[2763]

On 24 October 2016, Home Secretary Rudd confirmed that the UK has transferred close to 200 children from the refugee camp in Calais into its borders.[2764] She stated that the UK will receive "several hundred" more children from the camp in the coming three weeks.[2765,2766]

In 2016, the Home Office accepted accepted 900 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, including 750 from the Calais refugee camp.[2767] However, in December 2016, the Home Office stopped transfers of Calais child refugees to the UK, leaving 1,000 minors in doubt of obtaining refuge.[2768]

As of 18 January 2017, the UK has resettled 4,400 Syrian refugees under the Syrian vulnerable persons resettlement scheme, which pledged to resettle 20,00 Syrian refugees in the UK by 2020.[2769]

[2758] PM speech at the Leaders Summit on Refugees, 20 September 2016, UK Government. Date of Access: 04 April 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-speech-at-leaders-summit-on-refugees-20-september-2016

[2759] Theresa May's plan to spend £100m keeping migrants away from the UK torn apart by War Child, The Huffington Post (London) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/theresa-may-foreign-aid-migrants-refugees-ethiopia-somalia_uk_57e23f22e4b0db20a6e78c27.

[2760] PM Speech at Leaders Summit on Refugees: 20 September 2016, The Government of the United Kingdom (New York) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-speech-at-leaders-summit-on-refugees-20-september-2016.

[2761] PM Speech at Leaders Summit on Refugees: 20 September 2016, The Government of the United Kingdom (New York) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 1 December 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-speech-at-leaders-summit-on-refugees-20-september-2016.

[2762] The United Kingdom contributes an additional £ 3 million to the Sudan Humanitarian Fund for 2016, Reliefweb (Khartoum) 28 September 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://reliefweb.int/report/sudan/united-kingdom-contributes-additional-3-million-sudan-humanitarian-fund-2016.

[2763] UK finally agrees to accept unaccompanied child refugees from Calais 'Jungle', Global Citizen (New York) 11 October 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/uk-child-refugees-amber-rudd-calais/.

[2764] UK takes nearly 200 child refugees from Calais camp, Rudd says – as it happens, The Guardian (London) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. https://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2016/oct/24/calais-camp-riot-police-prepare-demolish-refugees-migrant.

[2765] Calais migrants: 'Several hundred' more child refugees to arrive in UK, BBC (London) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-37752193.

[2766] Calais migrants: 'Several hundred' more child refugees to arrive in UK, BBC (London) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 30 November 2016. http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-37752193.

[2767] Refugees: Children: Written question — 58748, UK Parliament (London) 6 January 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-06/58748/.

[2768] Home Office stops transfer of Calais child refugees to UK, The Guardian (London) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/dec/09/home-office-transfers-of-calais-child-refugees-to-uk-cease.

On 3 February 2017, Prime Minister May announced a package of USD40 million in aid to protect refugees from trafficking and violence at the European Union summit Malta.[2770] This contribution will bring the total UK humanitarian aid for the Mediterranean migrant crisis to over USD128 million.[2771]

On 8 February 2017, Minister of Immigration Robert Goodwill announced that the UK government will resettle 350 lone child refugees in the UK.[2772] The UK will grant the children asylum through the Dubs Amendment, a scheme that aims to bring unaccompanied children into the UK even if they do not have a straightforward family link to any British resident.[2773]

On 23 February 2017, the Home Office announced that the UK government has helped resettle 5,454 Syrian refugees in the UK through the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement (VPR) scheme, which pledged to resettle 20,000 Syrian refugees in the UK by 2020.[2774] Children account for approximately half of the people who have been given refuge through the VPR.[2775]

On 8 March 2017, the UK government delivered USD2.5 million to the UNHCR.[2776] The financial aid will enable the agency to purchase non-food items such as blankets, sleeping mats and cooking kits for newly arriving South Sudanese refugees in White Nile and East Darfur states.[2777]

On 9 March 2017, the Home Office introduced a new policy that requires refugees applying for permanent residence in the UK to undergo a "safe country review" after five years.[2778] Previously, refugees obtained an automatic right to stay in the UK once they reached the end of the initial period for which they had been granted residency rights, unless they had committed a criminal offence or if ministers decided the country of origin was safe for refugees to return to.[2779] Under the new regulations, the Home

[2769] UK community refugee scheme has resettled only two Syrian families, The Guardian (London) 18 January 2017. Access Date: 19 January 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jan/18/uk-community-refugee-scheme-has-resettled-only-two-syrian-families.
[2770] EU Malta summit: Refugees heading to Europe to be redirected to Asia and Latin America in new £30 British aid plan, Independent (London) 3 February 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/eu-malta-summit-refugees-europe-redirect-settle-asia-latin-america-theresa-may-30-million-aid-plan-a7561296.html.
[2771] EU Malta summit: Refugees heading to Europe to be redirected to Asia and Latin America in new £30 British aid plan, Independent (London) 3 February 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/eu-malta-summit-refugees-europe-redirect-settle-asia-latin-america-theresa-may-30-million-aid-plan-a7561296.html.
[2772] Government backtracks on pledge to take child refugees, Independent (London) 8 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/only-350-syrian-refugee-children-will-be-allowed-to-settle-in-britain-thousands-less-than-promised-a7569691.html.
[2773] Government backtracks on pledge to take child refugees, Independent (London) 8 February 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/only-350-syrian-refugee-children-will-be-allowed-to-settle-in-britain-thousands-less-than-promised-a7569691.html.
[2774] 5,000 Syrian refugees resettled, Home Office Media (London) 23 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://homeofficemedia.blog.gov.uk/2017/02/23/5000-syrian-refugees-resettled/.
[2775] 5,000 Syrian refugees resettled, Home Office Media (London) 23 February 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://homeofficemedia.blog.gov.uk/2017/02/23/5000-syrian-refugees-resettled/.
[2776] UNHCR and UK support South Sudanese refugee response in Sudan, Reliefweb (Khartoum) 8 March 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. http://reliefweb.int/report/sudan/unhcr-and-uk-support-south-sudanese-refugee-response-sudan.
[2777] UNHCR and UK support South Sudanese refugee response in Sudan, Reliefweb (Khartoum) 8 March 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. http://reliefweb.int/report/sudan/unhcr-and-uk-support-south-sudanese-refugee-response-sudan.
[2778] Refugees living in UK face being sent home after five years under new Home Office rules, Independent (London) 10 March 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/refugees-applying-uk-immigration-sent-home-five-years-home-office-immigration-rules-a7621831.html.
[2779] Refugees living in UK face being sent home after five years under new Home Office rules, Independent (London) 10 March 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/refugees-applying-uk-immigration-sent-home-five-years-home-office-immigration-rules-a7621831.html.

Office can send refugees back to their country of origin if it believes that their reason for asylum no longer stands and that their home country is safe to return to.[2780]

On 22 March 2017, the UK government announced that it will grant refugee status to resettled Syrians and others arriving under the VPR scheme for Syrian refugees and the Vulnerable Children at Risk scheme.[2781] Previously, the Home Office granted Syrian refugees in the UK a special form of leave called Humanitarian Protection, which prevented them from accessing services such as higher education and overseas travel documents that are available to people with refugee status.[2782]

On 4 April 2017, Prime Minister May unveiled a GBP1 billion aid package to help Syrian refugees and countries that host them.[2783] The package includes GBP840 million that was pledged last year and an additional GBP160 million of additional funding.[2784] It aims to create "new incentives for refugees to remain close to home so they don't feel forced to make the perilous and potentially life-threatening journey to Europe."[2785] The package consists of food, vaccinations and shelter for Syrian refugees. It will also contribute towards educating refugee children and creating thousands of jobs in Jordan and Lebanon over the next three years.[2786]

On 26 April 2017, Minister Goodwill announced that the UK will accept an additional 130 unaccompanied refugee children under the Dubs scheme.[2787] The Government of the UK attributed its decision to only bring in 350 lone child refugees in February to an administrative error on the part of the Home Office.[2788]

In 2016, the UK contributed USD173.2 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2789] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD18.8 million in 2017.[2790]

[2780] Refugees living in UK face being sent home after five years under new Home Office rules, Independent (London) 10 March 2017. Access Date: 24 May 2017. http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/refugees-applying-uk-immigration-sent-home-five-years-home-office-immigration-rules-a7621831.html.
[2781] UNHCR welcomes UK granting refugee status to resettled Syrians, The UN Refugee Agency (Geneva) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2017/3/58d2b0fa7/unhcr-welcomes-uk-granting-refugee-status-to-resettled-syrians.html.
[2782] UNHCR welcomes UK granting refugee status to resettled Syrians, The UN Refugee Agency (Geneva) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2017/3/58d2b0fa7/unhcr-welcomes-uk-granting-refugee-status-to-resettled-syrians.html.
[2783] PM dedicates £1bn in aid money for Syrian refugees and host countries, The Government of UK (UK) 4 April 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-dedicates-1bn-in-aid-money-for-syrian-refugees-and-host-countries.
[2784] PM dedicates £1bn in aid money for Syrian refugees and host countries, The Government of UK (UK) 4 April 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-dedicates-1bn-in-aid-money-for-syrian-refugees-and-host-countries.
[2785] PM dedicates £1bn in aid money for Syrian refugees and host countries, The Government of UK (UK) 4 April 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-dedicates-1bn-in-aid-money-for-syrian-refugees-and-host-countries.
[2786] PM dedicates £1bn in aid money for Syrian refugees and host countries, The Government of UK (UK) 4 April 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-dedicates-1bn-in-aid-money-for-syrian-refugees-and-host-countries.
[2787] Britain to accept 130 lone refugee children after Home Office corrects 'administrative error', The Telegraph (London), 26 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/04/26/britain-accept-extra-130-lone-refugee-children-home-office-corrects/.
[2788] Britain to accept 130 lone refugee children after Home Office corrects 'administrative error', The Telegraph (London), 26 April 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/04/26/britain-accept-extra-130-lone-refugee-children-home-office-corrects/.
[2789] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2790] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.

The UK has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement by sustaining existing initiatives such as financial assistance to refugees and relevant organizations such as the UNHCR and WFP. Aside from providing asylum to 480 unaccompanied refugee children, it has also granted refugee status to Syrians arriving through two major resettlement programs. While the UK began to develop concrete actions by accepting the transfer of refugees from the Calais camp in France, it stopped this initiative and is funding construction of a wall in Calais. The UK also implemented the safe country review, which can send refugees back to their countries of origin. Thus, the UK receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Emilia Lochowska

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 13 September 2016, Secretary of State John Kerry announced in Congress that the US will be accepting 110,000 refugees in the 2017 fiscal year.[2791]

On 20 September 2016, President Barack Obama hosted the Leader's Summit on Refugees at the United Nations.[2792] At the Summit, countries reaffirmed their commitment to increase legal assistance for refugees, ensure shelter, and work opportunities.[2793]

On 11 October 2016, Assistant Secretary at the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration Anne Richards announced a pilot project for a private refugee sponsorship program at the Concordia Summit's Private Sector Forum on Refugees and Migration.[2794] The pilot project will be launched in 2017 in collaboration with the Department of State and the Refugee Council.[2795]

On 13 November 2016, Secretary of State Kerry confirmed that the US would be accepting refugees and asylum seekers from Nauru and Papua New Guinea for resettlement.[2796] This is part of a deal with the Government of Australia and the number of persons accepted is 300-400.[2797]

On 13 November 2016, the US government reached a refugee resettlement agreement for with Australia.[2798] The agreement prioritizes the resettlement of refugees who are most vulnerable, namely

[2791] Obama plans big boost in refugees the US will accept over next year, USA Today (Virginia). 14 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2016/09/14/white-house-syrian-refugees-110000-2017/90359988/.
[2792] Proposed refugees admission Fiscal Year 2017, US Department of State (Washington) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/prm/releases/docsforcongress/261956.htm.
[2793] Proposed refugees admission Fiscal Year 2017, US Department of State (Washington) 15 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/prm/releases/docsforcongress/261956.htm.
[2794] Private refugee sponsorship gains crucial new support, The Huffington Post (New York) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/matthew-la-corte/private-refugee-sponsorship_b_12139720.html.
[2795] Private refugee sponsorship gains crucial new support, The Huffington Post (New York) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/matthew-la-corte/private-refugee-sponsorship_b_12139720.html.
[2796] US to resettle Australia's refugees languishing on islands, USA Today (Virginia) 13 November 2016. Access Date: 15 November 2016. http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2016/11/13/united-states-resettle-australias-refugees-pacific-islands/93759832/.
[2797] US will reportedly take only up to 400 refugees under Australia deal, The Guardian (London) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 5 January 2016. https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2016/nov/29/us-australia-refugee-deal-only-400-dutton
[2798] Refugee resettlement from Regional Process Centre, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Canberra) 13 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/Pages/Refugee-resettlement-from-Regional-Process-Centres.aspx.

women, children, and families.[2799] US authorities are to conduct their own assessment or refugees and decide which people are resettled in the US, and refugees will need to satisfy standard requirements for admission into the US.[2800]

On 12 January 2017, President Barack Obama ended the 1966 Cuban Adjustment Act where illegal migrants fleeing Cuba were granted permanent residence, a year after arriving to the US.[2801] President Barack Obama stated that illegal migrants from Cuba "will be subject to removal."[2802]

On 26 January 2017, the State Department and Homeland Security stopped conducting admissions interviews with refugees abroad.[2803]

On 27 January 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed an executive order capping the intake of refugees to 50,000 for the 2017 fiscal year, meaning that an additional 7,586 refugees would be resettled before September.[2804] Prior to the signing of the executive order, the US government was accepting 2,000 refugees weekly. It is now reduced to 842 refugees a week after the executive order was signed.[2805] In addition, the executive order suspended the refugee admissions system and the Syrian Refugee Program for 120 days for security concerns and to improve the vetting process.[2806] Furthermore, refugees from Iraq, Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen have been denied entry into the US for 90 days under the executive order, with Syrian refugees suspended indefinitely.[2807]

On 6 March 2017, President Trump signed an executive order banning refugees from entering the US from Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen for 90 days.[2808] The new executive order did not include Iraq and removed the clauses that indefinitely suspended Syrian refugees and prioritized religious minorities.[2809] The executive order took effect on 16 March 2017.[2810]

[2799] Refugee resettlement from Regional Process Centre, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Canberra) 13 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/Pages/Refugee-resettlement-from-Regional-Process-Centres.aspx.

[2800] Refugee resettlement from Regional Process Centre, Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Canberra) 13 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/Pages/Refugee-resettlement-from-Regional-Process-Centres.aspx.

[2801] Obama ending special immigration status for migrants fleeing Cuba, The Washington Post (Washington) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/obama-ending-wet-foot-dry-foot-policy-allowing-cubans-reaching-us-soil-to-stay-and-receive-residency/2017/01/12/21bbaac2-d912-11e6-b8b2-cb5164beba6b_story.html?utm_term=.9007159d9eba.

[2802] Obama ending special immigration status for migrants fleeing Cuba, The Washington Post (Washington) 12 January 2017. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/obama-ending-wet-foot-dry-foot-policy-allowing-cubans-reaching-us-soil-to-stay-and-receive-residency/2017/01/12/21bbaac2-d912-11e6-b8b2-cb5164beba6b_story.html?utm_term=.9007159d9eba.

[2803] Exclusive: Expending Trump Action, U.S. Suspends Refugee Settlement Interviews. Reuters (London) 27 January 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-refugees-idUSKBN15A2TD.

[2804] A Look at the Decline in REfugees Entering the U.S. Under Trump. Los Angeles Times (Los Angeles) 25 May 2017. Access Date 26 May 2017. http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-pew-refugee-report-20170525-htmlstory.html.

[2805] A Look at the Decline in REfugees Entering the U.S. Under Trump. Los Angeles Times (Los Angeles) 25 May 2017. Access Date 26 May 2017. http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-pew-refugee-report-20170525-htmlstory.html.

[2806] US Travel Ban Puts 20,000 Refugees in 'Precarious Circumstances," UN Says. The Guardian (London) 30 January 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/jan/30/us-travel-ban-united-nations-refugees-syria.

[2807] US Travel Ban Puts 20,000 Refugees in 'Precarious Circumstances," UN Says. The Guardian (London) 30 January 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/jan/30/us-travel-ban-united-nations-refugees-syria.

[2808] Trump's New Travel Ban Exempts Iraq, Caps Refugees. CBC News (Toronto) 6 March 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/trump-travel-ban-revised-1.4011197.

[2809] Trump's New Travel Ban Exempts Iraq, Caps Refugees. CBC News(Toronto) 6 March 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/trump-travel-ban-revised-1.4011197.

On 23 May 2017, Homeland Security officials began vetting interviews for refugees coming from Australian offshore detention centres.[2811] These refugees are part of a promised 1,250 refugees from Australia that Vice President Mike Pence stated the US would be accepting.[2812]

On 23 May 2017, President Trump released the proposed budget for fiscal year 2018. One of the budget's goals is to reduce the intake of refugees into the US.[2813] However, it also outlined USD5.3 billion "in humanitarian assistance to those most in need, and promoting stable conditions for displaced persons, refugees, and asylum seekers to return home, where possible."[2814]

On 26 May 2017, the State Department lifted the cap on the number of refugees entering the US.[2815]

In 2016, the US contributed USD1.5 billion to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).[2816] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD773.8 million in 2017.[2817]

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to address forced displacement by developing new concrete actions such as the new resettlement pledges for 2017 and the creation of a pilot project for private refugee sponsorship, and sustaining existing initiatives by continuing to contribute funds to the UNHCR. However, it has also taken actions to ban refugees from entering the country. Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mariya-Kvitlana Tsap

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement in 2017 with a view to developing concrete actions.

On 8 September 2016, the EU announced the creation of the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) that will allow up to one million vulnerable refugees in Turkey to receive monthly cash transfers through electronic cards.[2818] On top of the EUR164 million that the EU directed towards humanitarian aid projects since the start of 2016, the EU will direct another EUR348 million for the ESSN.[2819]

[2810] Trump's New Travel Ban Exempts Iraq, Caps Refugees. CBC News (Toronto) 6 March 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.cbc.ca/news/world/trump-travel-ban-revised-1.4011197.
[2811] Exclusive: Expending Trump Action, U.S. Suspends Refugee Settlement Interviews. Reuters (London) 27 January 2017. Access Date: 20 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-refugees-idUSKBN15A2TD.
[2812] Pence Says United States Will Honor Refugee Deal with Australia. Reuters (London) 22 April 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-pence-asia-australia-idUSKBN17O02Y.
[2813] Medical Research, Health Care Face Deep Cuts in Trump Budget. NPR (Washington DC) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 28 May 2017. http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2017/05/23/529654114/medical-research-health-care-face-deep-cuts-in-trump-budget.
[2814] Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development Fact Sheet: FY 2018 Budget Request. U.S. Department of State (USA) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. https://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2017/05/271052.htm.
[2815] U.S. Quietly Lifts Limits on Number of Refugees Allowed In. The New York Times (New York City) 26 May 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/26/us/politics/united-states-refugees-trump.html.
[2816] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2817] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.
[2818] Questions and answers: Support for refugees in Turkey through the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN), European Commission (Brussels) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-2989_en.htm.
[2819] Questions and answers: Support for refugees in Turkey through the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN), European Commission (Brussels) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-2989_en.htm.

On 16 September 2016, the EU obliged to requests from Bulgaria for emergency funding and provided up to EUR108 million to support border and migration management.[2820] This funding will also be used to increase reception capacities and capacities of asylum service and to strengthen border surveillance and border control activities.[2821]

On 28 September 2016, the EU approved of the allocation of two grants in total of EUR600 million to fund education and health for Syrian refugees and host communities in Turkey.[2822] The grants are a part of the EUR1.415 billion Special Measure adopted by the European Commission at the end of July 2016.[2823]

On 11 November 2016, the EU announced that the European Commission would allocate EUR78 million to aid displaced populations affected by the South Sudan crisis.[2824] EUR40 million of the funding will be directed to support humanitarian organizations in South Sudan.[2825] EUR30 million will be allocated assist displaced South Sudanese in Uganda and EUR8 million will be allcoated to help those displaced in neighbouring Sudan.[2826] The funding will support emergency measures dedicated to shelter, nutrition, health care, sanitation, and protection.[2827] Since December 2013, the EU has provided EUR500 million for the South Sudan crisis.[2828]

On 17 November 2016, the European Parliament and the European Council reached an agreement on the 2017 EU budget, which ensures more funding for the reception and integration of refugees, and addresses the root causes of migration in countries of origin and transit.[2829] The 2017 EU budget includes EUR157.9 billion in commitments and EUR134.5 billion in payment credits.[2830] EUR6 billion will be dedicated to supporting the protection of external borders and addressing the refugee crisis.[2831] As such, half of the EUR6 billion will support actions within the EU, and the other half of the funding will

[2820] European Commission announces up to €108 million in emergency funding to Bulgaria to improve border and migration management, European Commission (Brussels) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3088_en.htm.
[2821] European Commission announces up to €108 million in emergency funding to Bulgaria to improve border and migration management, European Commission (Brussels) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3088_en.htm.
[2822] European Commission announces up to €108 million in emergency funding to Bulgaria to improve border and migration management, European Commission (Brussels) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3088_en.htm.
[2823] European Commission announces up to €108 million in emergency funding to Bulgaria to improve border and migration management, European Commission (Brussels) 16 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3088_en.htm.
[2824] EU announces €78 million for South Sudan crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3621_en.htm.
[2825] EU announces €78 million for South Sudan crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3621_en.htm.
[2826] EU announces €78 million for South Sudan crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3621_en.htm.
[2827] EU announces €78 million for South Sudan crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3621_en.htm.
[2828] EU announces €78 million for South Sudan crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 11 November 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3621_en.htm.
[2829] EU budget deal focuses on strengthening the economy and responding to the refugee crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3743_en.htm.
[2830] EU budget deal focuses on strengthening the economy and responding to the refugee crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3743_en.htm.
[2831] EU budget deal focuses on strengthening the economy and responding to the refugee crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3743_en.htm.

support actions outside of the EU to address the root causes of migration.[2832] EUR200 million will also be granted to support humanitarian assistance within the EU.[2833]

On 6 December 2016, the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis adopted a EUR139 million assistance package to support stabilization needs in Iraq and refugees in Lebanon who have fled Syria and other host communities.[2834] Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations Johannes Hahn stated that the funding would support the EU's goal to mobilize EUR1 billion for the EU Syria Trust Fund and expects that the EU will exceed EUR1.2 billion by early 2017.[2835]

On 15 December 2016, the EU partnered with the Governments of Germany and Italy and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to launch an initiative supporting migrant protection and reintegration in Africa along Central Mediterranean migration routes.[2836] Through the EU Trust Fund for Africa, EUR100 million will be used to collaborate with local, national and international stakeholders to implement projects in 14 countries.[2837] The 3-year initiative will focus on increasing protection and assistance for vulnerable and stranded migrants, facilitating voluntary return of migrants to their homes, and achieving sustainable reintegration.[2838] The initiative will also enhance government and stakeholder policies and responses, give access to accurate information on migration to approximately 200,000 migrants and 2,000 communities, and improve data on migration flows, routes, trends, migrants' needs and migrants' vulnerabilities.[2839]

On 15 December 2016, the European Commission adopted a EUR170 million package of 11 measures for the EU Trust Fund for Africa to address instability, irregular migration and forced displacement in the Horn of Africa.[2840] The EU Trust Fund for Africa aims to find solutions to destabilisation, displacement and irregular migration by promoting economic and equal opportunities, security, and development.[2841]

[2832] EU budget deal focuses on strengthening the economy and responding to the refugee crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3743_en.htm.
[2833] EU budget deal focuses on strengthening the economy and responding to the refugee crisis, European Commission (Brussels) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3743_en.htm.
[2834] EU Syria Trust Fund: new package €139 million for refugees in Lebanon and stabilisation needs in Iraq, European Commission (Brussels) 6 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4270_en.htm.
[2835] EU Syria Trust Fund: new package €139 million for refugees in Lebanon and stabilisation needs in Iraq, European Commission (Brussels) 6 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4270_en.htm.
[2836] EU and IOM launch initiative for migrant protection and reintegration in Africa along the Central Mediterranean migration routes, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4404_en.htm.
[2837] EU and IOM launch initiative for migrant protection and reintegration in Africa along the Central Mediterranean migration routes, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4404_en.htm.
[2838] EU and IOM launch initiative for migrant protection and reintegration in Africa along the Central Mediterranean migration routes, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4404_en.htm.
[2839] EU and IOM launch initiative for migrant protection and reintegration in Africa along the Central Mediterranean migration routes, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4404_en.htm.
[2840] €170 million to tackle the root causes of instability, irregular migration and forced displacement in the Horn of Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-4342_en.htm.
[2841] The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 13 January 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/africa/eu-emergency-trust-fund-africa_en.

On 22 December 2016, the European Commission contracted EUR270 million to support education for 70,000 Syrian refugee children in Turkey.[2842] These contracts will support the construction and equipping of 100 school buildings and assist the Turkish Ministry of National Education to handle educational infrastructure.[2843]

On 25 January 2017, the EU announced its EUR8.5 million joint action plan with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to support more than 6,000 refugee and migrant children in Greece.[2844] The funding will support accommodation, protection, services, psychosocial support and education.[2845] The plan will be funded through the EU Emergency Support Instrument, which allows the European Commission to finance emergency operations within the EU.[2846]

On 3 February 2017, the leaders of the EU adopted the Malta Declaration, which aims to reduce the influx of migrants from Libya and halt smugglers' activities.[2847] The plan includes heightening training and equipment for the Libyan coastguards, increased efforts to block smuggling routes, improved conditions for migrants at Libyan reception centres, increased coordination between the EU and neighbor countries of Libya to slow down the flow of migrants and support for local communities in coastal areas and on migration routes.[2848] The European Commission also decided to allocate EUR200 million towards migration-related initiatives involving Libya, including the reinforcement of the Libyan coastguard as the first step for the declaration.[2849]

On 16 March 2017, the European Commission launched the Conditional Cash Transfer for Education (CCTE) project in partnership with UNICEF and the Turkish Red Crescent.[2850] The CCTE will support the education of 230,000 refugee children in Turkey by providing bi-monthly cash-transfers to refugee families with children regularly attending school beginning May 2017.[2851] The CCTE also builds on the ESSN program.[2852]

On 12 April 2017, the EU Trust Fund for Africa adopted a EUR90 million programme to address the root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons as a follow-up to the Malta Declaration.[2853] The funding will support the protection and resilience of refugees, migrants and host communities in Libya as

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[2842] Facility for Refugees in Turkey: the EU invests in the education of 70,000 Syrian refugee children (Brussels) 22 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4451_en.htm.
[2843] Facility for Refugees in Turkey: the EU invests in the education of 70,000 Syrian refugee children (Brussels) 22 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4451_en.htm.
[2844] Daily News 25/01/2017, European Commission (Brussels) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-17-146_en.htm.
[2845] Daily News 25/01/2017, European Commission (Brussels) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-17-146_en.htm.
[2846] Daily News 25/01/2017, European Commission (Brussels) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-17-146_en.htm.
[2847] Migrant crisis: EU leaders agree plan to stop Liba influx, BBC News (London) 3 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38850380.
[2848] Migrant crisis: EU leaders agree plan to stop Liba influx, BBC News (London) 3 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38850380.
[2849] Migrant crisis: EU leaders agree plan to stop Liba influx, BBC News (London) 3 February 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38850380.
[2850] EU launches education programme for 230,000 refugee children to attend school in Turkey, European Commission (Brussels) 16 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-521_en.htm.
[2851] EU launches education programme for 230,000 refugee children to attend school in Turkey, European Commission (Brussels) 16 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-521_en.htm.
[2852] EU launches education programme for 230,000 refugee children to attend school in Turkey, European Commission (Brussels) 16 March 2017. Access Date: 30 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-521_en.htm.
[2853] EU Trust Fund for Africa adopts €90 million programme on protection of migrants and improved migration management in Libya, European Commission (Brussels) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-951_en.htm.

well as improved migration management in the country.[2854] The programme will be implemented by the IOM, UNICEF, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ).[2855]

On 23 May 2017, Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship Dimitris Avramopoulos and Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility Marianne Thyssen hosted the second meeting of the European Dialogue on Skills and Migration at the European Business Summit.[2856] They launched the "Employers together for integration" project, which aims to highlight employers' efforts within the EU to support refugee and migrant integration in the labour market.[2857]

In 2016, the EU contributed USD360.5 million to the UNHCR.[2858] As of 6 June 2017, it has contributed USD148.4 million in 2017.[2859]

The EU has fully complied with its commitment to address forced displacement by developing concrete actions such as the ESSN and an initiative in cooperation with the IOM and Government of Italy to support migrant protection and reintegration in Africa along Central Mediterranean migration routes. It has also sustained existing initiatives by continuing to provide funds to host countries and organizations. Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Joy Lizette Aguilar

[2854] EU Trust Fund for Africa adopts €90 million programme on protection of migrants and improved migration management in Libya, European Commission (Brussels) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-951_en.htm.
[2855] EU Trust Fund for Africa adopts €90 million programme on protection of migrants and improved migration management in Libya, European Commission (Brussels) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-951_en.htm.
[2856] European Dialogue on Skills and Migration: Employers and Commission Together for the integration of migrants, European Commission (Brussels) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-1386_en.htm.
[2857] European Dialogue on Skills and Migration: Employers and Commission Together for the integration of migrants, European Commission (Brussels) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 31 May 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-1386_en.htm.
[2858] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2016. Access Date: 18 January 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2016.
[2859] Donor Profiles, UNHCR (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://reporting.unhcr.org/donor-profiles?y=2017.

12. Financial Regulation: Terrorism

"In confronting terrorism, we remain committed to effectively exchanging information, freezing terrorist assets, and criminalizing terrorist financing."

G20 2016 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué

Assessment

Country	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil	−1		
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.75		

Background

G20 members are united in principle against any form of terrorism or terrorist activity. G20 leaders believe a concerted effort is required by governments to deter terrorism and terrorist activity. At G20 leaders' summits to date, the group has specifically dealt with the issues of illicit financial activities (that may support terrorist activities), and terrorist financing.

At the first leaders' level summit in 2008, the G20 committed to addressing the fight against terrorism and declared that "National and regional authorities should implement national and international measures that protect the global financial system from uncooperative and non-transparent jurisdictions that pose risks of illicit financial activity." The G20 also affirmed its support for the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the organisation's important work against money laundering and terrorist financing, as well as supporting the efforts of the World Bank and United Nations Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (StAR).[2860]

[2860] G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, The G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0925.html

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, the G20 committed to "clamping down on illicit outflows," as well as welcoming the progress made by the FATF in the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing and calling upon the FATF to issue a public list of high risk jurisdictions by February 2010.[2861]

At the 2010 Toronto Summit, G20 leaders declared, "We fully support the work of the FATF and FATF-Style Regional Bodies in their fight against money laundering and terrorist financing and regular updates of a public list on jurisdictions with strategic deficiencies. We also encourage the FATF to continue monitoring and enhancing global compliance with the anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing international standards."

The G20 leaders continued to support the FATF, and at the 2015 Antalya Summit, issued the 'G20 Statement on the Fight Against Terrorism' reaffirming the G20's solidarity and resolve in the fight against terrorism in all its forms and wherever it occurs. The Statement reiterated the G20's resolve for cooperation and recognized the UN's central role in the fight against terrorism. The G20 also declared, "We also remain committed to tackling the financing channels of terrorism, particularly by enhanced cooperation on exchange of information, freezing of terrorist assets, criminalization of terrorist financing, robust targeted financial sanctions regimes related to terrorism and terrorist financing, including through swift implementation of Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards in all jurisdictions."[2862]

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, the G20 strongly condemned terrorism in all forms and manifestations, The G20 declared, "We will tackle all sources, techniques and channels of terrorist financing, including extortion, taxation, smuggling of natural resources, bank looting, looting of cultural property, external donation, and kidnapping for ransom." The G20 called for the swift, effective and universal implementation of the FATF standards and of the provisions of the UN Security Council Resolution 2253 worldwide. The G20 requested the FATF by March 2017 to review on ways to strengthen its traction capacity and enhance effectiveness of its network and FATF-style regional bodies. The G20 also endorsed the FATF's Consolidated Strategy on Combating Terrorist Financing (CSCFF).[2863] The CSCFF calls for:

- Identifying the risks of terrorist financing with focus on the channels used by the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL)/Da'esh;
- Ensuring that the FATF's provision of tools like enforcement measures and targeted sanctions are up to date and employed efficiently and effectively;
- Identifying countries with deficiencies of combating terrorist financing. In 2015, the FATF conducted a Fact Finding Initiative to establish which countries have deficiencies with regards to legal frameworks and targeted financial sanctions.
- Promoting international cooperation between member countries and domestic cooperation between law enforcement bodies.[2864]

At the 2016 FATF XXVIII Plenary meeting held in Paris under the Spanish presidency, 190 delegates from the FATF membership and other organisations discussed working on terrorist financing, improving transparency and improving exchanging useful information.[2865]

[2861] G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, The G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 24 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0925.html
[2862] The 2015 G20 Antalya Summit Commitments, the G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 22 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/analysis/commitments-15-antalya.html
[2863] 2016 Leaders' Communique: Hangzhou Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto), 5 September 2016. Access Date: 28 October 2016. http://www.g20.org/English/Dynamic/201609/t20160906_3396.html
[2864] Consolidating FATF Strategy on Combatting Terrorist Financing, Financial Action Task Force (Paris). Access Date: 28 October 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/FATF-Terrorist-Financing-Strategy.pdf

Commitment Features

This commitment consists of three parts. It requires G20 members to 1) effectively exchange information, 2) effectively freeze terrorist assets, and 3) effectively criminalize terrorist financing.

Part I: Effectively Exchange Information

The effective exchange of information calls for G20 members to work toward removing barriers to information sharing domestically between public and private sectors as well as externally with other members, countries, international organisations as well as specially developing countries.

The 2016 Hangzhou Leaders' Communiqué specifically calls for financial transparency with regard to the beneficial ownership of legal persons and legal arrangements. In the 2014 G20 High-Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency, the G20 highlighted the need for effective information exchange in the following ways regarding beneficial ownership:

Countries should ensure that competent authorities (including law enforcement and prosecutorial authorities, supervisory authorities, tax authorities and financial intelligence units) have timely access to adequate, accurate and current information regarding the beneficial ownership of legal persons. Countries could implement this, for example, through central registries of beneficial ownership of legal persons or other appropriate mechanisms.

Countries should ensure that trustees of express trusts maintain adequate, accurate and current beneficial ownership information, including information of settlors, the protector (if any) trustees and beneficiaries. These measures should also apply to other legal arrangements with a structure or function similar to express trusts.

Countries should ensure that competent authorities (including law enforcement and prosecutorial authorities, supervisory authorities, tax authorities and financial intelligence units) have timely access to adequate, accurate and current information regarding the beneficial ownership of legal arrangements.

Countries should ensure that their national authorities cooperate effectively domestically and internationally. Countries should also ensure that their competent authorities participate in information exchange on beneficial ownership with international counterparts in a timely and effective manner.

Countries should support the G20's efforts to combat tax evasion by ensuring that beneficial ownership information is accessible to their tax authorities and can be exchanged with relevant international counterparts in a timely and effective manner.

Countries should address the misuse of legal persons and legal arrangements which may obstruct transparency, including:

a) Prohibiting the ongoing use of bearer shares and the creation of new bearer shares, or taking other effective measures to ensure that bearer shares and bearer share warrants are not misused; and
b) Taking effective measures to ensure that legal persons which allow nominee shareholders or nominee directors are not misused.

Therefore, G20 members must act in accordance with G20 High-Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency as well as exchange information both domestically and externally.

[2865] Media Release: Outcomes from the Meeting of the Financial Action Task Force, Paris 19 to 21 October 2016. Access Date: 1 February 2017. https://www.fic.gov.za/Documents/Media%20Release%20-%20Outcomes%20from%20the%20Meeting%20of%20the%20Financial%20Action%20Task%20Force%20Paris%2019%20to%2021%20October%202016.pdf

Part II: Effectively Freezing Terrorist Assets

Identifying suspicious entities by established law enforcement or combatting the financing of terrorism (CFT) bodies, effective use of FATF sanctions/regional FATF bodies/national CFT laws, collecting evidences of terrorism/terrorist financing and as well "robust identifying information" are crucial steps for freezing terrorist assets.[2866] This includes investigating the channels employed by terrorist organisations to raise funds to swiftly respond, block and remove terrorist financing sources. Monitoring borders for suspicious transfer of funds require cooperation with bordering neighbour countries and ties in with the first area of information sharing on an international and a domestic scale. The FATF's Targeted Financial Sanctions Related to Terrorism and Terrorist Financing (Recommendation 6) document outlines methods by which member countries can proceed with the freezing of terrorist assets.[2867]

Part III: Effectively Criminalize Terrorist Financing

G20 members must be committed to criminalizing terrorist financing. Criminalizing terrorist financing includes any action that define terrorist financing as a distinct legal offence. This may be achieved by including such clause within the national legal code. The FATF's 2015 Terrorist Financing Report indicates that terrorist financing includes the financing of a terrorist organisation or an individual terrorist, disregarding whether or not the funding is intended for carrying out terrorist attacks. The report also finds that "almost all jurisdictions" criminalised terrorist financing, and 33 out of 194 jurisdictions in the world have secured convictions against financiers of terrorism. However, many have yet to criminalize financing individual terrorists for purposes unrelated to terrorism. This part calls for G20 members to ensure effective implementation of FATF instruments like the United Nations Targeted Financial Sanctions to prevent and discourage terrorist financing. They should also ensure that financial institutions are subject to adequate regulation and in compliance with FATF recommendations. Further, G20 members have committed to effectively criminalize terrorist financing. In October 2016, the FATF issued a report entitled Guidance on Criminalising Terrorist Financing, providing several recommendations for effective implementation of terrorist financing (TF) requirements:

1. The offence must cover all types of wilful TF activity.
2. The offence must cover the financing of terrorist acts with an unlawful intention to do so.
3. The offence must cover the financing of terrorist organisations and individual terrorists with an unlawful intention to do so.
4. The offence must cover financing the travel of foreign terrorist fighters.
5. Terrorist financing should be criminalised as a stand-alone offence.
6. The offence should cover the broadest possible definition of funds or other assets, regardless of their origin.
7. TF offences must include a broad range of circumstances.
8. The terrorist financiers' intent and knowledge may be inferred.
9. Sanctions should apply to natural persons.
10. Sanctions should apply to legal persons.
11. There should be a full range of ancillary offences to the TF offence.[2868]
12. Jurisdictional issues: Offences should apply, regardless of whether the person alleged to have committed the offence(s) is in the same country or a different country from the one in which the terrorist(s)/terrorist organisation(s) is located or the terrorist act(s) occurred/will occur.

[2866] Consolidating FATF Strategy on Combatting Terrorist Financing, Financial Action Task Force (Paris). Access Date: 28 October 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/recommendations/BPP-Fin-Sanctions-TF-R6.pdf

[2867] Targeted Financial Sanctions Related to Terrorism and Terrorist Financing (Recommendation 6), Financial Action Task Force, June 2013. Access Date: 30 October 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/recommendations/BPP-Fin-Sanctions-TF-R6.pdf

[2868] Guidance on Crmiinalising Terrorist Financing (Recommendation 5), Financial Action Task Force. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/Guidance-Criminalising-Terrorist-Financing.pdf

13. TF should be a predicate offence for money laundering.

Therefore, to be compliant, G20 members must act in accordance with FATF recommendations when applicable and criminalize terrorist financing for both individuals and organisations.

To receive full compliance, the G20 member must comply with all three parts of the commitment. The G20 member must effectively exchange information, effectively freeze terrorist assets, and effectively criminalize terrorist financing. Partial compliance is achieved if the G20 member complies with one or two parts of the commitment but not all three. No compliance is achieved if the G20 member complies with none of the requirements.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	The G20 member does not effectively exchange information AND does not effectively freeze terrorist assets AND does not effectively criminalize terrorist financing.
0	The G20 member effectively exchanges information OR effectively freezes terrorist assets OR effectively criminalizes terrorist financing.
+1	The G20 member effectively exchanges information, effectively freezes terrorist assets AND effectively criminalizes terrorist financing.

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets, and criminalize terrorist financing.

As of March 2016 Argentina has revised its Anti-terrorism Law to broaden the definition of terrorism and increased monetary fines and prison sentences for crimes associated with terrorist financing.[2869] The Argentine Financial Intelligence Unit can freeze assets that are associated with terrorist financing. Additionally, Argentina has criminalized the financing of terrorist organizations, individuals and acts.[2870] The FATF has explicitly stated that is satisfied with Argentina's progress in implementing its CTF/AML instruments.[2871]

On 22 November 2016, Argentina and the United States held the inaugural Argentina-US Dialogue on Illicit Finance (AUDIF) in Bueno Aires. During this meeting, "the United States Department of the Treasury and the Finance Ministry of Argentina emphasized the commitment of the United States and Argentina to identify illicit finance threats of mutual concern and develop joint strategies to address these threats."[2872] AUDIF "agreed to pursue a number of initiatives to counter money laundering, terrorist financing and other financial crimes."[2873]

On 4 November 2016, Argentina issued Resolution 141/2016, which amends previously existing 'know-your-client' rules for the country's financial institutions. The introductory paragraphs of the Resolution refer to recommendations by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which state that strict documentation requirements to open bank accounts is "one of the principle motives for the exclusion of

[2869] Country Reports on Terrorism 2013, US Department of State. Access Date: 8 March 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224825.htm

[2870] Country Reports on Terrorism 2013, US Department of State. Access Date: 8 March 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224825.htm

[2871] Improving Global AML/CFT Compliance, FATF 24 October 2014. Access Date: 8 March 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/countries/a-c/argentina/documents/fatf-compliance-oct-2014.html

[2872] The United States and Argentina hold Inaugural Argentina-US Dialogue on Illicit Finance, US Department of the Treasury (Washington) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2016. https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/jl0617.aspx

[2873] The United States and Argentina hold Inaugural Argentina-US Dialogue on Illicit Finance, US Department of the Treasury (Washington) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2016. https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/jl0617.aspx users from formal financial systems" — conversely making these requirements less onerous would lead to a reduction in the number of operations carried out in the informal system. Specifically, the Resolution amends previous resolutions to the effect that information relating to a client's tax status is no longer necessary to create a client profile and determine their risk level in compliance with know-your-client policy. The resolution removes the requirement to collect this information. Gabriel Matarasso of Marval O'Farrell & Mairal law firm indicates that, "it is not essential to take into account the tax aspects of the clients, nor is it necessary to require they file tax returns to comply with due diligence, determine their risk level or make up their transactional profile."[2874] Nonetheless, under Article 1 of the Resolution, financial institutions are still obliged to "implement customer due diligence" by monitoring the assigned risk to ensure that operations are consistent with the client's knowledge and transactional profile, including, if necessary, the origin of the funds.[2875]

On 25 March 2017, Argentina proposed an update of its 2007 anti-terrorism law to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. The proposal includes updated investigative techniques on financing terrorism and control of bank transfers related to extremist groups; monitoring of terrorist sleeper cells, and new protocols in case of terrorist attacks.[2876]

Argentina has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Motahareh Nabavi

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets, and criminalize terrorist financing.

On 6 September 2016, the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC) issued a media release in response to the Panama Papers, which stated that it is working closely with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), Australian Federal Police (AFP) and other partners across the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (SFCT) to analyse data related to the Panama Papers. The ACIC has identified an 8 per cent match between names in the Panama Papers and their existing criminal databases.[2877]

On 6 September 2016, the Australian Minister for Justice and Minister for Revenue and Financial Services issued a joint media release, stating that the AFP is investigating serious financial crime by presently heading 12 SFCT joint criminal investigations.[2878]

On 31 October 2016, the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) published its first assessment on terrorist financing and money laundering risk in Australia's superannuation industry. Based on this report, fraud was identified as the most commonly associated crime affecting super funds.

[2874] Argentina amendments mean tax status is no longer necessary to comply with know-your-client rules, STEP (London) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2016. http://www.step.org/news/argentina-amendments-mean-tax-status-no-longer-necessary-comply-know-your-client-rules
[2875] Argentina amendments mean tax status is no longer necessary to comply with know-your-client rules, STEP (London) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2016. http://www.step.org/news/argentina-amendments-mean-tax-status-no-longer-necessary-comply-know-your-client-rules
[2876] Argentina updates anti-terror laws (Buenos Aires) 25 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/227253
[2877] ACIC response to Panama Papers, Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (Canberra) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 27 November 2016. https://acic.govcms.gov.au/media-centre/media-releases-and-statements/acic-response-panama-papers
[2878] No one hides outside the tax system, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 6 September 2016. Access Date: 27 November 2016. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/ThirdQuarter/No-one-hides-outside-the-tax-system.aspx

Cybercrime was particularly identified as a rising threat, "with some super funds seeing almost daily attempts to hack accounts for information or funds access."[2879] In the two-year sample period, six per cent of reports related to a potential terrorist financing, in relation to amounts worth AUD259,790 in total.[2880]

On 1 November 2016, AUSTRAC and its Chinese counterpart, the China Anti-Money Laundering Monitoring and Analysis Center (CAMLMAC), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the exchange of financial intelligence.[2881]

On 15 November 2016, Minister for Justice Michael Keenan announced the launch of the Australian Financial Crimes Exchange (AFCX) "to provide real-time alerts of potential threats, so quick action can be taken to protect customers" and to analyse data collected in the industry rather than just their own"[2882]

On 22 November 2016, the Australian parliament passed the Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment Bill (No.1) 2016. The Bill reduces the age from 16 to 14 at which a control order can be placed on a person of security concern.[2883] The Bill improves control orders by:

- "Creating new targeted physical search, telecommunications interception and surveillance device regimes to help monitor those subject to control orders, and;
- Better protecting sensitive information in control order proceedings."[2884]

On 24 November 2016, AUSTRAC and Jordan's Anti Money Laundering Unit (AMLU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) "to facilitate the immediate exchange of vital financial intelligence to combat serious financial crime, including money laundering and terrorism financing."[2885]

On 9 December 2016, the Minister for Justice issued a media release stating the Australian Government has invested AUD127 million in reforming the Australian Securities and Investments Commission to tackle corruption. The Minister for Justice has also "established the Fraud and Anti-Corruption Centre within the Australian Federal Police," towards which it invested AUD15 million.[2886]

[2879] Working with industry to harden the super sector, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/Working-with-industry-to-harden-the-super-sector.aspx

[2880] Working with industry to harden the super sector, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/Working-with-industry-to-harden-the-super-sector.aspx

[2881] China and Australia to exchange financial intelligence, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/China-and-Australia-to-exchange-financial-intelligence.aspx

[2882] Launch of Australian Financial Crimes Exchange, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 15 November 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/Launch-of-australian-financial-crimes-exchange.aspx

[2883] Parliament passes Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2016, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 22 November 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/Parliament-passes-Counter-Terrorism-Legislation-Amendment-Bill-No1-2016.aspx

[2884] Parliament passes Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2016, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 22 November 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/Parliament-passes-Counter-Terrorism-Legislation-Amendment-Bill-No1-2016.aspx

[2885] Extending financial intelligence exchange in the Middle East, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 24 November 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/Extending-financial-intelligence-exchange-in-the-Middle-East.aspx

[2886] Anti-Corruption Day, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 9 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/Anti-corruption-day.aspx

On 21 December 2016, AUSTRAC released a second report assessing money laundering and terrorism financing, the first to assess the financial planning industry. Based on its risk assessment, it found the financial planning industry to be at a "medium" level risk. The report identifies key risks faced by the sector and "found cyber-enabled fraud was the most reported offence" and aims to achieve "greater intelligence to help crack down on financial crime."[2887]

On 1 February 2017, Indonesia and Australia's financial intelligence agencies, Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (INTRAC) and Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), signed an agreement to target counter-terrorism financing and anti-money laundering. The PPATK-AUSTRAC Partnership Program 2017 builds on a seven year collaboration, and includes almost AUD500,000 in Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade funding for six new projects including:

- Deploying IT specialists to strengthen the PPATK's reporting and analysis systems;
- Intensive workshops on crimes specific to counter terrorist financing and anti-money laundering to enhance investigative and analytic capabilities within the PPATK; and
- Exchange programs to enable PPATK experts to learn first-hand from AUSTRAC.[2888]

On 20 February 2017, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) issued a media release that the third counter-terrorism financing (CTF) summit will be held in Malaysia from 20 to 23 November 2017. According to Bank Negara Malaysia's Governor, Muhammad bin Ibrahim, the "summit this year will include promoting the strategic partnership between public and private sectors to respond effectively towards terrorism financing risks."[2889]

On 3 March 2017, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) launched the Fintel Alliance, the world's first alliance of its kind to combat money laundering and terrorism financing. The Fintel Alliance is comprised of "19 partners including AUSTRAC, the Australian Federal Police, New South Wales Police, the Australian Tax Office, the four big banks, Western Union, and PayPal."[2890]

On 3 March 2017, Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) issued a media release that it would be providing the "world's first university accredited course that specialises in the analysis of financial intelligence."[2891] This course provides participants with industry knowledge of the remittance, gambling and banking sectors and also types of crime including terrorism financing, money laundering, terrorist groups, organised crime, and the misuse of darknet marketplaces and cryptocurrencies.[2892]

[2887] AUSTRAC Risk Assessment of Financial Planning Industry, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 21 December 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/Austrac-risk-assessment-of-financial-planning-industry.aspx

[2888] Australia and Indonesia: new approach to cut financial lifeline to terrorists, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 1 February 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2017/FirstQuarter/Australia-and-Indonesia-new-approach-to-cut-financial-lifeline-to-terrorists.aspx

[2889] Counter-Terrorism Financing Summit 2017, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 20 February 2017. Access Date: 9 May 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2017/FirstQuarter/Counter-terrorism-financing-summit-2017.aspx

[2890] AUSTRAC launches world-first alliance to combat serious financial crime, Minister of Justice (Canberra) 3 March 2017. Access Date: 9 May 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2017/FirstQuarter/AUSTRAC-launches-world-first-alliance-to-combat-serious-financial-crime.aspx

[2891] World-first training to create a new breed of serious financial crime fighters, Minister of Justice (Canberra) 3 March 2017. Access Date: 9 May 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2017/FirstQuarter/World-first-training-to-create-a-new-breed-of-serious-financial-crime-fighters.aspx

[2892] World-first training to create a new breed of serious financial crime fighters, Minister of Justice (Canberra) 3 March 2017. Access Date: 9 May 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2017/FirstQuarter/World-first-training-to-create-a-new-breed-of-serious-financial-crime-fighters.aspx

On 26 April 2017, the Australian Minister for Justice visited Lebanon to promote cooperation between the countries to counter terrorism financing, combat money laundering, and transnational and international crime.[2893]

On 2 May 2017, Australia's Minister for Justice Michael Keenan released the financial intelligence agency's third risk assessment of stored value cards (SVCs), technologies that are exploited for terror financing and money laundering. "The report revealed that while SVCs have a 'medium' risk across the sector, they have a 'high' level of vulnerability to criminal exploitation - the highest vulnerability rating to date in AUSTRAC's risk assessments program."[2894]

On 4 May 2017, the head of Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), Paul Jevtovic and the head of Papa New Guinea's Financial Analysis and Supervision Unit (FASU), Benny Popoitai, "signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the exchange of financial intelligence in Sydney."[2895]

Australia has effectively exchanged information, effectively frozen terrorist assets, and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Buse Kayar

Brazil: −1

Brazil has not complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets, and criminalize terrorist financing.

On 16 March 2016 Law 13.260 was enacted which criminalizes terrorist financing and responds to foreign terrorist financing.[2896] This law penalizes anyone, who for the purpose of terrorism, recruits, organizes, carries or equips individuals traveling to a country other than that of their residence or nationality.[2897]

On 21 October 2016, Financial Action Task Force (FATF) issued a statement on Brazil's progress in addressing its deficiencies in combatting money laundering and terrorist financing. FATF considered that Brazil has addressed its recommendations with regard to the criminalisation of terrorism and terrorist financing sufficiently through the enactment of Law 13.260 in March 2016 — although with "minor deficiencies." However since June 2016, Brazil has prepared ordinances as additional steps towards improving its counter-terrorism financing regime, but these are yet to be enacted. Therefore, FATF found that "shortcomings remained" which Brazil must address before February 2017 to avoid further action by the organisation.[2898]

[2893] Combating global terrorism with Lebanon, Minister of Justice (Canberra) 26 April 2017. Access Date: 9 May 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2017/SecondQuarter/Combating-global-terrorism-with-lebanon-.aspx

[2894] AUSTRAC risk assessment of stored value cards, Minister of Justice (Canberra) 2 May 2017. Access Date: 9 May 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2017/SecondQuarter/AUSTRAC-risk-assessment-of-stored-value-cards.aspx

[2895] Australia and Papua New Guinea unite against financial crime and terrorism financing, Minister of Justice, 4 May 2017. Access Date: 9 May 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2017/SecondQuarter/Australia-and-papua-new-guinea-unite-against-financial-crime-and-terrorism-financing.aspx

[2896] LEI Nº 13.260, DE 16 DE MARÇO DE 2016, Presidência da República 18 March 2016. Access Date: 24 July 2016. http://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_Ato2015-2018/2016/Lei/L13260.htm

[2897] LEI Nº 13.260, DE 16 DE MARÇO DE 2016, Presidência da República 18 March 2016. Access Date: 24 July 2016. http://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_Ato2015-2018/2016/Lei/L13260.htm

[2898] Brazil faces FATF "measures" if standards are not met by February 2017, STEP 2 November 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.step.org/news/brazil-faces-fatf-measures-if-standards-are-not-met-february-2017

Brazil has not effectively exchanged information, froze terrorist assets or criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, Brazil receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Motahareh Nabavi

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets, and criminalize terrorist financing.

On 30 September 2016, Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) reported an increase of CAD2.1 million in "funding to modernize the analytical system used to detect money laundering and terrorist financing" and "planned expenditures for acquisitions of machinery and equipment" increased by CAD2.3 million.[2899]

On 30 September 2016, FINTRAC reported a CAD2.4 million increase in funding since 2015-16, reporting CAD7.9 million (excluding the Employment Benefit Plan) in 2016-17 for initiatives "supporting the implementation of legislative amendments to modernize the analytics system used to strengthen Canada's anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing regime."[2900]

On 17 November 2016, Finance Minister Bill Morneau discussed in Parliament the 2016 Annual Report of the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada, Results in the Fight Against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing. The report describes operations and activities carried out by Canada's financial intelligence unit in 2015-16 to protect the integrity of the Canadian financial system and Canadians. Based on this report:

"FINTRAC provided 1,655 disclosures of actionable financial intelligence to its police and national security partners to assist their investigations of money laundering, terrorism financing and other threats to Canada's security."

"483 financial intelligence disclosures were related to terrorism financing and threats to the security of Canada — a forty-three per cent increase over the previous year."[2901]

As of February 2017, Canada has criminalized terrorist financing in accordance with international standards and freezes and confiscates terrorist assets without delay.[2902] The Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act (PCMLTFA) in Canada facilitates 'combating the laundering of the proceeds of crime and the financing of terrorist activities' by implementing measures to detect, deter and prosecute offenders.[2903]

As of February 2017, Canada has implemented instruments to address terrorist financing. Canada's Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing (AML/ATF) Regime is a 'horizontal initiative

[2899] Quarterly Financial Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2016, Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (Ottawa) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 4 December 2016. http://www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca/publications/finance/fr-rf/20161128-eng.asp

[2900] Quarterly Financial Report for the quarter ended September 30, 2016, Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (Ottawa) 30 September 2016. Access Date: 4 December 2016. http://www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca/publications/finance/fr-rf/20161128-eng.asp

[2901] Results in the Fight Against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing, Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (Ottawa) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=index&crtr.page=1&nid=1155589

[2902] Country Reports on Terrorism 2013, US Department of State. Access Date: 8 March 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2013/224825.htm

[2903] Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2016. Access Date: 25 February 2016. http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/p-24.501/page-1.html comprising eleven federal partner organizations,' which is led by the Department of Finance Canada.[2904] The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) specifically monitors money laundering and terrorist financing and was developed in conjunction with the PCMLTFA, in order to 'collect and analyze financial transaction reports and to disclose pertinent information to law enforcement and intelligence.

On 22 March 2017, Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) issued an advisory for reporting entities to consider the public statements made by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), concerning the risks posed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) and Iran's deficiencies in their anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) regimes.[2905]

The FATF is also concerned with the DPRK's illicit activities regarding the proliferation and financing of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and the threat this poses.[2906] FINTRAC also reminded reporting entities of their obligations to report a terrorist property under the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act (PCMLTFA) and to consider its requirements in respect to financial transactions to and from jurisdictions under and surrounded by IS control.[2907]

Canada has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Buse Kayar

China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets and criminalize terrorist financing.

On 1 January 2016, China's Counter-Terrorism law took effect. This enhanced the existing AML and TF regimes in place. The General Provision of the Law made terrorist financing a distinct legal offence. Article 14 of the Law specifically required "[f]inancial institutions and designated non-financial organizations [to] immediately freeze capital or other assets of terrorist organizations and personnel. This new law provided tougher and more targeted penalties for non-compliance or non-cooperation, including fines and criminal charges, against financial services providers and responsible individuals (Articles 83, 86 and 91)."[2908]

On 25 March 2016, the People's Bank of China announced it will establish a technical support system to tackle money laundering and "terror" financing.[2909] The National Internet Finance Association of China

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[2904] Report on Plans and Priorities 2015-16: Supplementary Information Tables, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 31 March 2015. Access Date: 25 February 2016. http://www.fin.gc.ca/pub/rpp/2015-2016/st-ts-03-eng.asp
[2905] FINTRAC Advisory: Financial transactions related to countries identified by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (Ottawa), 22 March 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca/new-neuf/avs/2017-03-22-eng.asp
[2906] FINTRAC Advisory: Financial transactions related to countries identified by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (Ottawa), 22 March 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca/new-neuf/avs/2017-03-22-eng.asp
[2907] FINTRAC Advisory: Financial transactions related to countries identified by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (Ottawa), 22 March 2017. Access Date: 10 May 2017. http://www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca/new-neuf/avs/2017-03-22-eng.asp
[2908] Counter-Terrorism Law (2015), English Translation, China Law Translate, 27 December 2015. Access Date: 2 Aug 2016. http://chinalawtranslate.com/%E5%8F%8D%E6%81%90%E6%80%96%E4%B8%BB%E4%B9%89%E6%B3%95-%EF%BC%882015%EF%BC%89/?lang=en
[2909] China to establish body to tackle money laundering, terrorism financing, Reuters 25 March 2016. Access Date: 28 March 2016. http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-china-cenbank-regulations-idUSKCN0WR05T

will monitor suspicious online trade activity, Pan Gongsheng said at an event marking the launch of the body.[2910] New regulations on internet financing would be issued in the immediate future[2911]

On 1 November 2016, Chinese and Australian financial intelligence agencies, the China Anti-Money Laundering Monitoring and Analysis Center (CAMLMAC) and the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), agreed to share intelligence regarding potential cases of financial crime.[2912] The bilateral agreement was negotiated with the expressed purpose of more effectively combating international financing of terrorism and illegal money laundering.[2913]

On 7 November 2016, China passed a new cybersecurity law that expanded checks on companies, both foreign and domestic, in a wide variety of industries, including the financial services industry.[2914] Done on the basis of improving China's domestic internet safety, it serves as codification of many informal regulations that were unevenly enforced. Non-Chinese companies will also be forced to keep all important data that was collected in China and/or about Chinese consumers on an encrypted server inside China's borders.[2915] The legislation is planned to enter in full force in June 2017.[2916]

On 7 November 2016, Germany and China have agreed to the development of a high-level security dialogue mechanism in a bid to strengthen bilateral judicial cooperation and coordinate joint efforts in dealing with non0traditional security threats facing the two countries. Special envoy of the Chinese President Xi Jinping and the head of the Commission for Political and Legal Affairs of the Communist Party of China Central Committee indicated that "China and Germany should increase exchanges on policies and practical experience as well as information-sharing so as to make anti-terror cooperation between the two countries more productive." They also agreed that Germany and China should deepen exchanges and cooperation in anti-terrorism, cyber-security, fighting transnational organised crimes, while also agreeing to sign an arrangement on judicial mutual assistance regarding criminal cases, and starting negotiations on extradition arrangements and transfer of convicts.[2917]

On 21 March 2017, the Agricultural Bank of China suspended an account that was being used to crowdfund the rebel group known as the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army, a communist insurgency that is primarily composed of members of the Chinese-speaking Kokang ethnic group.[2918] Although no Chinese laws were broken, compliance analysts stated that the transactions "could point to a

[2910] China to establish body to tackle money laundering, terrorism financing, Reuters 25 March 2016. Access Date: 28 March 2016. http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-china-cenbank-regulations-idUSKCN0WR05T

[2911] China to establish body to tackle money laundering, terrorism financing, Reuters 25 March 2016. Access Date: 28 March 2016. http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-china-cenbank-regulations-idUSKCN0WR05T

[2912] Australia and China Agree to Share Financial Crime Intelligence, New York Times (New York City) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2016/11/01/world/asia/01reuters-australia-china-financialcrime.html

[2913] Australia and China Agree to Share Financial Crime Intelligence, New York Times (New York City) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 8 November 2016. http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2016/11/01/world/asia/01reuters-australia-china-financialcrime.html

[2914] China Approves Law to Tighten Control on Internet Use, New York Times (New York City) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2016/11/07/world/asia/ap-as-china-cyber-law.html

[2915] China Approves Law to Tighten Control on Internet Use, New York Times (New York City) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2016/11/07/world/asia/ap-as-china-cyber-law.html

[2916] China adopts cyber security law in face of overseas opposition, Reuters (London) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 11 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-parliament-cyber-idUSKBN132049

[2917] China, Germany agree to set up high-level security dialogue mechanism, Global Times (Beijing) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1016399.sht

[2918]China's Ag Bank suspends account being used to crowdfund Myanmar rebels, Reuters (London) 21 March 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-myanmar-insurgency-china-banking-idUSKBN16S2E6 weakness in controls aimed at stopping the global financial system from being used to fund terrorism or facilitate crime."[2919]

On 9 May 2017, China's State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (SASAC) announced plans to reform its auditing system for the overseas investments of state-owned entities. The proposed reforms include "domestic inspection, auditing and analysis of documents and inquiries into the relevant parties [and] [i]f necessary, regulators will go overseas for on-site verification and evidence collection in accordance with international practices and laws of the countries in which state-owned companies invest."[2920]

China has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Thomas Kariunas

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, effectively freezing terrorist assets and effectively criminalizes financing

On 8 December 2015, EU finance ministers broadly agreed to a French-led initiative to better track and freeze terrorist funding across the bloc.[2921] The bloc had already agreed to toughen existing anti-money-laundering rules earlier this year, but governments had until 2017 to implement those rules.[2922] The French government wants a swifter application of those measures, plus more intelligence sharing and wider-ranging tracking measures.[2923] French Finance Minister Michel Sapin said there was broad agreement on the measures he circulated in a 13-page discussion paper.[2924]

On 28 December 2015, Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders was released.[2925] The report stated that since 2010, France had the fifth greatest number of convictions for terrorist financing among the top ten jurisdictions.[2926] The report also stated that France had applied targeted financial sanctions on their own motion on 79 'designated individuals and entities' up to 15 August 2015 equaling EUR231,888.[2927] Amounts frozen includes funds subsequently un-frozen or confiscated, as well as funds frozen currently.[2928]

[2919] Myanmar praises China for suspending rebels' bank account, Reuters (London) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 8 June 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-myanmar-insurgency-china-idUSKBN16T0RA
[2920] China toughens auditing of of overseas investment by state-owned companies, The State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) Updated 9 May 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. http://english.gov.cn/news/top_news/2017/05/09/content_281475650258560.htm
[2921] EU Sees Broad Agreement on Fighting Terrorist Financing, The Wall Street Journal 8 December 2015. Access Date: 29 March 2016. http://www.wsj.com/articles/france-presses-on-terrorist-financing-1449577369
[2922] EU Sees Broad Agreement on Fighting Terrorist Financing, The Wall Street Journal 8 December 2015. Access Date: 29 March 2016. http://www.wsj.com/articles/france-presses-on-terrorist-financing-1449577369
[2923] EU Sees Broad Agreement on Fighting Terrorist Financing, The Wall Street Journal 8 December 2015. Access Date: 29 March 2016. http://www.wsj.com/articles/france-presses-on-terrorist-financing-1449577369
[2924] EU Sees Broad Agreement on Fighting Terrorist Financing, The Wall Street Journal 8 December 2015. Access Date: 29 March 2016. http://www.wsj.com/articles/france-presses-on-terrorist-financing-1449577369
[2925] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf
[2926] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf
[2927] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf
[2928] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf

On 10 November 2016, the French government issued a decree against the financing of terrorism which contains various measures addressing anonymous electronic money. The new regulatory measure applies to electronic money issuers as well as their distributors, credit institutions, finance companies, consumers, and to any person who physically transfers money from a certain amount.

In addition to reinforcing the powers of the Ministry of Economic and Financial Affairs agency, which will now have access to the wanted person files for the needs of criminal investigations, the decree removed the duty of care of the financial intermediaries in the absence of any particular suspicion of money laundering and under strict conditions pertaining to electronic money.

Money must only be issued for the acquisition of goods and services. The maximum value stored must not exceed EUR250. These funds must only be used for payments on the national territory.

The electronic money device may neither be reloaded through cash nor through electronic money when the initial owner of such money cannot be identified.

Aside from such conditions, financial intermediaries remain subject to the duty of care, which consists in verifying an individual's identity prior to entering into a contractual relationship, or collecting information about the purpose and the nature of the business relationship, as well as any other relevant factors on this customer to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing.[2929]

On 14 November 2016, French Economy and Finance Minister Michel Sapin and Chinse Vice-Premier Ma Kai co-chaired the 4th China-France High Level Economic and Financial Dialogue (HED) in Paris. At the meeting, France and China agreed to comply with the anti-money laundering and counter terrorist financing standards defined by the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) ongoing work to clearly identify and address the remaining weaknesses regarding the adoption and implementation of laws criminalizing terrorist financing and of targeted financial sanctions regimes related to terrorism and terrorist financing.[2930]

Further, both parties reiterated their commitment to implement the G20 High-Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency and look forward to further progress on implementation, in order to ensure that the relevant authorities, including anti-corruption, financial and tax authorities, know who owns and controls companies and other legal arrangements, such as trusts.[2931]

On 1 December 2016, the French government issued a new Ordinance that transposes the Fourth Directive (EU 2015/849) of 20 April 2015 on the prevention of the use of the financial system for the purposes of money laundering or terrorist financing into French law (the Ordinance).[2932]

On 5 May 2017, France, alongside its G7 counterparts, signed a joint declaration against terrorism. Each member pledged to combat the misuse of the internet by terrorists and to work together to manage the

[2929] Electronic money: the French Government strengthens financial intermediaries' obligations, Lexology 16 November 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=522bddce-260a-4727-bedb-5a5c5315725a

[2930] China-France Joint Fact Sheet on the 4th High Level Economic and Financial Dialogue, French Ministry for the Economy and Finance (Paris). Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.economie.gouv.fr/files/files/PDF/china-france-joint-fact-sheet-2016.pdf

[2931] China-France Joint Fact Sheet on the 4th High Level Economic and Financial Dialogue, French Ministry for the Economy and Finance (Paris). Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.economie.gouv.fr/files/files/PDF/china-france-joint-fact-sheet-2016.pdf

[2932] France modifies accessibility of French Turst Register, EY 19 December 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/Alert:_France_modifies_accessibility_of_French_Trust_Register/$FILE/2016G_04447-161Gbl_France%20modifies%20accessibility%20of%20French%20Trust%20Register.pdf risk posed by foreign fights and take action to cut off sources of terrorist financing. Measures include expanding the use of Passenger Namer Record and Advanced Passenger Information.[2933]

France has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Daniel C. Park

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, effectively freeze terrorist assets and effectively criminalize terrorist financing.

On 7 November 2016, Germany and China have agreed to the development of a high-level security dialogue mechanism in a bid to strengthen bilateral judicial cooperation and coordinate joint efforts in dealing with non-traditional security threats facing the two countries. Special envoy of the Chinese President Xi Jinping and the head of the Commission for Political and Legal Affairs of the Communist Party of China Central Committee indicated that "China and Germany should increase exchanges on policies and practical experience as well as information-sharing so as to make anti-terror cooperation between the two countries more productive." They also agreed that Germany and China should deepen exchanges and cooperation in anti-terrorism, cyber-security, fighting transnational organised crimes, while also agreeing to sign an arrangement on judicial mutual assistance regarding criminal cases, and starting negotiations on extradition arrangements and transfer of convicts.[2934]

According to the Financial Action Taskforce (FATF) 2014 Mutual Evaluation Report Germany's amendments of the Anti-Money Laundering (AML) Law made it possible to remedy all technical deficiencies, thus making Germany "largely compliant."[2935] "Germany has demonstrated sufficient progress with respect to all core Recommendations previously rated PC."[2936] The report determined that due to the progress Germany had made in various recommendations of the FATF can be considered sufficient to be removed from the regular follow-up process.[2937]

On 23 January 2017, German Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere announced the creation of a new threat system, Radar, to monitor terrorism and will be implemented in June 2017. Radar aims to increase collaboration with local police and the legal system while providinge more enforcement on people using fake identities. The intelligence technology will also and more increase surveillance on potential terrorists.[2938]

[2933] G7 Leaders sign joint declaration against terrorism, Global Times (Beijing) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1048899.shtml

[2934] China, Germany agree to set up high-level security dialogue mechanism, Global Times (Beijing) 7 November 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1016399.sht

[2935] Mutual Evaluation of Germany, FATF (Paris) 2014. Access Date: 2 March 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/mer/FUR-Germany-2014.pdf

[2936] Mutual Evaluation of Germany, FATF (Paris) 2014. Access Date: 2 March 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/mer/FUR-Germany-2014.pdf

[2937] Mutual Evaluation of Germany, FATF (Paris) 2014. Access Date: 2 March 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/mer/FUR-Germany-2014.pdf

[2938] German Interior Minister promises new system against terrorism, DW.com (Bonn) 23 January 2017. Access Date: 28 May2017. http://www.dw.com/en/german-interior-minister-de-maiziere-promises-new-system-against-terrorism/a-37233957

As of February 2017, Germany has criminalized the financing of terrorism and travel related to terrorism as distinct criminal offenses.[2939] Germany has been largely compliant with FATF recommendations about regulating its financial system to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing.[2940]

On 9 February 2017, EU member states met in Berlin to exchange information about combatting terrorism. They negotiated about the development of coordinated Europe police force, through Europol, to fight terrorism. They also wanted to Members discussed expanding the European Counter Terrorism Center (ECTC) to provide essential counter terrorism service to European countries.[2941]

Germany has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Emily Shaw

India: +1

India has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, effectively freeze terrorist assets, and effectively criminalize terrorist financing.

On 28 December 2015, Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders was released.[2942] The report stated that India had applied targeted financial sanctions on their own motion on 37 "designated individuals and entities" up to 15 August 2015 equaling EUR300,000.[2943] Amounts frozen includes funds subsequently un-frozen or confiscated, as well as funds frozen currently.[2944]

On 15-16 October 2016, Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS), adopted "an India-backed global convention by the United Nations" to fight "terrorist actions" in their territories, focusing on "sources of terror funding like organised crime by means of money-laundering, drug trafficking, criminal activities, dismantling terrorist bases, and countering misuse of the internet including through social media by terror entities."[2945] The BRICS also reaffirmed its "commitment to the Financial Action Taskforce (FATF) international standards on combating money laundering and the Financing of Terrorism and Proliferation."[2946]

On 8 November 2016, the Government of India removed the status of the INR500 and INR1,000 denominations of the Mahatma Ghandi Series banknotes issued by the Reserve Bank of India in order to

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[2939] Germany: New Anti-Terrorism Legislation Entered Into Force, Library of Congress Global Legal Monitor (Washington D.C.) 10 July 2015. Access Date: 2 March 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/mer/FUR-Germany-2014.pdf

[2940] Mutual Evaluation of Germany, FATF (Paris) 2014. Access Date: 2 March 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/mer/FUR-Germany-2014.pdf

[2941] Fighting Terrorism in Europe-Meeting of EU Member States' policy makers in Berlin, Bundeskriminalamt (Wiesbaden) 9 February 2017. Access Date 28 May 2017. https://www.bka.de/DE/Presse/Listenseite_Pressemitteilungen/2017/Presse2017/170209_TEKonferenz.html?nn=67356

[2942] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf

[2943] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf

[2944] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf

[2945] BRICS Summit 2016: Member Nations Call for Early Adoption of India-backed UN Resolution on Terrorism, CNN News18, 16 October 2016. Access Date: 28 January 2016. http://www.news18.com/news/india/mann-ki-baat-live-pm-modi-to-focus-on-board-exams-1342126.html

[2946] BRICS Summit 2016: Member Nations Call for Early Adoption of India-backed UN Resolution on Terrorism, CNN News18, 16 October 2016. Access Date: 28 January 2016. http://www.news18.com/news/india/mann-ki-baat-live-pm-modi-to-focus-on-board-exams-1342126.html tackle counterfeit Indian banknotes, "to effectively nullify black money hoarded in cash and curb funding of terrorism with fake notes."[2947]

On 29 November 2016, the Economic Offences Wing of the Crime Investigation Department of the Telangana State Police caught a middleman who had attempted to convert INR1,000 notes worth INR1.68 crore of the old currency into new currency.[2948] This special wing is responsible for investigating cases pertaining to forgery, misappropriation, counterfeit currency, cyber-crime, and major fraud in the Telangana state of India.[2949] The Nizamabad Police also "detected some businessmen and professionals trying to convert the demonetised currency into new currency through bank deposits" in the Nizamabad district.[2950]

On 3 December 2016, the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, and the Prime Minister of Qatar, Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani agreed to take joint action "to tackle money laundering and terrorist financing."[2951]

Since 26 January 2016, Indian government agencies launched a National Risk Assessment (NRA) exercise "to identify the sectors that are susceptible to money laundering and terror funding, and plug the loopholes."[2952] The NRA exercise will take a year, involving the collection of data on "sectors that are prone to money laundering in high, medium, and lower categories at the national level."[2953] India will prepare an action plan based on that level of risk. However, as of February 2017, India has not implemented legislation regarding the criminalization of terrorist financing and money laundering.[2954]

On 1 May 20176, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India and President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey, committed to "strengthen cooperation in combating terrorism both at the bilateral level and within the multilateral system. In this regard, they called for early conclusion of negotiations on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism."[2955]

On 34 May 20176, representatives of the Government of India and the Government of Kazakhstan held the 4th meeting of the Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism in New Delhi. The two countries "emphasized the importance of strengthening counter-terrorism cooperation through exchange of

[2947] Withdrawal of Legal Tender Status for ₹ 500 and ₹ 1000 Notes: RBI Notice, Reserve Bank of India, 8 November 2016. Access Date: 25 January 2017. https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=38520

[2948] Maoists worst hit by Demonetisation, Sunday Guardian Live, 4 December 2016. Access Date: 28 January 2017. http://www.sundayguardianlive.com/news/7557-maoists-worst-hit-demonetisation

[2949] Crime Investigation Department, Telangana State Police Department. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.tspolice.gov.in/jsp/userunits.do?method=viewUnits

[2950] Maoists worst hit by Demonetisation, Sunday Guardian Live, 4 December 2016. Access Date: 28 January 2017. http://www.sundayguardianlive.com/news/7557-maoists-worst-hit-demonetisation

[2951] India, Qatar plan joint action on terror financing, The Indian Express, 4 December 2016. Access Date: 28 January 2017. http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-qatar-plan-joint-action-on-terror-financing-4409390/

[2952] Operation begins to curb money laundering, terrorist funding, The Hinu (New Delhi) January 2016. Access Date: 23 February 2016. http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/operation-begins-to-curb-money-laundering-terror-funding/article8152688.ece

[2953] Operation begins to curb money laundering, terrorist funding, The Hinu (New Delhi) January 2016. Access Date: 23 February 2016. http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/operation-begins-to-curb-money-laundering-terror-funding/article8152688.ece

[2954] Country Reports on Terrorism 2014, US Department of State. Access Date: Operation begins to curb money laundering, terrorist funding, The Hinu (New Delhi) January 2016. Access Date: 23 February 2016. http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/operation-begins-to-curb-money-laundering-terror-funding/article8152688.ece9 March 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2014/239408.htm

[2955] India-Turkey Joint Statement during the State Visit of the President of Turkey to India, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 1 May 2017. Access Date 29 May 2017. http://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/28433/IndiaTurkey+Joint+Statement+during+the+State+Visit+of+the+President+of+Turkey+to+India+30+April+to+1+May+2017 information, capacity building, mutual legal assistance, sharing of best practices on countering violent extremism and cooperating in multilateral fora such as the United Nations and the SCO."[2956]

On 29 May to 1 June 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India visited embarked on a tour of four European countries, Germany, Spain, Russia, and France, to promote mutual interests between India and its partners in the region. On 30 29 May 20172016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India and Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany issued a joint statement pledging to continue "fostering security cooperation with the goal of promoting peace and strengthening stability and the capacity to meet the global and regional security challenges. Both countries agreed to pursue closer cooperation and strive to conclude negotiations in 2017 on a binding agreement concerning enhanced cooperation in the defence field including in defence industry cooperation."[2957]

On 31 May 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India and President Mariano Rajoy of Spain committed to "continue the dialogue and cooperation on terrorism between the concerned Ministries and the security agencies, in order to share best practices, experiences and reinforce and speed up cooperation on the ground."[2958]

India has effectively exchanged information and taken the crucial steps for effectively freezing terrorist assets by collecting evidences of terrorist financing and has criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Buse Kayar

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, effectively freezing terrorist assets and effectively criminalize terrorist financing.

Since 2003, terrorist financing has been criminalized by Articles 11-13 of Law 15/2003 Concerning Government Regulation in Lieu of Law 1/2002 Concerning Combating Criminal Acts of Terrorism.[2959] In 2009, the Government of Indonesia further specified is regulations over anti-money laundering and terrorist financing in the 2009 Bank of Indonesia Regulation Concerning the Implementation of Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism Program for Commercial Bank.[2960]

[2956] Fourth Meeting of India-Kazakhstan Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism, Ministry of External Affairs (New Delhi) 3 May 2017. Access Date 29 May 2017. http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/28436/4th_meeting_of_IndiaKazakhstan_Joint_Working_Group_on_Counter_Terrorism_New_Delhi__May_03_2017

[2957] India-Germany Joint Statement during the visit of Prime Minister to Germany, Ministry of External Affairs (Berlin) 29 May 2017. Access Date 29 May 2017. http://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/28496/IndiaGermany+Joint+Statement+during+the+visit+of+Prime+Minister+to+Germany

[2958] India-Spain Joint Statement during the visit of Prime Minister to Spain, Ministry of External Affairs (Madrid) 31 May 2017. Access Date 31 May 2017. http://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/28500/IndiaSpain+Joint+Statement+during+the+visit+of+Prime+Minister+to+Spain+May+31+2017

[2959] 2010 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report (INCSR)--Volume II: Money Laundering and Financial Crimes Country Database--Indonesia through Mongolia, BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AFFAIRS, US Department of State, 4 May 2010. Access Date: 2 Aug 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/inl/rls/nrcrpt/2010/database/141519.htm

[2960] Bank Indonesia Regulation No.14/27/PBI/2012 — Concerning Implementation of Anti Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism Program for Commercial Bank, Bank of Indonesia. Access Date: 2 Aug 2016.http://www.bi.go.id/en/peraturan/perbankan/Documents/3f0d634841a24159ba82c5f07ec70078pbi_1128091.pdf

In 2010, the Government of Indonesia made an amendment to its criminal code to strengthen its commitment to counter terrorist financing. The Law criminalizes terrorist financing as a distinct criminal offense.[2961]

Beginning in June 2015, Indonesia was no longer "[s]ubject to the FATF's On-Going AML/CFT Compliance Process" as FATF welcomed "Indonesia's significant progress in improving its AML/CFT regime" and noted that "Indonesia has established the legal and regulatory framework to meet its commitments in its action plan regarding the strategic deficiencies that the FATF had identified in February 2010."[2962] Indonesia's action plan was a high political commitment to work improve its AML/CFT regime to meet FATF standards by: "(1) adequately criminalising money laundering and terrorist financing; (2) establishing adequate procedures to identify and freeze terrorist assets; and (3) enacting laws or other instruments to fully implement the 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of Financing of Terrorism."[2963]

On 28 December 2015, Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders was released.[2964] The report stated that Indonesia had applied targeted financial sanctions on their own motion on one 'designated individuals and entities' up to 15 August 2015 equaling an undisclosed amount.[2965]

The 2015 Country Reports on Terrorism produced by the US Department of State noted that in 2015, Indonesia had brought 13 cases and obtained nine convictions under its new terrorism financing law.[2966] The same report noted Indonesia had prosecuted 56 terrorism-related cases between January and October 2015.[2967]

On 26 October 2016, President of Indonesia Joko Widodo urged for greater cooperation between the Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Center (INTRAC), which is the governmental agency primarily responsible for the eradication of money laundering within Indonesia, and related institutions such as the Finance Ministry and Financial Services Authority (OJK), in addition to Indonesian law enforcement agencies.[2968]

On 9 January 2017, in collaboration with the National Agency for Counter Terrorism (BNPT) and relevant ministries, the Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (INTRAC) has established specific divisions including fiscal, narcotics, terrorism, financial technology and cybercrime, to trace the flow of funds or digital-based monetary transaction in the wake of Indonesia facing a substantial

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[2961] LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA NUMBER 8 YEAR 2010, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA (Jakarta) 22 October 2010. Access Date: 13 March 2016. http://www.flevin.com/id/lgso/translations/Laws/Law%20No.%208%20of%202010%20on%20Prevention%20and%20Eradication%20of%20Money%20Laundering%20(MoF).pdf

[2962] Jurisdictions no Longer Subject to the FATF's On-Going Global AML/CFT Compliance Process, FATF. Access Date: 4 Aug 2016.http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/high-riskandnon-cooperativejurisdictions/documents/fatf-compliance-june-2015.html#Indonesia

[2963] Improving Global AML/CFT Compliance: on-going process, FATF, 27 February 2015. Access Date: 5 Aug 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/high-riskandnon-cooperativejurisdictions/documents/fatf-compliance-february-2015.html#Indonesia

[2964] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf

[2965] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf

[2966] Country Reports of Terrorism, Chapter 2: East Asia and Pacific Overview, US State of Department, 2015. Access Date: 1 Aug 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2015/257515.htm#

[2967] Country Reports of Terrorism, Chapter 2: East Asia and Pacific Overview, US State of Department, 2015. Access Date: 1 Aug 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2015/257515.htm#

[2968] Eyeing offshore assets, Jokowi picks new PPATK chief, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 27 October 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/10/27/eyeing-offshore-assets-jokowi-picks-new-ppatk-chief.html risk from terrorists using popular online payment systems such as PayPal and Bitcoin to fund their activities.[2969]

On 1 February 2017, Indonesia and Australia's financial intelligence agencies, Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (INTRAC) and Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), signed an agreement to target counter-terrorism financing and anti-money laundering. The PPATK-AUSTRAC Partnership Program 2017 builds on a seven year collaboration, and includes almost AUD500,000 in Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade funding for six new projects including:

- Deploying IT specialists to strengthen the PPATK's reporting and analysis systems;
- Intensive workshops on crimes specific to counter terrorist financing and anti-money laundering to enhance investigative and analytic capabilities within the PPATK; and
- Exchange programs to enable PPATK experts to learn first-hand from AUSTRAC.[2970]

As of February 2017, Indonesia regulates its financial system against money laundering and terrorist financing, through the Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (PPATK).[2971] Terrorist travel has become a crime in Indonesia following the terrorist attacks in Jakarta on 14 January 2016.[2972]

Despite not being a member of the FATF, Indonesia has contributed to combating money laundering and terrorist financing through legislation concerning terrorist financing and travel, and through the support of targeted sanctions against terrorism. It has also taken steps to regulate its financial system against the threat of money laundering and terrorist financing, and criminalized terrorist financing as a distinct offence.

On 8 April 2017, the Indonesian government announced plans to implement new measures that would allow the Indonesian government to "freeze without delay the funds and assets of those identified of having links to the proliferation of WMDs."[2973] This will be done with the assistance of the Asian Pacific Group on Money Laundering, who will assist Indonesia in enacting the suggested FATF recommendations.[2974]

On 16 May 2017, the Indonesian government issued a regulation that enabled tax office officials to access both the accounts of the customers of Indonesian banks and those of foreign banks operating in Indonesia. The new rule removes the requirement of receiving permits from both the Governor of Bank Indonesia

[2969] Indonesia Tracks Online Funding of Terror Groups, BenarNews 9 January 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://www.benarnews.org/english/news/indonesian/online-payments-01092017155456.html

[2970] Australia and Indonesia: new approach to cut financial lifeline to terrorists, Minister for Justice (Canberra) 1 February 2017. Access Date: 3 February 2017. https://www.ministerjustice.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2017/FirstQuarter/Australia-and-Indonesia-new-approach-to-cut-financial-lifeline-to-terrorists.aspx

[2971] Rethinking the Anti-Terrorism Strategy in Indonesia, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 19 June 2015. Access Date: 2 March 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2015/06/19/rethinking-anti-terrorism-strategy-indonesia.html

[2972] Jakarta Attacks Prompt Tougher Anti-Terrorism Laws in Indonesia, The Guardian (London) 17 February 2016. Access D Operation begins to curb money laundering, terrorist funding, The Hinu (New Delhi) January 2016. Access Date: 23 February 2016. http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/operation-begins-to-curb-money-laundering-terror-funding/article8152688.eceate: 2 March 2016. http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/feb/17/jakarta-attacks-prompt-tougher-anti-terrorism-laws-in-indonesia

[2973] Indonesia to issue regulation on WMD financing, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 8 April 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.pressreader.com/indonesia/the-jakarta-post/20170408/281590945420153

[2974] Indonesia to issue regulation on WMD financing, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 8 April 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.pressreader.com/indonesia/the-jakarta-post/20170408/281590945420153 and the Finance Minister before accessing an account. Previously, a similar regulation was in effect that targeted only customers of foreign banks.[2975]

Indonesia has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Thomas Kariunas

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, effectively freezing terrorist assets and effectively criminalize terrorist financing.

On 20 February 2016, Italy adopted a new counterterrorism law which "criminalized participation in a conflict in a foreign territory in support of a terrorist organization."[2976]

On 28 December 2015, Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders was released.[2977] The report stated that Italy had applied targeted financial sanctions on their own motion on 17 'designated individuals and entities' up to 15 August 2015.[2978]

On 9 November 2016, Justice Minister Andre Orlando met with the Minister of Security and Justice of the Netherlands Ard Van der Steur to discuss the cooperation between their two countries in respect to judicial affairs. They both agreed at the meeting on the importance of bilateral exchange of information to fight against radical terrorism.[2979]

Since February 2017, Italy has criminalized terrorist financing under articles 270 and 270 of its Criminal Code.[2980] Through the Anti-Mafia Code, Italy can freeze the assets of "EU Internals," and supplement a gap in the EU framework.[2981] Italy has also supplemented the EU framework via LD 109/2007 to include "assets … owned or controlled" by a listed person within the scope of the freezing measures.[2982] Italy has also enacted Decree Law on foreign terrorist fighters which addresses the financing of travel for foreign fighters.[2983]

Italy has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Emily Shaw

[2975] Government issues regulation to end bank secrecy, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 17 May 2017. Access Date: 26 May 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/05/17/government-issues-regulation-to-end-bank-secrecy.html

[2976] Country Reports on Terrorism 2015 – Italy, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, (Geneva) 2 June 2016. Date of Access: 22 July 2016. http://www.refworld.org/docid/57518db313.html

[2977] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf

[2978] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf

[2979] Fight against terrorism, cybercrime and European Prosecutor: Justice Minister meets Orlando Netherlands, Ministero della Giustizia (Rome) 9 November 2016. Access Date: 14 November 2016. https://www.giustizia.it/giustizia/it/mg_13_1_1.page?contentId=COM1286882&previsiousPage=mg_13_116

[2980] Italy's Measures to Combat Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, FATF (Paris) February 2016. Access Date: 26 February 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/mutualevaluations/documents/mer-italy-2016.html

[2981] Detailed Assessment Report on Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism, IMF (Washington) February 2016. Access Date: 9 March 2016. https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2016/cr1643.pdf

[2982] Detailed Assessment Report on Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism, IMF (Washington) February 2016. Access Date: 9 March 2016. https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2016/cr1643.pdf

[2983] Counter-Terrorism Committee visit to Italy focuses on foreign terrorist fighter threat, law enforcement and border control challenges, Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee 29 May 2015. Access Date: 9 March 2016. http://www.un.org/en/sc/ctc/news/2015-05-29_CTC_Italy_FTF.html

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets and criminalize terrorist financing.

On 6 September 2016, the Japanese Financial Intelligence Center (JAFIC) signed a Statement of Cooperation with the Anti-Money Laundering Intelligence Office of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in order to increase the exchange of information related to terrorist financing and money laundering.[2984]

On 14 October 2016, the Japanese Financial Intelligence Center (JAFIC) signed a Statement of Cooperation with the Financial Intelligence Center of the Republic of Ghana in order to increase the exchange of information related to terrorist financing and money laundering.[2985]

On 1 January 2017, the National Tax Agency's new system for automatically exchanging information on financial accounts of non-residents with foreign tax administrations came into effect. Aimed at preventing cross-border tax evasion using offshore financial institutions, the system will require information to be exchanged according to the Common Reporting Standard (CRS) in accordance with bilateral tax agreements.[2986] When the new system starts, securities companies will be obligated by law to identify the jurisdiction of residence, or the jurisdiction country in which the customer has an address of head office or main business establishment. Customers will be obligated by the same law to self-certify their jurisdiction of residence to the securities company.[2987]

On 23 May 2017, the Japanese House of Representatives voted for a bill that expands the scope of domestic surveillance and criminalizes any conspiracy to commit acts of terrorism in addition to participating in "unlicensed bike racing, copyright infringement and stealing plants from forest preserves".[2988]

Japan has effectively criminalized terrorist financing and exchanged information, however it has not yet taken the necessary steps to freeze terrorist financing. Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Thomas Kariunas

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets and criminalize terrorist financing.

On 20 September 2016, Busan, Korea hosted the opening ceremony of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Training and Research Institute (TREIN). The FATF TREIN is located in Busan and designed for training and implementing anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing measures. The

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[2984] Statements of Cooperation between JAFIC and foreign FIUs concerning Exchange of Information related to Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, Japanese Financial Intelligence Center (Tokyo) 14 October 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. https://www.npa.go.jp/sosikihanzai/jafic/en/kokusai_e/mousin_e.htm

[2985] Statements of Cooperation between JAFIC and foreign FIUs concerning Exchange of Information related to Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, Japanese Financial Intelligence Center (Tokyo) 14 October 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. https://www.npa.go.jp/sosikihanzai/jafic/en/kokusai_e/mousin_e.htm

[2986] Notification Regarding the System for Automatic Exchange of Information Based on the CRS, Japan Security Dealers Association (Tokyo) 1 August 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.jsda.or.jp/en/activities/research-studies/html/NotificationofAEoI.html

[2987] Notification Regarding the System for Automatic Exchange of Information Based on the Common Reporting Standard (CRS), Japan Security Dealers Association (Tokyo) 1 August 2016. Access Date: 29 January 2017. http://www.jsda.or.jp/en/activities/research-studies/files/161219_CRS_Eng.pdf

[2988] Conspiracy Bill Advances in Japan Despite Surveillance Fears, New York Times (New York) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 7 June 2017. https://www.nytimes.com/2017/05/23/world/asia/japan-anti-terror-conspiracy-abe.html?_r=1 institute serves as a venue for training government officials in assessments, or evaluations of countries' implementation of counter-terror financing measures.[2989]

On 29 November 2016, Korean authorities announced that it would establish a government-led national risk assessment (NRA) system on money laundering and terrorist financing. The Financial Services Commission (FSC) indicated that, "[We] will push for the establishment of a national risk assessment committee joined by relevant authorities." The envisioned panel will be tasked with making and coordinating state policies on anti-money laundering.[2990]

On 6 December 2016, the Commissioner of the Korea Financial Intelligence Unit, Yoo Kwang-yeol, announced Korea will be introducing an artificial intelligence-based system to better filter out financial crimes in an effort to ramp up contributions against money laundering and terrorism financing.[2991]

Korea has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Andrew Hakes

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, effectively freezing terrorist assets and effectively criminalizes terrorist financing.

On 11 February 2014, the Senate approved amendments to the Federal Penal Code, the Federal Criminal Procedure Code, the Organized Crime Law, the Federal Fiscal Code, the Asset Forfeiture Law, and Constitutional implementing legislation. These amendments strengthened Mexico's legal framework to address acts of terrorism, terrorist financing and third-party assistance to terrorist financing, attacks against internationally protected persons, the conspiracy to commit terrorism, theft of radioactive or nuclear materials, and the sanctioning of the freezing or forfeiture of terrorist assets based on domestic and international intelligence sources. The amendments also increase the minimum sentences for acts of terrorism from six to 40 years to a minimum of 15 to 40 years, strengthened the penalties for crimes committed using illicit resources, and created an exception to rules governing the dissemination of third-party fiscal data in order to comply with new terrorist financing laws.[2992]

On 18 July 2016, Mexican President Enrique Pea Nieto signed into law the implementing legislation for Mexico's National Anti-Corruption System (SNA). The constitutional amendment that created the SNA as a forum for coordination between all levels of government to fight corruption was published on May 27, 2015, and the Mexican legislature subsequently approved seven secondary legislative packages. Of note, one of the new laws, the General Law on Administrative Responsibilities (GLAR), requires public officials to declare their assets, conflicts of interest, and taxes and provides that companies may be able to mitigate the penalties assessed against them for corruption-related violations by implementing effective compliance programs and by self-reporting and cooperating with authorities.[2993]

[2989] FATF Training and Research Institute (TREIN), Financial Action Task Force (Paris) 20 September 2016. Access Date: 9 January 2017. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/fatfrecommendations/documents/trein-institute.html

[2990] S. Korea to improve money laundering risk alert system, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 29 November 2016. Access Date. 3 February 2017. http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2016/11/29/0200000000AEN20161129004300320.html

[2991] South Korea to leverage AI to filter out financial crimes, MIS Asia 3 January 2017. Access Date: 25 May 2017. https://www.mis-asia.com/tech/industries/south-korea-to-leverage-ai-to-filter-out-financial-crimes/

[2992] 2014 Country Reports on Terrorism, Chapter 2 Western Hemisphere Overview, State Department (Washington). Access Date: 25 July 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2014/239409.htm.

[2993] Top Ten International Anti-Corruption Developments For July 2016, News on Compliance (2016) Access Date: 3 September 2016. http://newsoncompliance.com/2016/08/top-ten-international-anti-corruption-developments-for-july-2016/

These amendments also sought to more closely align Mexico's federal legislation with several of the international instruments related to countering terrorism, such as the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons.[2994] On 5 February 2014, Mexico passed a national code of criminal procedure that aimed to harmonize the criminal justice systems of Mexico's 31 states and Federal District, and increase justice sector transparency, efficiency, and impartiality.[2995]

On 28 December 2015, Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders was released.[2996] The report did not note that Mexico had applied any targeted financial sanctions on their own motion as of August 2015. No other evidence was found suggesting it had within the compliance cycle.

On 22 December 2016, Attorney General Dr. Raúl Cervantes Andrade published an Official Gazette of the Federation which assigned a specialized crime unit to investigate the financing of illegal actions, especially organized crime. He addressed that this unit would gain experience in other issues such as terrorist financing and money laundering. The announcement stated that this crime unit reaffirms Mexico's commitment to combat the financial and operational structures of organized crime.[2997]

Mexico has effectively exchanged information and frozen terrorist assets however has not effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Emily Shaw

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets, and criminalize terrorist financing.

On 26 to 29 September 2016, an interdepartmental delegation, led by Rosfinmonitoring's (Federal Financial Monitoring Service) head of the International Cooperation Department Mr. Petrenko and comprising of representatives of the Russian Foreign Ministry, Bank of Russia, Ministry of Finance and the Federal Tax Service, took part in the 51st plenary meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering (AML) Measures and Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL) in Strasbourg. The delegation also held bilateral meetings on AML/CFT cooperation with the FIUs of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Bulgaria, Holy See, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Poland and Montenegro, as well as with the Executive Secretary of MONEYVAL.[2998]

On 30 September 2016, the meeting of the Expert Advisory Group of the National Anti-Terrorist Committee for Combating the Financing of Terrorism was held in headquarters of Rosfinmonitoring. Participants discussed the strengthening of cooperation among the relevant agencies in combating terrorist and extremist financing in the Central Federal District of Russia. Another issue under consideration

[2994] 2014 Country Reports on Terrorism, Chapter 2 Western Hemisphere Overview, State Department (2014) Access Date: 25 July 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2014/239409.htm.

[2995] 2014 Country Reports on Terrorism, Chapter 2 Western Hemisphere Overview, State Department (2014) Access Date: 25 July 2016. http://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2014/239409.htm.

[2996] Terrorist Financing FATF Report to the G20 Leaders, FATF 28 December 2015. Access Date 29 March 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/PastPresidency/201512/P020151228375596818045.pdf

[2997] Publica PGR en el DOF adscripción de Unidad Especializada Comunicado 2082/16, Procuraduría General de la República (Mexico City) 22 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. http://www.gob.mx/pgr/prensa/publica-pgr-en-el-dof-adscripcion-de-unidad-especializada-comunicado-2082-16

[2998] On Participation in MONEYVAL's 51st Plenary, Federal Financial Monitoring Service 4 October 2016. http://www.fedsfm.ru/en/news/2341.

concerned gaps in inter-agency information sharing in this area. Participants agreed on a joint action aimed at improving information sharing.[2999]

On 3 October 2016, the Federal Financial Monitoring Service (Rosfinmonitoring) uncovered 42 militant cells in the country that fund groups the Kremlin has designated "terrorist" organisations. Around 30 were found abroad. Rosfinmonitoring indicated that it is also working to identify the bank accounts of militants who are currently fighting on territories held by the Da'esh, and cracking down on businesses that support such groups and individuals or help them launder their funds. Head of Rosfinmonitoring Yury Chikhanchin reported that, "Over 3,500 bank accounts have been frozen."[3000]

On 9 November 2016, the Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Financial Monitoring Service of Russia and the Anti-Money Laundering and Suspicious Cases Unit of the UAE on cooperation in combating money laundering and terrorist financing was signed. The Memorandum expands the legal basis for information exchange in the relevant field and helps promote bilateral cooperation.[3001]

On 7 — 11 November 2016, the 25th Plenary meeting of the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) was held in New Delhi. It was chaired by Director of Rosfinmonitoring Yury Chikhanchin. The Plenary discussed issues related to the fight against terrorist organizations and called on all its members to intensify efforts in this area and speed up the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions. Participants emphasized the importance of close international cooperation, exchange of the best investigative techniques and involvement of subject matter specialists in the teaching process. Participants showed particular interest in the presentations by the Russian Federation and Kyrgyzstan, dedicated to the use of behaviour profiles to identify individuals involved in the provision of funding to terrorists. In addition, these countries examined the potential for using the FIU's online resources to speed up communication with financial institutions.[3002]

On 18 November 2016, President Vladimir Putin signed a decree outlining the launch of an inter-departmental commission that would counter the financing of terrorism. The commission is intended to rule on "freezing funds or other property" of organisations and persons suspected of being involved in terrorism. It will also be responsible for coordinating work of other institutions engaged in fighting terrorism. The presidential decree orders federal governmental bodies and the Investigative Committee to inform the commission of any organisations or persons that might be involved in terrorist activities. More specifically, the degree indicates that a decision to freeze assets will be considered final only if all members of the commission vote for it. All rulings will be published on the website of Rosfinmonitoring.[3003]

On 1 December 2016, President Vladimir Putin approved 'Foreign Policy Concept of the Russian Federation.' Under 'Strengthening International Security,' the section indicates that Russia, "believes that the struggle against terrorism will not be effective unless the sources of terrorist financing are eliminated, supports the efforts undertaken within multilateral structures to identify States, individuals and legal

[2999] Meeting of the Expert Advisory Group of the National Anti-Terrorist Committee for Combating the Financing of Terrorism, Federal Financial Monitoring Service 3 October 2016. http://www.fedsfm.ru/en/news/2334

[3000] Russia Has Uncovered 42 'Terrorist' Funding Cells: Finance Watchdog, Newsweek (New York City) 3 October 2016. Access Date: 22 January 2017. http://www.newsweek.com/russia-uncovers-42-terrorist-funding-cells-finance-watchdog-435590

[3001] On Signing Memorandum of Understanding between Rosfinmonitoring and Anti-Money Laundering and Suspicious Cases Unit (UAE), Federal Financial Monitoring Service 10 November 2016. http://www.fedsfm.ru/en/news/2342

[3002] The 25th Plenary of the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG), Federal Financial Monitoring Service 21 November 2016. http://www.fedsfm.ru/en/news/2335

[3003] Putin Creates Commission to Counter Financing of Terrorism, The Moscow Times (Moscow) November 2016. Access Date: 22 January 2016. https://themoscowtimes.com/news/putin-creates-commission-to-counter-financing-of-terrorism-50832 entities with economic ties to terrorist organisations and seek to block financing channels used by terrorists."[3004]

Russia has effectively criminalized terrorist financing, exchanged information, and has taken the necessary steps to freeze terrorist assets. Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Daouii Abouchere & Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets and criminalize terrorist financing.

On 4 May 2016, the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF) launched a new typologies project, Money Laundering Through Electronic Means. The project aims to help MENAFATF member countries better understand the methods employed for money laundering through electronic means, improve their detection and prevention capabilities, and thus enhance their efforts to combat money laundering through electronic means in the Middle East and North Africa. The project is set to continue until September 2017.[3005]

On 20 October 2016, the Saudi government imposed sanctions on alleged Hezbollah members, accusing them of funneling money to the Lebanese militant group. Saudi Arabia designated Hezbollah affiliates and Hezbollah affiliated sanitation service provider Global Cleaners under a local counterterrorism law, freezing their assets and prohibiting commercial licenses.[3006]

On 21 May 2017, an agreement was announced to establish a Terrorist Financing Targeting Center as a collaborative effort, co-chaired by Saudi Arabia and the United States.[3007] The center aims to enhance information-sharing, as well as to coordinate action on sanctions and to facilitate technical assistance for participating countries in need of support developing their counter financing of terrorism programs.[3008]

Saudi Arabia has effectively criminalised terrorist financing and frozen terrorist assets, however, it has not taken steps to effectively exchange information Thus, Saudi Arabia has been assigned a compliance score of +1.

Analyst: Andrew Hakes

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with its commitments to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets, and criminalize terrorist financing.

In 2009, FATF issued a report on South Africa which stated South Africa has, "criminalized terrorist financing in section 4 of the Protection of Constitutional Democracy against Terrorist and Related Activities Act (POCDATARA)." The FATF particularly notes that the POCDATARA is "comprehensive

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[3004] Foreign Policy Concept of the Russian Federation (approved by President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin on November 30, 2016), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Moscow) 1 December 2016. Access Date: 22 January 2017. http://www.mid.ru/en/web/guest/foreign_policy/official_documents/-/asset_publisher/CptICkB6BZ29/content/id/2542248

[3005] MENAFATF Newsletter Issue No. (13), Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force June 2016. Access Date: 13 November 2016. http://www.menafatf.org/images/UploadFiles/MENAFATF_Newsletter_Issue13_English.pdf

[3006] US, Saudi Arabia blacklist Hezbollah members, financiers, Al-Monitor (Washington) 21 October 2016. Access Date: 30 January 2017. http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/afp/2016/10/us-saudi-sanctions-attacks-hezbollah.html

[3007] U.S., Saudi Arabia Enhance Counter-Terrorist Financing Capabilities, ABA Banking Journal, 22 May 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. http://bankingjournal.aba.com/2017/05/u-s-saudi-arabia-enhance-counter-terrorist-financing-capabilities/

[3008] U.S., Saudi Arabia Enhance Counter-Terrorist Financing Capabilities, ABA Banking Journal 22 May 2017. Access Date: 23 May 2017. http://bankingjournal.aba.com/2017/05/u-s-saudi-arabia-enhance-counter-terrorist-financing-capabilities/

and criminalizes the collection or provision of property with the intention that it be used for the purpose of committing a terrorist act, or by a terrorist organization or individual terrorist for any purpose."

In March 2015, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) released a report assessing the state of anti-money laundering (AML) and combating the financing of terrorism (CFT) in South Africa.[3009] Staff were guided by the current FATF 40 Recommendations and assessment methodology.[3010] The report found that South Africa has made significant progress in improving its AML/CFT legal and institutional framework since it was last assessed against the AML/CFT standard in 2008.[3011] Furthermore, it noted that the number of ML investigations has increased since 2009.

On 19 February 2016, the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa published a report confirming that the Financial Intelligence Centre Amendment Bill and Financial Sector Regulation (FSR) Bill are currently being deliberated on in the National Assembly. The FSR Bill proposes reforms to financial regulation in South Africa to specifically improve its capacity to maintain financial stability and counter terrorist financing. The Bill specifically proposes the establishment special committees tasked with the enforcement of the new financial rules.[3012]

On 11 October 2016, South Africa and Kenya have signed two critical memoranda of understanding (MoU) on security, specifically involving police and defence cooperation. The MoUs cover intelligence sharing, identifying terrorists' sources of funding and stabilising terrorism-prone countries.[3013]

South Africa has effectively exchanged information and criminalized terrorist financing, but has not frozen terrorist assets. Thus, South Africa has been assigned a compliance score of 0.

Analyst: Andrew Hakes

Turkey: +1

Turkey has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, effectively freezing assets, and effectively criminalizing terrorist financing.

On 16 February 2013, the Law on the Prevention of the Financing of Terrorism entered into force which defines "financing of terrorism" to include individuals and organizations who support terrorism at the national or international level by providing funds, and any person who sends money to a terrorist organization listed in relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions would be prosecuted.[3014] The law also authorizes the Financial Crimes Investigation Board (MASAK) under the Ministry of Finance to "freeze" assets of those suspected of financing terrorism as a "preventive measure," when a strong suspicion exists about the individual or organization concerned.[3015]

[3009] South Africa Financial Sector Assessment Program, IMF March 2015. Access Date: 4 April 2016. https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2015/cr1551.pdf
[3010] South Africa Financial Sector Assessment Program, IMF March 2015. Access Date: 4 April 2016. https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2015/cr1551.pdf
[3011] South Africa Financial Sector Assessment Program, IMF March 2015. Access Date: 4 April 2016. https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2015/cr1551.pdf
[3012] South Africa: National Treasury Requests Public Comments on Draft Financial Intelligence Centre Amendment Bill 2015, All Africa (Pretoria) 21 April 2015. Access Date: 11 March 2016. http://allafrica.com/stories/201504221424.html
[3013] Kenya, SA sign deals to counter terror and deepen police and defence ties, The Star (Nairobi) 12 October 2016. Date of Access: 7 January 2017. http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/2016/10/12/kenya-sa-sign-deals-to-counter-terror-and-deepen-police-and-defence_c1436467
[3014] Turkey: Law to Combat Financing of Terrorism, Global Legal Monitor (Washington) 12 March 2013. Access Date: 13 March 2016. http://www.loc.gov/law/foreign-news/article/turkey-law-to-combat-financing-of-terrorism/
[3015] Turkey: Law to Combat Financing of Terrorism, Global Legal Monitor (Washington) 12 March 2013. Access Date: 13 March 2016. http://www.loc.gov/law/foreign-news/article/turkey-law-to-combat-financing-of-terrorism/

On 22 October 2014, FATF release a Mutual Evaluation Report.[3016] The report stated that Turkey has made significant progress in addressing the deficiencies in its anti-money laundering/countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) measures, as identified in the mutual evaluation report of February 2007.[3017] Since the 2007 report, Turkey has: amended the money laundering offence in the Criminal Code, by lowering the threshold for predicate offences and including elements required by the relevant United Nations conventions; adopted new regulations and amendments to existing regulations, which strengthen the requirements on customer due diligence, beneficial ownership, risk and simplified/enhanced due diligence; strengthened the reporting requirements for suspected terrorist financing transactions; and adopted a new regime on the Prevention of the Financing of Terrorism.[3018] FATF approved the exit from follow-up of Turkey.[3019]

In June 2015, the US Department of State released the Country Reports on terrorism, which details the actions of several countries in regard to AML/CTF.[3020] It stated that the Government of Turkey intensified efforts to interdict the travel of suspected foreign terrorist fighters through Turkey to and from Syria and Iraq.[3021] These efforts include the development and implementation of a "banned from entry list," as well as the deployment of "Risk Analysis Units" to detect suspected foreign terrorist fighters at airports, land border crossings, and border cities.[3022] Cooperation with other source countries increased during the year in response to the foreign terrorist fighter threat, with both Turkey and source countries seeking to improve information sharing in particular. Turkey is an active member of the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL.[3023]

On 1 February 2016, a law was drafted that deems human smuggling as an act of terrorism and authorises the seizure of financial assets of human smugglers. The draft law would combat human trafficking, reduce the influx of higher number of refugees and comply with FATF recommendations by implementing means by which Turkey can freeze terrorist organization assets.[3024]

Turkey's Financial Intelligence Unit (MASAK) continues to operate in cooperation and coordination with the law enforcement authorities and prosecutors at the national level.[3025] MASAK also cooperates with other Financial Intelligence Units and actively contributes to the efforts of the FATF.[3026] Turkey has created a legal framework in line with the FATF recommendations in order to implement effectively UN

[3016] Mutual Evaluation of Turkey : 15th Follow-Up Report, FATF 22 October 2016. Access Date 5 April 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/mutualevaluations/documents/fur-turkey-2014.html

[3017] Mutual Evaluation of Turkey : 15th Follow-Up Report, FATF 22 October 2016. Access Date 5 April 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/mutualevaluations/documents/fur-turkey-2014.html

[3018] Mutual Evaluation of Turkey : 15th Follow-Up Report, FATF 22 October 2016. Access Date 5 April 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/publications/mutualevaluations/documents/fur-turkey-2014.html

[3019] FATF Plenary meetings — Chairman's Summaries, FATF (2016) Access Date: 5 April 2016. http://www.fatf-gafi.org/about/outcomesofmeetings/

[3020] Country Report on Terrorism 2014, US Department of State June 2015. Access Date: 05 April 2016. http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/239631.pdf

[3021] Country Report on Terrorism 2014, US Department of State June 2015. Access Date: 05 April 2016. http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/239631.pdf

[3022] Country Report on Terrorism 2014, US Department of State June 2015. Access Date: 05 April 2016. http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/239631.pdf

[3023] Country Report on Terrorism 2014, US Department of State June 2015. Access Date: 05 April 2016. http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/239631.pdf

[3024] Turkey: People Smuggling to be Classified as Terrorist Act, Library of Congress 2016. Access Date: 23 July 2016. http://www.loc.gov/law/foreign-news/article/turkey-people-smuggling-to-be-classified-as-terrorist-act/

[3025] Turkey's Contributions to International Community's Efforts to Fight Terrorism, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2016) Access Date: 05 April 2016. http://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkey_s-contributions-to-international-community_s-efforts-to-fight-terrorism.en.mfa

[3026] Turkey's Contributions to International Community's Efforts to Fight Terrorism, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2016) Access Date: 05 April 2016. http://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkey_s-contributions-to-international-community_s-efforts-to-fight-terrorism.en.mfa

Security Council resolutions 1267 and 1373, which calls for criminalizing terrorist financing and freezing terrorist assets.[3027] The Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs reports that Turkey has made bilateral agreements with more than over 70 countries around the world in the field of counterterrorism.[3028] These agreements provide the legal basis for bilateral cooperation against illegal entities including terrorist organization and facilitate exchange of information among the relevant agencies.[3029]

On 30 January 2017, Turkish security forces conducted 586 anti-drug operations across the country in an effort to curtail terrorist financing, and seized in various amounts of narcotic drugs including cocaine, heroin, marijuana, opiates, hemp, root, and meth, as well as more than 780,00 packs of smuggled cigarettes, and 24,502 liters of smuggled oil.[3030]

Turkey has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, Turkey receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Daouii Abouchere

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, effectively freezing terrorist assets and effectively criminalize financing.

The UK government has criminalized terrorist financing under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, the Terrorism Act (TACT) 2000, and the Money Laundering Regulations 2007.[3031] The UK government has also adopted the relevant EU measures, including measures to prevent the financing of terrorism. The EU Funds Transfers Regulation, which also binds the UK government, imposes identification and verification requirements on payers and by payment service providers.[3032]

Under Sections 15-18 of TACT, the UK government criminalizes acts of “inviting, providing, or receiving” as well as “using or intending” and “being involved in an arrangement” which makes “money or other property available with the intention or reasonable suspicion that it will be used for the purposes of terrorism.” This, therefore, includes the financing of foreign fighter travel for terrorist-related activities.

[3027] Turkey’s Contributions to International Community’s Efforts to Fight Terrorism, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2016) Access Date: 05 April 2016. http://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkey_s-contributions-to-international-community_s-efforts-to-fight-terrorism.en.mfa

[3028] Turkey’s Contributions to International Community’s Efforts to Fight Terrorism, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2016) Access Date: 05 April 2016. http://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkey_s-contributions-to-international-community_s-efforts-to-fight-terrorism.en.mfa

[3029] Turkey’s Contributions to International Community’s Efforts to Fight Terrorism, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2016) Access Date: 05 April 2016. http://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkey_s-contributions-to-international-community_s-efforts-to-fight-terrorism.en.mfa

[3030] Turkey holds more than 980 terror suspects in one week, Anadolu Agency (Istanbul) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 3 February 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-holds-more-than-980-terror-suspects-in-one-week/737899

[3031] UK national risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing, Home Office (London) October 2015. Access Date: 11 March 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/468210/UK_NRA_October_2015_final_web.pdf

[3032] UK national risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing, Home Office (London) October 2015. Access Date: 11 March 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/468210/UK_NRA_October_2015_final_web.pdf

As of March 2016, at least 17 convictions have been made under sections 15-18 of TACT since its introduction in September 2001.[3033]

The Terrorist Asset-Freezing Act (TAFA) 2010 authorizes the UK government to freeze the assets of terrorists and prohibit their nationals and persons within its jurisdiction from making funds, resources or financial services available. Through TAFA, the UK has particularly complied FATF Recommendation 6 which requires freezing 'without delay' of the assets of individuals or entities designated under United Nation Security Council Resolutions 1267 and 1373.[3034]

In April 2016, the UK Home Department and Treasury outlined the UK's anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terrorist financing (CTF) plan for the coming years in a policy paper.[3035] The UK confirmed action in several areas to address AML and CTF, as well as specific actions to enhance international responses to terrorist finance. Also, the UK has pledged ongoing support to building capacity for overseas partners to investigate and stop terrorist financing, including the Counter-ISIL Finance Group. In addition, the UK indicated that it would continue ongoing support for UK-based charities operating abroad, in order to mitigate the risk that the charity's' funds would be used to support terrorist activities.[3036]

On 13 October, the Criminal Finances Bill was introduced to the House of Commons. The Bill aims to significantly improve the government's ability to tackle money laundering and corruption, recover the proceeds of crime, and counter terrorist financing. More specifically, the bill will make complementary changes to the law enforcement response to the threat of terrorist finance, helping to combat the raising of terrorist funds through vulnerabilities in the regulated sector. This will include mirroring many of the provisions in the bill so that they also apply for investigations into offences under the Terrorism Act 2000.[3037]

On 16 December 2016, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office announced new guidelines limiting the foreign aid it gives the Palestinian Authority upon reports that the money was being used to pay salaries to terrorists and their families. The FCO will continue to provide British aid money in order to maintain stability but key changes have been made regarding how and to whom the money will be distributed. The aid will now be directed through the EU's PEGASE mechanism (Palestinian-European Socio-Economic Management Assistance Mechanism), which will provide a list of qualified individuals limited to the health and education sectors. These individuals will then be checked by independent auditors for risk factors including terror financing.[3038]

[3033] UK national risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing, Home Office (London) October 2015. Access Date: 11 March 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/468210/UK_NRA_October_2015_final_web.pdf

[3034] UK national risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing, Home Office (London) October 2015. Access Date: 11 March 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/468210/UK_NRA_October_2015_final_web.pdf

[3035] Action Plan for Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Finance, Home Office and Her Majesty's Treasury (London) 21 April 2016. Access Date: 23 July 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/action-plan-for-anti-money-laundering-and-counter-terrorist-finance.

[3036] Action Plan for Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Finance, Home Office and Her Majesty's Treasury (London) 21 April 2016. Access Date: 23 July 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/action-plan-for-anti-money-laundering-and-counter-terrorist-finance.

[3037] Criminal Finances Bill, Government of United Kingdom (London) 13 October 2016. Access Date: 22 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-finances-bill

[3038] UK Limits Aid to Palestinians Following Terror Financing Scandal, the Tower (Washington, D.C) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.thetower.org/4310-uk-limits-aid-to-palestinians-following-terror-financing-scandal/

On 7 March 2017, the UK announced it will continue to retain its intelligence-sharing agreement with European nations after Brexit. Promising to continue cooperation with EU countries as counter-terrorism should be a top priority. The UK plays an instrumental role in maintaining the effectiveness of the Europol as the UK aided in fast-tracking 2000 criminals out of Britain.[3039]

On 27 April 2017, the Criminal Finances bill received Royal Assent and became enshrined in UK law as the Criminal Finance Act 2017. The new act provides increased powers for the UK'S law enforcement agencies to tackle tax evasion, money laundering, corruption and terror financing.[3040]

On 3 May 2017, the UK launched FinTech Financial Crime Exchange to allow firms to collaborate by sharing pooling information on financial crime typologies to protect their customers and strengthen their ability to counter the global threat of financial crime, including money laundering and terrorist financing.[3041]

The UK has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, the UK receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sara Fallaha

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets, and criminalize terrorist financing.

The US has explicitly criminalized terrorist financing under the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 and money laundering under the Money Laundering Control Act (1986). The Office of Terrorist Financing Crimes (TFFC) works across all elements of the national security community, including law enforcement, regulatory, policy, diplomatic and intelligence communities and with the private sector and foreign governments to identify and address by all forms of illicit finance. TFFC has initiatives and strategies to combat money laundering and terrorist financing at home and abroad. These include initiatives that apply and implement targeted financial sanctions to national security threats. TFFC works to advance and implement FATF regulations and instruments.

On 21 September 2016, the Seventh Ministerial Plenary Meeting of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) took place in New York, co-chaired by Morocco and the Netherlands. As an example of their progress in this area, "the United States has information sharing arrangements with 56 international partners to help identify, track, and deter known and suspected terrorists. At least 26 partners share financial information that could provide actionable leads to prosecute or target foreign terrorist fighters."[3042]

On 26 September 2016, the US Department of Justice issued a press release stating that it had sentenced Nader Elhuzayel and Muhanad Badawi "to 30 years in federal prison for conspiring and attempting to provide material support" to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) by carrying out "a significant

[3039] Europol Boss: Britain Will Carry on Sharing Intelligence After Brexit, The Telegraph (London) 7 March 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/03/07/europol-boss-britain-will-carry-sharing-intelligence-brexit/
[3040] Criminal Finances Act 2017, Parliament UK (London) 27 April 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/criminalfinances.html
[3041] UK Fintech Financial Crime Exchange adds MarketInvoice. EconoTimes 4 May 2017. Access Date: 6 June 2017. http://www.econotimes.com/UK-Fintech-Financial-Crime-Exchange-adds-MarketInvoice-680619
[3042] Global Counterterrorism Forum Ministerial (Washington DC) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 31 January 2017. https://2009-2017.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/09/262240.htm

bank fraud scheme."[3043] The jury "found Elhuzayel guilty of committing 26 counts of bank fraud and found Badawi guilty of one count of financial aid fraud."[3044]

On 24 October 2016, the President's Interagency Task Force (PITF) meeting to monitor and combat trafficking in persons took place in Washington, D.C. The Department of Treasury that supports the PITF, specifically the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), has "particular tools to support the mission to combat human trafficking," including the use of their money laundering authority to counter terrorism financing.[3045]

On 31 January 2017, the Department of Justice issued a press release stating it convicted Harlem Suarez for "attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and providing material support to ISIL," a designated foreign terrorist organisation, violating Title 18 US Code, Section 2339B.[3046]

On 13 May 2017, the US Treasury declared its intent to deny North Korea access to the international financial system to reign in its nuclear weapons and missile development program. Officials stated the department is willing to use any tool to combat any illicit activity and terror financing, including sanctions in collaboration with G7 industrial economies.[3047]

On 21 May 2017, the US Department of the Treasury announced the signing of an agreement between the United States and Saudi Arabia to establish the Terrorist Financing Targeting Center (TFTC). This historic agreement is a collaborative approach to confronting new and evolving threats arising from terrorist financing. The goals of TFTC are to: 1.Identify, track, and share information regarding terrorist financial networks; 2. Coordinate joint disruptive actions, and; 3. Offer support to countries in the region that need assistance building capacity to counter terrorist finance threats.[3048]

The US has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, the US receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Buse Kayar

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to effectively exchange information, freeze terrorist assets, and criminalize terrorist financing.

On 9 September 2016, Europol, the Spanish National Police, issued a press release stating it formalized a tripartite partnership with INTERPOL (International Crime Police Organisation) and the Basel Institute

[3043] Orange County Man Sentenced to 30 Years in Federal Prison for Conspiring to Join ISIL and Engaging in Fraud (Santa Ana, California) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 31 January 2017. https://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/orange-county-man-sentenced-30-years-federal-prison-conspiring-join-isil-and-engaging

[3044] Orange County Man Sentenced to 30 Years in Federal Prison for Conspiring to Join ISIL and Engaging in Fraud, US Department of Justice (Santa Ana, California) 26 September 2016. Access Date: 31 January 2017. https://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/orange-county-man-sentenced-30-years-federal-prison-conspiring-join-isil-and-engaging

[3045] Meeting of the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, US Department of State (Washington DC) 24 October 2016. Access Date: 31 January 2017. https://2009-2017.state.gov/j/tip/rls/rm/2016/263538.htm

[3046] Florida Man Convicted at Trial of Attempting to Use a Weapon of Mass Destruction and Providing Material Support to ISIL, US Department of Justice, 31 January 2017. Access Date: 31 January 2017. https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/florida-man-convicted-trial-attempting-use-weapon-mass-destruction-and-attempting-provide

[3047] U.S. Treasury considering all tools to stop North Korea financing: official, Reuters (London) 13 May 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-usa-sanctions-idUSKBN18A02A

[3048] U.S. and Saudi Arabia to Co-Chair New Terrorist Financing Targeting Center, U.S Department of the Treasury (Washington, D.C) 21 May 2017. Access Date: 27 May 2017. https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/sm0092.aspx on Governance "for a working group on money laundering with digital currencies" as "there is a clear consensus that digital currencies pose a money laundering and terrorist financing threat."[3049]

On 19 October 2016, Europol (European Police Office) issued a press release regarding a major international law enforcement operation targeting airline fraudsters, where "350 suspicious transactions were reported" and as a result, "193 individuals suspected of traveling with airline tickets bought using stolen, compromised or fake credit card details" were denied boarding and detained in this operation from 10-15 October 2016.[3050]

On 31 October 2016, Europol supported law enforcement authorities from "Austria, Finland, Greece, Ireland, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Spain, and the United Kingdom" in arresting 42 professional fraudsters for online fraud activities.[3051] The result of this operation detected "a money laundering scheme worth EUR1.5 million" and EUR600,000 in fraud activities.[3052]

On 14 and 15 November 2016, European Cybercrime Centre (EC3) supported the Finnish National Bureau of Investigation, the British West Midlands Regional Cyber Crime Unit, the Spanish Guardia Civil, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in a cross-continental operation that resulted in 15 arrests of members of an organized crime group (OCG) that possessed "more than 6,000 credit card details, which they had used to attack more than 170 e-merchants with fraudulent activities exceeding EUR1 million."[3053]

On 15 November 2016, "prosecutors from the Romanian Territorial Office Vâlcea of the Directorate for Investigating Organized Crime and Terrorism (DIICOT), acting within a joint investigation team (JIT) set up with the support of Eurojust [and Europol], carried out an operation concerning an organized crime group (OCG) specialized in computer fraud, forgery and money laundering" and twelve people were arrested.[3054]

On 29 November 2016, "a joint investigation team (JIT) with investigators and judicial authorities from France, Belgium and the Netherlands" arrested 36 suspects for laundering funds over an estimated EUR300 million and seized over EUR5.5 million in cash, alongside gold worth over EUR800,000, ammunition, and two-semi-automatic weapons.[3055]

[3049] Money laundering with digital currencies: working group established, The European Police Office (The Hague) 9 September 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2016. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/money-laundering-digital-currencies-working-group-established

[3050] Global action against airline fraudsters: 193 detained, The European Police Office (The Hague) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2016. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/global-action-against-airline-fraudsters-193-detained

[3051] First European-wide action on e-commerce fraud sees arrest of 42, The European Police Office (The Hague) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/first-european-wide-action-e-commerce-fraud-sees-arrest-of-42

[3052] First European-wide action on e-commerce fraud sees arrest of 42, The European Police Office (The Hague) 31 October 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/first-european-wide-action-e-commerce-fraud-sees-arrest-of-42

[3053] Europol supports cross-continental operation to bring down payment card fraudsters, The European Police Office (The Hague) 16 November 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/europol-supports-cross-continental-operation-to-bring-down-payment-card-fraudsters

[3054] International computer fraud, forgery and money laundering ring dismantled, The European Police Office (The Hague) 17 November 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2016. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/international-computer-fraud-forgery-and-money-laundering-ring-dismantled

[3055] Hawala money laundering ring dismantled by Joint Investigation Team, The European Police Office (The Hague) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/hawala-money-laundering-ring-dismantled-joint-investigation-team

On 30 November 2016, Europol, Eurojust, the Public Prosecutor's Office Verden and the Lüneberg Police (Germany) closely cooperated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Pennsylvania, the Department of Justice, and global partners, to dismantle the Avalanche network, "an international criminal infrastructure platform" that was "used as a delivery platform to launch and manage mass global malware attacks and money mule recruiting campaigns."[3056] The damage was estimated around EUR6 million "in concentrated cyberattacks on online banking systems in Germany alone" and "hundreds of millions of euros worldwide."[3057]

On 8 December 2016, Europol supported Italian Guardia di Finanza in an investigation that resulted in the arrests of eight suspects, for "selling counterfeit 20, 50 and 100 euro notes on the Darknet for around 30 per cent of their face value" and receiving payments over EUR160,000 in Bitcoins."[3058]

On 13 December 2016, Europol and the Comando Carabinieri Antifalsificazione Monetaria "dismantled an illegal counterfeit currency print shop in Melegnano (Milano)."[3059] The Public Prosecutor at the Court of Naples (Tribunale di Napoli Nord) coordinated investigations that resulted in "the neutralizing of a criminal network involved in the production and distribution of counterfeit currency, which covered large areas of national territory and most EU Member States."[3060]

On 13 and 14 December 2016, the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society and the Electronic Transaction Development Agency held a convention for joined by Europol's European Cybercrime Centre (EC3), Association of Southeast Asian Nations Police Organisation (ASEANPOL) and INTERPOL, along with the Royal Thai Police and the Romanian National Police, for the Third Strategic Meeting on Payment Card Fraud (PCF) in Bangkok, Thailand. The focus of the event was "the exchange of expertise in the area of prevention and combating ATM/POS fraud, data compromising, ATM malware, and eCommerce fraud."[3061] They also devised a plan for specific action encouraging further cross-regional cooperation of European and Asian law enforcement.

On 14 December 2016, EC3, particularly the Europol Forensics Laboratory, received a certificate of accreditation for its compliance with the International Standard ISO/IEC 17020's requirements for the forensic examination of banknotes.[3062]

On 21 December 2016, the Security Union of the European Commission adopted a package of measures to strengthen the European Union's capacity to fight the financing of terrorism and organised crime. The proposals will complete and reinforce the EU's legal framework in areas of money laundering, illicit cash

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[3056] 'Avalanche' network dismantled in international cyber operation, The European Police Office (The Hague) 1 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/%E2%80%98avalanche%E2%80%99-network-dismantled-in-international-cyber-operation

[3057] 'Avalanche' network dismantled in international cyber operation, The European Police Office (The Hague) 1 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/%E2%80%98avalanche%E2%80%99-network-dismantled-in-international-cyber-operation

[3058] Eight Arrests in counterfeit Euro operation supported by Europol, The European Police Office (The Hague) 8 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/eight-arrests-in-counterfeit-euro-operation-supported-europol

[3059] Europol and Italian law enforcement authorities dismantle counterfeit currency printshop, The European Police Office (The Hague) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/europol-and-italian-law-enforcement-authorities-dismantle-counterfeit-currency-printshop

[3060] Europol and Italian law enforcement authorities dismantle counterfeit currency printshop, The European Police Office (The Hague) 15 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/europol-and-italian-law-enforcement-authorities-dismantle-counterfeit-currency-printshop

[3061] Third strategic meeting on payment card fraud, The European Police Office (The Hague) 16 December 2016. Access Date: 13 January 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/third-strategic-meeting-payment-card-fraud

[3062] Europol becomes ISO/IEC 17020 accredited for forensic examination of banknotes, The European Police Office (The Hague) 14 December 2016. Access Date: 17 January 2013. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/europol-becomes-iso/iec-17020-accredited-for-forensic-examination-of-banknotes flows and the freezing and confiscation of assets. The proposal will ensure a strong and coordinated European response in the fight against terrorist financing and organised crime. The proposal aims to make it more difficult for terrorists to finance their activities whilst making it easier for the authorities to detect and stop their financial movements.

The proposal consists of three new legislations: "First, a Directive to criminalise money laundering will set common minimum rules concerning the definition of criminal offences and sanctions in the area of money laundering which will make it easier and more effective for judicial and law enforcement authorities to pursue complex money laundering cases. Secondly, the current rules on cash entering and leaving the EU will be updated to make them more robust and to give customs authorities more scope to act when there are indications that cash is related to criminal activity. Finally, the Regulation on the mutual recognition of criminal asset freezing and confiscation orders making it possible to prevent criminals and terrorists from using their funds."[3063]

On 30 January 2017, Europol issued a press release stating that by the end of 2016, the sharing of information on counter terrorism, "across European countries as well as through and with Europol, had reached an all time high."[3064] At the Europol level, the Terrorist Finance Tracking Programme (TFTP) has a total of 1247 leads.[3065]

On 17 March 2017, Europol supported the Spanish Guardia Civil in arresting a Moroccan national suspected of financing the terrorist group Islamic State (IS).[3066]

The European Union has effectively exchanged information, frozen terrorist assets and effectively criminalized terrorist financing. Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Buse Kayar

[3063] Daily News 21/12/2016, European Commission Press Release Data Base (Brussels/Luxembourg) 21 December 2016. Access Date: January 10, 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-16-4491_en.htm
[3064] Information sharing on counter terrorism in the EU has reached an all-time high, The European Police Office (The Hague) 30 January 2017. Access Date: 13 May 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/information-sharing-counter-terrorism-in-eu-has-reached-all-time-high
[3065] ECTC one year / Infographic, The European Police Office (The Hague) 30 January 2017. Access Date: 13 May 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/ectc_one_year_final.pdf
[3066] An individual suspected of financing Islamic State arrested in Spain, The European Police Office (The Hague) 17 March 2017. Access Date: 13 May 2017. https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/individual-suspected-of-financing-islamic-state-arrested-in-spain

13. Technologies and Innovation: Knowledge Diffusion and Technology Transfer

"We support effort to promote voluntary knowledge diffusion and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and conditions."

G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
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			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+1.00	

Background

Innovation was mentioned as an important source of growth in many of the G20 documents in previous years, and it became one of the key priorities during China's 2016 presidency.

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, G20 leaders committed to promote innovation across countries.[3067] The 2010 G20 Toronto Summit Declaration[3068] as well as the Seoul Summit Document[3069] list encouraging innovations among the most important measures needed to enhance the growth potential of economies and help unlock demand.

At the 2011 Cannes Summit, G20 leaders, for the first time, committed to ensure that "poor countries benefit rapidly from innovation and technological advances" and agreed to "encourage triangular

[3067] G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access date: 16 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2009/2009communique0925.html.
[3068] The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access date: 16 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/to-communique.html.
[3069] The Seoul Summit Document, G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access date: 16 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2010/g20seoul-doc.html.

partnerships to drive priority innovations forward."[3070] Special attention was given to innovation in the agricultural sector. During the 2012 Los Cabos Summit, G20 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to encourage cooperation on innovations in the agricultural sector and also foster private sector participation within the field.[3071]

At the 2013 St. Petersburg Summit, innovation policies were considered as one of the most important tools in achieving "strong, sustainable, and balanced growth, restoring confidence in the global economy and promoting the creation of quality jobs."[3072]

Innovation became one of the key priorities at the 2016 Hangzhou Summit. The G20 Blueprint on Innovative Growth emphasized the need to "seize the historic opportunities presented by technological breakthroughs for global economic growth."[3073] Mid-to-long term growth potential should be provided by a commitment to innovative growth. The concept encompassed "actions in support of innovation, the New Industrial Revolution and the digital economy."[3074] These actions among others include protection of intellectual property rights (IPR) and its enforcement for innovation, support for greater openness and "the promotion of voluntary knowledge diffusion and technology transfer."

Commitment Features

This commitment consists of two parts: 1) promotion of voluntary knowledge diffusion; 2) technology transfer on mutually agreed terms.

Promotion of knowledge diffusion

According to the Report on Knowledge-Based Economy published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in 1996, promotion of knowledge diffusion includes "providing the framework conditions for university-industry-government collaborations and facilitating the development of information infrastructures."[3075] To enhance knowledge diffusion governments give incentives for universities and laboratories to cooperate with industrial partners on the selection and further conduct of their research activities. Knowledge diffusion can also have cross-border dimension which implies interstate collaborations between universities, industries and governments and development of international information infrastructures.

Technology transfer

The International Code on the Transfer of Technology developed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in 1985 defines the "technology transfer" as the process by which "systematic knowledge for the manufacture of a product, for the application of a process or for the rendering of a service" is disseminated.[3076] Thus, technology is referred to as a specific type of knowledge embodiment.

Among the types of transfer transactions that may be used, the draft lists the following:

[3070] Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access date: 16 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html.

[3071] G20 Leaders Declaration Los Cabos, Mexico, June 19, 2012, G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access date: 16 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2012/2012-0619-loscabos.html.

[3072] G20 Leaders' Declaration September 6, 2013, St Petersburg, G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access date: 16 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2013/2013-0906-declaration.html.

[3073] G20 Blueprint on Innovative Growth, G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access date: 16 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-blueprint.html.

[3074] G20 Blueprint on Innovative Growth, G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access date: 16 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-blueprint.html.

[3075] The Knowledge-Based Economy, OECD. Access date: 16 January 2016. https://www.oecd.org/sti/sci-tech/1913021.pdf.

[3076] Transfer of Technology, UNCTAD Series on issues in international investment agreements, UNCTAD. Access date: 16 January 2017.http://unctad.org/en/Docs/psiteiitd28.en.pdf.

"(a) The assignment, sale and licensing of all forms of industrial property, except for trademarks, service marks and trade names when they are not part of transfer of technology transactions;

(b) The provision of know-how and technical expertise in the form of feasibility studies, plans, diagrams, models, instructions, guides, formulae, basic or detailed engineering designs, specifications and equipment for training, services involving technical advisory and managerial personnel, and personnel training;

(c) The provision of technological knowledge necessary for the installation, operation and functioning of plant and equipment, and turnkey projects;

(d) The provision of technological knowledge necessary to acquire, install and use machinery, equipment, intermediate goods and/or raw materials which have been acquired by purchase, lease or other means;

(e) The provision of technological contents of industrial and technical co-operation arrangements."

Both national and international dimensions of knowledge diffusion and technology transfer are important for efficient sustainable growth. That is why they both are considered in compliance monitoring

To achieve partial compliance members are required to promote knowledge diffusion in general. To get a score of +1, a G20 member has to take specific actions on technology transfer.

The assessment implies checking government actions on:

- providing conditions and incentives for information sharing and intensified cooperation among universities and industry as well as actions to bridge them (knowledge diffusion)

- creating national and international systems of innovation and knowledge distribution networks (knowledge diffusion)

- participation in technology transfer in any of the abovementioned forms (technology transfer).

Federal Target Program "Research and Development in Priority Development Areas of Russian Scientific and Technological Complex for 2014-2020" can be considered as an example of government actions on providing conditions and incentives for information sharing and intensified cooperation among universities and industry. It implies research coordination, raise in productivity of research and its transformation into the innovation base for the economic growth and development of international cooperation to enter global innovation system.[3077]

Various European Union programmes like "Ener2i" can also serve as an example to such policies. The programme aims at bridging the divide between the fundamental science and production in order to foster innovations.[3078] Activities under the Ener2i include:

- Setting up a stakeholder database
- Analysis of the energy sectors and of the innovation situation in participating countries
- Development of a roadmap for industry, including policy recommendations
- Twinning activities among EU and partners
- Networking activities e.g. brokerages at local and international level
- Targeted training activities on technology transfer, innovation issues, energy research, etc.
- Establishing an innovation voucher scheme for the implementation of energy innovations

[3077] Research and Development in Priority Development Areas of Russian Scientific and Technological Complex for 2014-2020. Access date: 16 January 2017. http://fcpir.ru/about/.
[3078] Ener2i: Energy research to innovation. Access date: 16 January 2017. https://ener2i.eu/.

The examples of knowledge distribution networks supported by the government are Fraunhofer Gesellschaft Society in Germany (publicly-funded Europe's largest application-oriented research organization) or US Center for Knowledge Diffusion.[3079,3080]

Scoring Guidelines

−1	Member does not take actions to promote knowledge diffusion or technology transfer
0	Member takes actions to promote knowledge diffusion but not actions specifically aimed at technology transfer
+1	Member takes actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 17 November 2016, Minister for Science, Technology and Productive Innovation Dr. Lino Barañao visited the Academy's Shine Dome in Australia. The visit was hosted by Professor John White FAA. During the visit, issues of Australia's research system and the potential to develop cooperative research links between Argentina and Australia were discussed.[3081]

On 23 November 2016, Argentina and the United Kingdom signed an accord on scientific research and exchange of experts, which states that scientific societies of both countries will be working jointly in research projects and promoting an active exchange of scientists.[3082]

On 1 December 2016, an event hosted by the United States Ambassador Noah Mamet and Hughes Network Systems, LLC (Hughes), the global leader in broadband satellite solutions and services, took place in Buenos Aires. The issue of the event was a presentation on the potential for High-Throughput Satellite (HTS) technology as a solution to bridge the digital divide in Argentina. "The event focused on Argentina's government initiative to increase Internet connectivity in rural and hard-to-reach communities that are unserved or underserved by terrestrial broadband services."[3083]

On 21 March 2017, the company APA, a subsidiary of Telcordia Technologies dba iconectiv, has announced a two-year extension for its data administration contract for mobile number portability (MNP) in the Republic of Argentina. That helps Argentinean subscribers to easily transfer their existing mobile number from one service provider to another with APA serving as a neutral verifier during the number process.[3084]

Argentina has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Angelina Khudoleeva

[3079] Fraunhofer. Access date: 16 January 2017. https://www.fraunhofer.de/en/about-fraunhofer/profile.html.
[3080] Center for knowledge diffusion. Access date: 16 January 2017. http://www.knowledgediffusion.org/researchfocus.html.
[3081] Argentinian delegation visits Academy, Australian Academy of Science, 17 November 2015. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.science.org.au/news-and-events/news-and-media-releases/argentinian-delegation-visits-academy.
[3082] Argentina, UK to ink accord on scientific research and exchange of experts, Latin Post, 24 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.latinpost.com/articles/126608/20161124/argentina-and-uk-to-ink-an-accord-in-scientific-research-and-exchange-of-experts.htm.
[3083] Bridging the Digital Divide in Argentina with Satellite Technology, PR Newswire, 1 December 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/bridging-the-digital-divide-in-argentina-with-satellite-technology-300371331.html.
[3084] Argentina extends mobile number portability service contract, Financial News, 21 March 2017. Access date: 11 April 2017. http://www.financial-news.co.uk/40311/2017/03/argentina-extends-mobile-number-portability-service-con/.

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 9 September 2016, the Monetary Authority of Singapore and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) signed an Innovation Functions Co-operation Agreement to help innovative businesses in Singapore and Australia "to establish initial discussions in each other's market faster and receive advice on required licenses."[3085]

On 4 November 2016, Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science Greg Hunt launched the Regional Collaborations Programme, which allocates USD3.2 million was to encourage Australian researchers and businesses to foster collaboration in developing products and solutions to common challenges with their counterparts around the Asia-Pacific region.[3086]

Since 2012, the Australian Research Council (ARC) Industrial Transformation Research Program has offered funding schemes to university-based researchers and industries. The subprogram, the Industrial Transformation Training Centres, has similarly fostered close partnerships between university-based researchers and end-users to provide innovative Higher Degree by Research and postdoctoral training. Six organizations were funded in 2016. Currently, the program is at the stage of proposals applying for 2017.[3087]

On 24 February 2017, the ARC announced that Linkage Projects, a program that aims to enhance collaboration between industry and universities, recently distributed USD4.9 million among 11 successful research projects in various spheres from anti-counterfeiting measures for Australian banknotes to 3D printing technology.[3088]

On 1-3 March 2017, Universities Australia, national peak organization representing the Australian university sector, organized a conference devoted to higher education. The list of speakers included government representatives along with other members of university communities.[3089] In the opening speech, Minister for Education and Training Simon Birmingham underlined the importance of collaboration between employers and universities.[3090] He also noted that the degree of the engagement of business interests into universities would be assessed during the conference.

On 7-8 March 2017, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources held the ABARES Outlook 2017 Conference on agriculture issues. During the conference, representatives of the agricultural sector shared best practices and their views on a wide range of topics including farm performance and novel pest management technologies.[3091]

[3085] 16-194MR Singaporean and Australian regulators sign agreement to support innovative businesses, Australian Securities and Investment Commission. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://asic.gov.au/about-asic/media-centre/find-a-media-release/2016-releases/16-194mr-singaporean-and-australian-regulators-sign-agreement-to-support-innovative-businesses/.

[3086] Regional Collaborations Programme to boost Asia-Pacific industry and research collaboration, National Innovation and Science Agenda. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.innovation.gov.au/event/regional-collaborations-programme-boost-asia-pacific-industry-and-research-collaboration.

[3087] Industrial Transformation Research Program, Australian Research Council. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.arc.gov.au/industrial-transformation-research-program.

[3088] Linkage Projects: Continuing to facilitate industry collaboration, Australian Government Australian Research Council 24 February 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://www.arc.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/linkage-projects-continuing-facilitate-industry-collaboration.

[3089] Higher Education: Gen Next, Higher Education Conference 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. https://www.eiseverywhere.com//ehome/200505.

[3090] Universities Australia 2017 conference, The Department of Education and Training 1 March 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. https://ministers.education.gov.au/birmingham/universities-australia-2017-conference.

[3091] 2017 OUTLOOK, Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources ABARES. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/outlook.

Australia has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ildar Khalilyulin

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 7 October 2016, Minister of Mines and Energy Fernando Coelho Filho signed the Agreement of Technical Cooperation between the National Department of Mineral Production and the Brazilian Geological Survey. The agreement allows the sharing and diffusion of geological and hydrological knowledge between entities and joint actions to improve the investment environment and the administrative procedures of mining processes.[3092]

On 31 October 2016, the Brazilian government opened applications for universities wishing to offer master's degrees in intellectual property and technology transfer. The initiative was supported by the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications as well as the National Forum of Managers of Innovation and Technology Transfer and the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel. The course aims to train human resources for organizations working in the area of intellectual property and technology transfer for innovation, such as technological innovation centers and research, development and innovation promotion agencies.[3093]

On 18 November 2016, a joint agenda on nanotechnology, biotechnology and technology parks between Brazil and Iran was agreed with the aim of boosting bilateral cooperation. The nations will form a working group and define concrete actions for Brazilians and Iranians to advance in research. The memorandum of understanding foresees: cooperation and transfer of technologies in biotechnology; research and development of new drugs and products for the agricultural sector; joint research on nanotechnologies, research and development possibilities in information and communication technologies, such as hardware, software, cybernetic policies, cognitive computing and the development and exchange of knowledge in technology parks.[3094]

On 22 November 2016, Gripen project center was opened in São Paulo. The Gripen Design Development Network is the starting point in the technology transfer process between Brazil and Sweden of the Gripen NG project. The center is the first of the 60 offset projects (industrial, technological or commercial compensation) valued at USD9 billion. Brazil will invest USD5 billion in the acquisition of new high performance aircraft.[3095]

On 6 March 2017, Minister of Health Ricardo Barros signed drug production partnership with Paraná institute. In addition to the Technology Institute of Paraná (Tecpar), another two public institutions such as Biomanguinhos and Butantan were elected for the development of the biological platform. The Tecpar will be responsible for the technology transfer of four biological drugs used in the treatment of cancer, arthritis and autoimmune diseases. The new distribution of Partnerships for Productive Development

[3092] Acordo vai fomentar mineração no País, Portal Brasil 7 October 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2016/10/acordo-vai-fomentar-mineracao-no-pais.

[3093] Governo convoca instituições interessadas em ter mestrado sobre propriedade intelectual, Portal Brasil 31 October 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/ciencia-e-tecnologia/2016/11/governo-convoca-instituticoes-interessadas-em-ter-mestrado-sobre-propriedade-intelectual.

[3094] Brasil e Irã aprofundam cooperação em ciência e tecnologia, Portal Brasil 18 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/ciencia-e-tecnologia/2016/11/brasil-e-ira-aprofundam-cooperacao-em-ciencia-e-tecnologia.

[3095] Centro de projetos dos caças Gripen é inaugurado em São Paulo, Portal Brasil 22 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/defesa-e-seguranca/2016/11/centro-de-projetos-dos-cacas-gripen-e-inaugurado-em-sao-paulo.

(PDP), which provides technology transfer between public and private laboratories, was launched last year by the Ministry of Health in order to make the project more efficient.[3096]

On 20 March 2017, the Brazilian government announced that the first Brazilian satellite for civilian and military use would contribute to defense and communications in the country in addition to expanding the broadband offer, especially in remote areas. The equipment was acquired by Telecomunicações Brasileiras S.A. (Telebras) and it has a Ka band, which will be used for strategic government communications. In addition to ensuring the independence and sovereignty of defense communications, the satellite construction agreement involved a broad process of absorption and transfer of technology with the sending of 50 Brazilian professionals to the facilities of Thales Alenia Space, the company responsible for the construction of the equipment in Cannes and Toulouse, France.[3097]

Brazil has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sofia Streltsova

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), a federal funding agency in partnership with Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) runs "TargetGHG Collaborative R&D" Program. The program is designed to trigger technology development as a result of collaboration of postsecondary institutions and industries for the lowering of greenhouse gas emissions. This initiative will contribute to Ontario's 2020-2030 targets and the Government of Canada's commitment "to developing innovative clean technologies that promote environmental sustainability."[3098]

On 21 September 2016, Canada and Germany signed a declaration to strengthen technology and innovation cooperation. The declaration aims to provide the stimulus and financing for the most innovative collaborative projects between the two countries and help new inventions and research financialize.[3099]

On 23 September 2016, a Joint Statement Between Canada and the People's Republic of China was issued in which the two countries committed to "encourage innovation, science and technology collaboration of mutual benefit.[3100]

In October 2016, the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development and the French Ministry of the Economy and Finance signed the Declaration on Cooperation in Innovation for 2016-2018. It provides for the following forms of cooperation:

[3096] Ministério firma parceria de produção de medicamentos com instituto do Paraná, Portal Brasil 6 March 2017. Access date: 2 April 2017. http://www.brasil.gov.br/saude/2017/03/ministerio-firma-parceria-de-producao-de-medicamentos-com-instituto-do-parana.

[3097] Satélite geoestacionário contribui para a ampliação da banda larga no País,, Portal Brasil 20 March 2017. Access date: 2 April 2017. http://www.brasil.gov.br/ciencia-e-tecnologia/2017/03/satelite-geoestacionario-contribui-para-a-ampliacao-da-banda-larga-no-pais.

[3098] Collaborative Research and Development Grants.
(including DND/NSERC Research Partnership Grants), Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. Access date: 11 January 2016. http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Professors-Professeurs/RPP-PP/CRD-RDC_eng.asp.

[3099] Germany and Canada sign declaration to strengthen innovative collaboration, Government of Canada 21 September 2016. Access date: 11 January 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1127289.

[3100] Joint Statement Between Canada and the People's Republic of China, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister Of Canada 23 September 2016. . Access date: 11 January 2016.http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/09/23/joint-statement-between-canada-and-peoples-republic-china.

- Exchange of information related to innovation, including on practices, policies, laws, other regulations and programs related to partnerships under this Arrangement;
- Joint seminars, symposia, conferences and workshops;
- Business development and technology collaboration partnering missions and the sharing of leads and business opportunities;
- Support for implementing bilateral technology and research and development partnerships in priority areas;
- Shared use of resources and infrastructure; and
- Mobilization and exchange of researchers, engineers, entrepreneurs and innovation actors.[3101]

On 19 October 2016, Minister of Science Kirsty Duncan and Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna announced the allocation of nearly USD22 million in new funding for four research networks that encourage industrial partnerships. Scientists and business leaders will join together in these networks to tackle pressing challenges like targeting pollution, exploring enhanced manufacturing technology, developing sustainable natural resource extraction methods and modernizing the stewardship of Canadian lakes.[3102]

On 26 October 2016, the Implementing Arrangement under the framework of the science and technology Agreement between the European Union (EU) and Canada was signed. It provides Canadian researchers with the opportunity to participate in projects financed by the European Research Council.[3103]

On 26-28 October 2016, Canada's BioTech Mission to Brazil took place. The objective of the mission is to "establish industrial R&D collaboration and co-development opportunities in the BioTech sector between Canadian and Brazilian companies leading to future commercial benefits for Canada and Brazil."[3104]

On 16 November 2016, Canada and eight other countries allocated over USD23 million to facilitate a significant scale-up of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN). The centre provides technical assistance to developing countries in meeting their commitments taken under the Paris Agreement.[3105]

[3101] Declaration between Canada and France on cooperation in innovation for 2016-2018, Government of Canada 12 October 2016. Access date: 5 December 2016 http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/france/bilateral_relations_bilaterales/cooperation_in_innovation-cooperation_en_innovation.aspx?lang=eng.

[3102]Government invests in research networks to help reduce pollution, bolster advanced manufacturing, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada 19 october 2016. Access date: 19 June 2017. http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Media-Media/NewsRelease-CommuniqueDePresse_eng.asp?ID=876 .

[3103]New opportunities for Canadian researchers to join ERC funded teams, European Commission 27 October 2016. Access date: 11 January 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/index.cfm?pg=canada.

[3104]Canadian BioTech Mission — October 26 — 28, 2016 — Sao Paulo, Brazil, The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service 29 October 2016. Access date: 11 January 2016. http://tradecommissioner.gc.ca/funding-financement/ciip-pcii/brazil-biotech_2016-bresil.aspx?lang=eng.

[3105]Countries pledge USD 23 million to support technology transfer in developing countries, UN Climate Change Newsroom. Access date: 11 January 2016. http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/marrakech_nov_2016/application/pdf/ctcn_pr_eng.pdf.

[3105]Joint Statement Between Canada and the People's Republic of China, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister Of Canada 23 September 2016. Access date: 11 January 2016. http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/09/23/joint-statement-between-canada-and-peoples-republic-china.

On 16 January 2017, the Government of Canada invested USD2.270 million through ACOA's Innovative Communities Fund (ICF) and the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) for the establishment of the Canadian Institute for Cybersecurity (CIC). It is an innovative hub for research, training and industry collaboration at the University of New Brunswick. The institute will operate in close collaboration with researchers in the social sciences, business, computer science, engineering, law, and science faculties as well as other national and international research centres.[3106]

As of 20 March 2017, the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) and the Toronto-based Centre for the Commercialization of Antibodies and Biologics (CCAB) have allocated over USD1 million in collaborative agreements over the past year to produce and test therapeutic antibodies discovered at the University of Toronto. An innovative collaboration between government, industry, and academia aims to accelerate the development of cancer treatments in Canada.[3107]

Canada has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

China: +1

China has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 20 October 2016, the Russian-Chinese Center for Technological Transformation and Innovations was opened in Shengyang. The new scientific platform was jointly created by Shengyang Tuspark Holding and Association of Innovative Enterprises and Organizations of Tomsk and Tomsk Province and other organizations. The key goals of the centre are to activate cooperation between the technological enterprises of two countries and to exchange expertise and innovative developments.[3108]

On 1 November 2016, during an International Aerospace Salon, Chinese aircraft-industry companies stated that they intend to strengthen the cooperation with Ukrainian "Motor Sich." This Chinese-Ukrainian cooperation is mutually beneficial, because China will be able to raise the level of development and production of aircraft engines and Ukraine will be able to use the benefits on Chinese partnership to deliver products with higher competitiveness.[3109]

On 8 November 2016, 350 scientists from more than 40 countries gathered in Beijing for the International Symposium on Scientific and Technical Issues as part of the Economic Belt Initiative. This symposium was organized by 12 departments and organizations, including the Academies of Science from Russia and China.[3110]

On 9-11 November 2016, the China International Technology Transfer Center (CITTC) at the Ministry of Science and Technology organized the Fifth China Jiangsu Conference for International Technology

[3106] Canadian Institute for Cybersecurity opens at the University of New Brunswick, Web site of Canadian Government 16 January 2017. Access date^ 19 June 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1179449.

[3107] Canadian collaboration to accelerate development of cancer treatments, Web site of Government of Canada 20 March 2017. Access date: 19 June 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/national-research-council/news/2017/03/canadian_collaborationtoacceleratedevelopmentofcancertreatments.html.

[3108] A Russian-Chinese Center for Technological Transformation and Innovations was opened in Shenyang, International Chinese Radio Agency – Russia 20 October 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017. http://russian.cri.cn/3073/2016/10/20/1s591026.htm.

[3109] Chinese aircraft-industry companies prepare to deepen the cooperation with Ukrainian enterprise "Motor Sich", Xinhua News Agency – Russia 01 November 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017. http://russian.news.cn/2016-11/01/c_135796624.htm.

[3110] 350 scientists from more than 40 countries gathered in Beijing for an International Symposium, Xinhua News Agency – Russia 08 November 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://russian.news.cn/2016-11/08/c_135814371.htm.

and Commercialization (CITTC) to further strengthen the close partnership between Jiangsu and world-class innovative R&D institutes, establish an innovation cooperation network with global partners, improve the open innovation capacity of enterprises and expand the influence of the international university-industry collaboration in Jiangsu.[3111]

On 27 March 2017, Minister of Commerce Zhong Shan and New Zealand Foreign Minister Murray McCully signed the Arrangement on Strengthening E-Commerce Cooperation Exchanges. Under the agreement, parties will cooperate in business exchanges, professional training, policy communication and experience sharing to further boost bilateral trade.[3112]

On 2 May 2017, President of the Academy of Sciences Bai Chunli and Mongolian President of the Academy of Sciences Dougherine Ragdal signed a Memorandum of Cooperation between these two scientific organizations. Parties agreed to collaborate in such spheres as biotechnology, nuclear physics, researches on combating desertification and many others.[3113]

China has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kirill Gribkov

France: +1

France has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

In October 2016, the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development and the Ministry of the Economy and Finance signed the Declaration on Cooperation in Innovation for 2016-2018. It provides for the following forms of cooperation:

- Exchange of information related to innovation, including on practices, policies, laws, other regulations and programs related to partnerships under this Arrangement;
- Joint seminars, symposia, conferences and workshops;
- Business development and technology collaboration partnering missions and the sharing of leads and business opportunities;
- Support for implementing bilateral technology and research and development partnerships in priority areas;
- Shared use of resources and infrastructure; and
- Mobilization and exchange of researchers, engineers, entrepreneurs and innovation actors.[3114]

[3111] The 5th China Jiangsu Conference for International Technology and Commercialization (CITTC) official website. 09 November 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017. http://en.cittc.org/Default.aspx.

[3112] China and New Zealand Sign Arrangement on Strengthening E-Commerce Cooperation, Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China, 28 March 2017. Access date: 07 May 2017 http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201703/20170302542433.shtml.

[3113] China and Mongolia signed a Memorandum of Cooperation between the scientific organizations of the two countries, Xinhua News Agency – Russia 03 May 2017. Access date: 07 May 2017 http://russian.news.cn/2017-05/03/c_136252010.htm.

[3114] Declaration between Canada and France on cooperation in innovation for 2016-2018, Government of Canada 12 October 2016. Access date: 5 December 2016 http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/france/bilateral_relations_bilaterales/cooperation_in_innovation-cooperation_en_innovation.aspx?lang=eng.

On 29 November 2016, Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research Thierry Mandon announced five new measures for the Humanities and Social Science (SHS) Plan, which focuses on supporting research and dialogue between science and society. One measure allocates EUR8 million to finance the SHS Plan in 2017 in order to increase support for relevant projects. The target of 75 to 80 funded projects was set.[3115]

On 27 February 2017, Minister of State for State Reform and Simplification Jean-Vicent Placé stated that the French government would provide the best possible conditions for augmenting cooperation in information technology and e-government building with Vietnam. At a meeting with Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Truong Hoa Binh, Minister Placé met with the Ministry of Information and Communications to discuss the implementation of cooperation documents in the field.[3116]

France has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Mark Rakhmangulov and Anastasia Polovko

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 22 September 2016, Federal Minister for Education and Research Johanna Wanka announced that the Ministry for Education and Research intends to make scientific publications accessible to everyone via the Internet. Minister Wanka stated that "free access to knowledge is a first step for social development."[3117]

On 28 September 2016, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Gerd Müller, signed a partnership initiative with the largest non-profit German foundation. The Else-Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung (EKFS) and the Federal Ministry for Education and Research will promote the exchange of knowledge between health institutions in Germany and in developing and newly industrializing countries.[3118]

On 11 October 2016, a funding program was launched by Ministry for Education and Research and Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education to accelerate the transfer of technology in small and medium-sized enterprises.[3119]

On 14-15 November 2016, the Germany-Mexico Science, Technology and Innovation Forum was organized by the Government of Mexico, Federal Ministry for Education and Research, Mexican National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) and German-Mexico Alliance for the Future in Mexico City to promote technology transfer between Germany and Mexico. The participants at the

[3115] Donner un nouvel élan à la recherche en S.H.S, Ministère de l'éducation nationale, de l'enseignement supérieur et de la recherche 29 November 2016. Access date: 5 Décembre 2016 http://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/cid110029/-8-millions-d-euros-pour-les-projets-a.n.r.-relevant-du-domaine-s.h.s.-et-5-nouvelles-mesures.html.

[3116] French Gov't to facilitate IT cooperation with Vietnam, People's Army newspaper. 27 February 2017. Access date: 5 March .2017 http://en.qdnd.vn/foreign-affairs/bilateral-relations/french-gov-t-to-facilitate-it-cooperation-with-vietnam-478543.

[3117] Wissen für jeden zugänglich machen, German Federal Government 22 September 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/DE/Artikel/2016/09/2016-09-21-open-access-strategie.html?nn=454934.

[3118] Deutsches Know-how soll Epidemien in Entwicklungsländern vermeiden, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development 28 September 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/2016/september/160928_pm_083_Deutsches_Know-how-soll-Epidemien-in-Entwicklungslaendern-vermeiden/index.jsp.

[3119] Deutschland und Polen auf dem Weg zu gemeinsamer Innovationspolitik, Federal Ministry of Education and Research 11 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bmbf.de/de/deutschland-und-polen-auf-dem-weg-zu-gemeinsamer-innovationspolitik-3426.html.

forum discussed the instruments of German-Mexican cooperation in science, technology and innovation with a focus on industry involvement, exchanged best practices in areas such as energy, bio-economy, nanotechnologies and production processes.[3120]

On 29 November 2016, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Matthias Machnig and State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Education and Research Georg Schütte held the first German-Chinese symposium on the intelligent production and networking of production processes (Industrie 4.0). The event was attended by 300 representatives from government, business and science spheres who discussed German-Chinese cooperation in Industrie 4.0.[3121]

On 8 December 2016, the Parliamentary State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Education and Research Thomas Rachel and representative of the Palestinian Authority opened the "Palestinian-German Science Bridge" program whereby Masters and PhD candidates from Palestine will have the opportunity to carry out research work and promote it in Germany. The participants may also contribute to the construction of research infrastructures in Palestine.[3122]

On 9 February 2017, Minister Wanka and Dutch Minister for Education Jet Bussemaker opened the first German-Dutch Science and Innovation Forum. High-ranking German and Dutch participants from the research, business and politics spheres gathered on the campus of the Radboud University to discuss transnational German-Dutch research and innovation cooperation in areas including digitization in health care with the aim of identifying potentials and perspectives in order to further develop cross-border value-added chains.[3123]

On 22 March 2017, representatives from the Federal Ministries for Foreign Affairs, Economic Cooperation and Development, Education and Research, and Economics met to discuss the strategy of expanding German vocational training programmes worldwide. The German training system is viewed as a possible solution for youth unemployment problems and the demand for cooperation with Germany is growing steadily. The programme includes training courses as well as roundtables for the coordination of various activities.[3124]

Germany has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Nekrasova

[3120] Foro Germano-Mexicano en Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación. Access date: 26 November 2016. https://www.gob.mx/amexcid/agenda/foro-germano-mexicano-en-ciencia-tecnologia-e-innovacion?idiom=es; Germany — Mexico Science, Technology and Innovation Forum. Access date: 26 November 2016. http://www.uqroo.mx/eventos/1426/archivos/Germany-Mexico_STI_Forum_(1).pdf.

[3121] Erstes deutsch-chinesisches Symposium unterstreicht Bedeutung von Industrie 4.0 für bilaterale Wirtschaftsbeziehungen, Federal Ministry of Education and Research 29 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bmbf.de/de/erstes-deutsch-chinesisches-symposium-unterstreicht-bedeutung-von-industrie-4-0-fuer-3653.html.

[3122] Deutsch-Palästinensisches Forschungs- und Promotionsprogramm, Federal Ministry of Education and Research 29 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bmbf.de/de/deutsch-palaestinensisches-forschungs-und-promotionsprogramm-3692.html.

[3123] Erstes deutsch-niederländisches Wissenschafts- und Innovationsforum, Federal Ministry of Education and Research 9 February 2014. Access date: 31 March 2017. https://www.bmbf.de/de/erstes-deutsch-niederlaendisches-wissenschafts-und-innovationsforum-3856.html.

[3124] Bundesregierung stärkt internationales Engagement in der dualen Ausbildung, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy 22 March 2017. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170322-bundesregierung-staerkt-internationales-engagement.html.

India: + 1

India has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 24 October 2016, India-UK science collaboration was launched at University of Greenwich. The collaboration aims to develop joint research and expertise with direct links to the Indian government, businesses and communities by introducing innovative UK technology to Indian environmental problems through knowledge sharing and staff exchanges.[3125]

On 5 November 2016, the Indian and Japanese governments signed an agreement on the extension of the India-Japan Industry-Academia-Government Collaborative Education Program. The program is organized by the School of Engineering and the School of Information Science and Technology and provides research internships for students from Indian institutions in various fields in engineering and information science and technology.[3126]

On 15 November 2016, a meeting between Belarussian Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Science and Technology Piotr Baltrukovich and Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Ashutosh Sharma took place in New Delhi. At the meeting, participants discussed the issues on bilateral scientific and innovation cooperation and outlined a list of joint projects. They also agreed to establish a joint center for commercialization and technology transfer.[3127]

On 17 March 2017, India-Russia Military Industrial Conference took place in New Delhi. During the conference, there was a negotiation tour between Indian and Russian state defense companies on the issue of technology transfer to India and manufacturing of spare parts and components for Russian military equipment such as SU-30 MKI aircraft, Mi-17 helicopters, MiG-29K jets, INS Vikramaditya and T-90 tanks. Both sides signed a long-term agreement for life support and maintenance of the Sukhoi fleet of the Indian Air Force. Moreover, talks about technology transfer of other military equipment are agreed to be held in the future.[3128]

On 18-20 March 2017, President Shri Pranab Mukherjee opened an international conference on "Universities of the Future: Knowledge, Innovation and Responsibility" at O.P. Jindal Global University in Sonipat, Haryana. During the forum, participants discussed important issues including research, knowledge creation and publications, innovation, regulation, policymaking, financing of universities and internationalisation of higher education. The main goal of this international conference was to provide opinions and exchange ideas to help India in building world-class universities.[3129]

On 19-21 April 2017, the Ministry of Steel and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) launched an exhibition named "India Steel-2017." The forum aimed to provide "a

[3125] India-UK science collaboration to launch at University of Greenwich, University of Greenwich 12 October 2016. Access date: 15 December 2016. http://www2.gre.ac.uk/about/news/articles/2016/a3744-india-uk-science-collaboration-to-launch-at-university-of-greenwich.

[3126] India-Japan Industry-Academia-Government Collaborative Education Program, IJEP 05 November 2016. Access date: 15 December 2016. http://ijep.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp/.

[3127] Belarus, India plan to set up joint center for commercialization, technology transfer, Belarus News 15 December 2016. Access date: 15 December 2016. eng.belta.by/economics/view/belarus-india-plan-to-set-up-joint-center-for-commercialization-technology-transfer-96300-2016/.

[3128] India-Russia Military Industrial Conference, Government of India Ministry of Defence 17 March 2017. Access date: 03 April 2017. http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=159499.

[3129] President of India inaugurates international conference on "Universities of the Future: Knowledge, Innovation and Responsibility", Government of India President's Secretariat 18 March 2017. Access date: 07 April 2017. http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=159510.

platform to Participants, Delegates, Business Visitors and other key decision-makers from the Steel and other related industry to interact with, and explore new business avenues."[3130]

India has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Evgeny Tsarik

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 29 November 2016, the Ministries of Industry, Research and Technology and Higher Education, Culture and Education, State-Owned Enterprises and Manpower signed a memorandum of understanding for greater involvement of industry actors in vocational education processes, including the development of curricula, the provision of additional instructors for vocational schools, the creation of internship opportunities and on-site training programs for students and educators and the modernization of infrastructure for schools.[3131]

On 29 November 2016, the Indonesian government announced it was planning to improve the current vocational education system by providing students with the opportunity to earn skills certificates after completing training courses in addition to their graduation diploma.[3132] This is expected to contribute to knowledge diffusion as a motivating instrument since students who do not complete their training nor receive their diplomas would still have access to employment opportunities with their skills certificates.

On 6 December 2016, Minister of Research, Technology and Higher Education and Australian Minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment reaffirmed plans to boost cooperation in the fields of research, technology and higher education under the currently negotiated Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.[3133]

On 13 December 2016, presidential scholarships were announced for five eastern Indonesian provinces of Papua, West Papua, Maluku, North Maluku and East Nusa Tenggara. Recipients will have an opportunity to continue their studies at leading universities at home and abroad.[3134]

In December 2016, the Ministry of Defense held talks with their Russian counterparts and manufacturers on the potential purchasing of Russian military helicopters and fighter jets, the contracts of which will include clauses on technology transfer.[3135]

[3130] 3rd International Exhibition & Conference on Steel Industry, Government of India Ministry of Steel Access date: 7 April 2017. http://www.indiasteelexpo.in/.
[3131] Indonesia gears up for vocational education reform, The Jakarta Post 29 November 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/11/29/indonesia-gears-up-for-vocational-education-reform.html.
[3132] Indonesia to introduce skill certificates at vocational schools, The Jakarta Post 29 November 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/11/29/indonesia-to-introduce-skill-certificates-at-vocational-schools.html.
[3133] Indonesia-Australia Encouraged The Bilateral Relation on Science Technology and Higher Education, Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education of the Republic of Indonesia 6 December 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://international.ristekdikti.go.id/2016/indonesia-australia-encouraged-the-bilateral-relation-on-science-technology-and-higher-education/.
[3134] Five eastern Indonesian provinces to receive presidential scholarships, ANTARA News 13 December 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.antaranews.com/en/news/108361/five-eastern-indonesian-provinces-to-receive-presidential-scholarships.

On 10 February 2017, China's smartphone producer Xiaomi announced its plans to launch production in Indonesia with broad engagement of local partners as subcontractors, which, as noted by China's Ambassador to Indonesia, "represents a new stage in China-Indonesia cooperation, namely a transition from traditional trade and project contracting to investment, technological transfer, personnel training and joint production."[3136]

On 9 March 2017, during a state visit of the Sri Lankan President to Indonesia, it was announced that the two countries were brainstorming a new plan to strengthen cooperation including the "technology transfer [from Indonesia to Sri Lanka] on railways, aviation, tourism, health, education and research."[3137]

On 29 March 2017, the Indonesian Military and Swedish Saab signed a letter of agreement on scholarship for 20 Indonesian students interested in defense studies.[3138] The scholarship is provided in cooperation with the Swedish Defense University and will be focused on long-term defense planning. It will run for 5 months, including a two-week module in Sweden.

On 29 March 2017, during the visit of French President Francois Hollande to the Indonesian French naval defense specialist DCNS and the Indonesian shipyard PT PAL signed a memorandum of understanding covering the extension of the existing agreement on industrial cooperation with the purpose to study the viability of a potential order and local assembly of submarines in Indonesia.[3139]

On 31 March 2017, the Indonesian and Korean Hospital Associations signed a Memorandum of Understanding to develop cooperation in the medical field ranging from the sharing of knowledge, experience and technology to hospital management.[3140]

On 15-20 May 2017, the "Business Excellence Best Practice Study Visit" was organized in Jakarta for the Malaysian business community representatives.[3141] The purpose of the program is to give the Malaysian participants an opportunity to obtain knowledge in the area of business excellence from Indonesia, where firms started implementing the practice of business excellence earlier than organizations in Malaysia.

Indonesia has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

[3135] Indonesia edges closer towards acquisition of Mi-26 helicopters from Russia, HIS Jane's Defence Weekly 1 December 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.janes.com/article/65893/indonesia-edges-closer-towards-acquisition-of-mi-26-helicopters-from-russia; Indonesia confirms talks with Russia for Su-35s, Quwa Defence News and Analysis Group 12 December 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://quwa.org/2016/12/12/indonesia-confirms-talks-with-russia-for-su-35s/.

[3136] Chinese smartphone producer Xiaomi launches Indonesian version, China Daily 11 February 2017. Access date: 9 April 2017. http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/tech/2017-02/11/content_28169424.htm.

[3137] Indonesia, Sri Lanka to strengthen trade and economic ties, Lanka Business Online 9 March 2017. Access date: 9 April 2017. http://www.lankabusinessonline.com/indonesia-sri-lanka-to-strengthen-trade-and-economic-ties/ .

[3138] Swedish defense firm launches defense studies scholarship, The Jakarta Post 29 March2017. Access date: 9 April 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/03/29/swedish-defense-firm-launches-defense-studies-scholarship.html.

[3139] French, Indonesian naval firms extend submarine study, Defense News 31 March 2017. Access date: 10 April 2017. http://www.defensenews.com/articles/french-indonesian-naval-firms-extend-submarine-study.

[3140] Indonesia, South Korea to Cooperate on Medical Affairs, Tempo.co 1 April 2017. Access date: 7 April 2017. https://en.tempo.co/read/news/2017/04/01/055861619/Indonesia-South-Korea-to-Cooperate-on-Medical-Affairs.

[3141] Study visit to Jakarta for those interested, The Borneo Post 5 April 2017. Access date: 9 April 2017. http://www.theborneopost.com/2017/04/05/study-visit-to-jakarta-for-those-interested/ .

On 29 September 2016, the Italian Institute of Technology and Moog Inc., an international US designer, manufacturer, and integrator of precision motion control products and systems, declared their intention to collaborate in the framework of one project. Investments in equipment and staff will be made, and Italian scientists and Moog engineers will work together on the development of the quadruped robot for outdoor use.[3142]

On 18 October 2016, South African Minister of Water and Sanitation Nomvula Mokonyane signed a Water Cooperation Agreement with Italy. Among other issues the parties agreed to cooperate in integrated water management solutions including the reuse of waste water for material and energy recovery and exchange of best practices and technologies in this field.[3143]

On 11 November 2016, the Italian National Research Council and the Scottish Royal Society-Edinburgh signed a new cooperation agreement on science and innovation. The agreement provides for the financing of three joint research projects on a biennial basis as part of the following scientific areas: Engineering and Physical Sciences, Life Sciences and Humanities and Cultural Heritage.[3144]

On 16 November 2016, Italy and eight other countries allocated over USD23 million to facilitate a significant scale-up of the Climate Technology Centre & Network of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC). The centre provides technical assistance to developing countries in accordance with the Paris Agreement.[3145]

On 17 November 2016, the Italian Space Agency met with the European Space Agency and educational institutions in Rome to present the European Space Education Resource Office (ESERO) program and the different project application phases to the institutions interested in the project in order to open some ESERO offices in Italy. ESERO program aims at stimulating the interest of students from primary and secondary schools in science and technology topics.[3146]

On 21- 22 November 2016, the Italian Innovation Days was held in Singapore. The initiative was jointly promoted by Agenzia ITA/ICE, the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Singapore, the National Research Institute, Confindustria Sistemi Innovativi, Unioncamere, and others, in partnership with the Enterprise Europe Network, and with the coordination of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The Italian companies had the opportunity to present innovative projects, products or processes to an audience of investors and industrial partners from Asian countries, especially from the Association of South East Asian Nations market and from China.[3147]

On 22 November 2016, the Italian–Vietnamese Joint Commission was held in Rome to examine the present state and further development of scientific and technological cooperation between the two

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[3142] Moog invests in a new joint-lab MOOG@IIT for the development of next generation technologies for autonomous robots. Investments by Moog will be devoted to equipment and staff, the Italian Institute of Technology 29 September 2016. Access date: 27 December 2016. https://talk.iit.it/en/132-the-new-joint-lab-moog-iit.

[3143] Minister Nomvula Mokonyane signs Water Cooperation Agreement with Italian Republic, South African Government 18 October 2016. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-nomvula-mokonyane-signs-water-cooperation-agreement-italian-republic-18-oct-2016.

[3144] New scientific collaboration between CNR and Royal Society Edinburgh recently signed, the Italian National Research Council (CNR) 15 November 2016. Access date: 27 December 2016. https://www.cnr.it/it/news/7142.

[3145] Countries pledge USD 23 million to support technology transfer in
developing countries, UN Climate Change Newsroom. Access date: 11 January 2016.
http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/marrakech_nov_2016/application/pdf/ctcn_pr_eng.pdf.

[3146] ASI: info day on the ESERO European science education programme, The Portal of Italian Research 11 September 2016. Access date: 27 December 2016. https://www.researchitaly.it/en/news/asi-infoday-on-the-esero-european-science-education-programme/.

[3147]The Italian Innovation Days 2016. Access date: 27 December 2016.
http://www.singaporeinnovationdays.it/singaporeinnovationdays.

countries and to define the Executive Program for 2017-2019 within the framework of Agreement on Scientific and technological cooperation between Italy and Vietnam.[3148]

On 22 February 2017, The Italian Space Agency (ASI) and China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) signed an agreement concerning new scientific experiments aboard the Chinese Space Station regarding manned flight. The aim of the collaboration is to study the long-term missions of astronauts, particularly in the fields of bio-medics, physiology and related technologies. The collaboration also includes the access to scientific data, joint publications, exchange of staff and joint participation in technical reviews on manned flight.[3149]

On 17 March, UniStem Day 2017 was organized by the Neuroscience Institute Cavalieri Ottolenghi dell'Università di Torino, a public university in Italy, and Agorà Scienza, a platform that creates opportunities to promote the debate between the world of research and society. 75 universities and research institutes in seven European countries involved over 27,000 students, at the same time, in seminars, discussions, round tables and lab activities devoted to the the distribution of research results on stem cells and addressed to students of secondary schools.[3150]

On 11-12 April 2017, the first edition of the Italian Investment Showcase 2017 aimed at bringing together highly innovative companies and national and international investors was hosted in Milan. The Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA) was among the main organizers. The event included two days of meetings and a session dedicated to clusters and scientific and technological parks to present innovative company aggregators to investors.[3151]

On 19-20 April 2017, the Iran-Italy Science, Technology and Innovation Forum was held in Teheran, Iran. Various thematic seminars, workshops and one-to-one meetings were organized during the forum. In Italy, the Ministry of Education, University and Research promoted the programme, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The Forum was coordinated by Città della Scienza, in synergy with the Conference of Italian University Rectors, the National Research Council, the Institute for Nuclear Physics, the NETVAL network and Confindustria for the business world.[3152]

Italy has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Maria Strelnikova

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 15 September 2016, the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, chaired by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, was tasked to identify "measures of importance in accordance with the Comprehensive

[3148] The Executive Program for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Italian Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the years 2017-2019, The portal of Italian research. Access date: 27 December 2016. https://www.researchitaly.it/uploads/16997/PE_IT-VN_2017_2019.pdf?v=e9c5791.
[3149] Agreement Italy-China, The Italian Space Agency 22 February 2017. Access date: 30 March 2017. http://www.asi.it/en/news/agreement-italy-china.
[3150] Stem cells: ninth edition of UniStem Day completed, The portal of Italian research 24 March 2017. Access date: 30 March 2017. https://www.researchitaly.it/en/news/stem-cells-ninth-edition-of-unistem-day-completed/ .
[3151] Italian Investment Showcase 2017, the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development – ENEA. Access date: 30 March 2017. http://www.enea.it/it/comunicare-la-ricerca/events/showcase2017/italian-investment-showcase-2017.
[3152] IRAN — ITALY SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION FORUM, Fondazione Idis-Città della Scienza. Access date: 30 March 2017. http://www.cittadellascienza.it/iran/.

Strategy on Science, Technology and Innovation."[3153] The importance of "effective promotion of research and development on artificial intelligence and other spheres," as well as of "realization of Society 5.0." were also emphasized by Prime Minister Abe.[3154]

From 19 September 2016 to 12 October 2016, a training course for specialists in fruit production was organized in Veracruz by the National Institute for Forestry, Agricultural, and Animal Husbandry Research, Japan International Cooperation Agency and and the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation. The course aimed to familiarize the Mexican and Latin American specialists with technologies of production of fruits and care of exotic tropical fruit trees, namely pitahaya, manilkara zapota, guanabana, tamarind, rambutan and passion fruit.[3155]

On 3 October 2016, the Internet of Things Acceleration Consortium concluded two memorandums of understanding (MoU) with the American Industrial Internet Consortium and OpenFog Consortium.[3156] The MoUs are expected to accelerate activity toward realization of the "fourth industrial revolution" in Japan through implementing demonstration projects by the parties and exerting efforts towards aligning technological standards.[3157]

On 11 November 2016, during a visit with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and Indian Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship signed a Memorandum of Cooperation for a "Manufacturing Skill Transfer Promotion Programme."[3158] Under the Memorandum, Japan will help establish Institutes for Manufacturing and the Japanese Endowed Courses in engineering colleges designated by the Japanese companies in India in cooperation between the public and private sectors. Toyota's Indian subsidiary, Toyota Kirloskar Motor, will also contribute to this program by training 30,000 persons over ten years. During the visit, the Japan-India nuclear energy cooperation agreement was also signed. It aims at "opening the door for Tokyo to supply New Delhi with fuel, equipment and technology for nuclear power production."[3159]

On 11 November 2016, the Trade Commissioner and Managing Director of Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Taku Miyazaki pledged that JETRO will "encourage technology transfer especially among SMEs in Nigeria so that they will be able use the technology for greater productivity and innovativeness."[3160]

On 25 November 2016, Japan joined a number of contributing countries donating an investment worth USD23 million to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Climate

[3153] Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, The Prime Minister in Action 15 September 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/actions/201609/15article2.html.
[3154] Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, The Prime Minister in Action 15 September 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/actions/201609/15article2.html.
[3155] Cooperación México-Japón rinde frutos en América Latina. Access date: 26 November 2016. https://www.gob.mx/amexcid/es/articulos/cooperacion-mexico-japon-rinde-frutos-en-america-latina?idiom=es.
[3156] Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for IoT Cooperation between Japan and the United States Concluded, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 11 October 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1011_03.html.
[3157] Japanese Industry and Policy News, EU Japan Center for Industrial Cooperation October 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://cdnsite.eu-japan.eu/sites/default/files/publications/docs/japanese_industry_and_policy_news_october_2016_final.pdf .
[3158] Japan selects Toyota Kirloskar Motor to drive skill development in India, Autocar Professional Online 21 November 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://www.autocarpro.in/news-national/japan-selects-toyota-kirloskar-motor-drive-skill-development-india-22659#sthash.DlO3sfO8.dpuf.
[3159] Signing of Japan-India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement Opens Up Nuclear Reactor and Technology Transfer from Japan to India, Executive Intelligence Review 11 November 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://www.larouchepub.com/pr/2016/161111_japan_india_agreement.html.
[3160] Japan pledges technology transfer to Nigeria, The Nation 13 November 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://thenationonlineng.net/japan-pledges-technology-transfer-nigeria/.

Technology Centre and Network to promote accelerated development and transfer of climate technologies for energy efficient, low carbon and climate resilient development at the request of the developing countries.[3161]

On 3 February 2017, it was announced that a number of Japanese companies had plans to enter into a technology transfer partnership with authorities and companies from the Indian State of Kerala concerning the issues of organic solid waste management, as well as health management solutions.[3162]

On 13 March 2017, the Monetary Authority of Singapore and the Financial Services Agency announced a partnership to enhance mutual progress in development of Fintech technologies through knowledge sharing on financial services related to innovation.[3163]

On 24 March 2017, it was reported that Japan's Nippon Koei firm has been chosen by the Nepalese Department of Roads as provider of detailed project report and supervisor over construction of the Nagdhunga Tunnel in Kathmandu.[3164] The contract will imply technology transfer to help the Nepalese firms gain competency to implement similar projects in future.

On 3 April 2017, the Government of Japan provided new funds to the United Nations Development Programme's Community Security and Stabilization Programme for Sudan.[3165] The programme implies knowledge sharing activities covering the themes of micro-enterprise development, microfinance, green business planning and natural resource management.

Japan has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovations.

On 17 and 21 November 2016, foundation ceremonies were held for establishing two vocational training institutes in Sri Lanka. The Vocational Training Centre in Colombo Central and the College of Technology in Gampaha will be constructed and developed through the Official Development Assistance program of the Export-Import Bank of Korea.[3166] The scope of Korea's participation will include construction and development, provision of necessary equipment and facilities, capacity building for vocational training instructors and policy makers, as well as further technical assistance and consulting

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[3161] USD 23m for climate technology transfer in developing countries, Energy Live News 25 November 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://www.energylivenews.com/2016/11/25/23m-for-climate-technology-transfer-in-developing-countries/.

[3162] Japanese technology transfer in waste management likely, The Times of India 3 February 2017. Access date: 7 April 2017. http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/japanese-technology-transfer-in-waste-management-likely/articleshow/56959859.cms.

[3163] Singapore Regulator Selects Japan For Next FinTech Knowledge Partner, Cointelegraph 13 March 2017. Access date: 7 April 2017. https://cointelegraph.com/news/singapore-regulator-selects-japan-for-next-fintech-knowledge-partner.

[3164] Nagdhunga tunnel construction project: Japan's Nippon Koei awarded contract to prepare DPR, Kathmandu Post 24 March 2017. Access date: 7 April 2017. http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2017-03-24/japans-nippon-koei-awarded-contract-to-prepare-dpr.html.

[3165] Japan continues its contribution to the UNDP initiatives on Peace and Recovery, Reliefweb 3 April 2017. Access date: 7 April 2017. http://reliefweb.int/report/sudan/japan-continues-its-contribution-undp-initiatives-peace-and-recovery

[3166] Korean Exim bank's support to establish Vocational Training Institutes, News.LK 23 November 2016. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://www.news.lk/news/business/item/15060-korean-exim-bank-s-support-to-establish-vocational-training-institutes.

services by dispatching Korean experts to Sri Lanka.[3167] The project is aimed to bridge the gap between the industry skills demand and the labour supply, and reduce the unemployment rate of the youth in Sri Lanka.[3168]

On 25 November 2016, Korea joined a number of contributing countries donating an investment worth USD23 million to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)'s Climate Technology Centre and Network to promote accelerated development and transfer of climate technologies for energy efficient, low carbon and climate resilient development at the request of the developing countries.[3169]

On 28 November 2016, the Korea Development Institute (KDI) and the Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) have formalized participation in the Partnership for Skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (PASET). The institutes work to help Sub-Saharan Africa build capacity in science and technology fields, with the KDI becoming a full member of PASET and KIST signing an agreement to improve the quality of PhD programs in selected African institutions.[3170]

On 29 November 2016, Korea and Thailand signed a memorandum of understanding to support agricultural trade, knock down technical barriers in the trading of agriculture products and facilitate investment in farming, which is expected to forge closer ties between Korea and Thailand in many areas of agriculture cooperation, including agriculture technology cooperation and transfer.[3171]

On 1 December 2016, tariffs on 381 information technology products were removed. Remaining tariffs will be phased out in three to seven years, making the technology transfer to and from Korea much simpler.[3172]

In March 2017, the Korea Intellectual Property Office opened an ylang ylang herb oil center in the Philippines as part of its international knowledge-sharing project, which will contribute to educating local residents on how to utilize modern oil extracting technologies and commercialize the ylang ylang oil products.[3173]

On 16-17 March 2017, the 21st Senior Officials Meeting of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation was held in Seoul, bringing together delegates from China, Japan, Mongolia, Korea and Russia and representatives from intergovernmental and civil society

[3167] Korean Exim bank's support to establish Vocational Training Institutes, News.LK 23 November 2016. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://www.news.lk/news/business/item/15060-korean-exim-bank-s-support-to-establish-vocational-training-institutes.

[3168] Korean Exim bank's support to establish Vocational Training Institutes, News.LK 23 November 2016. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://www.news.lk/news/business/item/15060-korean-exim-bank-s-support-to-establish-vocational-training-institutes.

[3169] USD 23m for climate technology transfer in developing countries, Energy Live News 25 November 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://www.energylivenews.com/2016/11/25/23m-for-climate-technology-transfer-in-developing-countries/.

[3170] PASET and Korea Take Partnership to Next Level; Vow to Work Together to Strengthen African Capacity in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology, World Bank 28 November 2016. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/11/28/paset-and-korea-take-partnership-to-next-level-vow-to-work-together-to-strengthen-african-capacity-in-applied-sciences-engineering-and-technology.

[3171] South Korea, Thailand set to streamline agricultural trade, The Nation 29 November 2016. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://www.nationmultimedia.com/news/business/EconomyAndTourism/30301018.

[3172] Tariff cuts for 834 technology products will begin today, Korea JoongAng Daily 1 December 2016. Access date: 11 December 2016.

[3173] KIPO helps Philippines with expired patents, Yonhap News Agency 13 March 2017. Access date: 7 April 2017. http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2017/03/13/0200000000AEN20170313012700315.html.

organizations.[3174] The meeting concluded with new activity plans for study and knowledge sharing on sustainable management of marine protected areas.

On 22 March 2017, Korea Gas Corporation (KOGAS) held a study tour for a delegation of the Honduran government and Ìnter-American Development Bank to a world-class LNG base operation site in Incheon, as part of the Knowledge Sharing Program implemented by the Korean Ministry of Strategy and Finance and the Export-Import Bank of Korea.[3175] The program included a tour around LNG production facilities and the Incheon Gas Science Museum as well as presentation of the KOGAS's 30 years of know-how in the operation of LNG production bases and project development.

On 6 April 2017, the Governments of Korea and Saudi Arabia agreed to work closely on joint industrial projects, including within the Saudi "Vision 2030" program that aims to make Saudi Arabia a pioneering global model of technological excellence.[3176]

Korea has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovations.

From 19 September 2016 to 12 October 2016, a training course for specialists in fruit production was organized in Veracruz by the National Institute for Forestry, Agricultural, and Animal Husbandry Research (INIFAP), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Mexico and the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID). The course aimed to familiarize the Mexican and Latin American specialists with technologies of production of fruits and care of exotic tropical fruit trees, namely pitahaya, manilkara zapota, guanabana, tamarind, rambutan and passion fruit.[3177]

On 11 October 2016, a special event of donation of hydrographic equipment for the project "Strengthening Hydrographic Capacities in Mesoamerica and the Caribbean Sea" (FOCAHIMECA) implemented by the Mexican Secretariat of the Navy (SEMAR) and AMEXCID in the Caribbean region was held. The equipment was donated by the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency.[3178]

On 27 October 2016, the Mexican and Spanish governments designed a cooperation project "De la ciudadanía al Maker" aimed at promoting youth entrepreneurship and digital economy in Guatemala. The project included a series of forums and workshops held on 7-10 November 2016 in Guatemala. Participants discussed how culture and new technologies could be used to promote creative economies in

[3174] North-East Asian countries underscore importance of subregional cooperation to overcome environmental challenges, Reliefweb 21 March 2017. Access date: 7 April 2017. http://reliefweb.int/report/world/north-east-asian-countries-underscore-importance-subregional-cooperation-overcome.
[3175] KOGAS Presents World-Class LNG Base to Honduran Delegation, Business Korea 24 March 2017. Access date: 7 April 2017. http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/english/news/management/17627-looking-around-lng-base-kogas-presents-world-class-lng-base-honduran.
[3176] Korea to cooperate on Vision 2030, bolster industrial ties with Saudi Arabia, Arab News 6 April 2017. Access date: 7 April 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1079921/saudi-arabia.
[3177] Cooperación México-Japón rinde frutos en América Latina. Access date: 26 November 2016. https://www.gob.mx/amexcid/es/articulos/cooperacion-mexico-japon-rinde-frutos-en-america-latina?idiom=es.
[3178] México y Turquía colaboran en proyecto de cooperación marítima en el Caribe. Access date: 22 November 2016. https://www.gob.mx/amexcid/prensa/mexico-y-turquia-colaboran-en-proyecto-de-cooperacion-maritima-en-el-caribe?idiom=es.

the region. The events brought together entrepreneurs, decision-makers and public and private institutions representatives.[3179]

In November 2016, Mexico promoted its special technology of removing mycotoxins that cause various diseases from the grains to Kenya. The technology (nixtamalización) also helps to increase protein in corn and add calcium and niacin. The tests of the maize quality were organized in the Kenyan city of Machakos. The project is implemented by AMEXCID.[3180]

On 4 November 2016, the "Alianza Suiza por la Educación Dual" initiative (Swiss Alliance for Vocational Education and Training) was launched by the President of the Swiss Confederation Johann Schneider-Ammann and Secretary of Education Aurelio Nuño Mayer during a meeting at the Colegio Suizo de México. The initiative provides Swiss businesses in Mexico with the opportunity to participate in the dual-track education of apprentices. The companies will be able to initiate vocational training in a number of spheres and thereby satisfy their need for skilled workers.[3181]

On 7 November 2016, the @prende 2.0 program was launched by Secretary Mayer. The program aimed to bring together international organizations, private sector and society to advance teacher training and improve classrooms with innovative equipment to develop necessary skills for addressing needs of the companies in Mexico. In 2017, the program will be implemented in 3,000 schools.[3182] 41,000 teachers will be trained in person and an additional 192,000 will be able to access the training module online.[3183]

On 13 November 2016, Undersecretary of Finance and Public Credit Vanessa Rubio Márquez participated in the launch of the strategic center "México Exponencial," which aims to share information and promote dialogue on innovation, the New Industrial Revolution and the digital economy with governmental authorities, the private sector and academia.[3184]

On 14-15 November 2016, the Germany-Mexico Science, Technology and Innovation Forum was organized by the Government of Mexico, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Mexican National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) and German-Mexico Alliance for the Future in Mexico City. The participants of the Forum discussed the instruments of German-Mexican cooperation in science, technology and innovations with special focus on industry involvement, exchanged the best practices, in particular in energy, bio-economy, nanotechnologies and Industrie 4.0 spheres. The Forum aimed to promote technology transfer between two countries.[3185]

[3179] México, España y Guatemala contribuyen a la construcción de la ciudadanía digital en Centroamérica. Access date: 22 November 2016. https://www.gob.mx/amexcid/articulos/mexico-espana-y-guatemala-contribuyen-a-la-construccion-de-la-ciudadania-digital-en-centroamerica?idiom=es.

[3180] El grano de oro en África. Access date: 26 November 2016. https://www.gob.mx/amexcid/articulos/el-maiz-alimento-de-oro?idiom=es.

[3181] Comunicado 473.- Anuncian Alianza Suiza por la Educación Dual, para incorporar empresas de ese país al modelo mexicano. Access date: 22 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sep/prensa/comunicado-473-anuncian-alianza-suiza-por-la-educacion-dual-para-incorporar-empresas-de-ese-pais-al-modelo-mexicano?idiom=es.

[3182] Comunicado 476.- Presenta Nuño Mayer el programa @prende 2.0, con capacitación para maestros; plataforma en línea. Access date: 23 November 2016. https://www.gob.mx/sep/prensa/comunicado-476-presenta-nuno-mayer-el-programa-prende-2-0-con-capacitacion-para-maestros-plataforma-en-linea.

[3183] 8 Facts about @prende 2.0,the Program That Takes IT to Schools. Access date: 23 November 2016. https://www.mexico.mx/en/articles/8-facts-about-prende-2-0-the-program-that-takes-it-to-schools.

[3184] Comunicado No.160. Reforma fiscal y en telecomunicaciones propician un México más próspero: Rubio Márquez. Access date: 22 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/shcp/prensa/comunicado-no-160-reforma-fiscal-y-en-telecomunicaciones-propician-un-mexico-mas-prospero-rubio-marquez?idiom=es.

[3185]Foro Germano-Mexicano en Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación. Access date: 26 November 2016. https://www.gob.mx/amexcid/agenda/foro-germano-mexicano-en-ciencia-tecnologia-e-innovacion?idiom=es; Germany — Mexico Science, Technology and Innovation Forum. Access date: 26 November 2016. http://www.uqroo.mx/eventos/1426/archivos/Germany-Mexico_STI_Forum_(1).pdf.

On 23-24 November 2016, the Ministry of Communications and Transportation (SCT) jointly with the Colombian Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies (MinTic) organized the workshop "Exchange of Experiences in Telecommunications Mexico-Colombia-Mesoamerica" in Bogota to share the best practices and experiences in implementing programs to facilitate digital transformation and inclusion. The workshop was attended by the representatives of the telecommunications sector of the Mesoamerican Integration and Development Project countries, as well as the Central American Regional Technical Telecommunications Commission (COMTELCA) and the Central American Network of Telecommunications (REDCA) that identified possible spheres to develop new strategies and joint projects to address digital gap in the Mesoamerican region.[3186]

On 1-2 December 2016, AMEXCID and with National Commission for the Efficient Use of Energy (CONUEE) in cooperation with the National Energy Commission of El Salvador (CNE) organized the workshop on strengthening energy efficiency in Mesoamerica in San Salvador. The event was attended by the representatives from Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Colombia. AMEXCID representatives shared Mexico`s experience in establishing high quality standards in energy efficiency for products and services. The participants also discussed the Work Plan of the Mesoamerican Program for the Rational and Efficient Use of Energy (PMUREE) to prioritize and coordinate cooperation in the area of energy efficiency in the region.[3187]

On 2 December 2016, President of the National Institute of Entrepreneur (INADEM) Enrique Jacob Rocha and Parliamentary State Secretary at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy Uwe Beckmeyer chaired the award ceremony for the three best projects developed by the students in the framework of "Fit for Partnership with Germany" program aimed at promoting innovations and entrepreneurship between Mexico and Germany. The Program serves as a platform for facilitating business linkages between Mexican and German entrepreneurs. The winners of the award of the previous years were able to visit the German companies acquiring practical knowledge and establish business contacts.[3188]

On 3 February 2017, AMEXCID chaired the first Executive Committee 2017 of the Mesoamerica Project and shared with the participants from the Central American countries Mexico`s experience in developing new technologies. The Executive Committee brought together the Presidential Commissioners of the member countries of the Mesoamerica Project, namely Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Dominican Republic. The Mexican National Center for Disaster Prevention (CENAPRED) presented the platform as a virtual tool for sharing advanced technologies between the governments, institutions and other stakeholders from the participating countries. The Ministry of Communications and Transportation also presented its proposals to advance the Geographic Information System (GIS) platform used for geographic information management, particularly in the transport sector.[3189]

On 8-9 February 2017, AMEXCID and Secretariat of Energy (SENER), with support of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), organized a mission to Mexico for the representatives of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama and Costa Rica to share

[3186] México y Colombia promueven la inclusión digital en Mesoamérica. Date of access: 27 March 2017. http://www.gob.mx/amexcid/prensa/mexico-y-colombia-promueven-la-inclusion-digital-en-mesoamerica?idiom=es.
[3187] AMEXCID y CONUEE promueven la eficiencia energética en Mesoamérica. Date of access: 27 March 2017. http://www.gob.mx/amexcid/prensa/amexcid-y-conuee-promueven-la-eficiencia-energetica-en-mesoamerica?idiom=es.
[3188] Entregan reconocimiento a los tres mejores proyectos del Programa de Entrenamiento "Fit for Partnership with Germany". Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/se/prensa/entregan-reconocimiento-a-los-tres-mejores-proyectos-del-programa-de-entrenamiento-fit-for-partnership-with-germany?idiom=es.
[3189] La AMEXCID preside la primera Comisión Ejecutiva 2017 del Proyecto Mesoamérica, Government of Mexico 3 February 2017. Access date: 19 June 2017. http://www.gob.mx/amexcid/prensa/la-amexcid-preside-la-primera-comision-ejecutiva-2017-del-proyecto-mesoamerica?idiom=es.

Mexico`s Electrical Reform outcomes and benefits. During the visit, representatives of the Central American countries visited the CENACE Division controlling electricity operations in Mexico and attended a workshop devoted to a progress in implementing the Energy Reform provisions in electricity sector in Mexico. The Mexican experts shared with the participants the overview of the electricity market in Mexico and presented the new regulatory framework in electrical sector in the country. The visit was one of the activities of the Mexico Interconnection Commission for the Central American Electric Interconnection System (SIEPAC) established in June 2016.[3190]

On 22 February 2017, the presentation of the ELAN Programme (European and Latin American Business Services and Innovation) was organized in ProMéxico headquarters. The Programme aims to promote strategic alliances, in particular in automotive sector, and exchange of technologies between European and Mexican small and medium enterprises.[3191]

Mexico has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 15 October 2016, the Russian Agency of Technological Development signed a cooperation agreement with the Confindustria, which is the main association representing manufacturing and service companies in Italy.[3192] The Agency of Technological Development was established by the Government of Russia to help enterprises in finding innovative technological solutions by providing information, analytical and advisory assistance, conducting transactions and raising funds.[3193]

On 26–28 October 2016, the fifth annual Open Innovations Forum was held in Moscow. The Forum welcomed more than 13,500 guests from 99 countries. It has been held in Moscow, under the auspices of the Russian Government, since 2012, and co-organized by the Russian Ministry of Economic Development. The aims of the forum include exchange of experience and knowledge in the field of technological entrepreneurship and innovation development and search for new partners and investors. 40 partner agreements were signed and about 2000 requests were applied via business contacts and exchange service during the forum.[3194]

On 1 November 2016, the selection of the Russian-Israeli projects in the research and development commenced. The selection was carried out in the framework of the intergovernmental agreement between Russia and Israel and coordinated from the Russian side by the Ministry of Industry and Trade. The main goal of these efforts is development of innovative infrastructure in the sphere of nanotechnologies. The selection was finished on 29 December 2016,[3195] however no results have been reported yet.

[3190] México presenta a Centroamérica los avances del nuevo mercado eléctrico nacional.
[3191] México y UE buscan fortalecer la transferencia tecnológica. Date of access: 1 April 2017. http://www.gob.mx/promexico/prensa/mexico-y-ue-buscan-fortalecer-la-transferencia-tecnologica?idiom=es.
[3192] About us, Confindustria. http://www.confindustria.it/wps/portal/EN/siteEN/About-us/!ut/p/a1/04_Sj9CPykssy0xPLMnMz0vMAfGjzOJ9PT1MDD0NjLws_ANdDRxNAiyDXUy8DdxNjIEKIoEKDHAARwNC-sP1o1CV-Bu7mgCVeBi6GPh5GBg4m2MoMHAxNXD0DzHxCwy0MDbxN4UqwOOGgtwIg0xPR0UAveREXQ!!/dl5/d5/L2dBISEvZ0FBIS9nQSEh/
[3193] Agency of Technological Development. http://tech-agency.ru/
[3194] Open Innovations 2016, Open Innovations Forum. https://forinnovations.ru/en/presscenter/News/63
[3195] Selection of Russian-Israeli Projects in Industrial R&D, Russian Technological Agency 1 November 2016. http://rta.gov.ru/press-centr/#российско-израильская-программа-по-сотрудничеству-в-области-промышленных-научно-исследовательских-и-опытно-конструкторских-работ.

Russia has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 28 September 2016, the Minister of Commerce and Investment Majid bin Abdullah Al Qasabi held talks with New Zealand Associate Trade Minister Todd McClay in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The parties discussed ways to facilitate economic partnership while focusing on trade, investment and technology transfer.[3196]

On 3 November 2016, the King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology (KACST) announced that it would establish 15 centers of excellence to focus on nanotechnology. Research will be done in coordination with Northwestern University, the University of California at Los Angeles, the University of California at Berkeley, the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford. The creation of centers align with the Kingdom's Vision 2030 and the National Transformation Plan 2020, which aim to make a shift towards knowledge-based economy, localization of human resources and transfer of technology.[3197]

On 7 November 2016, Minister of Health Abdullah Al Rabeeah visited the industrial premises of LFB Group in Les Ulis, France, which are specialized in upstream processes for plasma fractionation. This visit was carried out in the context of ongoing negotiations on an agreement on technology transfer.[3198]

On 6-8 December 2016, the ASBAR World Forum "Knowledge and the Capitalization on Saudi Human Capital: Organizations Transformation and Job Creation" organized in partnership with the Ministry of Labour and Social Development was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. One of the key topics at the Forum was "Foreign Investment: Technology Transfer and Job Creation."[3199]

On 15-18 March 2017, during Saudi Arabia's King visit to China the issues of (among other things) promoting cooperation in transfer of technology as part of the two countries' comprehensive strategic partnership was discussed.[3200] It was also reported that "there is potential for Chinese companies to win more Saudi defense procurement over the next decade, particularly as Riyadh is seeking to […] receive technology transfer […] and localize over 50 per cent of military equipment spending by 2030."[3201]

On 18 March 2017, during Saudi Arabia's King visit to China Investment Saudi Arabia and Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu signed an agreement with China's Huawei to establish a training academy and a smart city innovation center in Yanbu region of Saudi Arabia, with the goal to accelerate

[3196] Saudi-New Zealand Talks to Launch Trade Partnerships, Technology Transfer, ENGLISH EDITION OF ASHARQ AL-AWSAT 29 September 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://english.aawsat.com/2016/09/article55359308/saudi-new-zealand-talks-launch-trade-partnerships-technology-transfer.
[3197] Saudi Arabia Announces 15 Centers of Excellence for Science, Technology, Nanotechnology, PK ON WEB 3 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://pkonweb.com/2016/11/httpwp-mepol36-5tz/.
[3198] Visit Of Saudi Ministry of Health at LFB Headquarters, The LFB Group 7 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://www.groupe-lfb.com/en/news/visit-of-saudi-ministry-of-health-at-lfb-headquarters/.
[3199] ASBAR World Forum, 8 December 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://asbarworldforum.com/topics.html.
[3200] Interview: Belt and Road Initiative helps Saudi Arabia realize "Saudi Vision 2030" – ambassador, News Xinhua 14 March 2017. Access Date: 10 April 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-03/14/c_136127713.htm.
[3201] Analysis: China and Saudi Arabia: Reinvigorating ties, Arab News 16 March 2017. Access Date: 10 April 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1068981/saudi-arabia.

smart city deployment in line with the "Vision 2030" program and promote transfer of knowledge and global experience in the technology field.[3202]

On 1 April 2017, the Saudi Customs held a workshop in Riyadh in connection with the decision of Saudi Arabia to complete in 2017 the process of accession to the global transit system for moving goods across regional and international borders (TIR) and introduction of respective pieces of regulation.[3203] The seminar was attended by the International Road Transport Union (IRU) delegation led by IRU's Secretary General, who confirmed that IRU was highly motivated to facilitate knowledge-sharing and to help generate a clear understanding of the TIR system.

On 2 April 2017, the Saudi Aramco and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company reached an agreement to collaborate and enhance the two countries' oil and gas, renewables and carbon management industries and identify technologies that could improve operational performance and efficiency across the oil and gas value chain.[3204]

On 6 April 2017, Korea and Saudi Arabia, as a result of Korea's Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy visit to Riyadh, agreed to work closely on joint industrial projects, including within the Saudi "Vision 2030" program that aims to make Saudi Arabia a pioneering global model of [technological] excellence.[3205]

Saudi Arabia has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Aydar Shakirov

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovations.

On 29 September 2016, Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Nomaindiya Mfeketo met with Iranian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Jaberi Ansari for bilateral consultations in accordance with the mandate of the South Africa-Iran Deputy Ministerial Working Group. Parties agreed to intensify interaction in "skills transfers, innovation and training and technology exchanges between research foundations in identified areas."[3206]

On 3 October 2016, the European Commission and the Department of Science and Technology signed a Declaration of Intent on Marine Research and Innovation Cooperation. The declaration will "encourage and support research collaboration and development of relevant technologies, to facilitate human capital development and scientific exchange, and to explore regional opportunities for sustainable marine cooperation."[3207]

[3202] Huawei plans smart city innovation hub in Saudi, Trade Arabia 18 March 2017. Access Date: 10 April 2017. http://www.tradearabia.com/news/IND_322092.html.
[3203] Saudi Arabia on road to implementing customs transit system, Arab News 1 April 2017. Access Date: 10 April 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1077381/saudi-arabia.
[3204] Abu Dhabi and Saudi Arabia to team up on energy technology and renewables, The National Business 2 April 2017. Access Date: 10 April 2017. http://www.thenational.ae/business/energy/abu-dhabi-and-saudi-arabia-to-team-up-on-energy-technology-and-renewables.
[3205] Korea to cooperate on Vision 2030, bolster industrial ties with Saudi Arabia, Arab News 6 April 2017. Access date: 7 April 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1079921/saudi-arabia.
[3206] Government intensifies cooperation with Islamic Republic of Iran, South African Government 30 September 2016. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/intensify-cooperation-30-sep-2016-0000.
[3207] EU and South Africa join forces to better understand the oceans and climate, European Commission 4 October 2016. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2016&na=na-041016.

On 18 October 2016, Minister of Water and Sanitation Nomvula Mokonyane signed a Water Cooperation Agreement with Italy. Among other issues, the parties agreed to cooperate in integrated water management solutions including the reuse of waste water for material and energy recovery and exchange of best practices and technologies in this field.[3208]

On 13 October 2016, the first bi-annual South Africa-China exhibition organized in partnership with Department of Science and Technology was launched. Entrepreneurs, scientists and other professionals in the science and technology industry gathered to show their hi-tech products which included drones, robotics and high-tech medicine. According to the Department of Science and Technology, "the exhibition is aimed at creating a platform for South African and Chinese science councils, academic institutions and industry players to exchange information on new technological trends and foster collaborative linkages."[3209]

From 31 October to 4 November 2016, the South Africa-Norway Science Week 2016, organized in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology, took place. Science Week brought together key players from higher education, research, innovation and business in South Africa and Norway. The objective of the series of events was to create new relationships and "encourage collaboration between academia and industry across national borders."[3210]

On 8-9 December 2016, Science Forum South Africa 2016, organized by the Department of Science and Technology, took place in Pretoria. The key objectives of the forum were to create a platform for a debate on the role of science, technology and innovation in society; promote international science, technology and innovation partnerships; and to "create a platform for key science, technology and innovation actors, including senior government leaders, academics, scientists, industry, civil society, and students to interact."[3211]

On 10 February 2017, South Africa and Belgium signed a five-year agreement on joint scientific initiatives. The agreement will be implemented by the Department of Science and Technology and the Belgian Federal Science Policy Office. Parties agreed to establish a joint committee to ensure fulfilment of objectives. The agreement covers various fields of research including natural science, health, and humanities.[3212]

On 20 February 2017, Tshwane University of Technology, a public university in South Africa, welcomed the delegation of Windesheim University of Applied Sciences. The visit was held as part of a long-lasting exchange program between two universities. The aim of the visit was to strengthen mutual collaboration and its extending on new fields of science such as health care and social work.[3213]

[3208] Minister Nomvula Mokonyane signs Water Cooperation Agreement with Italian Republic, South African Government 18 October 2016. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-nomvula-mokonyane-signs-water-cooperation-agreement-italian-republic-18-oct-2016.

[3209] South Africa and China host exhibition for science and technology, Brand South Africa 17 October 2016. . Access date: 11 January 2017. http://www.southafrica.info/africa/south-africa-china-exhibition-171016.htm#.WEAA27KLSM8#ixzz4RaEZ1g00.

[3210]South Africa — Norway Science Week 2016, Innovation Norway. . Access date: 11 January 2017. http://www.innovasjonnorge.no/en/start-page/our-offices/africa/south-africa/events/south-africa---norway-science-week-20162/.

[3211] Science Forum South Africa, Department of Science and Technology of South Africa. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://www.sfsa.co.za/programme/.

[3212] South Africa, Belgium to cooperate in science and technology. Access date: 1 March 2017. https://www.facebook.com/dstgovza/posts/10155024331822959:0.

[3213] Windesheim visit to South Africa steps up student exchange. Access date: 1 March 2017. https://www.windesheiminternational.nl/about-windesheim/news/2017/february/windesheim-visit-to-south-africa-steps-up-student-exchange/.

South Africa has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Turkey: +1

Turkey has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovations.

Since 2014, the Technology Transfer Accelerator Turkey has been conducted. The initiative developed in the EU, aims to commercialise applied research from universities and scale up the technology transfer market in Turkey, with a particular focus on spill-overs to the country's less developed regions.[3214]

On 27 September 2016, Minister of Transport, Maritime Affairs, and Communications Ahmet Arslan and CEO of Inmarsat Rupert Pearce signed a partnership agreement to collaborate on satellite services, maritime communications and in the defence and aerospace sectors. One of the goals of the agreement is technology transfer Turkey.[3215]

On 6 October 2016, Turkey accepted the engine-maker Rolls-Royce's offer on a joint production partnership under the memorandum of understanding on technological know-how and a production unit between Turkey and Rolls-Royce signed in October 2015. Under the agreement, Rolls-Royce will also launch an Advanced Manufacturing and Technology Center in Turkey and provide broad know-how and technology transfer.[3216]

On 10 November 2016, the Pakistani Higher Education Commission's delegation, headed by Director for General Planning Dr. Mazhar Saeed, attended a week-long professional development programme at Turkey. The programme was organized in collaboration with the Council of Higher Education at Tusside Institute of Management Sciences. It provided a comprehensive overview of Turkey's higher education ecosystem.[3217]

On 18 January 2017, Bosphorus University, a public university in Turkey, has organized the Knowledge Transfer Seminar on Agricultural Technologies. The event welcomed experts and officials of Turkey and the United Kingdom. The focus of the seminar was put on bilateral cooperation in agricultural sector.[3218]

Turkey has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

United Kingdom: +1

United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovations.

On 1 October 2016, the Chancellor of Higher Education Funding Council for England announced new funding of GBP120 million over the next four years to support collaborative projects and activities between universities including through technology transfer. The funding is part of a support package

[3214] Technology Transfer Accelerator Turkey (TTA), European Investment Fund. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://www.eif.europa.eu/what_we_do/resources/tta/index.htm.

[3215] Türksat, Inmarsat join forces on SATCOM, technology transfer, Spacewatch Middle East 27 September 2016. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://spacewatchme.com/2016/09/turksat-inmarsat-join-forces-satcom-technology-transfer/.

[3216] Rolls-Royce Offers Joint Production in Turkey, DefenseNews 11 October 2016. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://www.defensenews.com/articles/rolls-royce-offers-joint-production-in-turkey.

[3217] HEC Team Visits Turkey to Learn Best Practices in Higher Education, Higher Education Commission, Pakistan 11 November 2016. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://hec.gov.pk/english/news/news/Pages/HEC-Team-Visits-Turkey.aspx.

[3218] Knowledge Transfer Seminar in Istanbul. Access date: 28 April 2017. http://agritech-network.com/index.php/project/knowledge-transfer-seminars-in-istanbul/.

which includes GBP220 million for the life science and university sectors to help technology breakthroughs translate into commercial success as well as action to ensure disruptive businesses thrive in the UK.[3219]

On 8 November 2016, a series of joint India-UK research initiatives worth more than GBP80 million were announced by Minister of Science Jo Johnson and Indian Union Minister of Science and Technology and Earth Sciences Dr. Harsh Vardhan.[3220]

On 23 March 2017, the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee released findings from its inquiry into managing intellectual property and technology transfer. The purpose of the exercise was to better understand how universities commercialise their research.[3221]

The United Kingdom takes actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elina Nizamova

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 21-22 September 2016, the Science and Technology Innovation Forum entitled "Synergy" was held. The forum was a joint project of the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines and the United States Agency for International Development Science, Technology, Research and Innovation for Development. It aims to increase promotion of science, bolster technology transfer activities in universities and colleges, support information technology projects and contribute to the innovation ecosystem. During the forum participants were provided with know-how and technical expertise. Some programs were also aimed at moving researches, technologies and innovative products to the marketplace were represented.[3222]

On 15 February 2017, Four Ridge National Lab technologies earned special awards from the Federal Laboratory Consortium for excellence in technologies transfer processes for new users. The organization won 55 awards among which more than 300 federal laboratories, research centers and various instruments, facilities aimed at new technologies commercializing.[3223]

On 27 February 2017, the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy reported that "56 projects have formed new companies [and] 68 projects have partnered with other government agencies" to collaborate and to increase the numbers of technologies that have been incorporated into products, to support high-potential, high-impact technologies for the further development of the marketplace and innovations.[3224]

[3219] Additional £120 Million for Collaboration and Technology Transfer, Official Website of Higher Education Funding Council for England 4 October 2016. Access Date: 12 December 2016. http://www.hefce.ac.uk/news/newsarchive/2016/Name,110403,en.html .

[3220] India and UK Team Up to Drive Scientific and Cultural Boundaries, Official Website of BioSpectrum: Integrated B2B Media Platform for Asia BioScience Industry 9 November 2016. Access Date: 12 December 2016. http://www.biospectrumindia.com/biospecindia/news/224499/india-uk-team-drive-scientific-cultural-boundaries.

[3221] Tackling the Demand Side of the Tech Transfer Equation, Official Website of Cambrige University, 23 March 2017. Access Date: 5 April 2017. https://www.enterprise.cam.ac.uk/tackling-supply-side-tech-transfer-equation/ .

[3222] Synergy 2016 Seen to Bolster Universities' Technology Transfer Activities, The Official journal of the Republic of the Philippines – The official Gazette 22 September 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://ipophil.gov.ph/releases/2014-09-22-06-26-21/488-synergy-2016-seen-to-bolster-universities-technology-transfer-activities.

[3223] ORNL win 4 awards for technologies transfer, USA today news 15 February 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2017/02/15/ornl-wins-four-awards-technology-transfer/97938458/.

[3224] ARPA-E Projects Receive more than $1.8 Billion in Private Follow-on Funding for Transformational Energy Technologies, the US Energy Department Official Website 27 February 2017. Access date: 27 March 2017. https://energy.gov/articles/arpa-e-projects-receive-more-18-billion-private-follow-funding-transformational-energy.

The United States has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Sedova

European Union: +1

European Union has fully complied with the commitment on technologies and innovation.

On 21 September 2016, the Ninth International Technology Transfer Conference was held by the Center for Technology Transfer and Innovation at the Jožef Stefan Institute. The conference was co-financed by the European Commission and addressed such issues as research and innovation in Horizon 2020, research and innovation in other working programs, research and innovation for Europe.[3225]

On 22 September 2016, the European Institute of Innovation and Technology and the Joint Research Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding. It will be mutually beneficial in areas of common interest, including technology transfer and intellectual property.[3226]

On 30 September 2016, the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises closed a call for proposals on grant agreements designed to accelerate the transfer of innovative technological solutions to sea basin economies. With a budget of over EUR7.5 million, the grants will enhance career opportunities in the maritime economy and stimulate the creativity of young researchers.[3227]

On 3 October 2016, the European Commission and the South African Department of Science and Technology signed a Declaration of Intent on Marine Research and Innovation Cooperation. The declaration will "encourage and support research collaboration and development of relevant technologies, to facilitate human capital development and scientific exchange, and to explore regional opportunities for sustainable marine cooperation."[3228]

On 17 October 2016, the European Commission and the United States Government signed the Implementing Arrangement for Cooperation between Researchers Funded Separately by the European Union's and the US Framework Programs on Research and Innovation. The agreement stimulates cooperation between US organizations and participants of the European Union's research and innovation program, Horizon 2020, especially in cases where US organizations are funded by the US government and do not receive funding from the Horizon 2020 program.[3229]

On 16 November 2016, the EU, the US, Canada, Germany, Italy, Denmark, Japan, Switzerland and Korea pledged over USD23 million to support technology transfer in developing countries. The additional funding to the Climate Technology Centre and Network of the United Nations Framework

[3225] 9th International Technology Transfer Conference, Center for Technology Transfer and Innovation at the Jožef Stefan Institute 21 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://tehnologije.ijs.si/9ittc/en/.

[3226] New opportunities for innovation and research with the EU's science and knowledge service, European Institute of Innovation and Technology 22 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. https://eit.europa.eu/newsroom/new-opportunities-innovation-and-research-eu%E2%80%99s-science-and-knowledge-service.

[3227] Blue Technology — transfer of innovative solutions to sea basin economies, European Cluster Collaboration Platform 30 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://www.clustercollaboration.eu/open-calls/blue-technology-transfer-innovative-solutions-sea-basin-economies.

[3228] EU and South Africa join forces to better understand the oceans and climate, European Commission 4 October 2016. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2016&na=na-041016.

[3229] EU-US agreement offers new opportunities for research cooperation, European Commission 17 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2016&na=na-171016.

Convention on Climate Change aims to deliver tailored capacity building and technical assistance at the request of developing countries.[3230]

On 26 January 2017, program the eHealth Interoperability Conformity Assessment for Europe project was launched as part of the Horizon 2020 program. It aims to assess the ability of medical organizations to share information and knowledge by means of the exchange of data between their respective IT systems.[3231]

In March 2017, the EU-Australia Leadership Forum was held in Canberra.[3232] The forum focused on issues concerning digital technologies development and included attendees from the stakeholder groups of government, development, research and the private sector representatives of both Europe and Australia.

On 24 March 2017, Erasmus University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Huawei. The memorandum aims to promote collaborations between the industry and the education sectors in China and Europe by helping industries, education institutes and research bodies move into the era of digital transformation.[3233]

On 5 April 2017, the European Aviation Safety Agency announced at the 39th ICAO Assembly its plans to establish the European Centre for Cyber Security in Aviation to promote the circulation of information on preventing cyber security related risks for civil aviation amongst relevant stakeholders.[3234]

The European Union has taken actions to promote knowledge diffusion including specific actions aimed at technology transfer. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

[3230] Countries pledge USD 23 million to support technology transfer in developing countries, Climate Technology Centre & Network (CTCN) 16 November 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/marrakech_nov_2016/application/pdf/ctcn_pr_eng.pdf.

[3231] Launch of EURO-CAS: eHealth Interoperability Takes Center Stage, Digital Health Download 22 February 2017. Access date: 6 April 2017. http://www.digitalhealthdownload.com/2017/02/launch-euro-cas-ehealth-interoperability-takes-center-sta/

[3232] Inside DFAT and EU workshops on development in the digital age, DEVEX 30 March 2017. Access date: 6 April 2017. https://www.devex.com/news/inside-dfat-and-eu-workshops-on-development-in-the-digital-age-89947

[3233] #Huawei and #ErasmusUniversity sign MoU, EU Reporter 24 March 2017. Access date: 6 April 2017. https://www.eureporter.co/frontpage/2017/03/24/huawei-and-erasmusuniversity-sign-mou/

[3234] ICAO summit prescribes cyber security approach, AirTrafficManagement.net 5 April 2017. Access date: 6 April 2017. http://www.airtrafficmanagement.net/2017/04/icao-summit-prescribes-cyber-security-approach/

14. Financial Regulation: Financial Sector Reform Agenda

"To this end, we remain committed to finalizing remaining critical elements of the regulatory framework and to the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda, including Basel III and the total-loss-absorbing-capacity (TLAC) standard as well as effective cross-border resolution regimes."

G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit

Assessment

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

Background

In 2008, at the Washington Summit, the G20 initiated "a comprehensive program of regulatory reforms to address the fault lines that caused the largest financial crisis since the Great Depression."[3235] Since that time, G20 members have made substantial progress in developing and implementing reforms aimed at improving the functioning of the global financial system. However, some critical elements of the global financial regulatory framework still need to be finalized and implemented at the national level in a full, consistent and timely manner. These remaining elements of the G20 financial agenda became a focus at the 2016 Hangzhou Summit.

Commitment Features

This commitment focuses on three areas of the global financial regulatory reform: Basel III framework, total-loss-absorbing-capacity (TLAC) standard, and effective cross-border resolution regimes.

Basel III is a comprehensive set of reform measures, developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, to strengthen the regulation, supervision and risk management of the banking sector. These

[3235] Implementation and Effects of the G20 Financial Regulatory Reforms, 31 August 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Report-on-implementation-and-effects-of-reforms.pdf.

measures aim to: improve the banking sector's ability to absorb shocks arising from financial and economic stress; improve risk management and governance; and strengthen banks' transparency and disclosures.[3236] Particular requirements under the Basel III framework are presented in the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) overview table. They include: requirements to the quality and level of capital; risk coverage requirements; introduction of liquidity coverage ratio and net stable funding ratio, as well as some additional requirements for systemically important financial institutions.[3237]

TLAC standard developed by the Financial Stability Board (FSB) aims to address the risks arising from global systemically important financial institutions (G-SIFIs). Particular features of the TLAC standard are described in the Principles on Loss-Absorbing and Recapitalization Capacity of G-SIBs in Resolution and Total Loss-Absorbing Capacity (TLAC) Term Sheet prepared by the FSB.[3238] It should be mentioned that TLAC requirements are applicable only to global systemically important banks. Thus, each G20 member should be checked for having the headquarters of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs) located on its territory before being assessed for compliance with this part of the commitment. The list of G-SIBs is regularly updated by the FSB.[3239] G20 members without G-SIBs are not assessed for compliance with this part of the commitment.

The FSB Principles for Cross-border Effectiveness of Resolution Actions published in November 2015 set out statutory and contractual mechanisms that jurisdictions should consider including in their legal frameworks to give cross-border effect to resolution actions in accordance with the Key Attributes developed one year earlier.[3240] There are nine effectiveness principles:

- Authorities should pursue a close alignment of resolution powers and tools with the FSB Key Attributes of Effective Resolution Regimes for Financial Institutions to facilitate the process of giving cross-border effect to resolution actions.
- The legal framework should confer on a domestic authority or authorities the legal capacity to give effect to foreign resolution measures.
- The legal framework for giving effect to foreign resolution measures or adopting measures to support foreign resolution actions should clearly establish: (i) the conditions for recognition, enforcement or support actions; (ii) the grounds for refusal of such actions, which should be limited; and (iii) the process for taking such actions.
- The process for giving effect to foreign resolution measures should be guided by the principle of equitable treatment of creditors.
- Processes for giving effect to foreign resolution actions should be expedited.
- The capacity to give effect to foreign resolution actions should be complemented by the necessary legal protections for authorities and their officials.
- Authorities should require, or provide incentives for, firms to adopt, where appropriate, contractual approaches to fill the gap until statutory approaches have been fully implemented and to complement

[3236] Basel III: international regulatory framework for banks. URL: http://www.bis.org/bcbs/basel3.htm.
[3237] Basel Committee on Banking Supervision reforms — Basel III. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/basel3/b3summarytable.pdf.
[3238] Principles on Loss-absorbing and Recapitalisation Capacity of G-SIBs in Resolution. 9 November 2015. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/TLAC-Principles-and-Term-Sheet-for-publication-final.pdf.
[3239] 2016 List of Global Systemically Important Banks (G-SIBs) 21 November 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-G-SIBs.pdf.
[3240] Key Attributes of Effective Resolution Regimes for Financial Institutions. 15 October 2014. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/r_141015.pdf.

such approaches by reinforcing the legal certainty and predictability of cross-border recognition under statutory frameworks that are in place.

- Contractual cross-border recognition of temporary stays on early termination rights should be framed as a contractual agreement by the parties to a financial contract to be bound by temporary stays on early termination that are imposed under the resolution regime applicable to the counterparty, subject to safeguards that are consistent with the Key Attributes.

- Capital or debt instruments that are governed by the laws of a jurisdiction other than that of the issuing entity should include legally enforceable provisions recognising a write-down, cancellation or conversion of debt instruments in resolution ('bail-in') by the relevant resolution authority if the entity enters resolution.[3241]

To fully comply with this commitment, G20 members are required to make progress in all three areas: Basel III framework, the TLAC standard and effective cross-border resolution regimes, by taking measures indicated in the respective documents of the Basel Committee and FSB. Measures taken in one or two areas mean partial compliance.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	Member does not take actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda, in the following areas: (1) Basel III, (2) the total-loss-absorbing-capacity standard (TLAC), and (3) effective cross-border resolution regimes.
0	Member takes actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in one or two of the following areas: (1) Basel III framework, (2) the TLAC standard (for countries with global systemtically important banks [G-SIBs]), and (3) effective cross-border resolution regimes.
+1	Member takes actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in all of the following areas: (1) Basel III framework, (2) the total-loss-absorbing-capacity (TLAC) standard (for countries with G-SIBs), and (3) effective cross-border resolution regimes.

Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

On 21 September 2016, the Basel Committee published "Basel III implementation assessments of Argentina" which informed that domestic implementation of the risk-based capital framework is "compliant" with the Basel standards. Ten of the 11 assessed components of the framework are assessed as compliant and one — the scope of application — is assessed as "largely compliant." Argentina is also assessed as "compliant" with the Basel liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) standards, including the LCR regulation and the LCR disclosure standards. A compliant assessment grade is the highest of the four possible grades.[3242]

Argentina is not assessed against the total-loss-absorbing-capacity requirements due to the absence of global significant system banks in the country.[3243]

[3241] Principles for Cross-border Effectiveness of Resolution Actions. 3 November 2015. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Principles-for-Cross-border-Effectiveness-of-Resolution-Actions.pdf.

[3242] Basel III implementation assessments of Argentina and Korea published by the Basel Committee, Bank for International Settlements, 21 September 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bis.org/press/p160921.htm.

[3243] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board, 21 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-G-SIBs.pdf.

Argentina has taken actions aimed at implementing Basel III framework, but no facts of effective cross-border resolution regimes implementation have been registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Angelina Khudoleeva

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with the commitment on financial sector reforms.

The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) implemented a set of reforms in line with Basel III liquidity and capital requirements. On 1 January 2015, APRA approved the Liquidity Coverage Ratios framework. In addition, APRA specified the run-off rates for banks' liabilities within a 30-day liquidity stress scenario.[3244] As for capital reforms, the APRA's application of the Basel III capital framework came into effect in Australia on 1 January 2013. In particular, APRA required deposit-taking institutions to meet its new increased capital requirements for Common equity Tier 1 capital.[3245]

According to the Financial Stability Board (FSB), there are no global systemically important banks in Australia.[3246]

Domestically, Council of Financial Regulators agencies (the Reserve Bank of Australia, the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission and the Treasury) continue to collaborate on strengthening Australia's resolution and crisis management arrangements. In October 2016, APRA reviewed and benchmarked recovery plans submitted by large authorized deposit-taking institutions, and developed its resolution planning framework, to ensure it is able to use its resolution powers when needed.[3247]

In November 2016, APRA reviewed the securitisation framework, which will enter into force in January 2018. The framework includes providing issuers with more transparency in transactions structures, making thus the securitization a more viable funding. It also goes in line with the Basel III banks requirement to hold more capital against asset-backed securities.[3248]

On 10 January 2017, APRA revoked *Prudential Standard APS 210 Liquidity* and determined new *Prudential Standard APS 210 Liquidity*. APS 210 provides for the implementation in Australia of the net stable funding ration (NSFR), a key component of the Basel III liquidity reforms designed to improve the banking system's funding resilience. The new version of APS 210 introduces the second international liquidity standard, the NSFR, which requires internationally active authorised deposit-taking instittions (ADIs) to hold a minimum level of stable funding in relation to on- and off-balance sheet activities. By holding stable funding, the risk to an ADI's funding sources and in the event of a crisis will be minimised thereby helping to reduce the risk of failure and broader financial system instability. APS 210 also incorporates by reference the Basel III leverage ratio framework and disclosure requirements as set out by

[3244] Financial Stability Review – March 2015, Reserve Bank of Australia. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.rba.gov.au/publications/fsr/2015/mar/box-a.html.
[3245] Financial Stability Review – September 2013, Reserve Bank of Australia. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.rba.gov.au/publications/fsr/2013/sep/box-b.html.
[3246] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-G-SIBs.pdf.
[3247] Financial Stability Review – October 2016, Reserve Bank of Australia. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.rba.gov.au/publications/fsr/2016/oct/dev-fin-sys-arch.html.
[3248] Financial Stability Review APRIL 2017, Reserve Bank of Australia (Canberra) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 15 April 2017. http://www.rba.gov.au/publications/fsr/2017/apr/pdf/financial-stability-review-2017-04.pdf

the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision in *Basel III leverage ratio framework and disclosure requirements.*[3249]

On 12 April 2017, the Reserve Bank of Australia announced that APRA's crisis management powers and resolution regime for financial market infrastructure are expected to be introduced into parliament over 2017.[3250]

Australia has made efforts aimed at implementing reforms in financial sector regulation in all three areas. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ildar Khalilyulin

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

On 19 October 2016, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision informed that Brazil had completed the adoption of capital definition and requirements to capital conservation buffer, countercyclical buffer, liquidity coverage ratio (LCR), LCR disclosure requirements, leverage ratio disclosure requirements, global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), G-SIBs requirements (there are no G-SIBs in Brazil, although some banks fall under the public disclosure framework), and domestic systemically important banks requirements. In contrast, the adoption of margin requirements for non-centrally cleared derivatives has not started yet.[3251]

On 19 April 2017, the Financial Stability board issed a peer review of Brasil to assess its cross border resolution regime. The review states that significant progress has been made in recent years on the topics covered by the peer review. It also says that "Brazil stands out among its FSB peers for the pioneering work it has carried out on trade reporting and its use in systemic risk monitoring." The regulatory and supervisory framework for investment funds has been strengthened, while regular monitoring of liquidity risk in the sector is underway.[3252]

Brazil has taken actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in the area of Basel III framework and effective cross-border resolution regimes. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sofia Streltsova

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment on financial regulation

On 9 September 2016, new Capital Adequacy Requirements Guideline which provides a "framework for assessing the capital adequacy of federally regulated deposit-taking institutions" was issued in Canada. The guideline is based on requirements agreed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision.[3253]

[3249] Bank (prudential standard) determination No. 1 of 2017 – Prudential Standard APS 210 Liquidity, Federal Register of Legislation (Canberra) 10 January 2017. Access Date: 6 July 2017. https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2017L00047/Explanatory%20Statement/Text

[3250] Financial Stability Review APRIL 2017, Reserve Bank of Australia (Canberra) 12 April 2017. Access Date: 15 April 2017. http://www.rba.gov.au/publications/fsr/2017/apr/pdf/financial-stability-review-2017-04.pdf

[3251] Eleventh progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 28 December 2016. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d388.htm.

[3252] Financial Stability Board's Peer Review of Brazil, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 19 April 2017. Access Date: 22 June 2017. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Brazil-peer-review-report.pdf

[3253] Capital Adequacy Requirements Guideline, Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (Ottawa). Access Date: 23 November 2016. http://www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/eng/osfi-bsif/med/Pages/CAR17_nr20160906.aspx.

According to the 11th progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework, Canada has successfully introduced measures in the spheres of definition of capital, capital conservation buffer, margin requirements for non-centrally cleared derivatives, liquidity coverage ratio (LCR), LCR disclosure requirements and domestic requirements.[3254]

According to the 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs) published by the Financial Stability Board (FSB), Canada has no G-SIB.[3255] However, additional supervisory expectations and disclosure obligations are in effect for this type of bank.[3256]

On 22 March 2017, Canada's national budget was released. To further strengthen Canada's bank resolution regime, the government introduced legislative amendments to:

- Formally designate Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation as the resolution authority for its members and require Canada's biggest banks to develop and submit resolution plans.
- Clarify the treatment of, and protections for, eligible financial contracts—such as derivatives—in a bank resolution process.
- Reinforce the Superintendent of Financial Institutions' powers to set and administer the requirement for systemically important banks to maintain a minimum capacity to absorb losses in a resolution.[3257]

Canada has taken actions aimed at implementing Basel III framework and providing effective cross-border resolution regimes. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

China: 0

China has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

On 13 September 2016, Chair of China Bnking Regulatory Commission (CBRC) Shang Fulin pointed out that risk prevention should be strengthened to guard the financial stability and Chinese banks must enhance risk control, and adopt multiple measures to resolve NPAs and improve risk absorbing capacity.[3258]

On 30 September 2016, the CBRC issued the Guidelines on Comprehensive Risk Management of Banking Institutions to improve the comprehensive risk management capability of banking institutions, and to guide them in better serving the real economy.[3259]

Chinese global systemically important banks include Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Limited, Agricultural Bank of China, Bank of China and China Construction Bank.[3260]

[3254] Eleventh progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d388.pdf.
[3255] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board (Basel). Access Date: 23 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/2016/11/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-g-sibs/.
[3256] Eleventh progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 11 January 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d388.pdf .
[3257] Budget plan of Canada, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 22 March 2017. Access Date: 19 June 2017. http://www.budget.gc.ca/2017/docs/plan/chap-01-en.html#Toc477707342
[3258] Chairman Shang Fulin Attended the Second Meeting of the Seventh General Conference of China Banking Association, China Bank Regulatory Commission (Beijin) 14 September 2016. Access Date: 08 January 2017. http://www.cbrc.gov.cn/EngdocView.do?docID=30E3716CE58F4DD0B1FD8A15CEE51212.
[3259] The CBRC Issued the Guidelines on Comprehensive Risk Management of Banking Institutions, China Bank (Beijin) Regulatory Comission 30 September 2016. Access Date: 08 January 2017.http://www.cbrc.gov.cn/EngdocView.do?docID=4B659527B7C744989B170DD502B40A85.

On 18 December 2015, the CBRC stated that Chinese global systemically important banks should comply with capital requirements other than possession of a particular form of qualified debt instruments to increase the total loss absorption capacity and to meet the new total-loss-absorbing-capacity (TLAC) requirements. The new total loss absorptive capacity standards will be progressively implemented from 1 January 2019.[3261]

On 25 January 2017, the CBRC issued the Guidelines on Regulating the Banking Industry in Serving Enterprises' Overseas Development and Strengthening Risk Control. It is divided into 7 parts, among which are: Country Risk Management, Credit Risk Management Environmental and Social Risk Management and Compliance Risk Management. The Guidelines contain guidance on credit risk management of banking institutions including independent loan examining, guarantee management, post-loan management, credit granting and reasonable risk sharing.[3262]

On 1 March 2017, the CBRC issued the Notice on Certain Businesses Conducted by Foreign Banks. This document allows foreign banks to issue bonds in overseas markets and invest in domestic banking institutions. The Notice requires foreign banks to strengthen compliance and risk management in the above-mentioned business.[3263]

China has taken actions aimed at the implementation of Basel III framework and the total-loss-absorbing-capacity standard, but no facts of effective cross-border resolution regimes implementation have been registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Kirill Gribkov

France: 0

France has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

On 23 September 2016, French Finance Minister Michel Sapin together with German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble, warned against the introduction of new rules that would force banks to reserve more capital, saying this could "choke off private lending and hurt growth prospects." Minister Sapin said it was critical that new Basel III rules did not put European banks at a disadvantage and both governments were "preoccupied" with the rules currently being discussed under Basel III. "Today the issue is to have enough capacity to finance the real economy and companies, and we shouldn't hamper them on this," Mr. Sapin added.[3264]

On 16 October 2016, it was announced that the French Government opposed the total loss absorbing capacity (TLAC) rules being developed by the European Union. As drafted, the rule would cover a total

[3260] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board (Basel). Access Date: 28 December 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-G-SIBs.pdf.

[3261] China Construction Bank was included to the Global Systemic Important Bank list, China Bank Regulatory Comission (Beijing) 18 December 2015. Access Date: 8 January 2017. http://www.cbrc.gov.cn/chinese/home/docView/5FABDD50F29543409B727D8880D14BE1.html.

[3262] The CBRC Issued Guidelines on Regulating the Banking Industry in Serving Enterprises' Overseas Development and Strengthening Risk Control, China Bank Regulatory Commission (Beijing) 25 January 2017. Access Date: 7 May 2017 http://www.cbrc.gov.cn/EngdocView.do?docID=610CEA9C986A48338C25AF2B98CD44F1

[3263] The CBRC Issued the Notice on Certain Businesses Conducted by Foreign Banks, China Bank Regulatory Commission (Beijing) 1 March 2017 Access Date: 07 May 2017 http://www.cbrc.gov.cn/EngdocView.do?docID=4C54EC5DA3E84447A08398DE75EFD567

[3264] France, Germany warn against stricter capital rules for banks, Reuters (Paris) 23 September 2016. Access Date: 6 December 2016 http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-germany-france-economy-idUKKCN11T1PJ of 13 EU lenders, including BNP Paribas, Société Générale, Crédit Agricole and Groupe BPCE from France. The standard is set to fully apply from January 2022.[3265]

No French actions in the area of effective cross-border resolution regimes have been registered during the compliance period.

On 22 November 2016, the report "French Banks: well positioned to meet regulatory requirements" was published. According to it, the French government is expected by the end of the year to sign into law legislation that would allow banks to issue non-preferred senior unsecured debt. This new class of debt would be explicitly bail-inable in resolution and eligible for meeting TLAC requirements. Existing senior unsecured debt would be granted preference and rank above in the creditor hierarchy.[3266] No further information on the relevant actions has been registered.

On 25 November 2016, the Board members of the European Banking Federation emphasized their commitment to responsibly financing households and businesses in the European economy. Addressing the upcoming talks in the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, the Board called on the committee to respect the G20 mandate for additional capital requirements, which should not have a significant impact in any region, including Europe. Federation members also invited the committee to respect the global playing field in banking by considering the variety of banking models in Europe.[3267]

On 20 January 2017, BPCE, France's second-largest retail bank, became the first lender to sell a new kind of debt in Japanese yen, as part of a rush of issuance to comply with global rules for financial institutions. The sale (USD1.24 billion) is the largest bond issued by a French bank in yen. TLAC bonds take losses if an institution fails, protecting depositors and avoiding taxpayer bailouts.[3268]

On 1 March 2017, BNP Paribas became the first bank to sell senior bonds in Singapore dollars under TLAC requirements. France introduced a new class of senior non-preferred bonds, which rank below the old-style senior notes (now called senior preferred bonds) in the capital structure and could be called upon to absorb losses in a crisis.[3269]

France has taken actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in two following areas: the Basel III framework and the TLAC standard. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Mark Rakhmangulov and Anastasia Polovko

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

[3265] French plot revolt over new European rules for failing banks, Financial Times (London). Access Date: 6 December 2016. https://www.ft.com/content/ac8563e2-937a-11e6-a1dc-bdf38d484582

[3266] French Banks: Well Positioned to Meet Regulatory Requirements, Scope (Paris) 22 November 2016. Access Date: 6 December 2016. https://www.scoperatings.com/study/download?id=3b34f6c7-703b-4f9f-936c-fdb33f2b3e95&q=1

[3267] EBF asks Basel Committee to respect G20 mandate, EBF BOARD COMMUNIQUÉ (Paris) 25 November 2016. Access Date: 5 December 2016 http://www.fbf.fr/en/files/AG2LV5/EBF per cent20- per cent20Board per cent20Communique per cent20- per cent20Brussels per cent20- per cent20November per cent202016.pdf

[3268] France's BPCE sells new kind of bank debt to Japanese, Financial Times (London) 20 January 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2017. https://www.ft.com/content/43291d78-df22-11e6-86ac-f253db7791c6

[3269] Review: BNP Paribas prices first S$ TLAC bonds, Nasdaq (New York) 1 March 2017. Access Date: 1 March 2017. http://www.nasdaq.com/article/review-bnp-paribas-prices-first-s-tlac-bonds-20170301-00172#ixzz4aUCt8XYr

On 29 September 2016, the Federal Bank published a report on the implementation of Basel's requirements in German banking system by 31 December 2015. There is a progress, but institutions need to continue working on their profitability and business models.[3270]

On 11 October 2016, a working group on cyber security in the financial sector, in which German representatives participated, prepared a report with eight basic elements. They are recommended to the financial sector in the G7 countries as a basic guarantee to protect their consumers, institutions, data and infrastructure. It is an important measure to make financial operations safer and more effective.[3271]

On 18 November 2016, Bundesbank Executive Board member Andreas Dombret expressed the position of German Federal Bank on Basel's III requirements. He said that Germany would defend the right of the banks to use internal risk models, because they may be more effective. Dombret also emphasized the importance of international agreements such as Basel III and he expressed the hope that negotiations would continue.[3272]

On 30 November 2016, the list of the institutions was published by the Federal Financial Supervisory Authority. The identified institutes are referred to so-called other system-relevant institutes (A-SRI), what is an extended version of the list of the globally system-relevant institutes (G-SRI). From 1 January 2017 selected German banks will be required to provide more equity within the scope of so-called capital buffers. It is intended to enable the institutes to better absorb possible losses in the future.[3273]

On 2 December 2016, the Bundestag adopted a new law with numerous instruments to prevent a bank from bankruptcy. If such a case occurs, the costs will ultimately be borne through the European Settlement Fund. This also applies to large and international banks and especially to Deutsche Bank, a G-SRI bank.[3274]

Germany has taken actions aimed at the implementation of Basel III framework, the total-loss-absorbing-capacity standard, and effective cross-border resolution regimes. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Nekrasova

India: +1

India has fully complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

[3270] Ergebnisse des Basel III-Monitoring für deutsche Institute zum Stichtag 31 December 2015, Federal Bank (Berlin) 29 September 2016. Access Date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bundesbank.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/BBK/2016/2016_09_29_basel_3.html.

[3271] Grundelemente zur Cyber-Sicherheit, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 11 October 2016. Access Date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Internationales_Finanzmarkt/Internationale_Finanzpolitik/2016-10-11-Cyber-Sicherheit.html.

[3272] Dombret outlines demands ahead of Basel negotiations, Federal Bank (Berlin) 18 November 2016. Access Date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bundesbank.de/Redaktion/EN/Topics/2016/2016_11_18_dombret_euro_finance_week.html?startpageId=Startseite-EN&startpageAreaId=Teaserbereich&startpageLinkName=2016_11_18_dombret_euro_finance_week+384218

[3273] Kapitalzuschläge für systemrelevante Banken in Deutschland, Federal Bank (Berlin) 30 November 2016. Access Date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bundesbank.de/Redaktion/DE/Themen/2016/2016_11_30_kapitalzuschlaege_systemrelevante_banken.html?startpageId=Startseite-DE&startpageAreaId=Teaserbereich&startpageLinkName=2016_11_30_kapitalzuschlaege_systemrelevante_banken+371328.

[3274] Ergebnisse des Basel III-Monitoring für deutsche Institute zum Stichtag 31. Dezember 2015, Federal Bank (Berlin) 29 September 2016. Access Date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bundesbank.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/BBK/2016/2016_09_29_basel_3.html.

On 21 September 2016, Department of Economic Affairs of the Indian Ministry of Finance presented the Report of Committee to Draft Code on Resolution of Financial Firms. According to this Report, actions taken by Indian government are performed in accordance with the Financial Stability Board's Principles for Cross-border Effectiveness of Resolution Actions.[3275]

On 25 December 2014, Indian Government announced "Indradhanush" — plan to revamp public sector banks and as part of that, a program of capitalization to ensure that PSBs remain Basel III complaint was also announced, worth INR700 billion (USD10.4 billion) and supposed to be provided between 2015 and 2019.[3276] According to the analysis carried out by Fitch, Indian banks will require around USD90 billion in new capital by financial year 19 (FY19) to meet Basel III standards. Banks are heavily dependent on the government in raising new capital due to the poor conditions for asset quality. Indian government had previously earmarked USD10.4 billion for capital injections into the state banks through to FY19, and USD3.4 billion have been already frontloaded.[3277]

According to the Financial Service Board's 2016 list of global systemically important banks, there are no global systemically important banks in India.[3278]

On 1 March 2017, the state-owned Bank of India raised about USD146 million "on a private placement basis by issuing additional tier-I bonds that are compliant with globally accepted Basel III standards." This issuance will align full implementation of Basel III in India closer to the internationally agreed date of 1 January 2019.[3279]

India has taken actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the Basel III framework and effective cross-border resolution regimes. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Evgeny Tsarik

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

Introduction of the Basel III framework in Indonesia has been underway since 2014 with full compliance planned by 2019, e.g., formal implementation of liquidity coverage ratio started in Indonesia in January 2016.[3280] However, it is reported that "banks desire more guidance on how to implement the liquidity requirements, the use of the foundation and advanced internal rating based approach and the exact timeline of the Basel III requirements."[3281]

[3275] Report of Committee to Draft Code on Resolution of Financial Firms, Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 21 September 2016. Access Date: 16 December 2016. http://finmin.nic.in/fslrc/report_rc_sept21.pdf.
[3276] Outcome Budget 2016-2017, Ministry of Finance of the Republic of India (New Delhi) 31 December 2015. Access Date: 26 December 2016. http://finmin.nic.in/reports/OutcomeBudget2016_17.pdf.
[3277] Indian banks require nearly Rs 6 lakh crore to meet Basel III norms: Fitch, Z Business 12 September 2016. Access date: 19 December 2016. http://www.zeebiz.com/companies/news-indian-banks-require-nearly-rs-6-lakh-crore-to-meet-basel-iii-norms-fitch-6006.
[3278] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Service Board (Berlin) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 16 December 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-G-SIBs.pdf.
[3279] Bank of India to raise Rs 1000 cr to comply Basel III norms, DNA (New Delhi) 1 March 2017. Access Date: 7 April 2017. http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report-bank-of-india-to-raise-rs-1000-cr-to-comply-basel-iii-norms-2339421
[3280] Regulatory trends in Indonesia, Wolters Kluwer 2 March 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. https://www.wolterskluwerfs.com/onesumx/commentary/regulatory-trends-in-indonesia-2016.aspx
[3281] Ibid.

At the same time it is also assessed that Indonesia belongs to the group of economies, whose banks are "well positioned to meet the Basel III minima for implementation in 2019."[3282]

In December 2016, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) presented results of the formal assessment of implementation in Indonesia of the Basel III frameworks for risk-based capital regulations[3283] and liquidity coverage ratio regulations.[3284]

As for risk-based capital regulations in Indonesia, the BCBS notes amendments made by the Indonesia Financial Services Authority (OJK) to the national regulation between July and September 2016, which significantly improved the level of compliance of Indonesia's risk-based capital regulations with the Basel minimum standards. Six of the underlying components of the Basel risk-based capital framework, namely "scope of application," "minimum capital requirements," "counterparty credit risk," "operational risk," "Pillar 2" and "Pillar 3," are assessed as compliant in Indonesia. The components of "definition of capital," "securitization," "market risk" and "capital buffers" are assessed as largely compliant, while "credit risk" component is assessed as materially non-compliant.

No Indonesian banks are on the Financial Stability Board's (FSB) 2016 list of global systemically important banks,[3285] which means total loss-absorbing capacity (TLAC) standard related part of the commitment is not applicable to Indonesia.

Indonesia has reached slight progress on Principle 1 of the Principles for Cross-border Effectiveness of Resolution Actions — "Authorities should pursue a close alignment of resolution powers and tools with the FSB Key Attributes of Effective Resolution Regimes for Financial Institutions to facilitate the process of giving cross-border effect to resolution actions."[3286] As reported in the Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes,[3287] Indonesia found itself among ten FSB jurisdictions that have introduced four or fewer of the required resolution powers in accordance with the FSB Key Attributes of Effective Resolution Regimes for Financial Institutions.

No evidence was found that during the compliance period Indonesia took any additional steps to ensure compliance of its cross-border resolution regime with the Principles for Cross-border Effectiveness of Resolution Actions. However, as suggested by the Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes, Indonesia reports to FSB it has ongoing or planned reforms to the resolution regime (reforms under discussion and drafting — introduction of additional resolution powers, including bail-in and bridge bank, introduction of a recovery and resolution planning requirements, including resolvability assessments), although the timelines for their implementation are not generally known.[3288] This is supported with OJK's Indonesian Financial Services Sector Master Plan for 2015-2019, which, among

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[3282] Why Asian Banks are Well Positioned for Basel III, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (San Francisco) 23 November 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.frbsf.org/banking/asia-program/pacific-exchange-blog/why-asian-banks-are-well-positioned-for-basel-iii/

[3283] Regulatory Consistency Assessment Programme (RCAP). Assessment of Basel III risk-based capital regulations – Indonesia, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) December 2016. Access Date: 17 April 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d394.pdf

[3284] Regulatory Consistency Assessment Programme (RCAP). Assessment of Basel III LCR regulations – Indonesia, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) December 2016. Access date: 17 April 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d393.pdf

[3285] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board (Basel) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 27 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-G-SIBs.pdf

[3286] FSB Principles for Cross-border Effectiveness of Resolution Actions, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 3 November 2015. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Principles-for-Cross-border-Effectiveness-of-Resolution-Actions.pdf

[3287] Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes, Financial Stability Board (Basel) March 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Second-peer-review-report-on-resolution-regimes.pdf

[3288] Ibid.

other things, mentions the ambition to improve the resolution mechanism, recovery and resolution planning in Indonesia.[3289]

During the compliance period, Indonesia has reached substantial progress on Basel III, while the TLAC standard related part of the commitment is not applicable to Indonesia and no actions on cross-border resolution regimes were taken. Thus, it recieves a score of 0.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

On 20 December 2016, Senior Deputy Governor of the Bank of Italy and President of the Italian Insurance Supervisory Authority (Istituto per la vigilanza sulle assicurazioni or IVASS) Salvatore Rossi made a statement to the Parliamentary Commission, pointing out that the need to simplify the banking, financial, insurance systems and make them more transparent and costumer-oriented. He also declared that failures of banks and insurance companies cannot be avoided but can be minimized.[3290]

On 30 December 2016, the Bank of Italy has identified the UniCredit banking group as a global systemically important institution (G-SII) authorized to operate in Italy. The UniCredit group is required to maintain a capital buffer equal to 0.50 per cent of its total risk exposure from 1 January 2017. The buffer must be increased annually by 0.25 per cent of total risk exposure to reach one per cent no later than 1 January 2019. The decision was taken pursuant to Bank of Italy Circular No. 285/2013 on prudential regulations for banks, on which the methodology for identifying the G-SIIs is based.[3291]

Italy has taken actions in the sphere of regulating G-SIBs and Basel III requirements, but no facts of effective cross-border resolution regimes implementation have been registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Maria Strelnikova

Japan: +1

Japan has complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) recognized Japan's regulatory framework for implementing the Basel III as compliant with the Basel standards as early as in 2012.[3292] Moreover, in June 2016 it was also reported by the BCBS that "G-SIB [global systemically important bank] framework in Japan is assessed as compliant with the Basel G-SIB framework."[3293] These facts imply that the Basel III related part of the commitment does not apply to Japan.

[3289] Indonesian Financial Services Sector Master Plan for 2015-2019, Indonesia Financial Services Authority (Jakarta) January 2016. Access Date: 17 April 2017. http://www.ojk.go.id/en/berita-dan-kegiatan/publikasi/Documents/Pages/Indonesian-Financial-Services-Sector-Master-Plan-2015-2019/MPSJKI%20OJK%20Final_Eng.pdf

[3290] Investigation into simplification and transparency in relations with users in the financial, banking and insurance sectors, Bank of Italy (Rome) 20 December 2016. Access Date: 4 January 2017. https://www.bancaditalia.it/pubblicazioni/interventi-direttorio/int-dir-2016/en_Rossi_20122016.pdf?language_id=1.

[3291] Identification of UniCredit banking group as a global systemically important institution (G-SII) in 2016, Banca D'Italia (Rome) 30 December 2015. Access Date: 27 December 2016. https://www.bancaditalia.it/compiti/stabilita-finanziaria/politica-macroprudenziale/documenti/en_GSII_2016_Comunicato.pdf?language_id=1.

[3292] Basel III regulatory consistency assessment (Level 2) – Japan, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) October 2012. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/implementation/l2_jp.pdf

[3293] Regulatory Consistency Assessment Programme (RCAP). Assessment of Basel III G-SIB framework and review of D-SIB frameworks – Japan, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) June 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d371.pdf

Japanese Mitsubishi UFJ FG, Mizuho FG, Sumitomo Mitsui FG are on the Financial Stability Board's 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs),[3294] which means total loss-absorbing capacity (TLAC) standard related part of the commitment applies to Japan. The measures referring to the TLAC standard implementation have been introduced in Japan before the start of the compliance period and will remain relevant throughout the entire compliance period and beyond.

On 15 April 2016, Japan's Financial Services Agency published its approach to implement the TLAC framework throughout 2016–2019.[3295] This guidance calls for Japan's G-SIBs to hold a minimum TLAC of 16 per cent of risk-weighted assets and have a Basel III leverage of 6 per cent by the end of March 2019, rising to per cent and 6.75 per cent in March 2022. The framework also notes that resolution should take place through a single point of entry, with any losses expected to be absorbed by the banks' holding companies.

Fitch Ratings believes Japan's mega banking groups will meet their minimum requirement for TLAC by the 2019 deadline set by the Financial Stability Board (FSB) through managed growth, earnings retention and/or issuance of TLAC-eligible securities.[3296] The banks' holding companies issued a combined USD15 billion in TLAC senior debt in 2016, and it is estimated that at least another USD22 billion could be issued domestically or overseas by 2019, while by 2022 the issuance could approach USD59 billion.[3297]

Japan has taken several steps on the Basel III and the TLAC standard and on enhancing the effectiveness of cross-border resolution regime prior but relevant to the compliance period. Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Korea: 0

Korea has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

In September 2016, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision issued reports on assessment of the Basel III risk-based capital regulations and liquidity coverage ratio regulations in Korea.[3298,3299] The reports suggest that implementation of the risk-based capital regulatory framework is "largely compliant" with the Basel III. Specifically, 12 of the 14 components of the framework are assessed as compliant, while the remaining "definition of capital" and "transitional arrangements" components are assessed as "largely compliant" (second-highest grade) and "materially non-compliant." With respect to liquidity coverage ratio, implementation of this regulatory framework in Korea is found compliant with the Basel III.

[3294] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board (Basel) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 27 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-G-SIBs.pdf

[3295] The FSA's Approach to Introduce the TLAC Framework, Japan's Financial Services (Tokyo) Agency 15 April 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.fsa.go.jp/en/news/2016/20160415-1/01.pdf

[3296] Fitch: Japan's Mega Banks on Track to Fulfil TLAC // Reuters (Tokyo(19 May 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSFit958350

[3297] Fitch: Japan's Mega Banks on Track to Fulfil TLAC // Reuters (Tokyo(19 May 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSFit958350

[3298] Regulatory Consistency Assessment Programme (RCAP). Assessment of Basel III risk-based capital regulations – Korea, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) September 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d380.pdf

[3299] Regulatory Consistency Assessment Programme (RCAP). Assessment of Basel III LCR regulations – Korea, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) September 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d379.pdf

No Korean banks are on the Financial Stability Board's (FSB) 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), which means total loss-absorbing capacity (TLAC) standard related part of the commitment is not applicable to Korea.[3300]

Korea has reached considerable progress on Principle 1 of the Principles for Cross-border Effectiveness of Resolution Actions — "Authorities should pursue a close alignment of resolution powers and tools with the FSB Key Attributes of Effective Resolution Regimes for Financial Institutions to facilitate the process of giving cross-border effect to resolution actions."[3301] As reported in the Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes, Korea has introduced all but two resolution powers in accordance with the FSB Key Attributes of Effective Resolution Regimes for Financial Institutions.[3302] Continuity powers and bail-in remain lacking, according to the Review.

No evidence was found that during the compliance period Korea took any additional steps to ensure compliance of its cross-border resolution regime with the Principles for Cross-border Effectiveness of Resolution Actions. However, as suggested by the Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes, Korea reports to FSB it has ongoing or planned reforms to the resolution regime (reforms submitted for consideration — introduction of bail-in power and temporary stay power, introduction of a recovery and resolution planning regime, including resolvability assessments and resolution plans), although the timelines for their implementation are not generally known.[3303]

Korea has taken several steps to implement the Basel III but has not taken significant steps on enhancing the effectiveness of Korea's cross-border resolution regime while the TLAC standard related part of the commitment is not applicable to Korea.Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

According to the Eleventh progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework published by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision in October 2016, Mexico has to implement a number of the Basel III requirements in short-term perspective, namely: capital requirements for equity investments in funds (deadline: January 2017); capital requirements for Central Counterparties (CCPs) (deadline: January 2017), and some others.[3304]

On 7 September 2016, the Bank of México, CNBV and US Commodity Futures Trading Commission signed a cooperation agreement to exchange information on derivatives transactions between the US and Mexico as well as strengthen a supervision of institutions that act as central derivatives counterparties. The

[3300] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board (Basel) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 27 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-G-SIBs.pdf

[3301] FSB Principles for Cross-border Effectiveness of Resolution Actions, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 3 November 2015. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Principles-for-Cross-border-Effectiveness-of-Resolution-Actions.pdf

[3302] Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes, Financial Stability Board (Basel) March 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Second-peer-review-report-on-resolution-regimes.pdf

[3303] Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes, Financial Stability Board (Basel) March 2016. Access Date: 28 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Second-peer-review-report-on-resolution-regimes.pdf

[3304] Eleventh progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) Access Date: 23 November 2016. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d388.pdf.

agreement is in line with the Mexican financial sector reforms aimed at promoting derivatives market transparency and liquidity as well as advancing supervision.[3305]

On 2 December 2016, the Mexican National Banking and Securities Commission (CNBV) published the information of the third quarter of 2016 on liquidity coverage ratio of 44 banking institutions. During the period from July to September 2016 all Mexican commercial banks complied with this requirement, according to the CNBV data.[3306]

According to the 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs) published by the Financial Stability Board (FSB) on 21 November 2016,[3307] Mexico has none.

According to the Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA) in January 2016,[3308] Mexico is on the way to adapt its resolution regime to the FSB requirements.

On 1 January 2017, the Amendment to Section IV of Article 2 Bis 67 of the Mexican General Provisions for Credit Institutions came into force introducing new methodology to calculate the capital requirements for credit risk to make it more competible with Basel requirements.[3309]

On 6 January 2017, the CNBV published amendments to its prudential banking rules regarding ratings and capitalisation. The revisions included in particular new dimensions of risk at customer level, such as level of indebtedness, system-wide payment behavior etc.[3310] Thus, according to the Amendments, the Mexican banking institutions should present for the first time their updated contingency plans in March 2018.[3311]

Mexico has taken actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in Basel III framework, but no facts of effective cross-border resolution regimes implementation have been registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

According to the Action Plan (Road Map) on the Key Measures for the Development of the Financial Market of the Russian Federation in 2016-2018, in 2016 the Central Bank of Russia elaborated the Bank

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[3305] Comunicado Conjunto. Firman Banxico, CNBV y la CFTC de Estados Unidos acuerdo de cooperación e intercambio de información. http://www.gob.mx/cnbv/prensa/comunicado-conjunto-firman-banxico-cnbv-y-la-cftc-de-estados-unidos-acuerdo-de-cooperacion-e-intercambio-de-informacion?idiom=es.
[3306] 97-2016 Nivel promedio del Coeficiente de Cobertura de Liquidez (CCL) de las 44 instituciones de banca multiple, Mexican Government (Mexico City) 2016. http://www.gob.mx/cnbv/prensa/97-2016-nivel-promedio-del-coeficiente-de-cobertura-de-liquidez-ccl-de-las-44-instituciones-de-banca-multiple?idiom=es.
[3307] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board (Basel). Access Date: 23 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/2016/11/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-g-sibs/.
[3308] Resolution regimes in Latin America, BBVA Research (Mexico City). Access Date: 25 November 2016. https://www.bbvaresearch.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Analisis-LATAM1.pdf.
[3309] Disposiciones De Carácter General Aplicables A Las Instituciones De Crédito, Mexican Government (Mexico City). Access Date: 1 April 2017. http://www.cnbv.gob.mx/Normatividad/Disposiciones%20de%20car%C3%A1cter%20general%20aplicables%20a%20las%20instituciones%20de%20cr%C3%A9dito.pdf.
[3310] Monthly Report on Banking and the Financial System, BBVA Research (Mexico City) 20 February 2017. Access Date:: 1 April 2017. https://www.bbvaresearch.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/170220_MensualBancaMexico_Feb17_eng.pdf.
[3311] Disposiciones De Carácter General Aplicables A Las Instituciones De Crédito, Mexican Government (Mexico City). Access Date: 1 April 2017. http://www.cnbv.gob.mx/Normatividad/Disposiciones%20de%20car%C3%A1cter%20general%20aplicables%20a%20las%20instituciones%20de%20cr%C3%A9dito.pdf.

of Russia Regulation "On Calculation of the Net Stable Funding Ratio (Basel III)" for "implementing internationally recognised approaches to the regulation of the banking sector in Russian law in full with due regard for the timeframes for their phased implementation stipulated by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision." To clarify the approaches to calculating equity of credit institutions to prevent any sources of fictitious capital from being included in the calculation of equity it published the Bank of Russia Ordinance "On Amending Bank of Russia Regulation No. 395-P," dated 28 December 2012, "On the Methodology for Measuring Bank Capital and Assessing its Adequacy (Basel III)," aimed at preventing any sources of fictitious capital from being included in the calculation of equity.[3312]

Russia has taken actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in the area of Basel III framework but no Russian actions in the area of effective cross-border resolution regimes have been registered during the compliance period. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

On 16 September 2016, Moody's published information that Saudi Arabia has complied with Basel III and introduced liquidity coverage ratios.[3313]

On 26 September 2016, the G20 published "Growth Strategy Saudi Arabia." It notes that Saudi banks were among the first international banks which met the Basel III capital, liquidity and leverage standards. The Saudi Arabia Monetary Agency set up a dashboard of early warning indicators and a high-level Financial Stability Committee which will facilitate the monitoring of financial sector risks.[3314]

On 1 October 2016, the International Monetary Fund noted that Saudi banks already comply with the Basel III standards that international banks are to comply with by 2019.[3315]

There are no global systemically important banks in Saudi Arabia according to the Financial Stability Board (FSB).[3316]

In 2016, the Financial Stability Board (FSB) published the Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes which states that Saudi Arabia has no specific resolution regime and that the country has ongoing or planned reforms to its resolution regime. The Saudi Arabia Monetary Agency has broadly-framed but far-reaching supervisory powers which have been used to prevent bank failures through managed sales and mergers or dilution of shareholders through recapitalization.[3317]

In 2016 the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency leaded the national process of issuing a new Resolution Law, which was undergoing the formal legislative approval process. This law will apply to all financial

[3312] 2016 Action Plan (Road Map) of the Bank of Russia for Implementing the Guidelines for the Development of the Russian Financial Market in 2016–2018, Central Bank of the Russian Federation (Moscow). http://www.cbr.ru/eng/finmarkets/files/development/map-2016_e.pdf

[3313] LCRs of Islamic lenders in Qatar comparable to conventional peers, Islamic Finance 16 September 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://www.islamicfinance.de/?q=node/9651.

[3314] 2016 Growth Strategy Saudi Arabia, G20 Official Website 26 September 2016. Access Date: 29 November 2016. http://g20.org/English/Documents/201609/P020160926605531911938.pdf.

[3315] Saudi Arabia Selected Issues, IMF Country Report No. 16/327 October 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2016/cr16327.pdf.

[3316] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board 21 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-G-SIBs.pdf.

[3317] Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 18 March 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Second-peer-review-report-on-resolution-regimes.pdf.

institutions, including banks, finance companies and insurance companies. For all these institutions, the Key Attributes will be implemented, so that Saudi Arabia's resolution regime is not only applicable to systemically important financial institutions, but also to smaller financial institutions.[3318]

In March 2017, the Bank of International Settlements published self-reporting based assessment of Saudi Arabia's post Regulatory Consistency Assessment Programme follow-up actions on Basel III, which assessed Saudi Arabia as compliant for the implementation of risk-based capital requirements (but for one remaining potentially material finding in the risk-based capital report related to the application of the 0 per cent risk weight for Gulf Cooperation Council countries exposures) and largely compliant for liquidity coverage ratios (as certain conditions for high quality liquid assets were not completely fulfilled).[3319]

Saudi Arabia has taken actions in accordance with Basel III requirements and improved its cross-border resolution regime. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

According to the 11th progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework, South Africa has finalized the work on the issues of definition of capital (in force since January 2013), Capital conservation buffer (in force since January 2016), countercyclical buffer (in force since January 2016), liquidity coverage ratio (amended in 2015), disclosure requirements (amended in 2015), Leverage ratio disclosure requirements (in force since January 2015) and domestic requirements (in force since January 2016).[3320]

On 13 August 2015, the National Treasury, the South African Reserve Bank and the Financial Services Board published for public comment a discussion document "Strengthening South Africa's Resolution Framework for Financial Institutions," which contains information about cross-border issues.[3321] The document is still under discussion.[3322]

On 25-26 October 2016, the South African Reserve Bank hosted the tenth meeting of the Financial Stability Board (FSB) Regional Consultative Group for Sub-Saharan Africa in Cape Town, South Africa. At the meeting promoting full, timely and consistent implementation of the international financial

[3318] Financial Stability Report, Saudi Arabia Monetary Agency (Riyadh) 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://www.sama.gov.sa/en-US/EconomicReports/Financial per cent20Stability per cent20Report/Financial per cent20Stablity per cent20Report per cent202016_en.pdf.
[3319] RCAP jurisdictional assessments – self-reporting monitoring template for RCAP follow-up actions (Saudi Arabia), Bank for International Settlements (Basel) March 2017. Access Date: 24 April 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/implementation/l2_sa_followup_mar17.pdf
[3320] Eleventh progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d388.pdf.
[3321] National Treasury releases Strengthening South Africa's Resolution Framework for Financial Institutions for comment, South African Government (Cape Town) 13 August 2015. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/national-treasury-releases-strengthening-south-africa per centE2 per cent80 per cent99s-resolution-framework-financial.
[3322] A new macroprudential policy framework for South Africa, South African Reserve Bank (Cape Town). Access Date: 12 January 2017. https://www.resbank.co.za/Lists/News per cent20and per cent20Publications/Attachments/7547/Macroprudential per cent20policy.pdf .

reforms; and addressing new risks and vulnerabilities were discussed. The members were also provided with an update on the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision's Basel III reforms.[3323]

According to the 2016 list of global systemically important banks published by the FSB on 21 November 2016,[3324] South Africa has none, so it does not need to comply with the total loss-absorbing capacity standard.

South Africa has taken actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in Basel III framework, but no facts of effective cross-border resolution regimes implementation have been registered. Thus, it receives score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

According to the 11th progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework, Turkey has finalized the work on the issues of definition of capital (in force since January 2014), capital conservation buffer (in force since January 2014), countercyclical buffer (in force since January 2014), liquidity coverage ratio (in force since 2015), disclosure requirements (in force since December 2015), leverage ratio disclosure requirements (in force since December 2015) and domestic requirements (in force since March 2016).[3325]

According to Basel Committee on Banking Supervision's (BCBS) Assessment of Basel III risk-based capital regulations for Turkey, the country complies with all key components of the Basel framework.[3326]

On 20 August 2015, the Banking Regulation and Supervision Authority of Turkey updated the Regulation on Liquidity Coverage Ratios, clarifying the rules for calculating liquidity coverage ratios of banks in Turkey. In March 2016, the BCBS's team for Assessment of Basel III regulations found it compliant with the key components of the Basel capital framework.[3327]

According to the 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs) published by the Financial Stability Board (FSB) on 21 November 2016, Turkey has none.[3328] However additional supervisory expectations and disclosure obligations concerning this type of banks are in effect in the country.[3329]

On 11 January 2017, the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) concluded the Article IV consultation with Turkey. According to the press release, the Central Bank of Turkey (CBRT) eased monetary conditions, by cutting the overnight lending rate by 250 basis points in the process of narrowing the interest rate corridor between March and September 2016. Bank capital levels remain high,

[3323] FSB Regional Consultative Group for Sub-Saharan Africa discusses financial stability issues and regulatory reforms, Financial Stability Board (Basel) 26 October 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.fsb.org/2016/10/fsb-regional-consultative-group-for-sub-saharan-africa-discusses-financial-stability-issues-and-regulatory-reforms/.
[3324] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board (Basel). Access Date: 23 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/2016/11/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-g-sibs/.
[3325] Eleventh progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d388.pdf.
[3326]Assessment of Basel III risk-based capital regulations – Turkey, Bank for International Settlements (Basel). Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d359.pdf.
[3327] Assessment of Basel III LCR regulations –Turkey, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d360.pdf .
[3328] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board (Basel). Access Date: 23 November 2016. http://www.fsb.org/2016/11/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-g-sibs/.
[3329] Eleventh progress report on adoption of the Basel regulatory framework, Bank for International Settlements (Basel) 19 October 2016. Access Date: 12 January 2017. http://www.bis.org/bcbs/publ/d388.pdf.

although some buffers are decreasing. Higher profits boosted capital adequacy, reflecting in part lower overnight borrowing costs and relaxation of prudential norms.[3330]

Turkey has taken actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in Basel III framework, but no facts of effective cross-border resolution regimes implementation have been registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

On 1 November 2016 total-loss-absorbing-capacity (TLAC): "There is a number of issues related to Minimum Required Eligible Liabilities (MREL) that are not set out in this Statement of Policy. These include reporting, disclosure and the treatment of institutions' holdings of MREL liabilities. The Bank [of England] will continue to develop its approach to these issues — as well as its approach to the calibration of MREL within groups (internal MREL) — taking into account international standards including the FSB's [Financial Stability Board] proposed guidance on internal TLAC [total loss-absorbing capacity] due for consultation later this year. The Bank expects to provide further detail on a number of these issues in due course. As set out in the PRA's [Prudential Regulation Authority] policy statement on operational continuity in resolution, the Bank will also consider as part of this whether loss-absorbing capacity should be allowed within groups to ensure operational continuity."[3331]

The European Commission has proposed to implement the FSB's TLAC standard as a Pillar 1 requirement for global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), phased-in from 2019 to 2022 as per the FSB TLAC term sheet.[3332]

The current MREL framework will be retained as a Pillar 2 mechanism for resolution authorities to set additional loss-absorbency requirements for G-SIBs, or total loss-absorbency requirements for non G-SIBs. To do this, the Commission has introduced a number of new definitions into the European Union loss-absorbency framework and made several modifications to the criteria for eligible instruments.

The European Commission has also decided to require the EU-based material subsidiaries of non- EU G-SIBs to pre-position TLAC-eligible liabilities at 90 per cent of the notional amount required for EU G-SIBs — the upper end of the internationally agreed range of 75 per cent-90 per cent for "internal" TLAC.

The European Commission has proposed to harmonise the bank insolvency creditor hierarchy in relation to the ranking of holders of senior unsecured debt eligible to meet the BRRD rules and TLAC standard.[3333,3334]

[3330] IMF Executive Board Concludes 2017 Article IV Consultation with Turkey, International Monetary Fund 3 February 2017. Access date: 19 June 2017. https://www.imf.org/~/media/Files/.../CR/2017/cr1732.ashx

[3331] The Bank of England's Approach to Setting a Minimum Requirement for own Funds and Eligible Liabilities (MREL), Bank of England (London) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 12 December 2016. http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/financialstability/Documents/resolution/mrelpolicy2016.pdf.

[3332] The Bank of England's Approach to Setting a Minimum Requirement for own Funds and Eligible Liabilities (MREL), Bank of England (London) 1 November 2016. Access Date: 12 December 2016. http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/financialstability/Documents/resolution/mrelpolicy2016.pdf.

[3333] Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council Amending Regulation (EU) No 575/2013 as Regards the Leverage Ratio, the Net Stable Funding Ratio, Requirements for Own Funds and Eligible Liabilities, Counterparty Credit Risk, Market Risk, Exposures to Central Counterparties, Exposures to Collective Investment Undertakings, Large Exposures, Reporting and Disclosure Requirements and Amending Regulation (EU) No 648/2012 23, European Commission (Brussels) November 2016. Access Date: 15 December 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/finance/bank/docs/regcapital/crr-crd-review/161123-proposal-amending-regulation_en.pdf.

On 8 November 2016, the Bank of England announced new rules that ask banks to increase sufficient reserves to cover up losses so that, in case of their failure, they can bail themselves out without using taxpayers' money and causing financial market disruptions.[3335]

On 5 April 2017, ammendment were proposed to the Financial Policy Committee's policy on on going concern capital to require banks to have additional capacity to absorb losses in resolution (that is, as a "gone concern").[3336]

The UK has taken actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in Basel III framework and effective cross-border resolution regimes, but no actions related to TLAC have been registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Elina Nizamova

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

The US global systemically important banks (G-SIBs) include Citigroup, JP Morgan Chase, Bank of America, Goldman Sachs, Wells Fargo, Bank of New York and Morgan Stanley.[3337]

On 8 September 2016, the Federal Reserve Board released a policy statement detailing the framework the Board would follow in implementing the Countercyclical Capital Buffer macroprudential tool aimed at increasing the financial system resilience with the help of capital requirements raising on internationally active banking institutions in case of the risk of above-normal losses elevation.[3338]

On 18 September 2016, the Federal Reserve proposed modernized rules "to increase the prospects for the orderly resolution of G-SIBs and to meet total loss-absorbing capacity and long-term debt requirements."[3339]

On 14 October 2016, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board) adopted a final Policy Statement describing the framework which included Basel III requirements that "the Board will follow under its Regulation Q in setting the amount of the US countercyclical capital buffer for advanced approaches bank holding companies, savings and loan holding companies, and state member banks."[3340]

[3334] Summary of Key Proposals in the Revised Capital Requirements Directive (CRD V) and Regulation (CRRII), Deloitte (London) November 2016. Access Date: 15 December 2016. https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/uk/Documents/risk/deloitte-uk-ecrs-summary-of-CRDVCRRII-nov-2016.pdf.

[3335] Bank Of England Extends Deadline For Banks To Build Bail-in Funds 8 November 2016, Finanzen (Berlin) Access Date: 15 December 2016. http://www.finanzen.at/nachrichten/zinsen/Bank-Of-England-Extends-Deadline-For-Banks-To-Build-Bail-in-Funds-1001507501.

[3336] The FPC's proposed Framework of Capital Requirements for UK Banks, Bank of England (London) 5 April 2017. Access Date: 5 April 2017. https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/treasury/Correspondence/Mark-Carney-Governor-Bank-of-England-to-Rt-Hon-Andrew-Tyrie-MP-5-04-16.pdf

[3337] 2016 list of global systemically important banks (G-SIBs), Financial Stability Board (Basel) 21 November 2016. Access Date: 28 December 2016. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2016-list-of-global-systemically-important-banks-G-SIBs.pdf.

[3338] For release at 4:00 p.m. EDT, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Federal Reserve (Washington) 28 September 2016. Access Date: 11 October 2016. https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/press/bcreg/20160908b.htm.

[3339] Supervision and Regulation, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Federal Reserve (Washington) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 11 October 2016. https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/testimony/yellen20160928a.htm.

[3340] Basel Coordination Committee Bulletins, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Federal Reserve (Washington) 14 October 2016. Access Date: 11 December 2016. https://www.federalreserve.gov/bankinforeg/basel/basel-coordination-committee-bulletins.htm.

On 7 February 2017, the Financial Stability Board published a draft of Guidance on Central Counterparty Resolution and Resolution Planning for consultation, which covered some points (such as policy objectives and necessary steps) which should be considered by authorities during developing frameworks for resolving failing CCPs (central counterparties). The draft is a response to the discussion note issued in in August 2016 on FSB Key Attributes of Effective Resolution Regimes for Financial Institutions. The guidance is planned to be finalised in June 2017.[3341]

On 17 March 2017, the US Government Accountability Office reviewed the Federal Reserve System's Board new law "on total loss-absorbing capacity, long-term debt, and clean holding company requirements for systematically important U.S. bank holding companies and intermediate holding companies of systemically important foreign banking organizations," providing a range of recommendations on the improvement of this law.[3342]

The US has taken actions aimed at the timely, full and consistent implementation of the agreed financial sector reform agenda in area of Basel III, the total-loss-absorbing-capacity standardand on effective cross-border resolution regimes. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Sedova

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment on financial regulation.

On 24 September 2016, the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/1712 supplementing the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive was published. It determines regulatory technical standards which specify a minimum set of the information on financial contracts that should be contained in the detailed records and the circumstances in which the requirement should be imposed.[3343]

Complementing 23 November 2016 banking reform package, on 28 November 2016 the European Commission presented another piece of regulation on ensuring that central counterparties can be recovered or resolved should they fall into difficulty, which requires central counterparties and national authorities "to plan for potential problems"; enables the authorities to intervene early "to stop things getting out of hand"; and gives authorities the powers "to step in to help manage the process" if the central counterparties should fail.[3344]

On 23 November 2016, the European Commission proposed amendments to the capital requirement directive and regulation. The proposals, designed to reinforce banks' ability to sustain potential shocks, amend such pieces of legislation as: 1) Capital Requirements Regulation and Capital Requirements Directive; 2) Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive and Single Resolution Mechanism Regulation.[3345]

[3341] FSB consults on guidance for CCP resolution and resolution planning, The U.S. Government Accountability Office (Washington) 7 February 2017. Access Date: 27 March 2017. http://www.fsb.org/2017/02/fsb-consults-on-guidance-for-ccp-resolution-and-resolution-planning/.

[3342] Federal Reserve System: Total Loss-Absorbing Capacity, Long-Term Debt, and Clean Holding Company Requirements for Systematically Important U.S. Bank Holding Companies and Intermediate Holding Companies of Systemically Important Foreign Banking Organizations, The U.S. Government Accountability Office (Washington) 7 February 2017. Access date: 26 March 2017. https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-17-403R.

[3343] EU Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive, Better Regulation (London) 29 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://www.betterregulation.com/ie/hot-topic/eu-banking-recovery-and-resolution-directive-brrd.

[3344] Opening statement by Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis at the press conference on the recovery and resolution of Central Counterparties, European Commission 28 November 2016. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-16-4089_en.htm

[3345] EU Banking Reform: Strong banks to support growth and restore confidence, European Commission (Brussels) 23 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3731_en.htm?locale=en.

On 23 November 2016, the European Commission proposed a package of reforms which include a requirement for global systemically important institutions (G-SIIs) to hold minimum levels of capital and other instruments which bear losses in resolution. This requirement, known as total loss-absorbing capacity (TLAC), will be integrated into the existing minimum requirement for own funds and eligible liabilities system, which is applicable to all banks.[3346]

On 10 April 2017, the European Central Bank (ECB) presented its annual report 2016 to the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs of the European Parliament, having noted that the ECB "will continue to help, to bring forward the two processes of risk reduction and risk sharing, within its mandate as a central bank and supervisor," will accelerate the work on creating a European deposit insurance scheme and act decisively to build "a fully-fledged capital markets union […] with deeper, more integrated and well-supervised capital markets" that "can increase risk sharing via cross-border investment, contribute to macroeconomic and financial stability and ultimately facilitate the transmission of monetary policy in the euro area."[3347]

As suggested by the Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes, six Financial Stability Board (FSB) jurisdictions that are European Union members [and Switzerland] have a bank resolution regime that aligns with the FSB Key Attributes of Effective Resolution Regimes for Financial Institutions, which in the EU case is a result of the implementation of the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive.[3348] The EU member FSB jurisdictions have introduced all resolution powers in accordance with the FSB Key Attributes of Effective Resolution Regimes for Financial Institutions.[3349] Moreover, the EU member FSB jurisdictions pertain to a limited number of jurisdictions that:

- Are able to achieve a creditor-financed resolution to support continuity of critical functions (bail-in);
- Have an explicit statutory power to ensure continued provision of services by group entities;
- Have statutory provisions for the imposition of temporary stays on the exercise of contractual early termination rights;
- Have explicit statutory powers to require banks to adopt appropriate measures where necessary solely in order to improve their resolvability.

The European Union has taken a number of significant steps on the Basel III and TLAC standard implementation and improvement of its cross-border resolution regime (both prior but relevant to the compliance period and during the compliance period).

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

[3346] EU Banking Reform: Strong banks to support growth and restore confidence, European Commission (Brussels) 23 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3731_en.htm?locale=en.

[3347] Presentation of the ECB Annual Report 2016 to the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs of the European Parliament, European Central Bank (Brussels) 10 April 2017. Access Date: 18 April 2017. https://www.ecb.europa.eu/press/key/date/2017/html/sp170410.en.html

[3348] Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes: Peer Review Report, Financial Stability Board (Basel) March 2016. Access Date: 18 April 2017. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Second-peer-review-report-on-resolution-regimes.pdf

[3349] Second Thematic Review on Resolution Regimes: Peer Review Report, Financial Stability Board (Basel) March 2016. Access Date: 18 April 2017. http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Second-peer-review-report-on-resolution-regimes.pdf

15. Tax: Base Erosion and Profit Shifting

We will continue our support for international tax cooperation to achieve a 2016-63: We will continue our support for international tax cooperation to achieve a globally fair and modern international tax system and to foster growth, including advancing on-going cooperation on base erosion and profits shifting (BEPS)

G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada		0	
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa			+1
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.65		

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). 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. Implementation details of the BEPS Action Plan developed thereafter constitute a BEPS Package with 15 Actions that equip governments with the domestic and international instruments needed to tackle BEPS. Countries now have the tools to ensure that profits are taxed where economic activities generating the profits are performed and where value is created. These tools also give 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 over 100 countries and jurisdictions to collaborate on the implementation of the OECD/G20 BEPS Package.[3350]

[3350] About BEPS and the inclusive framework., OECD. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/beps-about.htm.

Commitment Features

This commitment requires G20 members to support international tax cooperation, including on BEPS.

According to the OECD, its members and G20 members along with developing countries that participated in the development of the BEPS Package are establishing a modern international tax framework under which profits are taxed where economic activity and value creation occur. Work will be carried out to support all countries interested in implementing and applying the rules in a consistent and coherent manner, particularly those for which capacity building is an important issue.[3351] Thus, in order to fully comply with this commitment, G20 members should take measures in two areas:

1. lead by example in implementing OECD recommendations on BEPS embodied in 15 BEPS Actions. BEPS action focus on the following issues:

   - Action 1 addresses the tax challenges of the digital economy and identifies the main difficulties that the digital economy poses for the application of existing international tax rules.

   - Action 2 develops model treaty provisions and recommendations regarding the design of domestic rules to neutralise the effects of hybrid instruments and entities (e.g. double non-taxation, double deduction, long-term deferral).

   - Action 3 sets out recommendations to strengthen the rules for the taxation of controlled foreign corporations (CFC).

   - Action 4 outlines a common approach based on best practices for preventing base erosion through the use of interest expense, for example through the use of related-party and third-party debt to achieve excessive interest deductions or to finance the production of exempt or deferred income.

   - Action 5 revamps the work on harmful tax practices with a focus on improving transparency, including compulsory spontaneous exchange on rulings related to preferential regimes, and on requiring substantial activity for preferential regimes, such as IP regimes.

   - Action 6 develops model treaty provisions and recommendations regarding the design of domestic rules to prevent treaty abuse.

   - Action 7 contains changes to the definition of permanent establishment to prevent its artificial circumvention, e.g. via the use of commissionaire structures and the likes.

   - Actions 8 — 10 contain transfer pricing guidance to assure that transfer pricing outcomes are in line with value creation in relation to intangibles, including hard-to-value ones, to risks and capital, and to other high-risk transactions.

   - Action 11 establishes methodologies to collect and analyse data on BEPS and the actions to address it, develops recommendations regarding indicators of the scale and economic impact of BEPS and ensure that tools are available to monitor and evaluates the effectiveness and economic impact of the actions taken to address BEPS on an ongoing basis.

   - Action 12 contains recommendations regarding the design of mandatory disclosure rules for aggressive tax planning schemes, taking into consideration the administrative costs for tax administrations and business and drawing on experiences of the increasing number of countries that have such rules.

[3351] The BEPS Package, OECD. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/beps-about.htm#BEPSpackage.

- Action 13 contains revised guidance on transfer pricing documentation, including the template for country-by-country reporting, to enhance transparency while taking into consideration compliance costs.
- Action 14 develops solutions to address obstacles that prevent countries from solving treaty-related disputes under MAP, via a minimum standard in this area as well as a number of best practices. It also includes arbitration as an option for willing countries.
- Action 15 provides an analysis of the legal issues related to the development of a multilateral instrument to enable countries to streamline the implementation of the BEPS treaty measures, as well as the mandate to carry out that work in 2016. Thus, no actions at national level are expected from G20 members in this particular area.[3352]

2. Support countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules. Particular elements of each of the BEPS Actions are described in relevant reports[3353] and summarized in the special Explanatory Statement.[3354] Measures to support countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules may include: membership in the Inclusive Framework on BEPS;[3355] organizing different events on BEPS issues, for instance regional meetings and seminars, and public consultations; implementing programs aimed at capacity-building and exchange of experience.[3356]

Full compliance requires member's actions in line with both parts of the commitment. Actions in only one area indicate partial compliance.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	G20 member neither makes progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the package on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) nor supports countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules
0	G20 member either makes progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package, or supports countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules
+1	G20 member makes progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package and supports countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules

Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 11 November 2016, the Government of Argentina stated that it was planning to develop its economy in accordance with the BEPS package.[3357]

On 16 November 2016, Argentina and Switzerland signed in Buenos Aires a joint agreement on automatic exchange of tax information, addressing, inter alia, BEPS issues.[3358]

[3352] BEPS Actions, OECD. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/beps-actions.htm.
[3353] BEPS Actions, OECD. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/beps-actions.htm.
[3354] BEPS 2015 Final Reports Executive Summaries, OECD. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps-reports-2015-executive-summaries.pdf.
[3355]BEPS Inclusive Framework Composition, OECD 31 October 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/inclusive-framework-on-beps-composition.pdf.
[3356] Background Brief: Inclusive Framework for BEPS Implementation. March 20167. URL: http://www.oecd.org/tax/background-brief-inclusive-framework-for-beps-implementation.pdf.
[3357] Pese a la fuerte presión impositiva, no habrá una reforma tributaria en 2017, La Nacion, 5 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.lanacion.com.ar/1953604-pese-a-la-fuerte-presion-impositiva-no-habra-una-reforma-tributaria-en-2017.

Argentina has made progress makes progress in supporting other countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules, but no facts of implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package have been registered.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Angelina Khudoleeva

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

As of December 2016, Australia's transfer pricing legislation is being updated to specifically incorporate the latest OECD recommendations from Actions 8-10 of BEPS from 1 July 2016.[3359]

On 1-3 December 2016, Australian representatives participated in the International Taxation Conference 2016, Mumbai, India, which focused, inter alia, on supporting developing countries in implementing anti-BEPS rules.[3360]

On 7 December 2016, the double-taxation agreement between Germany and Australia entered into force.[3361] Tax agreement between the Federal Republic of Germany and Australia was signed on 12 November 2016. It includes such issues as the elimination of double taxation and the prevention of tax cuts and evasion.[3362]

On 8-10 February 2017, Tax Institute of Australia will hold 2017 Financial Services Taxation Conference. The program is supposed to include speeches of leading experts and commentators from across the profession. Moreover, BEPS and international tax issues impacting on the financial services industry feature in the program, including sessions considering hybrids, branch attribution and transfer pricing.[3363]

On 9 February 2017, the Tax Laws Amendment Bill 2017 was introduced into the Australian Parliament. The bill incorporates the OECD transfer pricing guidelines into Australia's tax law from 1 July 2016.[3364]

[3358] ¡Atención evasores! Se firmó el acuerdo fiscal entre Argentina y Suiza, elEconomista, 17 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.eleconomistaamerica.com.ar/politica-eAm/noticias/7965029/11/16/Argentina-y-Suiza-firman-un-acuerdo-para-luchar-contra-la-evasion-fiscal.html.

[3359] BDO Australia Limited — Implementing a diverted profits tax, The Treasury. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.treasury.gov.au/~/media/Treasury/Consultations per cent20and per cent20Reviews/Consultations/2016/Implementing per cent20a per cent20diverted per cent20profits per cent20tax/Submissions/PDF/BDO.ashx.

[3360] International Taxation Conference 2016, IBFD. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.ibfd.org/sites/ibfd.org/files/content/pdf/16_015_fol_ICT_final.pdf .

[3361] Abkommen vom 12. November 2015 zwischen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und Australien zur Beseitigung der Doppelbesteuerung auf dem Gebiet der Steuern vom Einkommen und vom Vermögen sowie zur Verhinderung der Steuerverkürzung und –umgehung, Federal Ministry of Finance 17 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Steuern/Internationales_Steuerrecht/Staatenbezogene_Informationen/Laender_A_Z/Australien/2016-10-17-Australien-Abkommen-DBA.html.

[3362] Abkommen vom 12. November 2015 zwischen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und Australien zur Beseitigung der Doppelbesteuerung auf dem Gebiet der Steuern vom Einkommen und vom Vermögen sowie zur Verhinderung der Steuerverkürzung und -umgehung, Federal Ministry of Finance 12 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016 http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Steuern/Internationales_Steuerrecht/Staatenbezogene_Informationen/Laender_A_Z/Australien/2016-10-17-Australien-Abkommen-DBA.html.

[3363] 2017 Financial Services Taxation Conference, The Tax Institute. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.taxinstitute.com.au/professional-development/key-events/financial-services-taxation-conference/2017-financial-services-taxation-conference.

[3364] The Latest On BEPS — February 13, 2017, EY Tax Insights for business leaders 13 February 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/the-latest-on-beps-february-13-2017.aspx

Australia has made efforts aimed at implementing reforms to tackle BEPS domestically and involved other countries in this process. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ildar Khalilyulin

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 1 October 2016, Normative Ruling (NR) No. 1,658 of the Federal Revenue Service of Brazil took effect. It updates the Brazilian List of Countries with Favored Taxation and Privileged Tax Regimes. These updating results from a review carried out by the Federal Revenue Service in compliance with the institutional duty to update and improve normative acts, and takes into account purely technical and objective criteria. The NR may be considered an initial action by Brazil in the context of tax transparency and substance.[3365]

On 21 October 2016, as part of the ongoing efforts to increase transparency in cross-border developments, Brazil, signed a Multilateral Agreement of Competent Authorities for the Common Reporting Standard. This agreement is supported by the Convention on Mutual Assistance in Tax Matters and reinforces the commitment to the implementation of the global standard for the automatic exchange of financial information for tax purposes. It is a significant advance in the BEPS implementation and in international tax cooperation.[3366]

On 21 October 2016, Brazil signed the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement for the automatic exchange of country-by-country (CbC) reports. It includes an annual report through which multinational groups should provide the tax administration of the jurisdiction of residence of their final controller with various information and indicators related to the location of activities, global allocation of income and taxes paid.[3367]

On 4 November 2016, the Federal Revenue Service of Brazil informed about the adoption of CbC reporting, a new standard of documentation on global operations to be required from multinational groups by tax administrations.[3368]

On 5 December 2016, the fourth meeting of the heads of revenue of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) was held in Bombay. Participants issued a communiqué that supported the building of transparent and fair international tax system, assisting G20 with fulfilling the same objective, providing timely and coordinate implementation of the outcome of BEPS action plan, expanding the

[3365] Instrução Normativa atualiza lista do Brasil de países com Tributação Favorecida *e de* Regimes Fiscais Privilegiados, Secretaria da Receita Federal do Brasil 16 September 2016. Access date: 20 December 2016. http://idg.receita.fazenda.gov.br/noticias/ascom/2016/setembro/instrucao-normativa-atualiza-lista-do-brasil-de-paises-com-tributacao-favorecida-e-de-regimes-fiscais-privilegiados.

[3366] Acordo Multilateral entre Autoridades Competentes *sobre o* Intercâmbio Automáticode Informações Financeiras *(*MCAA — CRS*)*, Secretaria da Receita Federal do Brasil 15 November 2016. Access date: 20 December 2016. http://idg.receita.fazenda.gov.br/acesso-rapido/legislacao/acordos-internacionais/acordos-para-intercambio-de-informacoes-relativas-a-tributos/convencao-multilateral-sobre-assistencia-mutua-administrativa-em-materia-tributaria/acordo-multilateral-entre-autoridades-competentes-sobre-o-intercambio-automatico-de-informacoes-financeiras-mcaa-crs.

[3367] The Latest on BEPS – 24 October 2016, E&Y 24 Octobe 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/the-latest-on-beps-24-october-2016.aspx.

[3368] Consulta Publica RFB № 11/2016, Secretaria da Receita Federal do Brasil 4 November 2016. Access date: 20 December 2016. http://idg.receita.fazenda.gov.br/sobre/consultas-publicas-e-editoriais/consulta-publica/arquivos-e-imagens/consulta-publica-rfb-no-11-2016.pdf.

scope of taxation capability building and tax cooperation as well as encouraging the developed countries to actively participate in the international tax cooperation.[3369]

On 29 December 2016, tax authorities of Brazil issued Normative Instruction 1.681 which establishes the rules for mandatory annual filing of CbC reports. The first reports will concern information relating to calendar year 2016. CbC report filing is required for entities that, as the ultimate parent company of a multinational group, are residents of Brazil for tax purposes, and that have total consolidated group revenue of the fiscal year prior to the year of the CbC reporting of an amount greater than BRL 2.26 billion if the controller is located in Brazil or EUR 750 (or the equivalent in local currency) if the controller is located abroad. Additionally, the CbC report is to be filed along with the taxpayer's corporate income tax return for the related year.[3370]

Brazil has made progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package and supported other countries interested in implementing anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sofia Streltsova

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 22 March 2016, Canada's Federal Budget for 2016 was issued. The Budget included measures that would adopt treaty dispute resolution mechanisms (BEPS Action 14), minimum standards on harmful tax practices (BEPS Action 5), preventing treaty abuse (BEPS Action 6), and country-by-country (CbC) reporting (BEPS Action 13). The Budget also discusses application of the transfer pricing provisions found in the BEPS Action 8 through 10 recommendations.[3371]

On 7 September 2016, Minister of National Revenue Diane Lebouthillier emphasized the need of Canada's participation in the Joint International Taskforce on Shared Intelligence and Collaboration network. The Minister pointed to the necessity of collaboration between Canada's international partners, in order to find and prevent tax avoidance.[3372]

On 3 February 2017, the Canada Revenue Agency published the CbC reporting form (RC4649 in English and French) and instructions. The form needs to be submitted by multinational enterprises subject to CbC reporting in Canada within 12 months after the end of the reporting fiscal year for taxation years beginning after 2015.[3373]

On 22 March 2017, Canada's National Budget was released. The Government said that it is planning to sign the multilateral instrument in June 2017. The Government also underlined that it "remains firmly committed to protecting Canada's tax system, and has implemented — or is in the process of implementing — the measures agreed to as minimum standards under the BEPS project."[3374]

[3369] Wang Jun Attended the Fourth Meeting of BRICS Heads of Revenue", State Administration of Taxation of The People's Republic of China 11 December 2016. Access date: 07 May 2017 http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367726/c2479068/content.html

[3370] Brazil: Country-by-country reporting rules, KPMG 3 January 2017. Access date: 2 April 2017. https://home.kpmg.com/xx/en/home/insights/2017/01/tnf-brazil-country-by-country-reporting-rules.html

[3371] Canada Announces BEPS Measures in 2016 Federal Budget, Thomson Reuters 30 March 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/checkpoint/canada-announces-beps-measures-in-2016-federal-budget

[3372] Government of Canada works with International Partners to Crack Down on Offshore Tax Evasion, Government of Canada 7 September 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?crtr.sj1D=&crtr.mnthndVl=12&mthd=advSrch&crtr.dpt1D=450&nid=1121509&crtr.lc1D=&crtr.tp1D=1&crtr.yrStrtVl=2016&crtr.kw=&crtr.dyStrtVl=1&crtr.aud1D=&crtr.mnthStrtVl=1&crtr.page=1&crtr.yrndVl=2016&crtr.dyndVl=31.

[3373] http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/E/pub/tg/rc4651/README.html

[3374] http://www.budget.gc.ca/2017/docs/plan/chap-01-en.html#Toc47770734

Canada is a member of Inclusive Framework on BEPS Composition, however, no substantial action to support other countries in implementing BEPS standards have been registered during the compliance period.[3375]

Canada has made progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package but failed to support other countries interested in implementing anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

China: +1

China has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 10 September 2016, the SAT issued the Administrative Measures on Tax Payment Credit, provided multiple taxation conveniences for selected taxpayers with Class A credit standing, and established the "black list" system, so that the honest taxpayers will proceed without hindrance while the dishonest can't move a single step.[3376]

On 14 November 2016, the SAT and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) signed a memorandum of understanding on information sharing and joint regulation. They agreed to establish an information sharing mechanism between them to expand the width and depth of cross-department collaboration. They will provide each other with the information on assessing, monitoring and early warning regarding cross-border tax source management, export tax refund management and foreign exchange receipts and payments management. The collaboration is also aimed at enhancing the accuracy and timeliness of identifying and dealing with any irregularities.[3377]

On 5 December 2016, SAT Administrator Wang Jun attended the meeting of the heads of revenue of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) in Bombay. They issued a communiqué that supported the building of transparent and fair international tax system, assisting G20 with fulfilling the same objective, providing timely and coordinate implementation of the outcome of BEPS action plan, expanding the scope of taxation capability building and tax cooperation as well as encouraging the developed countries to actively participate in the international tax cooperation.[3378]

China has made progress both in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package and in supporting countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kirill Gribkov

France: +1

France has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

[3375] INCLUSIVE FRAMEWORK ON BEPS COMPOSITION, OECD 5 January 2017. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/inclusive-framework-on-beps-composition.pdf.
[3376] Taxation Honesty Promotes Construction of "Credit China", State Administration of Taxation of The People's Republic of China 07 November 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017
http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/2013/n2925/n2957/c2342441/content.html
[3377] SAT, SAFE Sign MOU on Information Sharing and Joint Regulation", State Administration of Taxation of The People's Republic of China 30 December 2016. Access date: 07 May 2017
http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367726/c2429924/content.html
[3378] Wang Jun Attended the Fourth Meeting of BRICS Heads of Revenue", State Administration of Taxation of The People's Republic of China 11 December 2016. Access date: 07 May 2017
http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367726/c2479068/content.html

On 29 September 2016, the French government approved a decree on the application of country-by-country (CbC) reporting. The decree provides insight into the practical application of reporting and introduces into French regulations certain provisions included in the BEPS Action 13.[3379]

On 22-24 November 2016, the first regional meeting of the Inclusive Framework on BEPS for French-Speaking Countries supported by France was held in Tunis. This regional meeting was an integral element of the Inclusive Framework, enabling all countries and jurisdictions to discuss the implementation of the BEPS package on a regional basis, including the development of practical tools and to feed their perspectives into the global dialogue. The meeting brought together officials from finance ministries and tax administrations from Asia and Pacific countries, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and other international organizations.[3380]

On 14 February 2017, the French tax authority released "form 2258" that provides the format of French CbC reporting for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016. Form 2258 is to be used by French corporate groups or companies designated as the surrogate filer for foreign owned groups when the group meets the EUR750 million revenue threshold.[3381]

France has made progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package and supported countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Mark Rakhmangulov and Anastia Polovko

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 22 September 2016, the federal government together with the Ministry of Finance announced a package of measures for more transparency in shell companies. Minister of Finance Wolfgang Schäuble presented a ten-point action plan against tax fraud, tricky tax avoidance and money laundering.[3382]

On 18 October 2016, Chancellor Angela Merkel and President of Panama Varela Rodriguez agreed to enter into an information sharing agreement to fight against tax evasion, including BEPS.[3383] On 21 November 2016, the agreement was signed.[3384]

On 25 October 2016, German representatives participated in the Council's meeting of the Ministers of Economy and Finance (ECOFIN). The European Commission made proposals on joint corporate tax assessment base and consolidated corporate tax base. The German government approved them.[3385]

[3379] France: Decree implementing country-by-country reporting, KPMG 10 October 2016. Access date: 7 December 2016 https://home.kpmg.com/xx/en/home/insights/2016/10/tnf-france-decree-implementing-country-by-country-reporting.html

[3380] Regional Meeting of the Inclusive Framework on BEPS for French speaking countries, OECD 22 November 2016. Access date: 6 December 2016 http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps/regional-meeting-for-french-speaking-countries-on-the-inclusive-framework-on-beps.htm

[3381] France: Country-by-country reporting form, KPMG 14 February 2017. Access date: 5 March 2017. https://home.kpmg.com/xx/en/home/insights/2017/02/tnf-france-country-by-country-reporting-form.html

[3382] Nationale Massnahmen gegen Steueroasen und Briefkastenfirmen, Federal Ministry of Finance 18 October 2016. Access date: 26 December 2016. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Steuern/2016-06-03-Nationale-Massnahmen-gegen-Steueroasen-Briefkastenfirmen.html.

[3383] Joining forces to tackle tax evasion, Federal Government 18 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Artikel/2016/10_en/2016-10-18-merkel-trifft-varela-panama_en.html?nn=709674.

[3384] Doppelbesteuerungsabkommen betreffend den Betrieb von Seeschiffen und Luftfahrzeugen im internationalen Verkehr mit Panama am 21. November 2016 in Panama unterzeichnet, Federal Ministry of Finance 18 October 2016. Access date: 26 December 2016. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Steuern/Internationales_Steuerrecht/Staatenbezogene_Informationen/Laender_A_Z/Panama/2016-12-13-Panama-Abkommen-DBA-Luft_Schiff.html.

On 7 December 2016, the double-taxation agreement between Germany and Australia entered into force.[3386] It was signed on 12 November 2016 and includes such issues as the elimination of double taxation and the prevention of tax cuts and evasion.[3387]

On 25 January 2017, the German Government adopted the draft law against harmful tax practices in connection with the transfer of rights. This is to prevent multinationals from postponing profits through licensing in countries with special preferential arrangements (so-called license boxes, patent boxes or intellectual property boxes) that do not meet the requirements of the BEPS project of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the G20. Taxes are to be given to the state in which the value-added activity takes place and not to the state that offers the highest tax reduction.[3388]

Germany has made progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package and in supporting countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Nekrasova

India: +1

India has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 29 October 2016, the amended bilateral tax treaty between Japan and India came into force, with strengthened provisions on exchange of tax information to prevent evasion.[3389]

On 8 January 2017, India's Central Board of Direct Taxes published a report which established an expert committee in order to examine the final BEPS recommendations and facilitate their implementation. Moreover, the report includes information on the Income Tax Department's activities under the mutual agreement procedure and the advance pricing agreement (APA) regime. "It notes that out of 115 APAs, a total of 47 unilateral APAs and four bilateral APAs have already been concluded in the first six months of the current financial year." Indian Government also reaffirmed commitment on implementing India's General Anti-Avoidance Rules (GAAR) in 2017.[3390]

On 1 February 2017, Indian finance minister Arun Jaitley presented the Union Budget for 2017 in the Parliament. His proposals included several amendments to the Indian Income Tax Act 1961. "One of the

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3385 Rückblick auf die Sitzungen der Eurogruppe und des ECOFIN-Rates am 7. und 8. November 2016 in Brüssel, Federal Ministry of Finance 21 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Monatsberichte/2016/11/Inhalte/Kapitel-4-Wirtschafts-und-Finanzlage/4-6-europaeische-wirtschafts-und-finanzpolitik.html?nn=14404&view=pdf.

3386 Abkommen vom 12. November 2015 zwischen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und Australien zur Beseitigung der Doppelbesteuerung auf dem Gebiet der Steuern vom Einkommen und vom Vermögen sowie zur Verhinderung der Steuerverkürzung und –umgehung, Federal Ministry of Finance 17 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Steuern/Internationales_Steuerrecht/Staatenbezogene_Informationen/Laender_A_Z/Australien/2016-10-17-Australien-Abkommen-DBA.html.

3387 Abkommen vom 12. November 2015 zwischen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und Australien zur Beseitigung der Doppelbesteuerung auf dem Gebiet der Steuern vom Einkommen und vom Vermögen sowie zur Verhinderung der Steuerverkürzung und -umgehung, Federal Ministry of Finance 12 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016 http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Standardartikel/Themen/Steuern/Internationales_Steuerrecht/Staatenbezogene_Informationen/Laender_A_Z/Australien/2016-10-17-Australien-Abkommen-DBA.html.

3388 Bundeskabinett beschließt Lizenzschranke gegen Steuergestaltung internationaler Konzerne, Federal Ministry of Finance 25 January 2017. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2017/01/2017-01-25-pm04-schaedliche-steuerpraktiken-lizenzboxen.html

3389 India-Japan amended tax treaty comes into force, The Economic Times 1 November 2016. Access date: 29 November 2016. http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/india-japan-amended-tax-treaty-comes-into-force/articleshow/55188400.cms.

3390 India Constitutes BEPS Committee, Tax-News 11 January 2017. Access date: 08 April 2017. http://www.tax-news.com/news/India_Constitutes_BEPS_Committee____73169.html key amendments is related to the introduction of "interest restriction provisions" under a new section 94B, in line with the recommendations of BEPS Action Plan 4. It would restrict allocation in respect of interest paid to non-resident associated entities to 30 per cent of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization.[3391]

On 5 December 2016, the fourth meeting of heads of revenue of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) was held in Bombay. Participants issued a communiqué that supported the building of transparent and fair international tax system, assisting G20 with fulfilling the same objective, providing timely and coordinate implementation of the outcome of BEPS action plan, expanding the scope of taxation capability building and tax cooperation as well as encouraging the developed countries to actively participate in the international tax cooperation.[3392]

On 29 February 2016, the Indian government introduced an equalization levy on online advertising revenue earned from India by non-resident e-commerce companies, which became effective on 1 June 2016.[3393]

On 1 April 2016, India introduced a concessional regime for taxation of royalty income from patents at 10 per cent gross income.[3394]

On 14 May 2016, the Indian Finance Act 2016 introduced the country-by-country (CbC) reporting requirement in the Indian transfer pricing regulations.[3395]

India has made progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package, and supported other countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Evgeny Tsarik

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 3 March 2017, Indonesia's Financial Services Authority announced it was preparing a number of regulations concerning adaptation of the financial services industry so that it could support the Automatic Exchange of Tax Information that is to be introduced by Indonesia from September 2018.[3396]

Indonesia has made progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package, but failed to support other countries applying anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it recieves a score of 0.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

[3391] Indian Budget 2017 proposes legislating BEPS Action Plan 4, also introduces secondary adjustment provisions under transfer pricing, IBFD 01 February 2017. Access date: 08 April 2017.
https://www.ibfd.org/sites/ibfd.org/files/content/pdf/Taxsutra-Indian-Budget-2017-proposes-legislating-BEPS-Action-Plan-4.pdf

[3392] Wang Jun Attended the Fourth Meeting of BRICS Heads of Revenue", State Administration of Taxation of The People's Republic of China 11 December 2016. Access date: 07 May 2017
http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367726/c2479068/content.html

[3393] India introduces new equalization levy on online advertising revenue, PWC 06 June 2016. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://www.pwc.com/us/en/tax-services/publications/insights/assets/pwc-india-introduces-new-equalization-levy-on-online-advertising-revenue.pdf.

[3394] Finance bill, 2016, Ministry of Finance of the Republic of India 29 January 2016. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://indiabudget.nic.in/ub2016-17/memo/mem1.pdf.

[3395] The finance act, 2016, Ministry of law and justice of the Republic of India 14 May 2016 Access date: 18 December 2016.http://taxindiaupdates.in/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Finance-Act-2016-No.-28-of-2016.pdf.

[3396] Press Release: OJK Issues Regulations to Support Automatic Exchange of Tax Information, Indonesia's Financial Services Authority 3 March 2017. Access date: 17 April 2017. http://www.ojk.go.id/en/berita-dan-kegiatan/siaran-pers/Pages/Press-Release-OJK-Issues-Regulations-to-Support-Automatic-Exchange-of-Tax-Information.aspx#sthash.wrtpanK4.dpuf

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 23 February 2017, Italy's Ministry of Economy and Finance adopted a decree that provides additional rules concerning country-by-country (CbC) reporting requirements in Italy, and implements EU Directive 2016/881 on the mandatory automatic exchange of CbC reports among EU members. It confirms the general CbC reporting requirements set out in Law No. 208 of 2015, and sets out requirements for the terms and conditions of filing CbC reports in Italy.[3397]

Italy has made progress in implementing domestic reforms in line with the BEPS Package, but no actions to support other countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules have been registered during the compliance period. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Maria Strelnikova

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 29 October 2016, the amended bilateral tax treaty between Japan and India came into force, with strengthened provisions on exchange of tax information to prevent evasion.[3398]

On 27 March 2017, it was reported by Japan's Ministry of Finance that Japan and Russia began negotiations to amend the bilateral tax treaty.[3399]

Japan has taken resolute actions to promote the BEPS implementation at home and abroad. Thus, it recieves a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 27 September 2016, the tax treaty between Korea and Hong Kong came into force, having specific clauses on prevention of fiscal evasion.[3400,3401]

On 24 January 2017 Korea and Hong Kong signed an agreement for the automatic exchange of financial account information in tax matters that will commence in 2019.[3402]

[3397] DECRETO 23 febbraio 2017, Gazzetta Ufficilae della Repubblica Italiana. Access date: 30 March 2017. http://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/atto/serie_generale/caricaDettaglioAtto/originario?atto.dataPubblicazioneGazzetta=2017-03-08&atto.codiceRedazionale=17A01733&elenco30giorni=true

[3398] India-Japan amended tax treaty comes into force, The Economic Times 1 November 2016. Access date: 29 November 2016. http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/india-japan-amended-tax-treaty-comes-into-force/articleshow/55188400.cms

[3399] Japan, Russia negotiate tax treaty, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News 27 March 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://mnetax.com/japan-russia-negotiate-tax-treaty-20281

[3400] Hong Kong, Korea tax treaty enters into force, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News 30 September 2016. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://mnetax.com/hong-kong-korea-tax-treaty-enters-force-17408

[3401] Inland Revenue (Double Taxation Relief and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income) (Republic of Korea) Order, Hong Kong Legislation Portal 12 December 2014. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://www.legislation.gov.hk/blis_pdf.nsf/6799165D2FEE3FA94825755E0033E532/537A862229D830E648257D7300575C52/$FILE/CAP_112CL_e_b5.pdf

[3402] Hong Kong, Korea sign tax agreement for automatic exchange of financial account information, Multinational Tax & Transfer Pricing News 24 January 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://mnetax.com/hong-kong-korea-sign-tax-agreement-automatic-exchange-financial-account-information-19220

On June 7, 2017, Korea signed the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting at a signing ceremony hosted by the OECD in Paris. The purpose is to enable jurisdictions to swiftly modify their bilateral tax treaties to implement measures under the BEPS Project endorsed by G20 summit held in November 2015. A total of 68 jurisdictions (including 33 OECD members, China, and India) signed the convention. However, the United States did not participate in the signing.[3403]

Korea has implmneted measures to promote the BEPS implementation abroad however not at home. Thus, it recieves a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 26-30 September 2016, Mexico hosted the event on Transfer Pricing Documentation and Country-by-Country Reporting aimed at discussing the new guidance on transfer pricing documentation and country-by-country reporting as well as the revised guidance on safe harbors in the context of Action 13 of the BEPS Action Plan.[3404]

On 14 October 2016, the US Internal Revenue Service announced that US taxpayers seeking unilateral Advanced Pricing Agreements (APAs) with Mexico for their maquiladora operations will not be exposed to double taxation as long as the intercompany pricing is under the framework to which the US and Mexican competent authorities have agreed in advance. The Mexican Tax Authority will be notifying eligible maquiladora taxpayers with pending unilateral APAs about an election to apply the "Fast Track" methodology agreed in advance with the US Internal Revenue Service, which will produce arm's-length results.[3405]

On 17 October 2016, Mexican Tax Authorities published proposed regulations regarding the "additional information" that could be requested as part of the new transfer pricing obligations, which require Mexican taxpayers to submit a master file, local file and country-by-country (CbC) report. The proposed regulations were published by the Mexican Tax Ombudsman (Prodecon) as part of a public comment process. The proposed regulations are in line with the legislation enacted on 1 January 2016 that introduced new transfer pricing filings, as well as the new Chapter V of the OECD Transfer Pricing (TP) Guidelines (that incorporated the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Action 13 recommendations).[3406]

On 25 November 2016, Mexico adopted the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent BEPS.[3407]

[3403] Korea Signs Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent BEPS, 14 June 2017. Access Date: 6 July 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=0d4a290c-1802-470c-9c03-c9f03b3a24ba
[3404] Transfer Pricing Documentation And Country-By-Country Reporting. Access date: 23 November 2016. https://www.oecd.org/ctp/tax-global/mtc-mexico-event-tp-documentation-and-cbc-reporting-september-2016.pdf.
[3405] The Latest on BEPS — 7 November 2016. Access date: 23 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps---7-november-2016.
[3406] Mexican Tax Authorities issue proposed regulations regarding the master file, local file and CbC report. Access date: 23 November 2016. http://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--mexican-tax-authorities-issue-proposed-regulations-regarding-the-master-file--local-file-and-cbc-report.
[3407] Countries adopt multilateral convention to close tax treaty loopholes and improve functioning of international tax system. Access date: 25 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/countries-adopt-multilateral-convention-to-close-tax-treaty-loopholes-and-improve-functioning-of-international-tax-system.htm.

On 28 November 2016, Mexico hosted the seminar "One year post-BEPS: The OECD, EU, USA and Mexico perspectives." The event was organized by International Fiscal Association Mexico, National Autonomous University of Mexico jointly with Amsterdam Centre for Tax Law of the University of Amsterdam, Texas A&M University School of Law. The participants of the seminar discussed anti-BEPS measures implemented by a number of countries of the world as well as European Union, US and Mexico measures aimed at implementing BEPS Action Plan.[3408]

Throughout 2017, Mexico will host a series of the international events devoted to the Action Plan on BEPS implementation. On 24-28 April 2017, a Workshop on the Multilateral Instrument took place in the capital of the country. A Seminar "Implementing BEPS 1. Minimum Standards" is scheduled for 26-30 June 2017 and a Seminar on BEPS and the Transfer Pricing Guidelines for 25-29 September 2017.[3409]

Mexico has made progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package and supported countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

According to the Section 11 of the Main Directions for Tax Policy in 2017 and 2018-2019 Period, published by the Russian Ministry of Finance on 30 November 2016, Russia will continue to conclude new agreements on avoidance of double taxation with other countries.[3410]

On 5 December 2016, the fourth meeting of the heads of revenue of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) was held in Bombay. Participants issued a communiqué that supported building a transparent and fair international tax system, assisting G20 with fulfilling the same objective, providing timely and coordinate implementation of the outcome of BEPS action plan, expanding the scope of taxation capability building and tax cooperation as well as encouraging the developed countries to actively participate in the international tax cooperation.[3411]

On 12 December 2016, the Government of Russia signed the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on the Exchange of Country-By-Country Reports.[3412]

On 1 January 2017, the Agreement between Russia and China on Avoidance of Double Taxation entered into force.[3413]

[3408] Seminar One year post-BEPS OECD, EU, USA and Mexico perspectives — Mexico City 28 November 2016. Access date: 23 November 2016. http://actl.uva.nl/news-events/events/content/conferences/2016/11/mexico-city-28-november-2016.html.

[3409] Global relations calendar of events 2017. Date of access: 1 April 2017. http://www.oecd.org/tax/tax-global/global-relations-calendar-of-events.htm.

[3410] Main Directions for Tax Policy in 2017 and 2018-2019 Period, Ministry of Finance. http://minfin.ru/ru/?id_65=116206&page_id=1&popup=Y&area_id=65

[3411] Wang Jun Attended the Fourth Meeting of BRICS Heads of Revenue", State Administration of Taxation of The People's Republic of China 11 December 2016. Access date: 07 May 2017 http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367726/c2479068/content.html

[3412] Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on the Exchange of Country-By-Country Reports, Government of Russia 12 December 2016. http://government.ru/docs/25626/

[3413] List of International Agreements on Avoiding Double Taxation between Russia and Other Countries, Ministry of Finance of Russia 30 December 2016. http://minfin.ru/ru/perfomance/tax_relations/international/?id_57=117045&page_id=179&popup=Y&area_id=57

Russia is a signatory of the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information and intends to implement first information exchange in September 2018.[3414]

Russia has made progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package and supported countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 2 November 2016, Saudi Arabia signed the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information.[3415]

On 15 November 2016, the Memorandum of Understanding Regarding the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Improve International Tax Compliance and to Implement FATCA (US Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act) was signed.[3416]

As of 1 January 2017, the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters entered into force for Saudi Arabia. Thus, the country expanded the number of its partners for tax information exchange and other forms of tax cooperation by more than 60 jurisdictions, including offshore financial center jurisdictions with which Saudi Arabia has no tax treaties in force.[3417]

Saudi Arabia has taken measures to fight tax avoidance at the international level, but failed to achieve much progress in implementing BEPS domestically. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 1 October 2016, a Special Voluntary Disclosure Programme was launched in South Africa. It was created for individuals and companies who have not in the past disclosed tax and exchange control defaults in relation to offshore assets.[3418]

On 28 October 2016, the South Africa Revenue Service (SARS) adopted additional transfer pricing documentation requirements, under Section 29 of the Tax Administration Act, for South African

[3414] Signatories of the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information and Intended First Information Exchange Date, OECD 2 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/automatic-exchange/international-framework-for-the-crs/MCAA-Signatories.pdf

[3415] Saudi Arabia and Uruguay added to the OECD's MCAA signatories list, PWC 10 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://blogs.pwc.de/citt/2016/11/10/saudi-arabia-uruguay-added-oecds-mcaa-signatories-list/

[3416] Memorandum of Understanding Regarding the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Improve International Tax Compliance and to Implement FATCA, U.S. Department of Treasury 15 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/tax-policy/treaties/Documents/Understanding-SaudiArabia.pdf

[3417] Saudi Arabia to apply Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters as of 1 January 2017, EY 13 October 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://29952.ey-vx.com/archive/archive-news/saudi-arabia-to-apply-convention-on-mutual-administrative-assistance.aspx

[3418] Voluntary Disclosure Programme (VDP), South African revenue Service. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.sars.gov.za/Legal/VDP/Pages/default.aspx.

companies with cross-border related-party transactions that exceed ZAR100 million each year in aggregate.[3419]

On 5 December 2016, the fourth meeting of heads of revenue of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) was held in Bombay. Participants issued a communiqué that supporteded building a transparent and fair international tax system, assisting G20 with fulfilling the same objective, providing timely and coordinate implementation of the outcome of BEPS action plan, expanding the scope of taxation capability building and tax cooperation as well as encouraging the developed countries to actively participate in the international tax cooperation.[3420]

On 23 December 2016, South Africa has promulgated country-by-country standard for multinational enterprises. The amendment forces the ultimate and the surrogate parent entities to present the information about tax residency within a year after the day of the fiscal year report. This instrument is a part of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Action Plan allowing the local authorities to obtain full information about the global enterprise operation in the country.[3421]

South Africa has made progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package and supported countries applying anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 7 September 2016, the Law on Supporting Investments on Project Basis and Amending Certain Laws and Decree Laws (Law No. 6745) entered into force. Among other issues, it introduced a new withholding tax obligation covering e-commerce (Action 1 of BEPS).[3422]

On 16 December 2016, Turkey participated in the first regional meeting of the Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting in the region. This meeting gave the participants an opportunity to discuss the developments on the implementation of BEPS. Participants were also provided input to the work on the instruments aimed at meeting the specific needs of developing countries in implementing BEPS measures.[3423]

On 26 April 2017, the law 6670 was introduced in Turkey eliminate the incentive for Turkish businesses to register in offshore locations. The law particular stimulates vessels to carry a Turkish flag and thus obtain certain tax privileges.[3424]

[3419] South Africa Increases Transfer Pricing Documentation Requirements, Thomson Reuters 11 November 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/checkpoint/South-Africa-Increases-Transfer-Pricing-Documentation-Requirements.

[3420] Wang Jun Attended the Fourth Meeting of BRICS Heads of Revenue", State Administration of Taxation of The People's Republic of China 11 December 2016. Access date: 07 May 2017 http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/eng/n2367726/c2479068/content.html

[3421] South Africa: Country-by-country reports, final regulations. Access date: 13 April 2017. https://home.kpmg.com/xx/en/home/insights/2017/01/tnf-south-africa-country-by-country-reports-final-regulations.html

[3422] Turkey to grant new incentives for eligible investments on a project basis, Invest in Turkey 8 September 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017.http://www.invest.gov.tr/en-US/infocenter/news/Pages/turkey-grants-new-incentives-for-eligible-investments-on-project-basis.aspx .

[3423] OECD holds regional meeting of the Inclusive Framework on BEPS for the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, OECD 16 December 2016, Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.oecd.org/ctp/beps/oecd-holds-regional-meeting-of-the-inclusive-framework-on-beps-for-the-eastern-europe-and-central-asia-region.htm.

[3424] http://www.internationaltaxreview.com/Article/3712935/Turkey-Tax-exemption-introduced-for-private-vessels.html

Turkey has made efforts to implement actions to address BEPS domestically. However, no substantial action to support other countries in implementing BEPS standards have been registered during the compliance period.[3425] Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Irina Popova

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 10 March 2017, the government legislated in Finance Bill 2017 to make two minor changes to the hybrid mismatch regime. (See the corresponding policy paper.) The first change removes the need to make a formal claim in relation to the permitted time period rules in chapter 3 and 4 of Part 6A Taxation (International and Other Provisions) Act 2010 (TIOPA 2010). The second change provides that deductions for amortization are not treated as relevant deductions for the purposes of chapter 5 to 8 of Part 6A.[3426]

On 10 March 2017, the government introduced legislation to limit tax deductions companies can claim for their interest expenses. The new rules will restrict each group's net interest deductions to 30 per cent of the earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization that is taxable in the UK. The legislation also provides for repeal of the existing debt cap legislation and its replacement by a modified debt cap which will ensure that the net UK interest deduction does not exceed the total net interest expense of the worldwide group.[3427]

On 31 March 2017, the UK government was implementing BEPS Action 4 with effect from April 1, 2017 so that each group's net deductions for interest will be restricted to 30 percent of taxable earnings in the UK. An optional group ratio rule, based on the net third-party interest-to-earnings ratio for the worldwide group, may permit a greater amount to be deducted in some cases. The draft legislation also provides for repeal of the existing debt cap legislation (enacted in the UK in 2009) and its replacement by a modified debt cap which is intended to ensure that the net UK interest deduction does not exceed the total (third-party) net interest expense of the worldwide group. All groups will be able to deduct up to GBP2 million of net interest expense per annum, so groups (or single companies) below this threshold will not need to apply the rules.[3428]

In January 2017, following the OECD's release of the Multilateral Convention, the UK government presented its intended approach for public consultation. It intends to adopt the principal purpose test provisions and the competent authority tiebreaker provisions via the multilateral instrument.[3429]

United Kingdom makes progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package, but no progress in supporting countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules was registered. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

[3425] Inclusive Framework Composition, OECD. Access date: 23 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/inclusive-framework-on-beps-composition.pdf.

[3426] U.K. Publishes Spring Budget 2017, Official Website of Thomson Reuters Company, 10 March 2017. Access Date: 5 April 2017. https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/checkpoint/uk-publishes-spring-budget-2017/

[3427] U.K. Publishes Spring Budget 2017, Official Website of Thomson Reuters Company, 10 March 2017. Access Date: 5 April 2017. https://tax.thomsonreuters.com/blog/checkpoint/uk-publishes-spring-budget-2017/

[3428] UK Spring Budget 2017: key points, Official Website of DLA Piper Company, 31 March 2017. Access Date: 5 April 2017. https://www.dlapiper.com/en/canada/insights/publications/2017/03/global-tax-news-mar-2017/uk-spring-budget-2017-key-points/

[3429] BEPS Actions Implementation by Country: United Kingdom, Official Website of Deloitte Company, January 2017. Access Date: 5 April 2017. https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/global/Documents/Tax/dttl-tax-beps-actions-implementation-united-kingdom.pdf

Analyst: Elina Nizamova

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 2 November 2016, the US Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) released final regulations (T.D. 9792) on issues arising under subpart F (special category of foreign source unearned income), "which is designed to prevent the deferral of passive or mobile income through the use of controlled foreign corporations (CFCs)."[3430]

On 4 November 2016, the US Treasury Inspector General issued recommendations on the IRS's handling of transfer pricing issues improvement. The report included full access of transfer pricing practice employees to implementing the specialist referral system and the rules of engagement; adequate transfer pricing providing; comprehensive transfer pricing strategy development that includes outcome-related strategic goals.[3431]

On 7 November 2016, the US government reported that the US and Antigua and Barbuda signed a Model I intergovernmental agreement (part of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, aimed at facilitating domestic reporting and reciprocal automatic exchange of information); also agreements with Panama and Georgia entered into force.[3432]

On 13 December 2016, the IRS issued final tax regulations "under sections 6038A and 7701 that require wholly foreign-owned domestic disregarded entities to be treated as a domestic corporations, separate from their owners" with the aim of reporting, record maintenance, and associated compliance requirements.[3433]

On 16 December 2016, the IRS released final regulations (TD 9803) under section 367 which "eliminate the favorable tax treatment of outbound transfers of foreign goodwill and going concern value."[3434]

The US has made progress in implementing domestic reforms consistent with the BEPS Package and supports countries interested in applying anti-BEPS rules. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Sedova

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment on base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS).

On 22 October 2016, the European Commission proposed measures to address a broad range of mismatches, including hybrid permanent establishment mismatches, imported mismatches, hybrid

[3430] New US subpart F tax regulations address foreign partnerships, active rents and royalties exception, Multinational Tax and Transfer Pricing News Centre 11 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://mnetax.com/new-us-subpart-f-tax-regulations-address-foreign-partnerships-active-rents-royalties-exception-18035.

[3431] US Treasury Inspector General suggests ways to improve IRS transfer pricing exams, Multinational Tax and Transfer Pricing News Centre 4 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://mnetax.com/us-treasury-inspector-general-suggests-ways-improve-irs-transfer-pricing-exams-17968.

[3432] US FATCA IGAs with Panama, Georgia enter into force; IGA with Antigua and Barbuda signed, Multinational Tax and Transfer Pricing News Centre 7 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://mnetax.com/fatca-iga-panama-georgia-antigua-barbuda-17985.

[3433] US IRS issues final reporting, record keeping rules for foreign-owned disregarded domestic entities, Multinational Tax and Transfer Pricing News Centre 13 December 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://mnetax.com/us-irs-issues-final-reporting-record-keeping-rules-foreign-owned-disregarded-domestic-entities-18546.

[3434] US finalizes regs on outbound transfers of foreign goodwill, Multinational Tax and Transfer Pricing News Centre 21 December 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016 http://mnetax.com/us-finalizes-regs-outbound-transfers-foreign-goodwill-18705.

transfers and dual resident mismatches, both within the EU and in relation to third countries. Like the measures in Anti-Tax Avoidance Directive, the rules in this new proposal are in line with the OECD BEPS approach.[3435]

On 10 November 2016, the European Commission launched a public consultation on the potential EU action on tax advisers and intermediaries who help their clients shift profits offshore for the purposes of avoiding tax. The Commission wants to get views on how a mandatory disclosure scheme for tax advisers could be put in place. Such rules would oblige intermediaries to give early information on schemes, which could be viewed as aggressive or abusive planning for tax purposes and would reflect the goals of the OECD's non-binding guidelines for the disclosure of aggressive tax planning strategies.[3436]

On 22 November 2016, the European Commission presented the proposal for a new "European Consensus on Development," which determines how the EU actions in the area of development cooperation should change in response to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and new challenges and threats posed by globalization. In particular, the "Consensus," among other things, addresses the issues of tax evasion, tax avoidance and illicit financial flows, as well as the efficiency, effectiveness and fairness of tax systems.[3437]

On 6 February 2017, the Maltese EU presidency presented its roadmap on future work on BEPS.[3438] In the short term, the Maltese EU presidency proposed to concentrate on (among others):

- Pending aspects of the hybrid mismatches with third countries part of the Anti-Tax Avoidance Package (Council Directive amending Directive [EU] 2016/1164);
- Reviewing the existing tax dispute settlement mechanisms to enhance tax certainty for business (as decided at 6 December 2016 Economic and Financial Affairs Council meeting);
- Reaching progress on interest and royalties directive (inclusion of a minimum effective level of taxation versus alternative options);
- Preparing a list of third country non-cooperative jurisdictions and exploring coordinated defensive measures to prevent tax treaty abuse at the EU level without prejudice to Member State competence;
- Agreeing on updated version of key elements of the EU standard provision on good governance in tax matters in agreements with third countries;
- Discussing BEPS issues in the EU's double taxation agreements (with a view to the signature of the OECD multilateral instrument to modify tax treaties, expected in June 2017).

The EU has taken a number of significant steps to promote further BEPS implementation. Thus, it recieves a score of +1.

Analysst: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

[3435] Ibid.
[3436] Commission gathers views on future rules to deter promoters of aggressive tax planning schemes, European Commission 10 November 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3618_en.htm
[3437] A proposal for a new European Consensus on development, European Commission 22 November 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-3884_en.htm
[3438] BEPS: Presidency roadmap on future work, Council of the European Union 6 February 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-5988-2017-INIT/en/pdf

16. Energy: Energy Efficiency

2016-78: We encourage members to significantly improve energy efficiency based on the specific needs and national circumstances of each member

G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China		0	
France	−1		
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia		0	
Italy	−1		
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.55	

Background

The G20 leaders made their first commitment to develop energy efficiency and clean energy technologies at the 2009 London Summit. At the 2009 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. This commitment was reinforced at the 2010 Seoul Summit. At the 2011 Cannes Summit, leaders developed the commitment further by referencing the United Nations Secretary General's Sustainable Energy for All initiative.[3439] At the 2013 St. 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.

At the 2014 Brisbane Summit the G20 regarded improving energy efficiency as "a cost-effective way to help address the rising demands of sustainable growth and development, as well as energy access and security." They adopted an Action Plan for Voluntary Collaboration on Energy Efficiency, including "new work on the efficiency and emissions performance of vehicles, particularly heavy duty vehicles; networked devices; buildings; industrial processes; and electricity generation; as well as work on financing

[3439] Cannes Summit Final Declaration: Building Our Common Future, G20 Information Center (Toronto) 4 November 2011. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2011/2011-cannes-declaration-111104-en.html.

for energy efficiency."[3440] At the Hangzhou Summit the G20 Leaders committed to significantly improve energy efficiency based on the specific needs and national circumstances of each G20 member. The G20 adopted the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program.[3441]

Commitment Features

The G20 Energy Efficiency Action Plan (EEAP) adopted in 2014 outlined six key areas of work on energy efficiency that initially formed the backbone for international collaboration on energy efficiency organized by the International Energy Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC) under the G20 mandate. The G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program (EELP) added five new key areas: Super-Efficient Appliances Deployment initiative, TOP TENs, District Energy Systems, Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing Framework, and Energy End-Use-Data and Energy Efficiency Metrics. This expansion stems from interested G20 members' desire to scale up improvements in energy efficiency.

The key areas for cooperation are the following:[3442]

- Key area 1: Vehicles
- Key area 2: Networked Devices
- Key area 3: Finance
- Key area 4: Buildings
- Key area 5: Industrial Processes (Industrial Energy Management)
- Key area 6: Electricity Generation (High-Efficiency Low Emissions)
- Key area 7: Super-Efficient Equipment and Appliance Deployment initiative
- Key area 8: Sharing Best Available Technologies and Best Practices
- Key area 9: District Energy Systems
- Key area 10: Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing Framework
- Key area 11: Energy End-Use-Data and Energy Efficiency Metrics

To achieve full compliance with this commitment the G20 member must take actions in at least seven key areas.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	Member does not take actions to improve energy efficiency in any key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program
0	Member takes actions to improve energy efficiency in more than three but less than seven key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program
+1	Member takes actions to improve energy efficiency in seven or more key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fullly complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 15 September 2016, it was announced that Siemens would work with Argentina on infrastructure projects worth 5 billion euros USD5.6 billion. Plans for the next four to five years include the creation of highly efficient gas-fired power plants and wind power projects; automation of rail transport systems to

[3440] G20 Leaders' Communiqué Brisbane, G20 Information Center (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1116-communique.html.
[3441] G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme, European Commission. Access date: 12 January 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/G20%20Energy%20Efficiency%20Leading%20Programme.pdf.
[3442] G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme, European Commission. Access date: 12 January 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/G20%20Energy%20Efficiency%20Leading%20Programme.pdf.

improve traffic flow; and works to make the municipal buildings of the city of Buenos Aires more energy efficient.[3443] Key areas 4 and 5

On 16 December 2016, the 1st National Day of Energy Efficiency took place in Argentina. During the closing ceremony, Minister of Energy and Mining Aranguren stressed that "in the past energy efficiency was provided by individual efforts" and stressed that now it is a collective task and it "can be achieved through education and raise of awareness about energy saving among young people."[3444] Key area 8

On 26 December 2016, through a note addressed to Ministries under the National Executive Branch, the Under Secretary for Energy Saving and Efficiency of the Ministry of Energy and Mining requested active collaboration in the rational and efficient use of energy in 2,312 public buildings.[3445] Key area 4

On 5 January 2017, a decree between the Ministry of Energy and Mining and the Ministry of Transport of the Nation was signed to provide the collaboration of all agencies so that companies in the transport sector could conform with the guidelines suggested for the responsible and efficient energy use.[3446] Key area 1

On 20 March 2017, the Minister of Energy and Mining Juan José Aranguren and Fatih Birol, head of the International Energy Agency (IEA), signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen cooperation between the Agency and the Ministry. The main areas of collaboration planned for the 2017-2018 biennium will be the exchange of information and energy statistics. In particular, the memorandum covers topics related to energy-related G20 cooperation, statistics and webinar courses, cooperation on the dissemination of standards and methodologies for data collection, training of officials and institutional strengthening in the areas mentioned above.[3447] Key areas 10 and 11.

On 19 April 2017, the Ministry of Energy and Mining of Argentina launched the Efficient Lighting Plan to replace street lighting fixtures with more efficient LED technology. This technology allows to save energy, maintaining or even improving the quality of service, and making public spaces safer. In this first stage, the budget allocated amounts to 250 million pesos. This action will generate energy savings of up to 50 per cent over current consumption.[3448] Key area 6

Argentina has made efforts aimed at improving energy efficiency in seven key areas. Thus, it recieves a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

[3443] Siemens vai investir em projetos de infraestrutura na Argentina, UOL 15 September 2016. Access date: 16 January 2017. http://economia.uol.com.br/noticias/bloomberg/2016/09/15/siemens-vai-investir-em-projetos-de-infraestrutura-na-argentina.htm.

[3444] Aranguren y Bergman cerraron la 1ra Jornada Nacional de Eficiencia Energética, Argentinian Ministry of energy and Mining 16 December 2016. Access date: 16 January 2017. https://www.minem.gob.ar/prensa/25891/aranguren-y-bergman-cerraron-la-1ra-jornada-nacional-de-eficiencia-energetica.html.

[3445] Los edificios públicos se suman al uso responsable y eficiente de la energía, Argentinian Ministry of energy and Mining 26 december 2016. Access date: 16 January 2017. https://www.minem.gob.ar/prensa/25903/los-edificios-publicos-se-suman-al-uso-responsable-y-eficiente-de-la-energia.html.

[3446] El Transporte Público se suma a la campaña de ahorro energético, Argentinian Ministry of energy and Mining 5 January 2017. Access date: 16 January 2017. https://www.minem.gob.ar/prensa/25916/el-transporte-publico-se-suma-a-la-campana-de-ahorro-energetico.html.

[3447] Memorándum de entendimiento entre el Ministerio de Energía y Minería y la Agencia Internacional de Energía, Ministry of Energy and Mining of Argentina 20 March 2017. Access date: 19 June 2017. https://www.minem.gob.ar/prensa/26134/memorandum-de-entendimiento-entre-el-ministerio-de-energia-y-mineria-y-la-agencia-internacional-de-energia.html

[3448] Se creó el Plan "Alumbrado Eficiente", Ministry of Energy and Mining of Argentina 19 April 2017. Access date: 19 June 2017. https://www.minem.gob.ar/prensa/26197/se-creo-el-plan-alumbrado-eficiente.html

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

According to the Energy Efficiency Exchange related to the Department of Environment and Energy, the 2017 Energy Management Leadership Awards is expected to raise international awareness of the benefits of energy management and accelerate the uptake of clean energy technologies and practices.[3449] Key areas 5 and 8.

The Clean Energy Finance Corporation provides a range of financing options to help small businesses better manage their energy costs, while reducing their carbon emissions.[3450] Key area 5.

On 8 September 2016, the 12 projects have been chosen as part of the Australian Renewable Energy Agency's multi-million dollar large-scale solar round. They are expected to unlock almost USD1 billion of commercial investment and boost regional Australian economies.[3451] Key area 6.

On 6 October 2016, an Australian state investment organization Clean Energy Finance Corporation and Commonwealth Bank have launched a new USD100 million Energy Efficient Equipment Finance program to provide lower cost finance for energy efficient assets.[3452] Key area 3.

On 10 November 2016, Australia ratified the Paris Agreement and the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol. According to the report, "The Australian Government's action on climate change" by the Department of the Environment and Energy issued on 15 November 2016, "The National Energy Productivity Plan will reduce the amount of energy used for every dollar of economic activity by 40 per cent between 2015 and 2030. The Plan includes measures to make energy choices easier, drive innovation and more effective modern markets and improve the efficiency of appliances, equipment, buildings and transport."[3453] Key area 1

On 11 November 2016, the Australian Building Codes Board uploaded on its official website a handbook on improving the energy efficiency of buildings.[3454] On the same date registration opened for the board's 2017 NCC Information Seminars.[3455] Key area 4

On 16 November 2016, the International Energy Agency (IEA) held its 18th Energy Efficient End-use Equipment meetings in Ottawa, Canada. As the Chair of the IEA 4E, Australia's GEMS Regulator, Michelle Croker, led the meetings.[3456] Key area 7

[3449] 2017 Energy Management Leadership Awards, Energy Efficiency Exchange. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.eex.gov.au/news/12/2016/2017-energy-management-leadership-awards-now-accepting-entries.

[3450] CEFC helps small businesses cut energy bills and boost performance, Clean Energy Finance Corporation. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.cleanenergyfinancecorp.com.au/media/107419/cefc-factsheet_smallbusiness_lr.pdf.

[3451] ARENA backs 12 new large-scale solar plants, EcoGeneration. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.ecogeneration.com.au/arena-backs-12-new-large-scale-solar-plants/.

[3452] The Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) and Commonwealth Bank have launched a new USD 100 million Energy Efficient Equipment Finance program to provide lower cost finance for energy efficient assets, Commonwealth Bank of Australia. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.commbank.com.au/guidance/newsroom/CEFC-and-CBA-commit-100m-201610.html.

[3453] The Australian Government's action on climate change, Department of the Environment and Energy. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/f29a8ccb-77ca-4be1-937d-78985e53ac63/files/factsheet-australian-government-action.pdf.

[3454] New Handbooks available!, ABCB. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.abcb.gov.au/News/2016/11/04/New-Handbooks-available.

[3455] Registration is now open, ABCB. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.abcb.gov.au/News/2016/11/07/Registration-is-now-open.

[3456] International Meeting on Equipment Energy Efficiency, Energy Rating. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.energyrating.gov.au/news/international-meeting-equipment-energy-efficiency.

On 29 November 2016, the official site of an energy rating organization, a joint initiative of Australian, State and Territory and New Zealand Governments, informed than Equipment Energy Efficiency Program was considering the introduction of regulations in Australia to reduce the energy consumption of pumps used in residential pools and spas ("pool pumps").[3457] Key area 7

On 2 December 2016, the first funding agreement in the Australian's Renewable Energy Agency's program to drive down the cost and accelerate the rollout of big solar was signed. The new agreement commits up to USD8.9 million towards Genex's USD126 million Kidston Solar Project in North Queensland.[3458] Key area 6

On 14 March 2017, consultation on the Australian Government's review of the fees charged to registrants under the Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act 2012 was closed. The review included the cost recovery of registration, compliance monitoring and enforcement activities.[3459] Key area 3

On 21 February 2017, the Australian Building Codes Board via its official website informed about the accessibility of the National Construction Code Tutor parts devoted to energy efficiency.[3460] Key area 4

On 14 February 2017, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency announced that there started the construction of Kidston Solar Farm as it overcame all financial obstacles.[3461] Key area 6

On 14 February 2017, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency ensured the funding of a battery storage technology developed by Australian scientists.[3462] Key area 7

On 6 April 2017, the Australian Energy Regulator conducted a workshop "to design new ways of encouraging efficient demand management in electricity." Those people who have the desire to contribute to the resolution are invited to participate in a discussion on the new demand management incentive scheme and innovation allowance mechanism.[3463] Key area 8

On 27 March 2017, the government's energy rating program official website published a guideline on how to register products in accordance to GEMS requirements.[3464] It presupposes the usage of emails for enquiries and it describes the instrument for resubmitting applications. Key area 10

Australia has made efforts aimed at improving energy efficiency at seven key areas. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ildar Khalilyulin

[3457] Consultation: Pool Pumps, Energy Rating. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.energyrating.gov.au/news/consultation-pool-pumps.
[3458] Australia Invests in Both Big Solar and Big Coal, Environment News Service. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://ens-newswire.com/2016/12/04/australia-invests-in-both-big-solar-and-big-coal/.
[3459] REVIEW OF FEES CHARGED UNDER GEMS, ENERGY RATING 14 February 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://www.energyrating.gov.au/news/review-fees-charged-under-gems
[3460] NCC Volume One, Energy Efficiency, ABCB 21 February 2017 Access date: 15 April 2017. http://www.abcb.gov.au/Resources/Publications/Education-Training/NCC-Volume-One-Energy-Efficiency-NCC-Tutor
[3461] Big solar with pumped-hydro potential clears key milestone, Australian Government Australian Renewable Energy Agency 14 February 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. https://arena.gov.au/news/big-solar-pumped-hydro-potential-clears-key-milestone/
[3462] Cutting-edge battery tech coming of age with ARENA's help, Australian Government Australian Renewable Energy Agency 14 February 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. https://arena.gov.au/media/cutting-edge-battery-tech-coming-of-age-with-arenas-help/
[3463] Workshop to design new ways of encouraging efficient demand management in electricity, Australian Energy Regulator 3 March 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. https://www.aer.gov.au/communication/workshop-to-design-new-ways-of-encouraging-efficient-demand-management-in-electricity
[3464] REGISTERING GEMS PRODUCTS, ENERGY RATING 27 March 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://www.energyrating.gov.au/news/registering-gems-products

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 11 November 2016, during the 22nd Conference of the Parties (COP22) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, it was reported that Brazil is the most advanced in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation, a financial incentive instrument for developing countries that obtain results from combating forest degradation and other actions in this area. Besides being a pioneer, Brazil will be an example in cutting forest emissions for the international community.[3465] Key area 3

On 17 November 2016, during COP22 Brazil launched the Biofuturo platform, a mechanism to encourage the use of biofuels in Brazil and in the international market. The platform aims to attract the attention of the world to the development of second-generation biofuels produced in Brazil. The initiative intends for promoting the reduction of emissions in the transport area and opens space for a totally new, low-carbon bio-economy, as it offers alternatives to fossil-based material.[3466] Key area 1

On 17 November 2016, the Ministry of Mines and Energy inaugurated first solar plant in federal government building of Esplanade of the Ministries. Due to this system the site will stop emitting 6.4 tons of carbon in the atmosphere and save about USD70,000 per year. The installed system symbolizes the commitment of the Brazilian government to the use of renewable energy sources, in addition to the water source. The project is the result of a Technical Cooperation Agreement between the ministry and the Brazilian Solar Photovoltaic Energy Association for the installation of the first system of the Esplanade of the Ministries in Brasilia, connected to the distribution network.[3467] Key area 4

On 18 November 2016, the incentive to use mineral coal for electricity generation was vetoed. The article was approved by the Federal Senate a month ago. The veto was recommended by the Environment Minister, Sarney Filho, in an open letter to the President of the Republic on October 20 2016. Among the justifications for the veto was the fact that coal is a non-renewable, highly polluting, expensive and responsible source of one-third of the world's greenhouse gas emissions as well as stimulation the energy matrix that goes against international agreements (the Paris Agreement) which was signed by the country.[3468] Key area 6

On 16 December 2016, the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES) approved a USD750 million loan for the Sustainable Energy Finance Program. The program focuses on increasing the share of alternative renewable energy — wind, solar and biomass — in the Brazilian energy matrix and in energy efficiency. This is the first operation of the Conditional Credit Line Agreement for the Financing of Productive and Sustainable Investments between the BNDES and the Inter-American Development Bank.[3469] Key area 3

[3465] Estratégia brasileira para reduzir emissões florestais é considerada modelo, Portal Brasil 11 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/meio-ambiente/2016/11/estrategia-brasileira-para-reduzir-emissoes-florestais-e-considerada-modelo.

[3466] Brasil lança plataforma para estimular mercado de biocombustíveis, Portal Brasil 17 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/meio-ambiente/2016/11/brasil-lanca-plataforma-para-estimular-mercado-de-biocombustiveis.

[3467] Minas e Energia inaugura 1ª usina solar em prédio do governo federal da Esplanada dos Ministérios, Portal Brasil 17 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/meio-ambiente/2016/11/minas-e-energia-inaugura-1-usina-solar-em-predio-do-governo-federal-da-esplanada-dos-ministerios.

[3468] Temer veta carvão mineral para geração de energia elétrica, Portal Brasil 18 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/meio-ambiente/2016/11/temer-veta-carvao-mineral-para-geracao-de-energia-eletrica.

[3469] Convênio entre BNDES e BID prevê US$ 2,4 bi para infraestrutura, Portal Brasil 16 December 2016. Access date: 2 Abril 2017. http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2016/12/convenio-entre-bndes-e-bid-preve-us-2-4-bi-para-infraestrutura

On 9 February 2017, it was announced that the federal universities interested in using mechanisms of own generation of electric power would have more facility to realize their projects. The Brazilian Electricity Regulatory Agency (ANEEL) changed the rules for approval of priority projects related to energy efficiency and minigeration in federal higher education institutions. According to the agency, the objective is to reduce obstacles to the implementation of Energy Efficiency and energy generation projects through the implementation of pilot projects in these institutions. ANEEL also found that spending on electricity represents one of the main costing items of public higher education institutions and that a considerable part of this expenditure could be avoided through energy efficiency actions and the implementation of own energy generation systems.[3470] Key area 6

On 11 May 2017, the National Electric Energy Agency reported that number of micro- and mini- and energy geration connections exceeded 10,000 installations in Brazil. The source most commonly used by the generators is solar with 10,280 accessions, followed by wind power with 50 installations. The generation of energy by the consumers themselves became possible from Normative Resolution Aneel nº 482/2012. The standard establishes the general conditions for access of micro and minigeneration to distribution systems energy Electrical and creates the compensation system energy power, allowing consumers to install small generators in its consumer unit and exchange energy with the local distributor.[3471] Key areas 2 and 7

On 23 May 2017, Enterprise for Energy Research (Empresa de Pesquisa Energetica) hosted the first Workshop on Risk Aversion Mechanisms in the computational models of planning, operation and pricing in the Methodology Working Group (Standing Committee for Analysis of Electrical Sector Methodologies and Programs). It was an important opportunity for discussion and clarification of doubts regarding the methodologies that have been discussed in the academic environment concearning the collection of electicity data.[3472] Key area 11

Brazil has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in eight key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sofia Streltsova

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

Canada's Energy Efficiency for Industry program offers cost-shared assistance to industrial companies in implementing energy management projects. Currently the submission for financing is open for the projects that can be completed by 31 March 2017.[3473] Key area 5

On 15 October 2016, first energy star day was held in Canada. The goal of this event was to "raise Canadians' level of understanding and awareness of ENERGY STAR Canada and its instrumental role in helping Canadians be energy efficient."[3474] Key areas 8 and 10

[3470] New Rules Encourage Own Power Generation in Universities, Portal Brasil 9 February 2017. Access date: 2 Abril 2017. http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2017/02/novas-regras-estimulam-geracao-propria-de-energia-eletrica-em-universidades

[3471] Mais de 10 mil conexões de micro e minigeração de energia são registradas no País, Brazilian Government 11 May 2017. Access date: 22 June 2017. http://www.brasil.gov.br/infraestrutura/2017/05/mais-de-10-mil-conexoes-de-micro-e-minigeracao-de-energia-sao-registradas-no-pais

[3472] A EPE sediou o primeiro Workshop de Trabalho sobre Mecanismos de Aversão a Risco (MAR), Enterprise for Energy Research 24 May 2017. Access date: 22 June 2017. http://www.epe.gov.br/geracao/Paginas/CPAMP/AEPEsediouoprimeiroWorkshopdeTrabalhosobreMecanismosdeAvers%C3%A3oaRisco(MAR).aspx?CategoriaID=417

[3473] Energy Efficiency for Industry Financial Assistance, Natural Resources Canada. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/efficiency/industry/financial-assistance/5387.

On 18 October 2016, Canadian Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Natural Resources Kim Rudd, together with the US Department of energy launched a "new clean heat and power demonstration project." This project generates power from biomass or fossil fuels.[3475] Key area 6

On 2 November 2016, President of the Treasury Board Scott Brison announced government plans to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 40 per cent by 2030. The goal is planned to be reached through "strategic investments in infrastructure and vehicle fleets, green procurement, and support for clean technology."[3476] Key areas 1 and 3

On 3 November 2016, the Government of Canada announced additional loan guarantee support for the Lower Churchill projects in Newfoundland and Labrador. These projects aim at greenhouse gas emissions reduction in the provinces of Canada.[3477] Key area 3

On 14-15 and 16-17 November Natural Resources Canada's local energy efficiency partnership technology two-day forum was held. The forum's goal is to provide a time saving way for the industry to know about new technologies for high performance homes.[3478] Key areas 4 and 10

On 15 November 2016, Canada hosted and participated in G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program Product Best Practice Policy Exchange Forum. The policy exchange provided chance for participants to discuss the newest developments in energy efficiency product policy from a range of countries.[3479] Key area 8

On 29 November 2016, Government of Canada announced support for innovations in the forest sector to boost the design of more renewable materials in the production of a range of consumer items. This support is provided under the commitment to "address climate change, create new opportunities and markets for Canadian forest companies and sustain good middle-class jobs for Canadians."[3480] Key area 5

On 5 December 2016, Canadian Minister of Natural Resources Jim Carr spoke about low-carbon transportation initiatives that aim to introduce cleaner fuels and vehicles. Minister Carr also announced that the government is planning to support the installation of fast-charging stations for electric vehicles at 25 Canadian Tire locations throughout Ontario by providing almost half of the total USD1.8-million investment for the stations.[3481] Key area 1

On 4 January 2017, Minister Carr announced an amendment to the energy efficiency regulations that will increase energy performance standards for 20 products, including household appliances such as

[3474] ENERGY STAR® Canada celebrated our first ENERGY STAR day on October 25, 2016, National Resources Canada. Access date: 12 January 2017. https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/products/energystar_day/19092.

[3475] Canada and United States Launch Joint Clean Heat and Power Project at CanmetENERGY Ottawa, Government of Canada 18 October 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=3&crtr.dpt1D=6683&nid=1139619.

[3476] Federal Government to significantly reduce its own greenhouse gas emissions, Government of Canada 2 November 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=tp&crtr.page=1&nid=1146639&crtr.tp1D=1.

[3477] Government of Canada Announces Additional Loan Guarantee Support for Lower Churchill Projects, Government of Canada 3 November 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=2&crtr.dpt1D=6683&nid=1147219.

[3478] Upcoming LEEP Home Builder Events, Natural Resources Canada. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy/efficiency/housing/leep/19095.

[3479] G20 EELP Product Best Practice Policy Exchange Forum — Ottawa, Canada, energy Efficient End-use Equipment 15 November 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.iea-4e.org/events-and-meetings/2016/g20-eelp-forum.

[3480] Governments of Canada and Quebec Support Innovative Forest Sector Project That Will Lower Costs and Green the Production of Consumer Products, Government of Canada 29 November 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=1&crtr.dpt1D=6683&nid=1161989.

[3481] Government of Canada Invests in Low-Carbon Transportation, Government of Canada 5 December 2016. . Access date: 12 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=1&crtr.dpt1D=6683&nid=1165339.

refrigerators and washing machines and commercial equipment such as ice makers and electric motors.[3482] Key area 1

Canada has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in seven key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

China: 0

China has partially complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 12 October 2016, Deputy Group Leader of the China Energy Group at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), Nan Zhou, participated in the foundation laying ceremony for the Sino-US Low Carbon Building and Community Innovation Experimental Center, which is the office building for the LBNL-Shenzhen IBR Joint Research Center, in Longgang District, Shenzhen city. It is a new exploration after the establishment of Shenzhen IBR office building in 2009. The Center is an experiment on net zero energy building, which will explore technology innovation in carbon emissions control, environmental quality improvement and building fabrication, and will become a model for low-carbon lifestyle and green community system.[3483] Key area 4

On 30 October 2016, German State Secretary Rainer Baake took part in the International Forum on Energy Transitions in Suzhou, China. During the conference, State Secretary Baake held bilateral talks with Chinese industry and government representatives. The topics ranged from grid expansion to power plant flexibilisation, storage technologies and renewable energy.[3484] Key area 8

On 16 November, 2016 a national guideline on environmental improvements was approved by the State Council. China will improve environmental protection and restoration to ensure a greener, more sustainable development, according to the new guideline for environmental protection during the 13th Five-Year Plan period (2016-2020)."We are committed to a development path that delivers economic progress and environmental improvement," Premier Li said.[3485] Key area 11

On 26 November 2016 Shanghai Petroleum and Natural Gas Exchange, a national energy trading center, officially opened. Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission, Xu Shaoshi, said that the platform is both an important achievement of China's market reform of oil and gas prices, and strong support for further reforms.[3486] "Promoting the improvement and upgrading of the energy structure. By 2020 the energy consumption per unit of GDP [gross domestic product] shall drop by 15 percent."[3487] Key area 5

On 20 December 2016, the National Development and Reform Commission of the People's Republic of China issued Renewable Energy Sources Development Program for 2016-2020 years as a part of the 13th

[3482] New Energy Efficiency Regulations Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Costs for Consumers, Governmant Of Canada 4 January 2017. Access date: 19 June 2017. https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2017/01/new-energy-efficiency-regulations-reduce-greenhouse-emissions-costs-consumers.html

[3483] Dr. Nan Zhou gave a speech at the Foundation Laying Ceremony for LBNL-Shenzhen IBR Joint Research Center, China Energy Group 26 October 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017. https://china.lbl.gov/news/dr-nan-zhou-gave-speech-foundation-laying.

[3484] Baake at Energy Transition Conference in China, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 30 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2015. http://www.bmwi.de/EN/Press/press-releases,did=788088.html.

[3485] China approves new guideline on environmental improvements, Xinhua News Agency 16 November 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-11/16/c_135835078.htm.

[3486] China Focus: SHPGX launched to lead China's market reform of energy, Xinhua News Agency 26 November 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-11/26/c_135860627.htm.

[3487] National Human Rights Action Plan of China (2016-2020), Xinhua News Agency 29 September 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-09/29/c_135722183_5.htm.

five-year plan. According to the Program, China will gradually give up using fossil fuels and shift towards developing alternative energy sources: wind, sun, subsoil energy. The Commission states, that this shift will help to improve the air quality.[3488] Key area 6

China has taken actions in five key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Kirill Gribkov

France: −1

France has not complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

In 2014, France adopted the Energy Efficiency Plan. It sets targets and describes policies in major areas: transport, buildings, industry, agriculture, funding for high-performance equipment, heating and cooling efficiency and others. This plan is to be executed by 2020.[3489] It contains actions on several key areas of G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme: key area 1: vehicles, key area 3: finance, key area 4: buildings, key area 5: industrial processes (Industrial Energy Management), key area 7: super-efficient equipment and appliance deployment initiative.

On 3 January 2017, Minister of the Environment, Energy and Marine Affairs Ségolène Royal and Minister of the Economy and Finance Michel Sapin announced the launch of the process for issuing France's first sovereign green bond. The action is intended to spearhead the country's actions to protect the environment, in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement on the climate and the 2015 Act on the Energy Transition for Green Growth. The official government website specifies three major objectives to be achieved in this regard: Foster the development of the green bonds market, define the best framework for this market, ensure the Paris marketplace's lead in terms of green finance.[3490] Key area 3

On 16 January 2017, France launched the "French Efficiency — Clean Energy" regional Club for the Middle East on the occasion of the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week and the World Future Energy Summit in Abu Dhabi. France encourages the development of such regional clubs to facilitate knowledge of the technologies, to foster partnerships and to support the deployment of renewable and clean energies.[3491]

According to the International Energy Agency's Report on Energy Efficiency published on 17 January 2017, France became the fifth country to submit its Long-Term National Climate Plan to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, after Canada, Germany, Mexico and the United States. France commits to reduce carbon emissions by 40 per cent compared to 1990 levels by 2030, and achieve a reduction of 75 per cent by 2050. The plan further states that the national low-carbon strategy

[3488] China will be ready to actively develop renewable energy sources by 2020, Xinhua News Agency – Russia 20 December 2016. Access date: 07 May 2017
http://russian.news.cn/2016-12/20/c_135919285.htm

[3489]Energy efficiency action plan for France – 2014, European Commission. Access date: 17 January 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/2014_neeap_en_france.pdf

[3490] Launch of the process for issuing the first sovereign green bond, Frehcn Government 5 January 2017. Access date^ 17 January 2017. http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/launch-of-the-process-for-issuing-the-first-sovereign-green-bond.

[3491] Official launching of the « French Efficiency – Clean Energy » regional Club for the Middle East in Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, Embassy of France in Abu Dhabi 16 January 2017. Access date: 9 March 2017. http://www.ambafrance-eau.org/Launching-of-the-French-Efficiency-Clean-Energy-club-for-the-Middle-East is founded on two pillars: including carbon footprint reductions as key consideration in all economic decisions; and redirecting investments to support the energy transition.[3492]

France has acted to improve energy efficiency in only three key area of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme. Thus, it receives a score of −1.

Analysts: Mark Rakhmangulov and Anastasia Polovko

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 29 September 2016, Federal Minister of Transport Alexander Dobrindt and his French colleague, Alain Vidalies, launched the "German-French Initiative for Electromobility and Digitality" in Munich. The aim of the initiative is to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries in order to promote innovations in the fields of e-mobility and automated driving.[3493] Key area 1

On 29 September 2016, the seventh session of the Indo-German Energy Forum took place. India is going to increase its power generation capacities by 100 gigawatts (GW) (photovoltaics), 60GW (wind) and 15GW (biomass) by 2022. To do this, India cooperate with Germany, also with its private sector, on the issues of renewable energy and grid stability.[3494] Key area 8

On 7 October 2016, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Sigmar Gabriel and Jordan's Minister of Foreign Affairs Nasser Judeh signed the Joint Declaration to confirm their intent to establish an energy dialogue between Germany and Jordan. The Energy Export Initiative of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy is aimed at intensifying the cooperation between German small and medium-sized enterprises offering climate-friendly technologies and Jordanian energy companies.[3495] Key area 10

On 19 October 2016, the Federal Cabinet adopted the law on the redistribution of responsibility for nuclear waste management, which is devoted to the financial monitoring of the use of nuclear energy.[3496] Key area 3

On 24 October 2016, the European Commission approved German's funding scheme for cogeneration plants set out in the new Combined Heat and Power Act.[3497] Key area 3

On 30 October 2016, German State Secretary Rainer Baake took part in the International Forum on Energy Transitions in Suzhou, China. During the conference, State Secretary Baake held bilateral talks

[3492] Mitigation Update: France, China Announce Mitigation Commitments, IEA Reports on Energy Efficiency, SDG Knowledge Hub 17 January 2017. Access date: 9 March 2017. http://sdg.iisd.org/news/mitigation-update-france-china-announce-mitigation-commitments-iea-reports-on-energy-efficiency/

[3493] Deutsch-Französische Initiative Elektromobilität und Digitalität gestartet, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure 29 September 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmvi.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2016/156-dobrindt-deutsch-franzoesische-erklaerung.html.

[3494] Germany and India aiming to deepen cooperation on energy, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 29 September 2016. Access date: 25 December 2015. http://www.bmwi.de/EN/Press/press-releases,did=785450.html.

[3495] Minister Gabriel: Germany helps Jordan restructure its energy sector, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 7 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/EN/Press/press-releases,did=785504.html.

[3496] Cabinet approves important energy legislation, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure 19 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/EN/Press/press-releases,did=788370.html.

[3497] Minister Gabriel: Green light from Brussels for CHP funding and interruptible loads, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure 24 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/EN/Press/press-releases,did=788958.html.

with Chinese industry and government representatives. The topics ranged from grid expansion to power plant flexibilisation, storage technologies and renewable energy.[3498] Key area 8

On 31 October 2016, the Federal Office of Economics and Export Control (BAFA) established the subsidy funds for investments in cogeneration. This is possible after the European Commission has approved the cogeneration legislation.[3499] Key area 3

On 9 November 2016, the Federal Cabinet adopted the National Strategic Measures for Alternative Fuels Infrastructure, presented by the Federal Minister of Transport and Digital Infrastructure, Alexander Dobrindt. The aim of this project is the acceleration of alternative drives.[3500] Key area 1

On 14 November 2016, the Federal Cabinet adopted the climate protection plan 2050. The plan contains climate indicators for individual industries and thus provides a concrete orientation for strategic decisions in the coming years.[3501] Key area 11

On 16-18 November 2016, Rainer Baake, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, visited the 22nd United Nations climate conference. He met with high-level energy policy-makers to discuss strategies of decarbonizing the energy sector in order to attain the climate targets agreed in Paris. State Secretary Baake used his visit to talk with representatives of the Moroccan energy sector about their energy transition targets, and to head the meeting of the steering committee for the German-Moroccan energy partnership.[3502] Key area 10

On 25 November 2016, Roland Berger consulting company reported on the results of the investigation supported by the Federal Environment Ministry. This report assumed the opportunities offered by digitalization to industry, for example, significant carbon savings potential.[3503] Key area 5

On 5 December 2016, young German companies and start-ups got opportunity to apply with their ideas for the German Energy Agency. The goal of the project is to establish an international sustainability network.[3504] Key area 10

On 12 December 2016, the Federal Network Agency invited tenders for solar energy equipment according to the Renewable Energy Act 2017. The tender relates to facilities with an installed capacity of more than 750 kilowatts.[3505] Key area 6

[3498] Baake at Energy Transition Conference in China, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 30 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2015. http://www.bmwi.de/EN/Press/press-releases,did=788088.html.
[3499] BAFA versendet Förderbescheide über mehr als eine Milliarde Euro für Investitionen in Kraft-Wärme-Kopplung, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure 31 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/DE/Presse/pressemitteilungen,did=787648.html.
[3500] Nationaler Strategierahmen für den Ausbau der Infrastruktur für alternative Kraftstoffe, Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure 9 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016 http://www.bmvi.de/SharedDocs/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2016/173-dobrindt-kabinett-nsr.html.
[3501]Klimaschutzplan 2050: Kabinett beschließt Wegweiser in ein klimaneutrales Deutschland, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety 14 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmub.bund.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/pm/artikel/klimaschutzplan-2050-kabinett-beschliesst-wegweiser-in-ein-klimaneutrales-deutschland/?tx_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=103&cHash=09a7e727646fa0161e185f7a94146ffd
[3502] State Secretary Rainer Baake calls for global energy transition at the UN climate conference in Marrakesh, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 16 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/EN/Press/press-releases,did=790298.html.
[3503] Digitalisierung der GreenTech-Branche lohnt sich, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety 25 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmub.bund.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/pm/artikel/digitalisierung-der-greentech-branche-lohnt-sich/?tx_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=103&cHash=b06334eff1df8e9a7a7f2f99e5010220.
[3504] Neue Ideen für die Energiewende gesucht, Federal Government 5 December 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/DE/Meldungen/2016/12/2016-12-05-dena-Energiewende-Award.html.

On 11 January 2017, the Federal Cabinet adopted compensation programme based on a monitoring report of RWI Institute for Economic Research. Companies in the manufacturing sector will receive a partial relief from the electricity and energy taxes, if they achieve the target value of their energy intensity reduction.[3506] Key area 3

On 7 February 2017, the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy presented five model regions in which the energy system of the future is tested. In addition, the ministry provides information on energy efficiency in companies and export promotion. The model regions, which are distributed throughout Germany, are intended to provide practical solutions for the further development of the energy conversion. At the centre of the projects is the intelligent networking of production and consumption through the use of innovative grid technologies and operating concepts.[3507] Key area 7

On 16 February 2017, the representative of Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy Uwe Beckmeyer awarded German companies with the German raw materials efficiency award 2016 in Berlin. The ministry distinguishes outstanding examples of raw material and material-efficient products, processes or services as well as application-oriented research results. Measures and practical examples of efficient use of raw materials and materials were presented in the conference "Using raw materials efficiently — successfully on the market," which accompanied the award ceremony.[3508]

On 27 February 2017, the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy published the information that it would provide around EUR130 million for the next three years, thus stimulating the use of synergies through research and development in ambitious innovation projects with a system-oriented character. The focus is on research projects for the production and use of alternative, electricity-based fuels and the integration of new technologies into the energy industry. The use of electricity-based fuels can be used in passenger cars, trucks, ships, construction machines or in stationary industrial engines. The ministry also supports research and development for maritime systems with synthetic fuels and for smart microgrids in port areas, starting from a cross-sectoral approach.[3509] Key areas 1 and 5

On 27 February 2017, Rainer Baake, State Secretary in the German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy, took part at the Energy Council in Brussels. This meeting was a first exchange of ideas on the legislative package "Clean energy for all Europeans" presented by the Commission on 30 November 2016. It focused on the European Commission's proposals on electricity market design, renewable energies and governance.[3510] Key area 10

[3505] Erste Ausschreibung nach neuem EEG, Federal Government 12 December 2016. Access date: 25 December 2015. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/DE/Meldungen/2016/12/2016-12-12-solaranlagen.html.

[3506] Unternehmen steigern erneut ihre Energieeffizienz und erhalten eine Teilentlastung von Strom- und Energiesteuer, Federal Ministry of Finance 11 January 2017. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2017/01/2017-01-11-pm01.html

[3507] E-World energy & water 2017, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy 7 February 2017. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Veranstaltungsarchiv/20170209-e-world-energy-water-2017.html

[3508] Vier Unternehmen und eine Forschungseinrichtung erhalten Deutschen Rohstoffeffizienz-Preis 2016, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy 16 February 2017. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170216-vier-unternehmen-erhalten-rohstoffeffizienzpreis-2016.html

[3509] Startschuss für Förderinitiative „Energiewende im Verkehr", Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy 27 February 2017. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170227-startschuss-fuer-foerderinitiative-energiewende-im-verkehr.html

[3510] Staatssekretär Baake beim Energieministerrat in Brüssel – Energieminister beraten Vorschlagspaket „Saubere Energie für alle Europäer", Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy 27 February 2017. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170227-saubere-energie-fuer-alle-europaeer.html

Germany has taken actions in eight key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Nekrasova

India: 0

India has partially complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 4 October 2016, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) set to provide USD500 million in financing for rooftop solar systems that can help the Indian government expand energy access using renewable energy. ADB provided the financing to Punjab National Bank — one of India's largest commercial banks — which used the ADB funds to make loans to various developers and end users throughout India to install rooftop solar systems. The Government of India aims to increase the amount of energy sourced from solar rooftop systems to 40 gigawatts by 2022. This is part of a wider goal under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission to increase its overall solar energy generation to 100 gigawatts by the same date.[3511] Key area 3

On 4 October 2016, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) signed a deal with the Ministry of Urban Development to enhance energy conservation and ensure grid reliability. Under the agreement, EESL and the Ministry of Urban Development will supply and deploy the latest energy efficiency technologies at municipal level in cities selected to benefit from the country's Smart Cities Mission — an initiative designed by the Indian government under prime minister Narendra Modi, to deploy smart city technologies to modernize the infrastructure of 100 cities to ensure quality of life in India.[3512] Key area 4

On 28 November 2016, in New Delhi there was held an international conference called Energy Efficient Building Design: Experiences and Way Forward. During the conference India's Bureau of Energy Efficiency and the Swiss Agency for Construction and Technologies extended the duration of the Indo-Swiss Building Energy Efficiency Project to 2021.The main goal of this joint project is to reduce energy consumption in new commercial buildings as well as to spread best practices for the construction of low energy residential and public buildings.[3513] Key areas 1 and 4

On 27 February 2017, Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation has co-hosted a seminar on "Energy Efficiency in Housing and the Implementation Framework of Energy Conservation Building Code" which took place in New Delhi. The seminar lasted for two days and was jointly organized by the Indian Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, U.S. Department of Energy, Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the Clean Energy Solutions Center, the Building Efficiency Accelerator partnership and the American Chamber of Commerce in India. This event focused on policy and planning issues, norms, guidelines and rating systems, as well as best practices and implementation options in the sphere of energy efficiency in housing.[3514] Key area 8

On 10 March 2017, the Indian and German governments signed an agreement promoting India's Energy Efficiency Programme. Germany provided India with a loan of EUR 200 million investing in Energy

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[3511] ADB to Provide India USD 500 Million for Solar Rooftop Systems, Asian Development Bank 04 October 2016. Access date: 16 December 2016. https://www.adb.org/news/adb-provide-india-500-million-solar-rooftop-systems.

[3512] India adds energy efficiency to smart cities programme, Metering & Smart energy international 04 October 2016. Access date: 16 December 2016. https://www.metering.com/news/energy-efficiency-programmes-eesl-india/.

[3513] Ministry of Power extends Memorandum of Understanding with Swiss Government for joint building energy efficiency project, FDFA 25 November 2016. Access date: 08 April 2017. https://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/india/en/home/news/news.html/content/countries/india/en/meta/news/2016/ministry-of-power-extends-memorandum-of-understanding-with-swiss

[3514] Seminar on Housing Energy Efficiency and ECBC in India, NZEB Access date: 08 April 2017. http://www.nzeb.in/event/seminar-housing-energy-efficiency-ecbc-india/

Efficiency Services Limited, which will provide financial support for energy efficiency in different sectors in India, namely domestic households, public buildings, street lighting, water supply and other public facilities, agriculture and industry. The agreement was signed between the German Development Bank — on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development — and Energy Efficiency Services in the presence of M. Ney, German Ambassador in India.[3515] Key area 4

On 16 March 2017, Indian Bureau of Energy Efficiency under the Ministry of Power implemented Perform, Achieve and Trade scheme which is a component of National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency. The scheme is a market based mechanism created in order to increase cost effectiveness via certification of surplus energy savings in energy-intensive industries that can be traded. According to official press release, Indian Ministry of Power issued more than 3.8 million of Energy Savings Certificates in 2017. Trading of the certificates at power exchanges was to start in April 2017.[3516] Key area 8

India takes actions to improve energy efficiency in four key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Evgeny Tsarik

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

In December 2016, the Directorate-General of New, Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation within the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia announced the directorate-general's priorities for 2017, which include:[3517]

- Construction of 35,000 megawatt additional power capacity, and 25 per cent of it should be based on renewable energy power generation (having connection with the key area "Electricity Generation" of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme);
- Mandatory implementation of Business 20 (B20) standard in biofuel usage, which started in 2016, in the transportation and power plant sectors (having connection with the key areas "Vehicles," "Electricity Generation" of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme);
- Enhancement of the development of the new and renewable energy based power plants by releasing feed-in-tariffs (having connection with the key area "Electricity Generation" of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme);
- Development of rural energy and rural electricity based on renewable energy, particularly through the Bright Indonesia Program (having connection with the key areas "Electricity Generation," "District Energy Systems" of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme);
- Establishment of the energy fund that will be allocated for renewable energy development (having connection with the key area "Finance" of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme).

[3515] India's energy efficiency and affordable housing programmes receive support from Germany, India Blooms 10 March 2017. Access date: 09 April 2017. http://www.indiablooms.com/ibns_new/finance-details/6721/india-s-energy-efficiency-and-affordable-housing-programmes-receive-support-from-germany.html
[3516] Ministry of Power issued more than 38 lakhs Energy Savings Certificates to industries, Bureau of Energy Efficiency 16 March 2017. Access date: 08 April 2017. https://www.beeindia.gov.in/sites/default/files/press_releases/Press%20release%20for%20Bureau%20of%20Energy%20Efficiency_16%20March%202017%20-1-.pdf
[3517] Indonesia's energy program is going green, The Worldfolio 6 December 2016. Access date: 12 December 2016. http://www.theworldfolio.com/interviews/indonesias-energy-program-is-going-green/4262/.

On 13 April 2017, Indonesia's Energy Minister speaking at the Indonesian Energy Conference reaffirmed that the government was committed to continue to push for "greater energy efficiency to help Indonesian companies better compete against regional rivals," which implies that additional measures could potentially be taken in relation to all key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme.

Indonesia has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in four key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Italy: −1

Italy has not complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 16 September 2016, the Ministry of Economic Development published a decree that regulates the preparation and implementation measures concerning the improvement of the performance and the energy efficiency of buildings in the central public administration. The decree includes such particular points as the mode of financing; the methods and criteria for the identification and selection of interventions eligible for funding; the presentation of the proposed intervention and approval of program interventions; required technical assistance; the coordination, data collection and monitoring that is necessary to verify the state of progress of the program.[3518] Key area 7

On 17 November 2016, the Chief Executive Officer of the joint-stock company Terna, Matteo Del Fante and CEO and General Manager of the Rete Ferroviaria Italiana (the owner of Italy's railway network, being the infrastructure manager of the FS Italiane Holding and with an active participation of the state providing access to the Italian network) Maurizio Gentile, have signed a Letter of Intent with the aim of collaborating to identify and implement initiatives of common interest in renewable energy in Italy. In particular, the agreement will see the two companies develop a project to construct photovoltaic plants that will feed RFI's electricity consumption with clean energy.[3519] Key area 6

November 2016 was dedicated to the theme of efficient energy in Italy. Various institutions, trade associations, public administration and schools were encouraged to organize at their offices or in the public squares different events, promotional activities, seminars, concerning a more conscious use of energy in the workplaces, at homes, in schools. The initiative is promoted by the Ministry of Economic Development and implemented by ENEA in the framework of the National Campaign "Italy in A-Class."[3520] Key area 10

On 24 March 2017, Gestore Servizi Energetici, an Italian company controlled by the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance, hosted a workshop on energy sector employment in Rome. The event was organized by the Directorate General for Safety in Mining and Energy Activities and by the Ministry of Economic Development. Representatives from many international organizations including the

[3518] The Ministry of Economic Development published Decree that regulates the preparation and implementation measures concerning the improvement of the performance and the energy efficiency of buildings in the central public administration, Ministry of Economic Development 16 September 2016. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2016/11/09/16A07878/sg.

[3519] The Joint-stock company Terna and the Rete Ferroviaria Italiana have signed a Letter of Intent with the aim of joint cooperation, FS News 17 November 2016. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://www.fsnews.it/fsn/Sala-stampa/Comunicati/Terna-e-RFI-insieme-per-energia-sostenibile.

[3520] November of 2016 was dedicated to the theme of efficient energy in Italy, Italia in Classe–A. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://www.italiainclassea.enea.it/campagna3.aspx.

International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency and International Labour Organization attended the event.[3521] Key area 10

Italy has taken actions to improve energy efficiency only in three key areas of G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of −1.

Analyst: Maria Strelnikova

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

In September 2016, the International Energy Agency (IEA) published an updated review of Japan's energy policies.[3522] The report suggests that "Japan continues to be a global leader in energy efficiency." The IEA gives a high evaluation of Japan's policies related to seven key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program, namely, "vehicles," "networked devices," "finance," "buildings," "industrial processes," "district energy systems," "energy end-use-data and energy efficiency metrics."

On 16 September 2016, Japan published "Energy Conservation Technology Strategy 2016" jointly formulated by the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy and the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization.[3523] The strategy aims to effectively promote the research and development of energy conservation technologies. It specifies the fields of focus of the Japanese government in terms of promoting energy efficiency, including energy conversion/supply, home and business and transportation. The strategy was revised from the 2011 version to include broader concepts concerning energy management systems, e.g., Home Energy Management System and Building Energy Management System, bearing in mind the trends in Internet of Things and other new technologies. The paper also aims to advance research and development on energy efficient technologies and popularize its outcomes as an effort for achieving the goal of "realization of an advanced energy-saving society." Key areas: 1 "Vehicles," 4 "Buildings," 5 "Industrial Processes," 8 "Sharing Best Available Technologies and Best Practices," 10 "Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing Framework."

On 25 November 2016, it was announced that Japan joined a number of contributing countries donating an investment worth USD23 million to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)'s Climate Technology Centre and Network to promote accelerated development and transfer of climate technologies for energy efficient, low carbon and climate resilient development at the request of the developing countries.[3524] "Finance," "Sharing Best Available Technologies and Best Practices," "Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing Framework."

Japan has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in all key areas of G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

[3521] G7 Energy: technical sector employment workshop ahead of the Ministerial meeting, ITALIAN G7 PRESIDENCY 2017. Access date: 30 March 2017. http://www.g7italy.it/en/news/g7-energy-technical-sector-employment-workshop-ahead-ministerial-meeting
[3522] Energy policies of IEA countries. Japan. 2016, International Energy Agency. Access date: 30 November 2016. https://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/EnergyPoliciesofIEACountriesJapan2016.pdf.
[3523] Energy Efficiency Technology Strategy Formulated, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 16 September 2016. Access date: 29 November 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/0916_02.html.
[3524] USD 23m for climate technology transfer in developing countries, Energy Live News 25 November 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://www.energylivenews.com/2016/11/25/23m-for-climate-technology-transfer-in-developing-countries/.

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

Korea has a sound policy framework for energy efficiency with the "Energy Use Rationalization Act" of 2010 at its core, energy efficiency policies developed by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy and implemented by the Korea Energy Agency.[3525,3526,3527]

Within this framework in 2016 Korea was implementing sectoral (industry, buildings, transport) energy efficiency programs, programs on market transformation for energy efficiency (labeling and certificates), programs for financial support for energy efficiency, educational and public campaigns for energy efficiency.[3528] These policy measures have connection with seven key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program: "Vehicles," "Networked Devices," "Finance," "Buildings," "Industrial Processes," "Sharing Best Available Technologies and Best Practices," "Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing Framework."

On 25 November 2016, it was announced that Korea joined a number of contributing countries donating an investment worth USD23 million to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Climate Technology Centre and Network to promote accelerated development and transfer of climate technologies for energy efficient, low carbon and climate resilient development at the request of the developing countries.[3529] This action by the Korean Government has connection with three key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program, namely, "Finance," "Sharing Best Available Technologies and Best Practices," "Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing Framework."

On 6 December 2016, it was announced that the government had plans to reduce 37 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions from the current levels by 2030, and specifically — 19.4 per cent in electricity generation and 11.7 per cent in industries[3530] "Industrial Processes," "Electricity Generation." It was also announced that the government had decided to expand research and development investment in clean energy from the current WON560 billion (USD478.1 million) per year to WON1.12 trillion starting from 2021.[3531] "Finance," "Sharing Best Available Technologies and Best Practices," "Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing Framework."

On 16 March 2017, it was reported that around thirty social workers specializing in efficient energy use would be deployed this year by the Seoul Metropolitan Government as part of an energy-saving initiative to help low-income households reduce expenditures on heating and air conditioning; this work will go alongside the Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology green retrofit ramp-up program (i.e., maintenance of buildings using energy efficiency technologies).[3532] This action has connection with three key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program — namely, "Buildings," "Sharing Best Available Technologies and Best Practices" and "District Energy Systems."

[3525] Energy Use Rationalization Act, Korea Energy Agency 31 March 2015. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://www.energy.or.kr/renew_eng/resources/information_view.aspx?no=6&page=1.

[3526] Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://english.motie.go.kr/.

[3527] Korea Energy Agency. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://www.energy.or.kr/renew_eng/main/main.aspx.

[3528] Energy Efficiency Upgrade of Existing Buildings in Korea, Korea Energy Agency 15 June 2016. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://eusew.eu/sites/default/files/programme-additional-docs/04.%20Jin-Ho%20Kim.pdf.

[3529] 23m for climate technology transfer in developing countries, Energy Live News 25 November 2016. Access date: 27 November 2016. http://www.energylivenews.com/2016/11/25/23m-for-climate-technology-transfer-in-developing-countries/.

[3530] Gov't details its plan to cut carbon emissions, Korea JoongAng Daily 7 December 2016. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/news/article/article.aspx?aid=3027105&cloc=etc%7Cjad%7Cgooglenews.

[3531] Gov't details its plan to cut carbon emissions, Korea JoongAng Daily 7 December 2016. Access date: 11 December 2016. http://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/news/article/article.aspx?aid=3027105&cloc=etc%7Cjad%7Cgooglenews.

[3532] Seoul to Help Low Income Households with Efficient Energy Use, The Korea Bizwire 16 March 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://koreabizwire.com/seoul-to-help-low-income-households-with-efficient-energy-use/77666

On 28 March 2017, Korea Electric Power Corporation announced signing investment deals with 23 energy sector companies as part of its work on developing the global energy technology hub called the Bitgaram Energy Valley in South Jeolla; by analogy with Silicon Vally Bitgaram will focus on energy sector startups working on newly growing energy technologies.[3533] Development of Bitgaram will potentially make an impact on Korea's progress in all key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program.

On 7 April 2017, it was reported that Korea's first large-scale solar power plant that can store excessive photovoltaic energy in an energy storage system opened in Gangwon Province, having become the first case that has received the government's incentives for the construction of a solar farm with an energy storage system.[3534] It was further stated that the government would introduce a special rate system for the energy storage system equipped solar farms as part of efforts to lower the initial investment burden on their operators.[3535] This evidence proves Korea's progress in two key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program, namely, "Finance" and "Electricity Generation."

Japan has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in eight key areas of G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

In September 2016, second electricity market auction was organized in Mexico aimed at promoting use of renewable sources in the country.[3536] In the second auction 98 per cent of total solar and wind energy enterprises installed for last 18 years participated. According to Mexican Secretary of Energy Pedro Joaquín Coldwell, 34 companies operating in renewable energy sphere will be established which will add 5,000 megawatts to current electricity generation capacity in Mexico in the next years. The third auction will be held in April 2017.[3537] Key areas 3 and 6

On 9 September 2016, Mexican Secretary of Energy Pedro Joaquín Coldwell and Executive Director of Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) Gina Casar, inaugurated the meeting of the Commission of Connection of Mexico to the Electrical Interconnection System for Central American Countries. The commission will work to integrate the electrical markets of Mexico and the Central American countries through analysis of regulations etc. The event was attended by the Minister of Energy and Mines of Guatemala and the Secretary of Energy of Panama as well as senior representatives and executives of Central American regional electricity market bodies (CDMER, CRIE

[3533] Kepco signs investment deals as it eyes global energy hub, Korea JoongAng Daily 28 March 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/news/article/article.aspx?aid=3031487

[3534] S. Korea's first ESS-linked solar power plant is opened, Pulse by Maeil Business News Korea 7 April 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2017&no=237016

[3535] Ibid.

[3536] Nutrida participación en la fase inicial de la primera subasta de largo plazo del mercado eléctrico. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/nutrida-participacion-en-la-fase-inicial-de-la-primera-subasta-de-largo-plazo-del-mercado-electrico.

[3537] Con las primeras dos subastas eléctricas, México triplicó su capacidad en energías renovables: PJC. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/con-las-primeras-dos-subastas-electricas-mexico-triplico-su-capacidad-en-energias-renovables-pjc-70670?idiom=es; Se pondrán en operación 16 nuevas plantas eólicas y solares, como resultado de la Primera Subasta Eléctrica. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/se-pondran-en-operacion-16-nuevas-plantas-eolicas-y-solares-como-resultado-de-la-primera-subasta-electrica?idiom=es.

and EOR). The Commission engages Secretariat of Energy, National Energy Control Center, Federal Electricity Commission and AMEXCID.[3538] Key area 10

On 30 September 2016, Mexico and Alberta, province of Canada, signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed to strengthen cooperation, in particular in renewable energy. The MoU was signed by Mexican Secretary of Energy Pedro Joaquín Coldwell and Alberta Minister of Energy of Margaret McCuaig-Boyd. As Mr. Coldwell emphasized, Mexico and Canada would their experience in energy sphere regulation and consultation of indigenous peoples in energy projects. In the framework of the signed MoU consultations, workshops, conferences, exchanges and joint studies will be organized to promote cooperation between Mexican and Canadian companies and regulators.[3539] Key area 10

On 26 October 2016, the presentation of the progress of the Mexican Energy Reform took place. At the event Mexican Secretary of Energy Pedro Joaquín Coldwell said that up to date 78 per cent of proposed expansion of gas pipelines had been made (Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto proposed to extend gas pipelines in the industrial zones of the country from 11,000 to 21,000 km by 2019). The total investment to these activities was USD12 billion. The expansion of gas pipelines contributed to a decrease of electricity generation costs and boosted growth of domestic industries with use cleaner energy sources.[3540] Key areas 6 and 9

On 8 November 2016, Mexican Secretary of Energy Pedro Joaquín Coldwell inaugurated the new combined cycle plant based on natural gas and operated by company Iberdrola in Pesquería, Nuevo León state. The total investment to this project was USD251 million. At the second stage of its operations the plan will have a capacity of 1000 megawatts. The plant will provide electricity to the major manufacturing companies in the region.[3541] Key areas 5 and 6

On 17 October 2016, SENER announced a plan to collaborate with the Government of Mexico City to promote energy efficient projects. A guarantee fund of more than USD4 million will be created for the energy efficient projects in Mexico City. According to Pedro Joaquín Coldwell, installation of photovoltaic panels in corporate and public buildings as well as private houses could promote clean energy generation. Other projects include use of urban solid waste, installation of biodigesters as well as promotion of solar energy for water heating in hospitals.[3542] Key areas 3, 4 and 6

On 16 November 2016, Mexican Secretary of Energy Pedro Joaquín Coldwell chaired the first ordinary session of the Consultative Council for Energy Transition at which the three key instruments of the Energy Transition Law were presented aimed at defining targets and measures for Mexico to move to a low-carbon economy. First instrument is the document of the Transition Strategy to Promote the Use of Cleaner Technologies and Fuels containing a goal of 35 per cent of energy production from clean sources by 2024; 37.7 per cent by 2030 and 50 per cent by 2050. The Strategy also includes a target to reduce

[3538] México y Centroamérica avanzan en la integración eléctrica. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/mexico-y-centroamerica-avanzan-en-la-integracion-electrica-64543?idiom=es.

[3539] Con las primeras dos subastas eléctricas, México triplicó su capacidad en energías renovables: PJC. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/con-las-primeras-dos-subastas-electricas-mexico-triplico-su-capacidad-en-energias-renovables-pjc-70670?idiom=es.

[3540] A dos años de la Reforma Energética la administración del Presidente registra un avance del 78% de los kilómetros de ductos planeados: PJC. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/a-dos-anos-de-la-reforma-energetica-la-administracion-del-presidente-pena-nieto-registra-un-avance-del-78-de-los-kilometros-de-ductos-planeados-pjc?idiom=es.

[3541] La Reforma Energética fortalece la cadena de suministro de gas natural en el país: PJC. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/la-reforma-energetica-fortalece-la-cadena-de-suministro-de-gas-natural-en-el-pais-pjc?idiom=es.

[3542] La SENER colaborará con la Ciudad de México para impulsar proyectos de eficiencia energética. Access date: 23 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/la-sener-colaborara-con-la-ciudad-de-mexico-para-impulsar-proyectos-de-eficiencia-energetica?idiom=es.

energy intensity from 2016 to 2030 by 1.9 per cent and from 2031 to 2050 by 3.7 per cent. The second instrument is the National Programme for Sustainable Energy Use (Programa Nacional para el Aprovechamiento Sustentable de la Energía), which includes the indicators to for the monitor national energy efficiency targets for the period 2016-2018. The third instrument is the Special Program for the Energy Transition which establishes four strategic objectives to increase generation of clean energy; to expand and modernize energy infrastructure; to promote technological development; and to improve access to clean energy for the Mexican citizens. In addition the Atlas of High Clean Energy Potential Zones was presented. The Atlas will be a useful tool for the investors in the clean energy projects in Mexico. The North American Renewable Integration Study was also presented aimed at analyzing coordinated planning and operations impacts under a high renewable energy scenario across North America.[3543] Key areas 6, 8 and 11

On 17 November 2016, Mexico and the European Union announced a project of geothermal systems research aimed at developing and applying new technologies in this field. The project will have a total investment of EUR20 million. The geothermal energy helps to diversify energy mix of the country and reduce carbon emissions. The consortium will bring together Michoacan University of Saint Nicholas of Hidalgo, National Autonomous University of Mexico, National Institute of Electricity and Clean Energy, Center for Scientific Research and Higher Education at Ensenada and Federal Electricity Commission from the Mexican side and GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences with contributions from of more than 20 institutions from Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Norway and the United Kingdom from the European Union side.[3544] Key areas 6 and 8

On 1 December 2016, SENER, the Embassy of France in Mexico and French Development Agency (AFD) organized the seminar "Towards Energy Transition: Perspectives in Mexico and France" aimed at exchanging best practices in transition to clean energy between the two countries. The participants discussed the impacts of the energy transition laws as well as transforming energy models. On the sidelines of the event the Secretariat for Energy Planning and Transition of the SENER, the French Economic Observatory and the AFD signed a cooperation agreement aimed at supporting the SENER in applying a sectoral macroeconomic model of general equilibrium to evaluate the public policies in the energy sector.[3545] Key area 8

On 10 January 2017, the new Manual for Interconnection of Generation Plants with capacity less than 0.5 megawatts was published. The document includes new technical and administrative guidelines that small energy producers should follow to interconnect their power plants to the distribution network as well as citizens installing solar panels in their homes. The new Manual available online will increase the awareness of the producers and simplify the technical and administrative procedures for them shortening a period of interconnecting to maximum of 18 days. In addition SENER released the results of the first analysis of possible savings from the installation of clean energy generation technologies and

[3543] México cumplirá con su meta del 35 per cent de generación eléctrica con energías limpias en 2024: Consejo Consultivo para la Transición Energética. Access date: 23 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/mexico-cumplira-con-su-meta-del-35-de-generacion-electrica-con-energias-limpias-en-2024-consejo-consultivo-para-la-transicion-energetica?idiom=es.
[3544] México y la Unión Europea anuncian proyecto para la investigación de sistemas geotérmicos. Access date: 23 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/mexico-y-la-union-europea-anuncian-proyecto-para-la-investigacion-de-sistemas-geotermicos?idiom=es.
[3545] México y Francia intercambian prácticas sobre los retos y metas de la Transición Energética. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/mexico-y-francia-intercambian-practicas-sobre-los-retos-y-metas-de-la-transicion-energetica?idiom=es.

implementation of energy efficiency measures to promote them among the Mexican entrepreneurs.[3546] Key areas 5, 9 and 11

On 14 February 2017, the second Electric Auction in Mexico was concluded and the contracts of total amount of USD6.6 billion were signed aimed at funding construction of 52 new green power generation plants in Mexico that will add about 5000 megawatts of clean energy to the country`s existing capacity. The clean energy auctions became effective mechanisms for promotion long-term investments and attracting new generators to the country. The third auction runs from 28 April 2017 to 16 October 2017.[3547] Key area 6

On 16 February 2017, Mexican Secretary of Energy Pedro Joaquín Coldwell inaugurated the largest cogeneration plant in Veracruz constructed according to the Energy Reform objectives. It will produce electricity from natural gas and will reduce energy losses and greenhouse emissions. The plant will add 141 megawatts to the country's energy capacity and will produce 46 tons of steam per hour. The total investment to the plant construction amounted more than USD 180 million.[3548] Key area 6

On 14 March 2017, SENER signed two Memoranda of Understanding with the British Government and the British Council and the Chevening Graduate Scholarship Program. The first document aims to promote research and innovation development cooperation in the energy sector through funding of the bilateral research groups and exchange of the best practices between the two countries. The second document aims to provide Mexican students with master degree scholarships in energy sphere in the United Kingdom, particularly in renewable energy.[3549] Key area 8

On 30 March 2017, Mexican Secretary of Energy Pedro Joaquín Coldwell and President of the University of California Janet Napolitano announced the call for projects in energy efficiency sphere aimed at advancing research, regulation and industrial development to promote the rational use of energy in buildings, municipal utilities and transportation. The CONACYT-SENER Energy Sustainability Fund will allocate more than USD10 million to financing the selected projects. The Mexican Higher education institutions, public and private research centers as well as civil associations could submit their projects proposals individually or in partnership with other national and foreign institutions.[3550] Key areas 1, 4

On 31 March 2017, SENER published the Document introducing new requirements for acquisition of certificates of clean energies in 2020, 2021 and 2022. The certificates are the instrument aimed at integrating clean energies in electricity generation and developing clean energy projects. The Document

[3546] La Reforma Energética facilita el uso de la energía solar para pequeños generadores. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/la-reforma-energetica-facilita-el-uso-de-la-energia-solar-para-pequenos-generadores?idiom=es; Nuevas medidas para el autoabasto con energías limpias. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/nuevas-medidas-para-el-autoabasto-con-energias-limpias?idiom=es.
[3547] Crece energía eólica y solar en México 170%: PJC. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/crece-energia-eolica-y-solar-en-mexico-170-pjc?idiom=es.
[3548] En el marco de la Reforma Energética, nueva planta de cogeneración eléctrica en Veracruz. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/en-el-marco-de-la-reforma-energetica-nueva-planta-de-cogeneracion-electrica-en-veracruz.
[3549] Fondos para becas e investigación en energía entre Sener, Conacyt y Reino Unido. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/fondos-para-becas-e-investigacion-en-energia-entre-sener-conacyt-y-reino-unido?idiom=es.
[3550] 200 millones de pesos para proyectos en eficiencia energética entre SENER-CONACyT y la Universidad de California. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/200-millones-de-pesos-para-proyectos-en-eficiencia-energetica-entre-sener-conacyt-y-la-universidad-de-california.

sets the norms of electricity consumption from clean sources for the Mexican companies and citizens for the abovementioned years.[3551] Key areas 5, 6 and 10

Mexico has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in nine key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 27 December 2016, President Vladimir Putin of Russia chaired the State Council meeting on Russia's environmental development for future generations. The participants discussed Russia's transition to environmentally sustainable development. President Putin emphasized such issues as energy saving, and the preservation of forests, water and unique and said it was necessary "to carry out energy saving and ecological recovery programmes." The report prepared by the State Council "justifies transition to eco-friendly sustainable development as a national strategic priority." It proposed a package of solutions for attaining sustainable development in the medium and long term, including a set of measures for the development of renewable energy sources. President Putin reminded the participants that 2017 was declared the Year of the Environment, and environmental protection was included in the recently approved National Science and Technology Development Strategy as a priority.[3552] The strategy, adopted on 1 December 2016, mentions as one of the priorities of Russia's science and technology development the transition to clean and resource efficient energy, increasing efficiency of production and processing of petroleum commodities, development of new sources, means of transportation and storage of energy.[3553] Key areas 1 and 5

On 20 January 2017, the working group under the governmental commission on development of FPC held a session on use of natural gas on transport. The Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation presented the plan concerning use of gas-powered vehicles during the FIFA World Cup in 2018.[3554] Key area 1

On 20 January 2017, the State Duma has ratified the intergovernmental agreement concerning the Turkish Stream project. The agreement was signed on 10 October 2016 in Stambul, Turkey, and presented in the State Duma on 19 December 2016. According to the agreement, amount of investment to the project would reach up to EUR7 billion aimed at large-scale infrastructural construction works.[3555] Key area 4

On 1 February 2017, the Russian Ministry of Energy published a draft Russian energy strategy for the period until 2035. It includes the aim of realizing potential for increasing energy efficiency. It provides for the following measures: development of relevant legislation, including introducing a ban on the production and use of energy ineffective facilities, buildings and technological processes; tax stimulation of the use of best available technologies by companies; financing of projects aimed at increasing energy

[3551] Se dan a conocer los requisitos para la adquisición de Certificados de Energías Limpias de 2020 a 2022. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/sener/prensa/se-dan-a-conocer-los-requisitos-para-la-adquisicion-de-certificados-de-energias-limpias-de-2020-a-2022.

[3552] State Council meeting on Russia's environmental development for future generations, President of Russia 27 December 2016. http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/53602

[3553] Executive Order on the Scientific and Technological Development Strategy, President of Russia 1 December 2016. http://www.kremlin.ru/acts/news/53383

[3554] Working session of the working group on use of natural gas as a motor-fuel. Access date: 15 June 2017. https://minenergo.gov.ru/node/6996

[3555] The State Duma to ratify the agreement on construction of the Turkish Stream. Access date: 15 June 2017. https://minenergo.gov.ru/node/6997 efficiency from different sources; raising public awareness on the topic. According to the Draft Strategy the level of energy intensity will be decreased by 4 per cent in 2020 or 2022 and by 34 per cent in 2035.[3556] Key areas 3, 4, 5 and 10.

On 16 February 2017, Vice-Minister of Energy of the Russian Federation V. Kravchenko and his counterpart Head of the Direction and Climate of the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy of the Republic of France Mr. Loran held a meeting of the joint working group on energy of the Russian-French Joint Council on Economy, Finance, Industry and Trade. Several issues were discussed including bilateral cooperation in gas industry, energy efficiency and electric generation. The meeting was ended with signing of the protocol.[3557] Key area 8

On 24 May 2017, the Government of the Russian Federation has issued the Governmental regulation No. 619 on Amendments to the procedures of quality control of electricity distributing companies. The regulation sets the legal framework for work of the system responsible for data-collection concerning efficiency and reliance of the electric companies' services.[3558] Key area 11

On 1 June 2017, the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum was held, during which there were discussions on Russian-Iranian cooperation in the sphere of energy.[3559] Key area 10

On 7 June 2017, Russia was set forward as a leading country of the global initiative aimed at energy efficiency and sustainable development of urban areas. The initiative was designed as a program of implementing best available practices in the sphere of urban lighting, energy generation and design of electrical grids. The initiative is expected to save more than USD1 billion annually by 2025.[3560] Key area 2

Russia has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in nine key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus it recieves a score of +1.

Analysts: Mark Rakhmangulov and Alexander Ignatov

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 4 September 2016, G20 leaders endorsed the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program which adds five new key areas, including District Energy Systems. It was co-led by Saudi Arabia, China and Russia. Saudi Arabia had already made good progress in district cooling (DC) through: 1) establishing DC arrangements, under the existing Electricity Regulatory Authority; 2) drafting "DC Perspective" covering licensing, technical and economic regulation issues and specifications; 3) developing DC threshold standards and arrangement that new public buildings could champion DC; and 4) identifying potential DC zones.[3561] Key area 9

On 1 October 2016, new regulations related to electric motors entered into force in Saudi Arabia. All electric motors under the scope of the Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) must meet the minimum energy

[3556] Russian Energy Strategy for the Period until 2035, Ministry of Energy of Russia 21 September 2016. http://minenergo.gov.ru/node/1920
[3557] Meeting of the Russian-French Working Group on Energy. Access date: 15 June 2016. https://minenergo.gov.ru/node/7232
[3558] The joint data center to assess the factual level of electric service of network organizations was founded on thebasis of the Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation. Access date; 15 June 2017. https://minenergo.gov.ru/node/8190
[3559] The Second Session of the Russian-Iranian Working Group onf Energy. Access date: 17 June 2017. https://minenergo.gov.ru/node/8267
[3560] Russia to lead the global initiative on energy efficiency and sustainable development of urban areas. Access date: 14 June 2017. https://minenergo.gov.ru/node/8281
[3561] G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme, European Commission. Access date: 12 January 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/G20%20Energy%20Efficiency%20Leading%20Programme.pdf

efficiency rating IE3. The rating IE2 will no longer be accepted at the second stage. Electric motors of specific types excluded from the scope of the EER are now required to be registered with Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization by exporter or manufacturer and obtain Certificate of Exclusion.[3562] Key area 1

On 31 October 2016, the King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center published the paper "Evaluating Building Energy Efficiency Investment Options for Saudi Arabia." It states that since 2014 the Saudi government has required the mandatory installation of thermal insulation in walls and roofs for all new buildings as a condition to obtain a connection to the electricity grid. Saudi Arabia has introduced minimum energy performace standards for air conditioning, refrigerators, freezers and washing machines and is preparing regulations to phase out inefficient lighting.[3563] Key area 4

On 21 November 2016, the Saudi Arabian government announced that it will start a national program to optimize water and energy consumption. The program will review current incentives for the energy and water sectors. Saudi Arabia aims to reduce electricity and water subsidies by USD53 billion and reduce non-oil subsidies by 20 per cent by 2020.[3564] Key area 3

On 15 December 2016, the Workshop "Energy Transitions/Utilities of the Future" was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Its objective was to determine the role of policy design in adopting renewable energy in a cost-effective manner and promoting new industries.[3565,3566] Key area 10

On 16 January 2017, the Saudi Energy Minister announced launch of the National Renewable Energy Program that is expected to involve investment of between USD30 billion and USD50 billion by 2023 to ensure 10 gigawatts of power are produced at renewable energy power plants both for internal consumption and exports.[3567] On 20 February 2017, first request for qualifications for Round One of the National Renewable Energy Program was initiated by the Saudi Ministry of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources for a 400 megawatts wind project and a 300 megawatts solar project.[3568] On 13 April 2017, it was reported 27 companies for the solar project and 24 companies for the wind project were shortlisted to further proceed with the bidding procedures.[3569] These actions by Saudi Arabia has connection with at least 2 key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Programme — namely, "Finance," "Electricity Generation."

On 29 March 2017, "Energy Efficiency in Housing" was jointly held in Riyadh by Schneider Electric and SABIC Home of Innovation to provide an update on the latest technologies in energy efficiency and smart buildings that can be utilized to support the Saudi government's efforts and its energy resources

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[3562] Update to Energy Efficiency Requirements for Electric Motors for Saudi Arabia, Intertek 13 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://www.intertek.com/government/export-import/regulatoryupdates-saudi-eer-electric-motors.
[3563] Evaluating Building Energy Efficiency Investment Options for Saudi Arabia. King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center 31 October 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://www.kapsarc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/KS-1655-DP049A-Evaluating-Building-Energy-Efficiency-Investment-Options-for-SA_web.pdf.
[3564] Saudi Arabia to establish national water and energy efficiency program, Reuters 21 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-utilities-idUSKBN13G21V.
[3565] Energy Transitions/Utilities of the Future, KAPSARC 15 December 2106. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://www.kapsarc.org/news-events/month_events/2016/12/#energy-transitionsutilities-of-the-future.
[3566] King Salman inaugurates King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center, KAPSARC 21 January 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://www.kapsarc.org/news/saudi-king-inaugurates-king-abdullah-petroleum-studies-and-research-center/.
[3567] Saudi Arabia Says It's About to Launch a $30-$50 Billion Renewable Energy Program, Fortune (by Reuters) 16 January 2017. Access date: 25 April 2017. http://fortune.com/2017/01/16/saudi-arabia-renewable-energy-program/
[3568] KSA's National Renewable Energy Program to attract investors: Minister, Arab News 23 February 2017. Access date: 25 April 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1058506/saudi-arabia
[3569] Saudi Arabia shortlists firms for 700MW renewable energy program, Energy Business Review 13 April 2017. Access date: 25 April 2017. http://wind.energy-business-review.com/news/saudi-arabia-shortlists-firms-for-national-renewable-energy-program-120417-5785834

conservation vision.[3570] This action by Saudi Arabia has connection with at least three key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program — namely, "Buildings," "Sharing Best Available Technologies and Best Practices," "Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing Framework."

On 2 April 2017, it was announced that the Saudi Aramco and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company came to an agreement on collaboration aimed to enhance the two countries' oil and gas, renewables and carbon management industries and identify technologies that could improve operational performance and efficiency across the oil and gas value chain.[3571] This action by Saudi Arabia has connection with at least 4 key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program — namely, "Industrial Processes," "Electricity Generation," "Sharing Best Available Technologies and Best Practices," "Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing Framework."

On 17-18 April 2017, the Saudi Arabia Renewable Energy Investment Forum was held in Riyadh.[3572] Speaking at the forum, the Saudi Energy Minister reaffirmed the country's ambition to substantially diversify energy consumption as fixed in the National Renewable Energy Program, and mentioned the work on designing the program was still ongoing inviting the private sector to participate.[3573]

Saudi Arabia has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in all key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 25-27 October 2016 the 27th Annual Conference of the Southern African Institute for Industrial Engineering took place in the North-West University in Stonehenge. Across many topics, some were devoted to the problem of energy management in industry. Key area 10.[3574]

On 2 November 2016, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the publication of the Integrated Energy Plan and the Integrated Resource Plan for public comment and engagement. The purpose is to "provide a roadmap of the future energy landscape for South Africa which guides future energy infrastructure investments and policy development."[3575] Key area 3

On 2-4 November 2016, the Windaba Conference and Exhibition under the theme "Towards 100 per cent renewables" took place. It aimed at boosting government's renewable energy initiatives. It brings

[3570] Workshop showcases latest technologies in energy efficiency, smart buildings, Arab News 29 March 2017. Access date: 25 April 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1075691/corporate-news
[3571] Abu Dhabi and Saudi Arabia to team up on energy technology and renewables, The National Business 2 April 2017. Access Date: 10 April 2017. http://www.thenational.ae/business/energy/abu-dhabi-and-saudi-arabia-to-team-up-on-energy-technology-and-renewables
[3572] The Saudi Arabia Renewable Energy Investment Forum official website. Access date: 25 April 2017. https://www.saudirenewablenergyforum.com/
[3573] Saudi seeks 10% renewable energy in six years: minister, Phys.org 17 April 2017. Access date: 25 April 2017. https://phys.org/news/2017-04-saudi-renewable-energy-years-minister.html
[3574] 27th Annual Conference of the SA Institute for Industrial Engineering. Access date: 28 February 2017. http://conferences.sun.ac.za/index.php/saiie27/saiie27
[3575] Media Briefing on the IEP and IRP 22 November 2016 By Honourable Tina Joemat-Pettersson, MP Minister of Energy, Department of Energy of South Africa 2 November 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.energy.gov.za/files/media/speeches/2016/Media-Briefing-on-the-IEP-and-IRP-by-the-Minister-22Nov2016.pdf.

together stakeholders involved in the wind energy value chain on the African continent and in South Africa in particular.[3576] Key area 8

On 4 November 2016, South African Energy Minister Tina Joemat-Pettersson launched the Ngwaabe Integrated Energy Centre at Feta-Kgomo Greater Tubatse Municipality. The Centre is a community project aimed at enhancing access to energy in rural areas and is a one-stop energy shop owned and operated by a community Cooperative project. It provides energy solutions to communities, access to affordable, safe and sustainable energy services.[3577] Key area 9

On 8-9 November 2016, the 11th Annual 2016 Southern African Energy Efficiency Convention took place. It focused on a range of energy-related fields: energy engineering, efficiency improvement, facilities and building management, renewable and alternative energy, co-generation, power generation, energy services and sustainability.[3578] Key area 10

On 15 November 2016 a new EU-sponsored initiative on Climate Change, Clean Energy and Urban Water in Africa was presented in Marrakech, Morocco. The program is expected to be co-sponsored by the South African Department for Environmental Affairs and focuses on facilitation of energy efficient municipal water supplies systems able to reduce both energy consumption and carbon dioxide emissions. Key area 7

On 5 December 2016, the state-owned South African National Energy Development Institute joined a new lobby group aimed to promote development of "green" cars. The other members of the group are BMW SA, Nissan SA and a program uYilo run by the state-governed Technology Innovation Agency. The group named the Electric Vehicle Industry Association is determined to extend the use of eco-friendly technologies in car industry despite the predominant position of fossil fuel vehicles.[3579] Key area 1

On 23 December 2016, the Department of Energy published the Draft Post — 2015 National Energy Strategy. It updates the government's ambitions in the sphere of efficient production and use of energy resources in South Africa. The document also contains key indicators concerning measurement of energy efficiency in various spheres of the country's economy.[3580] Key area 11

On 27-28 January 2017, the sixth World Sustainability Forum was held in Cape Town. The participants discussed various topics including the problem of sustainable and efficient development of energy and its connectivity with global problem of food and water supplement.[3581] Key area 10

On 9-10 March 2017, Tina Joemat-Petterson, Minister of Energy of South Africa, addressed investors at the third Powering Africa Summit in Washington DC.[3582] Key area 10

[3576] Statement on Cabinet meeting of 1 and 2 November 2016, Department of Energy of South Africa 3 November. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.energy.gov.za/files/media/pr/2016/Statement-on-Cabinet-meeting-of-1-and-2November2016.pdf.
[3577] Media Statement Launch Of Ngwaabe Integrated Energy Centre, At Ngwaabe Village, Department of Energy of South Africa 4 November 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.energy.gov.za/files/media/pr/2016/MediaStatement-Launch-of-Ngwaabe-Integrated-Energy-Centre-at-Ngwaabe-Village-04November2016.pdf.
[3578] Statement on Cabinet meeting of 1 and 2 November 2016, Department of Energy of South Africa 3 November. Access date: 12 January 2017. http://www.energy.gov.za/files/media/pr/2016/Statement-on-Cabinet-meeting-of-1-and-2November2016.pdf.
[3579] Lobby group for electric cars launched in South Africa. Access date: 27 February 2017 http://www.timeslive.co.za/motoring/2016/12/05/Lobby-group-for-electric-cars-launched-in-South-Africa
[3580] Department of Energy notice 948 of 2016 Draft Post – 2015 National Energy Efficiency Strategy. Access date: 1 March 2017. http://www.gov.za/sites/www.gov.za/files/40515_gen948.pdf
[3581] The 6th World Sustainability Forum. Access date: 28 February 2017. https://sciforum.net/conference/wsf-6
[3582] Powering Africa: Summit, 9-10 March 2017. Access date: 28 February 2017. http://www.energynet.co.uk/event/powering-africa-summit-2017

South Africa has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in all key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Irina Popova and Alexander Ignatov

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 9-13 October 2016, Istanbul hosted the World Energy Congress. It welcomed high officials from more than 30 countries of the world and international governmental organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Energy Agency, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the International Renewable Energy Agency. The meeting was devoted to various energy-related issues such as the future of global energy, business opportunities, security and prosperity, energy development in Africa. Various research papers were presented.[3583] Key area 10

On 11 October 2016, Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus signed an agreement to build an undersea energy cable between two countries. Both sides agreed that wider electric grid would contribute to well-being and energy security of the whole region.[3584] Key area 2

On 17 October 2016, Turkey and Russia signed an agreement establishing joint investment fund on energy development. The agreement lays down foundation for the Turkish Stream project, a gas pipeline under the Black Sea. The pipeline would have capacity of 30 billion cubic meters of natural gas per year. Turkey also obtained a discount of 10.25 per cent on gas prices.[3585] Key area 3

On 12 January 2017, Turkey's Garanti Leasing and the Green Growth Fund (Luxembourg) reached an agreement on a loan to foster investment in energy efficient equipment by Turkey's micro, small and medium enterprises. The fund will lend Turkey EUR15 million to replace obsolete and energy-inefficient equipment that is in use now.[3586] Key area 7

On 8 February 2017, the Turkish Gama Energy and General Electric signed an agreement to build the first digital power plant in Turkey. New type of energy generating facility will be more predictable, reliable and efficient than typical facilities available in the country. The plant will use new type of industrial software based on cloud composition.[3587] Key area 6

On 8-9 March 2017, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources of Turkey organized the IV International Nuclear Power Plants Summit in Istanbul. The meeting gathered experts and representatives of expert community, business and officials from Japan, the United Kingdom, Russia, Finland and others. One of the main priorities of the meeting was technological transfer in the sphere of nuclear energy.[3588] Key area 8

Turkey has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in six key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it recieves a score of 0.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

[3583] World Energy Congress 2016 Istanbul. Access date: 5 May 2017. http://www.wec2016istanbul.org.tr/about-us/world-energy-congress-2016-istanbul/
[3584] Turkey, TRNC sign landmark energy deal. Access date: 5 May 2017. http://aa.com.tr/en/economy/turkey-trnc-sign-landmark-energy-deal/662870
[3585] ë
[3586] GGF funds energy efficiency measures in Turkey with EUR 15 million. Access date: 5 May 2017. http://balkangreenenergynews.com/ggf-funds-energy-efficiency-measures-in-turkey-with-eur-15-million/
[3587] Turkey's first digital power plant powered by GE & GAMA Energy. Access date: 5 May 2017. http://www.genewsroom.com/press-releases/turkeys-first-digital-power-plant-powered-ge-gama-energy-283569
[3588] International Nuclear Power Plants Summit. Access date: 28 April 2017. http://www.nuclearpowerplantssummit.com/

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 23 October 2016, the government commited an additional GBP4 million to the Plug-In Van grant scheme extending the eligibility to larger electric vehicles. Electric trucks above 3.5 tonnes eligible for grants of up to GBP20,000. The scheme will help improve air quality in towns and cities.[3589] Key area 1

On 9 November 2016, the UK and Indian governments announced the creation of a GBP7.4 million research fund established to improve energy demand reduction in the built environment … in an attempt to "improve health and wellbeing and lower energy costs for building users."[3590] Key area 8

On 9 November 2016, British Deputy High Commissioner in Mumbai Kumar Iyer announced a collaboration between Sensus and MSEDCL on enhancing energy security that is aligned with India's National Smart Grid Mission.[3591] Key area 11

On 10 November 2016, Energy UK's fourth Annual Conference, on "Progress to our energy future," took place. Industry-wide delegates met with government, energy experts and consumer bodies to discuss the "future energy mix, consumer engagement, technology and innovation and financing our future energy system."[3592] Key area 8

On 22 December 2016, UK Energy Statistics, Q3 2016 was published. According to it, "half of the UK's electricity came from wind turbines, solar panels, wood burning and nuclear reactors between July and September." This is the record number for electricity generated from low-carbon sources.[3593] Key area 6

On 24 February 2017 the government published a guidance about the new minimum efficiency standard for privately rented commercial buildings has been welcomed by the industry for providing "vital clarity" to businesses. The document provides guidance which informs landlords whether their property is covered by the regulations, and the steps they should take to ensure their property complies with the minimum level of efficiency. The text also recommends how a landlord can identify appropriate energy-efficiency improvements and calculate whether particular upgrades would be cost-effective to install.[3594] Key area 4.

On 7 March 2017 the UK was among 13 members of the Zero Emission Vehicle Alliance to have signed a commitment to make all passenger vehicles sold "zero-emissions" by 2050. The government has also announced that it will spend more than GBP600 million between 2015 and 2020 to "support the uptake

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[3589] £4 Million Boost to Help Businesses Switch Vans and Trucks to Electric 23 October 2016. Access Date: 15 December 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/4-million-boost-to-help-businesses-switch-vans-and-trucks-to-electric.

[3590] UK and India Announce £7 Million Research Fund to Improve Building Energy Efficiency 9 November 2016. Access Date: 15 December 2016. http://www.cleanenergynews.co.uk/news/efficiency/uk-and-india-announce-7-million-research-fund-to-improve-building-energy-ef.

[3591] MSEDCL partners with Sensus to implement advanced metering infrastructure solution in Maharashtra 9 November 2016. Access Date: 15 December 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/msedcl-partners-with-sensus-to-implement-advanced-metering-infrastructure-solution.

[3592] Annual Conference, Energy UK. Access date: 12 January 2016. https://www.energy-uk.org.uk/events/category/annual-conference.html .

[3593] UK Energy Statistics, Q3 2016, Department for Business, energy and Industrial Strategy. Access date: 12 January 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/579543/Press_Notice_December_2016.pdf.

[3594] Commercial Building Energy Efficiency Guidance Delivers 'Vital Clarity' for Business, Official Website of Edie.net Information Resource, 24 February, 2017. Access Date: 5 April 2017. https://www.edie.net/news/6/Commercial-buildings-energy-efficiency-guidance-delivers--vital-clarity--for-business/

and manufacturing of ultra-low-emission vehicles," including GBP38 million to be spent on public charging points. There were also plans to create an ultra-low-emissions zone in London.[3595] Key area 1

The UK has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in six key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Elina Nizamova

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 22 November 2016, the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, which is the part of the Exascale Computing Project and a major component of President Barack Obama's National Strategic Computing Initiative, declared that it was developing a computer program that would run on the next generation of supercomputers with the aim of bringing "fusion energy closer to reality and has already succeed in computer codes combinations (called GENE and XGC), which provide a holistic view of the entire plasma volume."[3596] Key areas 2 and 3

On 22-23 November 2016, the US Department of Energy's Indian Energy Office held a Tribal Energy Program review meetings to enable tribes and Alaska Native villages to share their experience, successes and practices (to explore or deploy weatherization, efficiency of energy, and renewable energy technologies).[3597] Key area 8

On 30 November 2016, the Bioenergy Technologies Office of the US Department of Energy (DOE) declared the Bioenergy Separations Consortium establishment — "a consortium of eight DOE national laboratories leading coordinated research to move cost-effective, high-performing separations technologies to market."[3598] Key area 7

On 5-6 October 2016, the Biorefinery Optimization Workshop, hosted by the Bioenergy Technologies Office, was held in Chicago. The aim was to advance the current capabilities, barriers, and opportunities understanding for integrated biorefineries working on biofuels, biochemicals, and bioproducts production.[3599] Key area 10

On 11 October 2016, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, a part of the DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, leading petroleum refining technologies supplier W.R. Grace and leading pilot plant designer Zeton Inc. "built a unique pilot-scale facility that can produce biomass-derived fuel intermediates with existing petroleum refinery infrastructure."[3600] Key area 4

[3595] Business Benefits: is It Take-off Time for Electric Vehicles, Official Website of The Telegraph Newspaper, 7 March 2017. Access Date: 5 April 2017. http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/energy-efficiency/business-benefits-electric-vehicles/

[3596] Tapping the Next Generation of Supercomputers to Bring Fusion Energy to the World, the US Energy Department Official Website 22 November 2016. Access date: 8 December 2016. http://www.energy.gov/articles/tapping-next-generation-supercomputers-bring-fusion-energy-world.

[3597] Tribal Energy Program review, the US Energy Department Official Website 23 November 2016. Access date: 8 December 2016. http://www.energy.gov/indianenergy/tribal-energy-deployment-program-review.

[3598] BETO Launches Multi-Lab Consortium to Advance Separations Technology, the US Energy Department Official Website 30 November 2016. Access date: 8 December 2016. https://energy.gov/eere/bioenergy/articles/beto-launches-multi-lab-consortium-advance-separations-technology.

[3599] BETO Hosts Biorefinery Optimization Workshop October 5–6, the US Energy Department Official Website 11 October 2016. Access date: 8 December 2016. http://energy.gov/eere/bioenergy/listings/bioenergy-news.

[3600] New Pilot Plant Demonstrates the Potential to Co-Process Biomass Streams with Petroleum, the US Energy Department Official Website 11 October 2016. Access date: 8 December 2016. https://energy.gov/eere/bioenergy/articles/new-pilot-plant-demonstrates-potential-co-process-biomass-streams-petroleum.

On 1 December 2016, the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, on behalf of the Bioenergy Technologies Office, announced the plan of "issuing a funding opportunity announcement for up to USD8 million for the Algae-Based Biofuels Development."[3601] Key area 3

On 17 February 2017, the energy initiative "Power Africa," created under the administration of Barrack Obama and administered by the United States Agency for International Development, reported plans to realize the investment of USD1 billion to Nigeria in order to develop its power sector, strength energy feats, increase the access to electricity "by adding more than 30GigaWatts of clean and efficient energy through wind, solar, hydropower, natural gas and biomass projects."[3602] Key area 8

On 27 February 2017, the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy received approximately USD1.5 billion investment in research and development to conduct about "more than 580 projects through 36 focused programs and three open funding solicitations." The agency is supported by Congress in order to contribute to the U.S. competitiveness in the energy area.[3603] Key area 3

The US has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in seven key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Sedova

European Union: +1

European Union has fully complied with the commitment on energy efficiency.

On 9 September 2016, the European Commission leaders and energy ministers from 12 EU and Energy Community countries in Central and South-Eastern Europe signed infrastructure and regional cooperation agreements related to the European Commission Initiative on Central and South-Eastern European Gas Connectivity (CESEC). Ministers decided to cooperate in new areas, in particular to boost renewable energy and energy efficiency.[3604] Key area 3

On 9 September 2016, the European Commission approved support for a combined heat and power plant in Vilnius, Lithuania, under EU state aid rules. The project will get state aid granted by the Government of Lithuania. The commission found that the project promotes energy efficiency with expected energy savings of around 40 per cent. The commission concluded that the state aid would not lead to undue competition distortions and is in line with EU rules.[3605] Key areas 3 and 5

On 7 October 2016, European Commission Vice-President Šefčovič announced that the next EU steps in energy efficiency will include the revision and update of the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Energy

[3601] BETO Announces Notice of Intent for the Development of Algae-Based Biofuels, the US Energy Department Official Website 1 December 2016. Access date: 12 December 2016. http://energy.gov/eere/bioenergy/articles/beto-announces-notice-intent-development-algae-based-biofuels.
[3602] US to invest $1 billion in Nigeria's power sector, Vanguard Media Limited, 17 February 17. Access date: 01 April 2017. http://www.vanguardngr.com/2017/02/us-invest-1-billion-nigerias-power-sector/.
[3603] ARPA-E Projects Receive more than $1.8 Billion in Private Follow-on Funding for Transformational Energy Technologies, the US Energy Department Official Website 27 February 2017. Access date: 27 March 2017. https://energy.gov/articles/arpa-e-projects-receive-more-18-billion-private-follow-funding-transformational-energy.
[3604] Energy: Successful energy cooperation for Central and South-Eastern European Countries continues, European Commission 9 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-2982_en.htm.
[3605] State aid: Commission authorizes support for a highly efficient cogeneration power plant in Lithuania, European Commission 19 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3105_en.htm.

Performance of Buildings Directive. The aim is to update the existing energy efficiency policy and legal framework to reflect the new energy efficiency target for 2030.[3606] Key area 4

On 12 October 2016, the European Commission launched a new web portal "One-stop shop" that provides up-to-date information on EU policies such as climate change adaptation, mobility or circular economy that directly impact cities and urban areas. Cities can also get information on financing opportunities under the different EU funding instruments. It will help cities to address challenges, such as affordable housing, energy efficiency or accessibility.[3607] Key area 10

On 24 October 2016, Commissioner Arias Cañete gave a speech at the Business Europe Power Market Event. He stated that the EU will allocate EUR 17 billion to energy projects targeting renewables, energy efficiency and smart meters deployment. The priority will be given to the building sector.[3608] Key area 3

On 26 October 2016, the European Union announced new programs to support sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean. EUR9.2 million were allocated to the technical assistance program for sustainable energy in the Caribbean region. The assistance will be clustered in three main areas: 1) adopting regulatory frameworks that enable investments in new renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies; 2) setting up financing mechanisms for the development of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects; 3) improving information and statistics.[3609] Key areas 3 and 8

On 27 October 2016, Commissioner Arias Cañete announced that the EU will create a Smart Finance for Smart Buildings Initiative in order to help finance renovation and retrofitting in largely inefficient housing stock. The Initiative will help remove the barriers in this sector, aggregate demand and de-risk investments.[3610] Key areas 3 and 4

On 11 November 2016, the European Commission announced the investment plan for energy efficiency and innovation in Finland worth EUR170 million. It will support two innovative companies in Finland in the form of loans from the European Investment Bank. The first of them is a EUR150 million loan to construct new near-zero-energy buildings in urban areas around Finland.[3611] Key areas 3 and 4

On 24 November 2016, European Commission Vice-President for Energy Union Maroš Šefčovič and Energy Minister of Ukraine, Ihor Nasalyk, signed a new Memorandum of Understanding on a Strategic Energy Partnership between the EU and Ukraine. It will broaden the cooperation in all areas, including energy efficiency and renewable energy.[3612] Key area 10

[3606] Speech of Vice-President Šefčovič at the Inter-Parliamentary Meeting of the European Forum for Renewable Energy Sources, European Commission 7 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-16-3342_en.htm.
[3607] Urban Agenda: new knowledge sources available for Europe's cities, European Commission 12 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-16-3427_en.htm.
[3608] Speech by Commissioner Arias Cañete at the Business Europe Power Market Event, European Commission 24 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-16-3526_en.htm.
[3609] EU support to the Community of Latin America and Caribbean States (CELAC), European Commission 26 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3542_en.htm.
[3610] Speech by Commissioner Arias Cañete at Eurelectric: Winter [Package] is Coming: Getting the Energy Union Right, European Commission 27 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-16-3566_en.htm.
[3611] Investment Plan for Europe: €170 million for energy efficiency and innovation in Finland, European Commission 11 November 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-16-3667_en.htm.
[3612] EU-Ukraine Summit: EU and Ukraine intensify energy partnership, European Commission 24 November 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3926_en.htm.

On 30 November 2016, the European Commission presented the "Clean Energy for All Europeans" policy package.[3613] It covers energy efficiency, renewable energy, design of the electricity market, security of energy supply, governance rules for the Energy Union, promoting eco-design, clean energy innovation, renovation of buildings, encouraging public and private investment in the energy efficiency sector, mitigation of societal impact of the clean energy transition, boosting the EU industrial competitiveness and exploring ways in which the EU can show further leadership in clean energy technology and services to help non-EU countries achieve their policy goals. The key elements include proposals for:

- Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency;
- Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2010/31/EU on the energy performance of buildings;
- Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources.

Specifically, the package sets, among others, the binding 30 per cent energy efficiency target at the EU level by 2030 (although no national binding targets set for member states — their indicative national energy efficiency contributions for 2030 will be notified in members' integrated national energy and climate plans to be further assessed by the European Commission) and the binding target that at least 27 per cent of the energy used in the EU by 2030 should be renewable.[3614,3615]

Introduction by the European Commission of the "Clean Energy for All Europeans" policy package has connection with all key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program.

On 1 February 2017, the European Commission published the second State of the Energy Union report.[3616] The report notes that the EU countries have already met the 2020 target for cutting final energy consumption (energy consumed by end users, such as industry, households, services and transport) by 20 per cent (compared to baseline projections), while the similar target of cutting primary energy consumption (total energy consumption, which consists of final energy consumption and also energy consumed in the processes of converting and transporting it) by 20 per cent is still to be reached.

On 17 February 2017, it was announced that the EU members agreed on the European Commission's proposal to invest EUR444 million in priority European energy infrastructure projects (18 projects in the spheres of electricity, smart grids, gas and energy related research).[3617] This action by the EU has connection with five key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program — namely, "Finance," "Electricity Generation," "Sharing Best Available Technologies and Best Practices," "District Energy Systems" and "Energy Efficiency Knowledge Sharing Framework."

[3613] Commission proposes new rules for consumer centred clean energy transition, European Commission 30 November 2016. Access date: 19 April 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/news/commission-proposes-new-rules-consumer-centred-clean-energy-transition

[3614] Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2012/27/EU on energy efficiency, European Commission 30 November 2016. Access date: 19 April 2017. http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52016PC0767R(01)&from=EN

[3615] Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast), European Commission 23 February 2017. Access date: 19 April 2017. http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52016PC0767R(01)&from=EN

[3616] Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the European Investment Bank. Second Report on the State of the Energy Union, European Commission 1 February 2017. Access date: 19 April 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/2nd-report-state-energy-union_en.pdf

[3617] EU invests 444 million euros in energy infrastructure, European Commission 17 February 2017. Access date: 19 April 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/news/eu-invests-444-million-euros-energy-infrastructure

On 14 March 2017, it was reported that 11 EU members had attained the target set in Europe 2020 strategy to reach a share of 20 per cent energy from renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy, while the overall figure for the EU reached 16.7 per cent in 2015.[3618]

The European Union has taken actions to improve energy efficiency in all key areas of the G20 Energy Efficiency Leading Program. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

[3618] Eleven EU countries hit 2020 renewable energy targets, European Commission 14 March 2017. Access date: 19 April 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/news/eleven-eu-countries-hit-2020-renewable-energy-targets

17. Trade: Lowering Trade Costs

We endorse the G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth, under which the G20 will lead by example to lower trade costs

G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit

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		0	
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.80		

Background

The G20 never mentioned the trade costs in the summit documents before the 2016 Hangzhou Summit. The G20 supported ratification and implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) after its adoption in December 2013. At the 2014 Brisbane Summit the G20 leaders committed to increase the "efforts to implement all the elements of the Bali Package, including those on agriculture, development, public stock holding as well as the prompt ratification and implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement."[3619] At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit the G20 committed to ratify the TFA by the end of 2016 and called on other members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to do the same.[3620]

Commitment Features

At the Hangzhou Summit the G20 leaders adopted the G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth.[3621] It consists of seven trade-related areas, including lowering trade costs. It mentions the TFA, which aims to significantly lower global trade costs and positively impact on trade for development and the integration

[3619] G20 Leaders' Communiqué Brisbane, November 16, 2014, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2014. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/summits/2014brisbane.html.

[3620] G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit,, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 September 2016. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html.

[3621] Annex II: G20 Strategy for Global Trade Growth (SGTG), European omission. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/july/tradoc_154789.pdf.

of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) into global value chains (GVCs). G20 members thus committed to further actions on reducing trade costs and encourage all WTO members to fully implement the TFA. G20 members also agreed that capacity building and technical assistance will be critically important to ensure developing countries most in need are able to meet this objective, and will continue to support efforts in this regard.

The activities aimed at reducing trade costs could include the following:

- efficiency of customs and border clearance;
- quality of trade and transport infrastructure;
- ease of arranging competitively priced shipments;
- competence and quality of logistics services;
- ability to track and trace consignments;
- frequency with which shipments reach consignees within scheduled or expected delivery times.[3622]

The activity in the area of reducing trade costs in partner countries include:

- Access to trade finance;
- Tariffs, fees;
- Network infrastructure;
- Non-tariff measures;
- Transport infrastructure;
- Border procedures.[3623]

To achieve full compliance with this commitment the G20 member must take actions to lower trade costs nationally and assist developing countries in lowering trade costs.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	Member does not take actions to lower trade costs nationally AND assist developing countries in lowering trade costs
0	Member takes actions to lower trade costs nationally OR assist developing countries in lowering trade costs
+1	Member takes actions to lower trade costs nationally AND assist developing countries in lowering trade costs

Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 3 October 2016, negotiations between the President of the Argentina Mauricio Macri and President of Brazil Michel Temer were held in Buenos Aires.[3624] The Joint Declaration on Dialogue for Trade Facilitation and Productive Development between the Ministry of Production of Argentina and the Ministry of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services of Brazil was signed as well as the Joint Declaration on Simplification of Foreign Trade Procedures for Micro and Small Enterprises.[3625] According to the second Declaration, a permanent dialogue on simplification of foreign trade procedures for micro and small

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[3622] How Are Trade Costs Evolving And Why?, WTO. Access date: 17 January 2017. https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/aid4trade15_chap2_e.pdf.
[3623] How Are Trade Costs Evolving And Why?, WTO. Access date: 17 January 2017. https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/aid4trade15_chap2_e.pdf.
[3624] Comunicado conjunto Argentina – Brasil. https://www.mrecic.gov.ar/comunicado-conjunto-argentina-brasil-0.
[3625] Visita del Presidente de la República a la Argentina — Buenos Aires, 3 de octubre del 2016 — Actos firmados. http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/es/notas-a-la-prensa/14863-visita-do-presidente-da-republica-a-argentina-buenos-aires-3-de-outubro-de-2016-atos-assinados-2#decconjunta2.

enterprises at the bilateral and MERCOSUR level will be launched. The parties also expressed their intention to implement measures to increase efficiency and reduce trade costs, particularly by promoting use of the digital certificate of origin by micro and small enterprises.

On 6 October 2016, Ministry of Production of Argentina established the regulatory framework and a special committee for the implementation of VUCEA, an electronic single window for foreign trade operations. VUCEA will provide foreign operators with all necessary permits, certificates, etc. by means of electronic service. However, the schedule for full implementation of the system has not been announced yet.[3626]

On 10-14 October 2016, Argentina as MERCOSUR member country, participated in the 26th negotiation round of the trade part of the EU-Mercosur Association Agreement in Brussels. The participants of the round discussed a wide range of trade and economic issues, including customs and trade facilitation, technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, trade defence instruments etc.[3627] The participants consolidated a draft negotiation text on customs and trade facilitation building on the commitments of the TFA.[3628]

On 27 October 2016, Production Minister Francisco Cabrera has announced Argentina's intention to negotiate a free trade agreement with the US. The country is also interested in being incorporated into the US's Generalized System of Preferences. The intention for deepening trade relations with the US is to attract investments to Argentina's economy. The country is also in negotiations on a free trade agreement with Mexico, Canada, Korea and the European Union (as a member of MERCOSUR).[3629]

On 7 November 2016, Argentina and Qatar signed an agreement establishing a new infrastructure fund focusing on infrastructural projects in Argentina. The document was signed during a state visit of Vice President Gabriela Michetti to Qatar between state-owned agency ANSES (Argentina) and the Qatar Investment Authority. Qatar plans to invest USD1 billion in three years.[3630]

On 14-15 November 2016, the first round of negotiation on extending the Economic Complementation Agreement (ACE 6) between Mexico and Argentina was held in Mexico City. The expansion of ACE 6 aims to modernizes the existing legal framework in the economic sphere between the countries as well as provide new opportunities for entrepreneurs of both countries in order to facilitate and increase bilateral trade. The amended Agreement also aims to extend tariff preferences including new goods. The next round of negotiation will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in the first quarter of 2017.[3631]

On 27 November 2016, Prime Minister of Japan Shinzō Abe visited Argentina and met with Argentinian President Mauricio Macri. The leaders in particular discussed the process of negotiations on an agreement

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[3626] Establécese el Régimen Nacional de Ventanilla Única de Comercio Exterior Argentino (VUCEA). Comité de Implementación. Creación. http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/265000-269999/266261/norma.htm
[3627] MERCOSUR-Unión Europea: 10a Ronda de Negociaciones. https://www.mrecic.gov.ar/mercosur-union-europea-10a-ronda-de-negociaciones.
[3628] Report of the XXVI negotiation round on the trade part of the EU-Mercosur Association Agreement. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/november/tradoc_155069.pdf.
[3629] Argentina Is Seeking To Negotiate A Free-Trade Agreement With The US. Access date: 16 March 2017. http://www.thebubble.com/argentina-is-seeking-to-negotiate-a-free-trade-agreement-with-the-us/.
[3630] Argentina, Qatar build infrastructure fund. http://www.latinfinance.com/Article/3599820/Argentina-Qatar-build-infrastructure-fund.html#/.WKXAQ2_yiCg.
[3631] México y Argentina realizaron la Primera Ronda de Negociaciones para Ampliar y Profundizar el Acuerdo de Complementación Económica. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/se/prensa/mexico-y-argentina-realizaron-la-primera-ronda-de-negociaciones-para-ampliar-y-profundizar-el-acuerdo-de-complementacion-economica?idiom=es.

on mutual assistance in customs matters as well as the bilateral investment agreement aimed at avoiding double taxation and promote business relationships.[3632]

On 5 December 2016, the Bureau of Trade of Argentina imposed a new form necessary for textile import — a Product Composition Sworn Declaration. Under conditions of Resolution 404-E/2016, importers of textile and footwear are obliged to present a declaration containing information about composing materials or percentage composition of fibers in a product. Properly filled declarations allow obtaining an acceptance code necessary for importing. A code is valid for a period of 120 days. The regulation came into force in February 2017.[3633]

As of 19 June 2017, Argentina has not ratified the World Trade Organization's Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).[3634]

Argentina has taken actions to assist developing countries in lowering trade costs but failed to lower trade costs nationally. Thus, it receives a score of 0

Analysts: Elizaveta Safonkina and Alexander Ignatov

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 10 October 2016, changes were introduced into the fee schedule for trademarks filed after providing thus a reduction in the fees for obtaining trademark registration. While the registration fee will no longer apply to applications filed after 10 October 2016, the trademark application fees will increase from USD200 to USD330. The combined effect of these changes is to reduce the basic fees for registering a trademark from USD500 per class to USD330 per class.[3635] This fact is reflected in the Intellectual Property Legislation Amendment (Fee Review) Regulation 2016.[3636]

On 24 November 2016, the Australian government announced it would develop a freight and supply chain strategy for Australia's future. "Australia's freight demands are expected to grow by nearly 50 per cent between 2015 and 2030, and this strategy will assess the increasing demand for improved infrastructure networks as demand for products increase domestically and internationally," Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester said.[3637]

On 13-14 December 2016, "Trade Facilitation Reform: A Business and Government Partnership" Conference was held in Sydney. It brought governments and businesses from the Indo-Pacific together to find ways to make trade more efficient.[3638]

According to Australian Aid Budget Summary published in May 2016,[3639] in 2016–17, Australia's trade facilitation investments will:

[3632] Declaración Conjunta Argentina – Japón. https://www.mrecic.gov.ar/declaracion-conjunta-argentina-japon.
[3633] Legislation in Argentina on Textile and Footwear Articles. http://www.sgs.com/en/news/2017/01/safeguards-01117-legislation-in-argentina-on-textile-and-footwear-articles
[3634] TFA Mapping progress. http://www.tfafacility.org/.
[3635] IP Australia Fee Changes Aim to Foster Innovation, Davies Singapore. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.davies.com.sg/ip-news/ip-australia-fee-changes-aim-to-foster-innovation.
[3636] Intellectual Property Legislation Amendment (Fee Review) Regulation 2016, Federal Register of Legislation. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L01306.
[3637] Coalition government's Freight and Supply chain strategy for Australia, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://minister.infrastructure.gov.au/chester/releases/2016/November/dc199_2016.aspx.
[3638] Trade Facilitation and the Trade Facilitation Agreement, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://dfat.gov.au/trade/topics/pages/trade-facilitation.aspx.

- support developing economies in the Asia-Pacfic Economic Cooperation forum with technical assistance and capacity building to
- encourage unilateral reform, promote open and transparent markets and deepen regional economic integration.
- support the International Labour Organization's Better Work Programme, in partnership with the private sector, to help improve labour standards and reduce gender discrimination in apparel and footwear factories in developing countries;
- contribute to the Enhanced Integrated Framework of the World Trade Organization (WTO), to help least developed countries implement major trade-enabling reforms; support the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation, in partnership with the private sector, to help developing countries move goods across borders more efficiently under the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA);

The total investment is estimated in USD555.1 million.

On 24 February 2017, the Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment welcomed the TFA. According to his words, "the Agreement frees up the movement of goods across international borders by reducing red tape and the burden of administrative costs associated with trade." The minister also recognized the role of Australian government in the early ratification and its assistance to emerging economies along with hosting a global conference on trade facilitation in December 2016.[3640]

Australia has taken actions to both lower trade costs nationally and assisted developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ildar Khalilyulin

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 13 October 2016, the Brazilian government signed trade agreements with its BRICS partners of Russia, India, China and South Africa. During the BRICS trade ministerial meeting in New Delhi, India, Minister Marcos Pereira signed a series of documents aimed at integrating trade and development of countries of the group. The agreement includes topics such as debureaucratization and trade facilitation, promotion of trade in services, cooperation between small enterprises, promotion of exports and greater coordination of the trade policies of the five countries.[3641]

On 10 November 2016, according to Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the World Trade Organization (WTO) (14 October 2016), Brazil temporarily reduced (to 2 per cent) of import tariffs on 983 capital goods tariff lines and 47 informatics and telecommunications goods tariff lines, through the "ex-out" regime, as well as terminated on 6 October 2016 of anti-dumping duties on imports of glassine and other

[3639] Australian Aid Budget Summary 2016-17, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/corporate/portfolio-budget-statements/Documents/2016-17-australian-aid-budget-summary.pdf.

[3640] WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation enters into force, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment 25 February 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://trademinister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/sc_mr_170225.aspx

[3641] Governo brasileiro assina acordos comerciais com países do Brics, Portal Brasil 13 October 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2016/10/governo-brasileiro-assina-acordos-comerciais-com-paises-do-brics.

glazed transparent or translucent papers from France, Hungary, and Italy (investigation initiated on 19 April 2010; provisional and definitive duties imposed on 2 June and 6 October 2011).[3642]

On 16 November 2016, it was reported that the operational costs of importing and exporting companies could be reduced by between 40 per cent and 60 per cent by voluntarily joining the Agro Authorized Economic Operator Program (OEA Integrated). The data were verified by Sweden, pioneer in the implantation of the system. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply will officially join the program on 13 December, coordinated by the Federal Revenue Service. The OEA Integrated is aligned with Agro+, a plan to reduce bureaucracy, simplify and modernize agribusiness. This program is an initiative of the International Customs Forum, launched in Brazil in 2014.[3643]

On 18 January 2017 at the World Economic Forum, the Minister of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services, Marcos Pereira, said that in terms of trade facilitation the government's main project is the Single Foreign Trade Portal which aims at the complete redesign of export and import flows in Brazil with the consequent reduction of deadlines and costs in both processes.[3644]

On 22 February 2017, a comprehensive Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) ratified by 110 WTO members including Brazil came into effect. The agreement is expected to reduce transaction costs by an average of 14.3 percent and generate USD1 trillion in trade per year. Of this total, USD730 billion will be generated in developing countries. According to WTO Director General Roberto Azevedo, procedures and costs are higher in developing countries so in these countries there is more room to cut costs and gain from streamlining procedures, with more transparency and less bureaucracy. The TFA seeks to streamline the processing of goods at the borders and, as the Getúlio Vargas Foundation reports, the agreement can boost Brazilian exports and imports as it should reduce port costs and delays.[3645]

Brazil has taken actions to both lower trade costs nationally and assisted developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sofia Streltsova

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 30 October 2016, Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) was signed between Canada and the European Union. Most of the agreement's provisions are expected to enter into force in early 2017. It is expected that liberalization of trade in goods and services could boost Canada-EU trade by 20 per cent.[3646]

[3642] Report on G20 trade measures, World Trade Organization 10 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/g20_wto_report_november16_e.pdf.

[3643] Com programa, custos operacionais do comércio exterior podem cair em até 60 per cent, Portal Brasil 16 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2016/11/com-programa-custos-operacionais-do-comercio-exterior-podem-cair-em-ate-60.

[3644] Política de comércio exterior é prioridade do governo, diz ministro, Portal Brasil 18 January 2017. Access date: 2 Abril 2017. http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2017/01/politica-de-comercio-exterior-e-prioridade-do-governo-diz-ministro.

[3645] Acordo vai reduzir custo comercial, Folha PE 23 February 2017. Access date: 2 Abril 2017. http://www.folhape.com.br/economia/economia/economia/2017/02/23/NWS,19015,10,550,ECONOMIA,2373-ACORDO-VAI-REDUZIR-CUSTO-COMERCIAL.aspx.

[3646] Economic Profile – France, the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service. Access date: 8 December 2016 http://tradecommissioner.gc.ca/france/market-facts-faits-sur-le-marche/61739.aspx?lang=eng .

On 3 November 2016, Canada's International Trade Minister Chrystia Freeland introduced legislation in Parliament to implement Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement. The agreement implies elimination of duties on 99.9 percent of imports from Ukraine.

On 20 November 2016, Chrystia Freeland announced funding for a USD19.5 million development-assistance project, the Expert Deployment Mechanism for Trade and Development. This initiative is aimed at helping developing countries to "better negotiate, implement, adapt to, and benefit from trade and investment agreements with Canada."[3647]

Canada has taken actions to both lower trade costs nationally and to assist developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

China: +1

China has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 28 September 2016, the State Administration of Taxation (SAT) issued the Announcement on Further Improving the Administration for the Export Tax Rebate (Exemption) of Comprehensive Service Enterprises in Foreign Trade Industry to improve the measures for the administration for the export rebate (exemption) of comprehensive service enterprises in foreign trade industry and boost the stability and development of foreign trade industry. "The tax department summarizes the classification standard and regulatory measures for the comprehensive service enterprises in foreign trade industry, and details the review and verification work and timeframe when different types of enterprises declare the export tax rebate." The related leader of the SAT's Goods and Services Taxation Department said. The announcement has "reduced tax burden" and "removed some restrictions" for foreign trade enterprises and created a more favorable business development.[3648]

On 29 September 2016, the State Council distributed Opinions on Promoting Steady and Sound Development of Foreign Trade. According to the Opinions, the Ministry of Commerce will work with General Administration of Customs, State Administration of Taxation, General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, and State Administration of Foreign Exchange to incorporate China National Building Materials Group Corporation, Ningbo Shimao Tong International Trade Corporation, Xiamen Justsun Supply Chain Corporation and Guangdong Well Full Corporation into the pilot enterprises of comprehensive service of foreign trade, so as to exploit the management modes that benefit the development of comprehensive service enterprises of foreign trade (hereinafter referred to as the comprehensive service enterprises).[3649]

On 4 November 2016, the Vice Minister of Commerce Qian Keming jointly presided over the 10th China-Mauritius Joint Committee of Economics and Trade with the Minister of Finance and Economic Development of Mauritius Pravind Kumar Jugnauth. After the meeting, both sides signed a memorandum of understanding to start feasibility research on China-Mauritius free trade agreement and announced to officially launch the joint feasibility research on the bilateral free trade agreement. Both sides agreed to carry out comprehensive studies on the fields about which they both are concerned as soon

[3647] International Trade Minister promotes Canadian trade and investment at APEC, Government of Canada 20 November 2016. Access date: 16 January 2016. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1157789&tp=1.
[3648] Improve the Classified Administration of Export Tax Rebate and Support the Development of Comprehensive Service Enterprises in Foreign Trade Industry", State Administration of Taxation of The People's Republic of China 07 November 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017. http://www.chinatax.gov.cn/2013/n2925/n2957/c2342551/content.html.
[3649] Five Departments Including Ministry of Commerce Officially Launch the Pilot Work of Comprehensive Service Enterprisers of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China 29 September 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017/ http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201611/20161101550215.shtml.

as possible. The joint feasibility research on the free trade agreement between China and Mauritius is the joint feasibility research on the free trade agreement carried out between China and African regions.[3650]

On 24 March 2017, Zhong Shan, China's Minister of Commerce, and Steven Ciobo, Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, signed the Declaration of Intent of the Government of Australia and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Deliberation of Related Contents of China-Australia Free Trade Agreement. This declaration announced that the two countries would start the process of deliberation of the Service Chapter and the Investment Chapter of the agreement. China's Premier Li Keqiang stated that the declaration would improve effectiveness of multilateral trading system and should properly solve the emerging problems arising with the process of economic globalization. He also noted that the declaration should promote bilateral trade to develop in a more reciprocal, inclusive, reasonable and equitable direction.[3651]

China has taken both actions to lower trade costs nationally and to assist developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kirill Gribkov

France: +1

France has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 30 October 2016, Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) was signed between Canada and the European Union. Most of the agreement's provisions are expected to enter into force in early 2017. It is expected that liberalization of trade in goods and services could boost Canada-EU trade by 20 per cent.[3652]

In November 2016, the Government of France donated EUR50,000 to help the poorest members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) implement food safety, animal health and plant health standards. The objective is to help these countries participate more actively in global agricultural trade. WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo said: "France's donation is very welcome. It will help developing and least-developed countries to implement food safety, animal health and plant health standards so that they can participate more effectively in world trade."[3653]

On 29 November 2016, the first economic conference between France and the Nordic countries was held. The representatives of the French government announced that gradual reduction of the corporate tax rate down to 28 per cent in 2020 is planned starting in 2017. The following taxes for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) will be brought closer to the European average: crédit d'impôt compétitivité emploi (tax credit for encouraging competitiveness and job creation); crédit d'Impôt Recherche (research tax credit) and crédit d'impôt innovation (innovation tax credit).[3654]

[3650] China and Mauritius Launch the Joint Feasibility Research on the Free Trade Agreement and Sign the MOU, Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China 06 November 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201611/20161101670108.shtml.

[3651] China and Australia Sign the Declaration of Intent of the Government of Australia and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Deliberation of Related Contents of China-Australia FTA, Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China 26 March 2017. Access date: 07 May 2017. http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201703/20170302543334.shtml.

[3652] Economic Profile – France, the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service. Access date: 8 December 2016. http://tradecommissioner.gc.ca/france/market-facts-faits-sur-le-marche/61739.aspx?lang=eng.

[3653] France donates EUR 50,000 to support food safety, animal/plant health standards and trade, WTO 23 November 2016. Access date: 8 December 2016. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres16_e/pr785_e.htm.

[3654] A conference to strengthen Franco-Nordic economic relations, French government 29 November 2016. Access date: 8 December 2016.

On 27 February 2017, France with other WTO members hailed the entry into force of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) as a historic achievement at a meeting of the General Council. In welcoming this milestone, members pledged to advance work on implementing the TFA so that the full benefits of the agreement can be reaped.[3655]

France has taken actions to lower trade costs nationally and assisted developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Mark Rakhmangulov and Anastasia Polovko

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 15 December 2016, the Federal Minister for Development Gerd Müller, and the Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy Sigmar Gabriel, presented a new initiative aimed at promoting trade with Africa. The initiative includes the development of finance instruments, export credits and investment guarantees from the federal government.[3656]

On 28 October 2016, the Federal Network Agency asked the four German electricity transmission system operators to regulate the electricity transport capacities on the German-Austrian border. With the introduction of bottleneck management on the German-Austrian border by summer 2018, Germany is responding to demands from other neighboring countries and the recommendation of the European regulatory authority.[3657]

On 13 October 2016, the Federal Interministerial Committee for Export Credit Guarantees made an important principle decision on the implementation of the new export strategy. It is planned to further develop the coverage of foreign supplies. At the same time, the committee decided to extend the possibility of lowering the self-participation by three more years to improve export opportunities, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises.[3658]

On 11 October 2016, State Secretary Matthias Machnig together with the Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Gennady Subko opened the Ukrainian Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Kiev, which is financially supported by funds from the German Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy. State Secretary Machnig together with Subko discussed the engagement of foreign companies in Ukraine in the framework of the High Level Group for Economic Cooperation.[3659]

On 9 February 2017, the Federal Government approved support program for various German companies and banks engaged in foreign activities. The central funding instruments include export credit and

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http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/a-conference-to-strengthen-franco-nordic-economic-relations.

[3655] WTO members welcome entry into force of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, WTO 27 February 2017. Access date: 9 March 2017. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news17_e/fac_27feb17_e.htm.

[3656] Gemeinsame Initiative von BMZ und BMWi für wirtschaftliches Engagement in und mit Afrika, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 15 December 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/DE/Presse/pressemitteilungen,did=792988.html.

[3657] Deutsche Übertragungsnetzbetreiber sollen Engpassbewirtschaftung an der deutsch-österreichischen Grenze einführen, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 28 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/DE/Presse/pressemitteilungen,did=787466.html.

[3658] Gabriel: Erste Maßnahme zur Umsetzung der neuen Exportstrategie stärkt deutsche Exportwirtschaft, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 13 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/DE/Presse/pressemitteilungen,did=785822.html.

[3659] Machnig eröffnet Deutsch-Ukrainische Industrie- und Handelskammer in Kiew, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 11 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/DE/Presse/pressemitteilungen,did=785356.html.

investment guarantees. Export credit guarantees protect German exporters and banks against economic and political losses or loss of assets. Investment guarantees protect investors against political risks.[3660]

Germany has taken actions to lower trade costs nationally and to assist developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Nekrasova

India: + 1

India has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 23 September 2016 to 31 October 2016, India improved World Bank Logistics Performance Index. According to the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index for 2016, India ranked 35th among 160 countries. The index analyses countries across six components: quality of trade and transport infrastructure, competence and quality of logistics services, efficiency of customs and border management clearance, ease of arranging competitively priced shipments, ability to track and trace consignments, and frequency with which shipments reach consignees within scheduled or expected delivery times. India reached significant improvement in all listed spheres, which allowed it to enhance its position.[3661]

On 15 to 17 October 2017, India hosted the eighth summit of the BRICS group of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. Leaders signed the Statute on the establishment of the Customs Cooperation Committee of BRICS countries. This event was an important step towards creating a legal and regulatory framework in the field of customs cooperation in the framework of the association.[3662]

On 20 January 2017, the Confederation of Indian Industry cooperatively with its knowledge partner Maersk published a research paper on stimulating exports and reducing trade costs. The study called "Stimulating India's EXIM Growth" informs that indirect trade costs in some areas such as textiles, pharmaceuticals, electronics and auto components accumulated from precarious transport services and bureaucratic delays "are as high as 38-47 per cent of the total logistics cost." Moreover, it's said that 10 per cent of this reduction indicator is expected to increase India's competitiveness and promote additional revenues up to USD 5.5 billion annually. The research suggests take actions on prioritizing digitization, inland infrastructure development, an efficient regulatory environment and developmental training to achieve the goal.[3663]

On 24 February 2017, India ratified the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) in goods of World Trade Organization. After being ratified by all members, the TFA is expected to lower international trade costs by 10 to 15 per cent. Moreover, it also aims to facilitate trade with the developed world for developing countries in global markets.[3664]

[3660] Außenwirtschaftsförderung: Bundesregierung übernimmt Exportkreditgarantien von über 20 Mrd. Euro und Investitionsgarantien von über 4 Mrd. Euro, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy 9 February 2017. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170209-bundesregierung-exportgarantien.html.

[3661] India improves World Bank Logistics Performance Index to 35th in 2016 report, MML India 11 November 2016. Access date: 17 December 2016. http://www.mmlindia.com/india-improves-world-bank-logistics-performance-index-to-35th-in-2016-report/.

[3662] 8th BRICS Summit Goa Declaration: Here is the full text adopted by the member nations, The Indian Express 16 October 2016. Access date: 18 December 2016. http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/8th-brics-summit-goa-declaration-here-is-the-full-text-adopted-by-the-member-nations/.

[3663] India can boost exports by upto $ 5.5 bn by reducing costs of trade by 10%: CII-Maersk survey, IIFL 20 January 2017. Access date: 11 April 2017. http://www.indiainfoline.com/article/news-top-story/india-can-boost-exports-by-upto-5-5-bn-by-reducing-costs-of-trade-by-10-cii-maersk-survey-117011900400_1.html.

[3664] WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement comes into effect, General Knowledge Today 24 February 2017. Access date: 11 April 2017. http://currentaffairs.gktoday.in/wtos-trade-facilitation-agreement-effect-02201741679.html.

India has taken actions to lower trade costs nationally and assisted developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it recieves a score of + 1.

Analyst: Evgeny Tsarik

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 20-21 September 2016, the first session of the Indonesia–European Union Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement took place in Brussels, discussing the issues of market access for trade in goods and services, customs and trade facilitation, technical regulations in technical barriers to trade, intellectual property rights, sustainable trade, policy transparency and others.[3665]

On 17-21 October 2016, Indonesia took part in the 15th round of negotiations for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) was held in China, covering the issues of trade in goods, trade in services, investment, rules of origin, intellectual property, competition, electronic commerce.[3666]

On 3-4 November 2016, Indonesia took part in the second RCEP Intersessional Ministerial Meeting was held in the Philippines, covering the issues of trade in goods, trade in services, investment, as well as the way forward for future negotiations.[3667]

On 22 November 2016, it was announced that Indonesia's Government would soon release the fifteenth economic policy package to maintain structural reform momentum, which is expected to include clauses on deregulation and infrastructure development and hence might contribute to lowering trade costs.[3668] In January 2017, it was further clarified by Indonesia's authorities that fifteenth economic policy package would cover logistics (reviewing) 20 regulations pertaining to logistics and improvement of data processing through the Indonesia National Single Window, aiming to reduce average ship dwelling time so as it does not exceed two days.[3669] However, as of April 2017, there was no indication the authorities had finalized fifteenth economic policy package.

On 8 December 2016, Indonesia's Trade Ministry director general for international trade negotiation Iman Pambagyo announced Indonesia's trade negotiation priorities for 2017, which include conclusion of comprehensive economic partnership agreements with European Union and Australia, RCEP, and free trade area agreements with Peru and Chile.[3670]

[3665] The DG of International Trade Negotiations: The First IEU CEPA Negotiation Went Very Positively, Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Indonesia 23 September 2016. Access date: 13 December 2016. http://www.kemendag.go.id/files/pdf/2016/09/27/dirjen-ppi-perundingan-pertama-ieu-cepa-sangat-positif-en0-1474947392.pdf .

[3666] Fifteenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 12 October 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1012_01.html.

[3667] Second Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Intersessional Ministerial Meeting), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 1 November 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1101_01.html.

[3668] Indonesia to Release 15th Economic Policy Package Soon, Indonesia Investments 22 November 2016. Access date: 13 December 2016. http://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/indonesia-to-release-15th-economic-policy-package-soon/item7379.

[3669] Gov't Prepares 15th Economic Policy Package, TEMPO.CO 4 January 2017. Access date: 17 April 2017. https://en.tempo.co/read/news/2017/01/04/056832666/Govt-Prepares-15th-Economic-Policy-Package; Indonesia to revise 20 regulations in next economic stimulus package, The Jakarta Post 21 January 2017. Access date: 17 April 2017. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/01/21/govt-to-revise-20-regulations-in-next-economic-stimulus-package.html.

[3670] Indonesia to finalize five trade deals next year in hunt for wider markets, The Jakarta Post 8 December 2016. Access date: 13 December 2016. http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/12/08/indonesia-to-finalize-five-trade-deals-next-year-in-hunt-for-wider-markets.html.

On 13 December 2016, it was reported that Indonesia and India had signed the memorandum of understanding aiming to increase cooperation on trade standardization, which as assessed by the Indonesian President Joko Widodo as an important tool to help increase trade between the two countries and support greater economic cooperation.[3671]

In February 2017, the leaders of Indonesia and Australia as a result of their talks in Sydney reaffirmed that the two countries were committed to concluding "a bilateral, high-quality trade agreement, the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive economic Partnership" by end 2017.[3672]

Within the compliance period, Indonesia's officials took part in several major events within the negotiations process on the RCEP:

- On 17-21 October 2016, the 15th round of RCEP negotiations was held in China, covering the issues of trade in goods, trade in services, investment, rules of origin, intellectual property, competition, electronic commerce;[3673]
- On 3-4 November 2016, the second RCEP Intersessional Ministerial Meeting was held in the Philippines, covering the issues of trade in goods, trade in services, investment, as well as the way forward for future negotiations;[3674]
- On 6-10 December 2016, 16th round of RCEP negotiations was held in Indonesia covering the issues of trade in goods, trade in services, investment, rules of origin, intellectual property, competition, electronic commerce[3675] and bringing to a conclusion on terms regarding small and medium enterprises;[3676]
- On 27 February-3 March 2017 the 17th round of RCEP negotiations was held in Japan, which included the meeting of senior officials of the Trade Negotiating Committee and negotiations on trade in goods, trade in services, investment, rules of origin, intellectual property, competition, electronic commerce.[3677] The meeting received even more attention than usual as it was the first RCEP meeting since the decision of the Trump administration to withdraw the United States from the Transpacific Partnership, leaving RCEP the only Asia-Pacific trade mega-bloc and potentially the basis for prospective Asia Pacific Free Trade Area.

[3671] Indonesia, India sign agreements for cooperation in three areas, ANTARA News 13 December 2016. Access date: 13 December 2016. http://www.antaranews.com/en/news/108339/indonesia-india-sign-agreements-for-cooperation-in-three-areas.
[3672] Indonesia key to Australian prosperity, The Ararat Advertiser 26 February 2017. Access date: 17 April 2017. http://www.araratadvertiser.com.au/story/4493074/indonesia-key-to-australian-prosperity/?cs=4052.
[3673] Fifteenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 12 October 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1012_01.html.
[3674] Second Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Intersessional Ministerial Meeting, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 1 November 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1101_01.html .
[3675] Sixteenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 2016. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1202_001.html
[3676] Commerce Ministry: substantial progress at 16th round of RCEP talk, CCTV 16 December 2016. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://english.cctv.com/2016/12/16/VIDEwgeuS50F8C4vzyT64tiw161216.shtml.
[3677] Seventeenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 22 February 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/0222_001.html.

On 12 April 2017, it was further reported that members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) including Indonesia [and Japan] had expressed readiness to "work for an early establishment of the RCEP and conclude the pact's negotiations by the end of this year [2017]."[3678]

Indonesia took actions to lower trade costs nationally and assisted developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of + 1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 22 September 2016, Italian Ambassador to Iran Mauro Conciatori, in a meeting with Hormuzgan Governor General Jassem Jadari in Bandar Abbas, voiced Rome's willingness to expand economic and industrial relations with Tehran. According to officials, cooperation will take place in, infrastructure, railway, airport construction and shipping among other issues.[3679]

On 29 November 2016, Italian Deputy Minister for Economic Development, Ivan Scalfarotto and New Zealand Minister of Trade, Todd McClay, have jointly hosted a business event in Milan and committed to doubling two-way trade between the two countries. The parties stressed that one of the ways to reach the goal is to sign EU-New Zealand Free Trade Agremeent.[3680]

On 22 February 2017, Italy and Turkey signed mutual trade agreement. The agreement aimed at creation of joint insurance platform between two top-export companies in order to increase transactions in many sectors and increase support for small and medium enterprises.[3681]

On 30 March 2017, Italy and Pakistan held a meeting devoted to further facilitation of bilateral trade. The Italian counterpart, Mr. Della Vedova, stressed Italy's determination to maintain trade-open market in accordance with the principles of the EU. In response, Pakistan demonstrated its intention to join the Open Government Partnership that is an important step towards joint trade statistics gathering.[3682]

Italy has taken actions to assist developing countries in lowering trade costs but failed to lower trade costs nationally. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Irina Popova and Alexander Ignatov

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 2 March 2017, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the British Standards Institution aimed to strengthen the international standardization efforts through information exchange for exploring new projects, development of a list of cooperative projects, joint development of and joint proposals for new international standards items, and

[3678] RCEP put on fast track to fend off US, Bangkok Post 12 April 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.bangkokpost.com/business/news/1231224/rcep-put-on-fast-track-to-fend-off-us.
[3679] Italy Calls for Broadening of Economic Ties with Iran, FARS News Agency 25 September 2016. Access date: 13 December 2016. http://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13950704000669.
[3680] Italy and NZ commit to doubling two-way trade, The Official Web-site of New Zealand Government 29 November 2016. Access date: 13 December 2016. https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/italy-and-nz-commit-doubling-two-way-trade.
[3681] SACE and Turk Eximbank: co-insurance agreement signed to support economic cooperation between Italy and Turkey. Access date: 10 April 2017. http://www.sace.it/en/media/press-releases/press-release/sace-and-turk-eximbank-co-insurance-agreement-signed-to-support-economic-cooperation-between-italy-and-turkey.
[3682] Govt committed to enhance bilateral ties with Italy: Dar. Access date: 10 April 2017. http://boi.gov.pk/ViewNews.aspx?NID=1329.

cooperation in disseminating new standards.[3683] The memorandum will help Japanese and British companies' expand their markets for emerging industries with services at the core.

On 3-5 April 2017, the 18th round of negotiations on the Japan–EU Economic Partnership Agreement was held in Tokyo, focusing on the issues of trade in goods and services, market access for goods and services, intellectual property rights, non-tariff measures, government procurement and investment.[3684]

On 12 April 2017, it was reported that at the roadshow of economy ministers of the Association of South East Asian Nations Japan had expressed readiness to "work for an early establishment of the RCEP [Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership] and conclude the pact's negotiations by the end of this year [2017]."[3685]

On 10-13 April 2017, the 12th round of negotiations on Japan-China-Korea free trade agreement was held in Tokyo, discussing the issues of trade in goods and services and investment.[3686]

Japan's commitment to lower trade costs is supported with it being the first country to ratify the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement (notification to depositary New Zealand on the same day as the United States withdrew from the agreement), and also with the fact that Japan continues to communicate with other TPP partners trying figure out the viability of the agreement without the United States.[3687]

As for Japan's actions aimed at international assistance in lowering trade costs:

- During the visit of Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to Myanmar on 2 November 2016, it was announced that Myanmar would receive a more than USD10 billion worth aid package from Japan, part of which to be spent on infrastructure development and capacity building. In addition, November was marked by the final stage of the Myanmar — Japan joint project on automation of customs processes (specifically, Myanmar Automated Cargo Clearance System was switched to regular operations mode);[3688]

- During the visit of Prime Minister Abe to Argentina later in November 2016, Japan and Argentina announced the start of formal negotiations for a pact on mutual assistance in customs matters, as well as of informal consultations for concluding an agreement to help avoid double taxation in order to further enhance bilateral investment and economic exchanges.[3689]

During the compliance period, Japan has taken, both at home and internationally, a broad range of actions to promote lowering of trade costs. Thus, it recieves a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

[3683] METI and BSI, the World's Largest Standardization Organization, Concluded a Memorandum of Understanding to Strengthen the International Standardization Efforts, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 2 March 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/0302_002.html.
[3684] Eighteenth Round of Negotiation on the Japan EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 7 April 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ie/page24e_000205.html.
[3685] RCEP put on fast track to fend off US, Bangkok Post 12 April 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.bangkokpost.com/business/news/1231224/rcep-put-on-fast-track-to-fend-off-us.
[3686] Twelfth Round of Negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement among Japan, China and the ROK to be Held, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 7 April 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/0407_001.html.
[3687] Trade talks in Chile on continuing TPP without the US, World Socialist Web Site 18 March 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2017/03/18/tppt-m18.html.
[3688] Automation comes to Yangon customs processes, Myanmar Times 2 November 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.mmtimes.com/index.php/business/23436-automation-comes-to-yangon-customs-processes.html.
[3689] Investment pact with Argentina on fast track, The Japan News 23 November 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://the-japan-news.com/news/article/0003363814.

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 17-21 October 2016, Korea took part in the 15th round of negotiations for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) in China, covering the issues of trade in goods, trade in services, investment, rules of origin, intellectual property, competition, electronic commerce.[3690]

On 3-4 November 2016, Korea took part in the second RCEP Intersessional Ministerial Meeting in the Philippines, covering the issues of trade in goods, trade in services, investment, as well as the way forward for future negotiations.[3691]

On 11 November 2016, an emergency meeting with the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy and other trade policy related ministries of Korea took place in Seoul to discuss trade issues arising from US President Elect Donald Trump threats to revise the US–Korea Free Trade Agreement (FTA) agreement.[3692] The meeting inspected the key pending US–Korea trade issues as part of an effort to strengthen the FTA execution mechanism, sought various solutions to those issues, such as reinforcing bilateral and multilateral communication channels, reinforcing the public-private joint response system, and announced continuous and close monitoring of the US trade policy;

On 17 November 2016, Korea announced it had reached an FTA with Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Panama, having certain provisions for market access.[3693]

On 2 March 2017, Korea and Mercado Común del Sur (MERCOSUR) signed a joint statement facilitating the launch of official negotiations for a multilateral trade agreement between Korea and four South American nations in the first half of this year.[3694] On the same day, a memorandum of understanding on the Korea-Argentina trade and investment dialogue channel was signed.[3695]

On 20-24 March 2017, the third rund of negotiations for a Korea-Israel free trade area was held in Seoul, focusing on the issues of trade in goods and services, rules of origin, technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, intellectual property rights, competition, environment and dispute settlement.[3696]

[3690] Fifteenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 12 October 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016.http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1012_01.html.

[3691] Second Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Intersessional Ministerial Meeting, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 1 November 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1101_01.html.

[3692] Ministry reviews Korea-U.S. trade issues in response to election results, Korea's Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy November 9 2016. Access date: 9 December 2016. http://english.motie.go.kr/?p=7510&paged=0.

[3693] Korea-Central America reach FTA agreement, Korea's Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy 17 November 2016. Access date: 5 December 2016. http://english.motie.go.kr/?p=7537&paged=0.

[3694] Korea, MERCOSUR sign joint statement for launch of trade agreement negotiations, Korea's Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy 3 March 2017. Access date: 17 April 2017. http://english.motie.go.kr/en/pc/pressreleases/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=526&bbs_cd_n=2&currentPage=9&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n= .

[3695] Ibid.

[3696] Korea, Israel hold 3rd round of FTA negotiations in Seoul, Korea's Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy 20 March 2017. Access date: 17 April 2017. http://english.motie.go.kr/en/pc/pressreleases/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=531&bbs_cd_n=2&currentPage=9&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=.

On 10 April 2017, it was reported that Korea and the Eurasian Economic Union members held talks as part of a negotiations on establishing a free trade area.[3697]

On 10-13 April 2017, the 12th round of negotiations on Japan-China-Korea Free Trade Agreement was held in Tokyo, discussing the issues of trade in goods and services and investment.[3698]

During the compliance period, Korea has taken, both at home and internationally, various actions to promote lowering of trade costs. Thus, it recieves a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 27-29 September 2016, the fifth round of negotiations on expanding the Economic Complementation Agreement No. 53 (ACE 53) between Mexico and Brazil was held in Mexico City. The discussion of the round focused on trade facilitation, removing technical barriers to trade and improving regulatory coherence. The review also aims to expand preferential tariffs as well as update and modernize the existing legal framework to stimulate economic operators to increase their commercial activities. The work on expanding the agreement is carried out in line with Mexican strategy of trade integration with the Latin American countries. The fifth round of negotiations was attended by the private sector representatives.[3699]

On 12 October 2016, Mexican Minister of Finance José Antonio Meade and US Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson held a working meeting to discuss progress on major bilateral customs initiatives aimed at trade facilitation and strengthening border security. The participants of the meeting emphasized achievements in implementing of the Cargo Pre-Inspection Program (Programa de Pre-inspección de Carga), a mechanism that already operates at Laredo and Texas airports as well as customs point in Mesa de Otay, Baja California state. José Antonio Meade and Jeh Johnson said that the program should be expanded and announced the launch of pilot project at the San Jerónimo Industrial Park in Chihuahua state for shipment computers and electronic equipment to the United States as well as air cargo to Mexico. José Antonio Meade and Jeh Johnson welcomed the progress in cross-border customs clearance and promoting security.[3700]

On 27 October 2016, Mexico and Colombia signed several agreements in spheres of trade, consumer protection, regulatory policy, etc. on the occasion of the meeting between the Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto and President of Colombia Juan Manuel Santos on the eve of the Ibero-American Summit held in Cartagena.[3701] In particular the Memorandum of Understanding between the National Bank for Foreign Trade (Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior,) and Colombian Foreign Trade Bank (Banco De Comercio Exterior De Colombia) was signed aimed at facilitating and increasing bilateral trade and

[3697] Seoul, Minsk Hold Talks on S. Korea-EAEU FTA, KBS World Radio 10 April 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://world.kbs.co.kr/english/news/news_Ec_detail.htm?No=126574.

[3698] Twelfth Round of Negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement among Japan, China and the ROK to be Held, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 7 April 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/0407_001.html.

[3699] Se celebró la V Ronda de Negociaciones del ACE 53 entre México y Brasil en la Ciudad de México. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/se/prensa/se-celebro-la-v-ronda-de-negociaciones-del-ace-53-entre-mexico-y-brasil-en-la-ciudad-de-mexico?idiom=es.

[3700] Comunicado No. 140. México y Estados Unidos fortalecerán sus iniciativas bilaterales en materia aduanera. Access date: 22 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/shcp/prensa/comunicado-no-140-mexico-y-estados-unidos-fortaleceran-sus-iniciativas-bilaterales-en-materia-aduanera?idiom=es.

[3701] Suscriben convenio en materia de comercio México y Colombia. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/se/prensa/suscriben-convenio-en-materia-de-comercio-mexico-y-colombia?idiom=es.

investment flows.[3702] In accordance with the memorandum of understanding the two banks will provide the Mexican and Colombian companies with financial and non-financial services particularly export/import financing thus decreasing trade costs.[3703]

On 14-15 November 2016, the first round of negotiation on extending ACE 6 between Mexico and Argentina was held in Mexico City. The expansion of ACE 6 which is in force since 1987 aims to modernizes the existing legal framework in the economic sphere between the countries as well as provide new opportunities for entrepreneurs of both countries in order to facilitate and increase bilateral trade. The amended agreement also aims to extend tariff preferences including new goods. The next round of negotiation will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in the first quarter of 2017.[3704]

On 22-25 November 2016, the second round of negotiations for modernising the trade pillar of the European Union-Mexico Global Agreement was held in Mexico City following the first round held in Brussels, Belgium on 13-14 June 2016.[3705] Mexico and the EU intend to include an ambitious chapter building on WTO provisions and recently concluded free trade agreements of each side to address technical barriers to trade and provide regulatory coherence hereby facilitating trade.[3706]

On 13 January 2017, Mexico and Japan held the Ninth Meeting of the Committee for the Improvement of the Business Environment. Participants discussed a wide range of issues including simplification of issuing sanitary and phytosanitary certifications to boost export; measures to improve access to markets; protection of intellectual property; and tax and customs cooperation. The parties agreed to collaborate in developing electronic schemes to expedite the procedures of certification of origin, etc.[3707]

On 16-20 January 2017, a third round of negotiations on a comprehensive review of the European Free Trade Association–Mexico Free Trade Agreement (FTA) was held in Lugano, Switzerland. The participants discussed amendments, particularly in such spheres as and access to markets for goods and services, rules of origin, trade facilitation, investment, competition, regulatory coherence, intellectual property, public procurement, technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, trade disputes settlement and small and medium-sized enterprises.[3708]

On 25 January 2017, Mexico and Central American countries held the second meeting of the Administrative Commission of the Free Trade Agreement in San Jose, Costa Rica. The discussion focused on the agreement application, achieved results since entering the FTA into force, committees and working groups' activities as well as further steps to promote and diversify trade between the participating

[3702] Colombia y México firmaron instrumentos de cooperación luego del encuentro de los Presidentes Juan Manuel Santos y Enrique Peña Nieto. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://es.presidencia.gov.co/noticia/161027-Colombia-y-Mexico-firmaron-instrumentos-de-cooperacion-luego-del-encuentro-de-los-Presidentes-Juan-Manuel-Santos-y-Enrique-Pena-Nieto.
[3703] Bancomext firma acuerdo de cooperación con Bancoldex. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://eleconomista.com.mx/sistema-financiero/2016/10/30/bancomext-firma-acuerdo-cooperacion-bancoldex.
[3704] México y Argentina realizaron la Primera Ronda de Negociaciones para Ampliar y Profundizar el Acuerdo de Complementación Económica. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/se/prensa/mexico-y-argentina-realizaron-la-primera-ronda-de-negociaciones-para-ampliar-y-profundizar-el-acuerdo-de-complementacion-economica?idiom=es.
[3705] Segunda Ronda de Negociaciones para la Modernización del Pilar Comercial del Acuerdo Global México-Unión Europea. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/se/articulos/segunda-ronda-de-negociaciones-para-la-modernizacion-del-pilar-comercial-del-acuerdo-global-mexico-union-europea-83467?idiom=es.
[3706] Report from the 1st round of negotiations for modernising the trade pillar of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement. Access date: 24 November 2016. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/july/tradoc_154726.pdf.
[3707] México y Japón realizan la Novena Reunión del Comité para la Mejora del Ambiente de Negocios. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/se/prensa/mexico-y-japon-realizan-la-novena-reunion-del-comite-para-la-mejora-del-ambiente-de-negocios?idiom=es.
[3708] Concluyó la Tercera Ronda de Negociaciones para la Revisión del TLC México — Asociación Europea de Libre Comercio (AELC). Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/se/prensa/concluyo-la-tercera-ronda-de-negociaciones-para-la-revision-del-tlc-mexico-asociacion-europea-de-libre-comercio-aelc?idiom=es.

countries. The participants of the meeting agreed to sign the Decision on common trade regulations; establish the Services and Investment Committee to facilitate the exchange of information between the participating countries as well as strengthen the dialogue on cross-border trade in services and investment, particularly in other multilateral fora.[3709]

On 1 February 2017, Mexico and the European Union agreed to hold two additional negotiating rounds to accelerate negotiations for a new FTA. The rounds would take place on 3-7 April and 26-29 June 2017.[3710]

On 3 February 2017, follow the instruction by President Enrique Peña Nieto the Mexican Secretariat of Economy and the Strategic Advisory Council for International Negotiations held a meeting to formally initiate the consultation process on amending the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Starting from that date and for the next 90 days the Mexican governmental and business representatives will discuss amendments to the NAFTA in line with the five principles of the Mexican foreign policy and ten objectives announced by President Peña Nieto, particularly promoting free trade and strengthening regional integration.[3711]

On 3 February 2017, Mexican Foreign Minister Luis Videgaray during the meeting with his Turkish counterpart Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu announced that the countries would accelerate the process of concluding the FTA.[3712]

On 26 July 2016, Mexico ratified the Trade Facilitation Agreement of the World Trade Organization.[3713]

Mexico has taken actions to lower trade costs nationally and assist developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 14 September 2016, a meeting of the working group on the implementation of Support of Access to Foreign Market and Export Action Plan (roadmap) was held. Experts from the Federal Customs Service, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economic Development and other agencies concerned, as well as exporters and representatives of business associations discussed the implementation of individual items of the roadmap, including lowering trade costs. The main goals of the updated roadmap include further

[3709] México y Centroamérica realizan II Reunión de la Comisión Administradora del Tratado de Libre Comercio. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/se/prensa/mexico-y-centroamerica-realizan-ii-reunion-de-la-comision-administradora-del-tratado-de-libre-comercio?idiom=es.
[3710] EU and Mexico agree to accelerate trade talks. Date of access: 1 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1617.
[3711] La SE y el CCENI inician el proceso de consultas previo a la negociación del TLCAN. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/se/prensa/la-se-y-el-consejo-consultivo-estrategico-para-las-negociaciones-internacionales-inician-el-proceso-de-consultas-previo-a-la-negociacion-del-tclan?idiom=es.
[3712] Mensaje a medios del Canciller Luis Videgaray Caso con el Ministro de Asuntos Exteriores de Turquía, Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu. Date of access: 1 April 2017. http://www.gob.mx/sre/prensa/mensaje-a-medios-del-canciller-luis-videgaray-caso-con-el-ministro-de-asuntos-exteriores-de-turquia-mevlut-cavusoglu?state=published; Concluye la Comisión Binacional México-Turquía. Date of access: 1 April 2017. https://www.gob.mx/sre/prensa/concluye-la-comision-binacional-mexico-turquia.
[3713] Mexico ratifies Trade Facilitation Agreement. Access date: 24 November 2016. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/fac_26jul16_e.htm.

improvement of export support mechanisms. The document was submitted to the Russian government for final approval.[3714]

On 30 November 2016, the Russian government adopted the passport of the priority project on Systemic Measures of International Cooperation Development and Export. It is aimed at creating inductive environment for middle enterprises focused on exports and creating favourable regulation for exporters. The project will be implemented from November 2016 to December 2025.[3715]

On 9 December 2016, at a meeting of the Presidium of the Russian Presidential Council on Strategic Development and Priority Projects the Government instructed the Ministry of Industry and Trade and other ministries and entities to develop a program of creating technical, regulatory, institutional and logistical environment conducive to increasing exports of small and medium enterprises.[3716]

On 6 February 2017, Russia and India have discussed bilateral cooperation in the custom sphere. The counterparts shared results of implementation of the Green Corridor Project and further development of the North-South International Transport Corridor. The related agreement was agreed during the meeting.[3717]

On 22 February 2017, Russia and Nicaragua have discussed prospects for bilateral cooperation in trade. Counterparts agreed to develop legislative basis of bilateral trade and set the list of topics for intergovernmental panel discussion.[3718]

Russia has taken actions to lower trade costs nationally and assisted developing countries.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Mark Rakhmangulov and Alexander Ignatov

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

In 2016 the Ministry of Commerce and Investment announced that it will provide a service allowing Saudi manufacturers and exporters to print certificate of origin at the website coo.mci.gov.sa with no need to visit the ministry offices. The ministry will provide the certificate data electronically and ensure the validity and accuracy of the data contained in the certificate in order to facilitate procedures for the exporters.[3719]

[3714] Revised Version of Roadmap to Support Exports Submitted to the Government, Russian Export Center 15 September 2016. https://www.exportcenter.ru/en/news/revised-version-of-roadmap-to-support-exports-submitted-to-the-government/?navNum=1&page=1.

[3715] Government of Russia 9 December 2016. http://government.ru/news/25593/.

[3716] On the Decisions of the Meeting of the Presidium of the Russian Presidential Council on Strategic Development and Priority Projects Government of Russia, 9 December 2016. http://government.ru/orders/selection/401/25598/.

[3717] The Head of the FCS of Russia disucussed the issues of bilateral cooperation with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Pleipotentiary of the Republic of India in the Russian Federation. Access date: 17 June 2017. http://eng.customs.ru/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1944:the-head-of-the-fcs-of-russia-discusssed-the-issues-of-bilateral-cooperation-with-the-ambassador-extraordinary-and-plenipotentiary-of-the-republic-of-india-in-the-russian-federation&catid=32:news-cat&Itemid=1858&Itemid=1857.

[3718] Prospects for Russia-Nicaragua custom cooperation being discussed in Moscow. Access date: 14 June 2017. http://www.customs.ru/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=24846:2017-02-22-11-07-45&catid=40:2011-01-24-15-02-45&Itemid=2094&Itemid=1835.

[3719] MCI: Allows Exporters To Issue And Print The Certificate Of Origin Electronically From Their Offices, Ministry of Commerce and Investment 4 August 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/04-08-16-01.aspx.

On 28 July 2016, Saudi Arabia ratified the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) of the World Trade Organization (WTO).[3720]

On 19-20 October 2016, the Ministry of Commerce and Investment in cooperation with the WTO held a workshop designed for international trade employees in public and private sectors. The workshop was dedicated to the TFA and its impact on facilitating exports and reducing trade costs.[3721]

On 13 November 2016, the Ministry of Commerce and Investment held a workshop to discuss the prospects of the free trade agreement between the Gulf Cooperation Council and China. In particular, the participants debated the draft chapters of the economic feasibility study signed by the Gulf Cooperation Council for this free trade agreement.[3722]

On 17 November 2016, the Ministry of Commerce and Investment held a meeting with representatives of retailers in Saudi Arabia in the context of "Partners 2030" initiative. The parties debated on facilitating trade procedures by automating them and speeding up the entry of goods from the ports.[3723]

On 18 January 2017, the fifth session of the Saudi-American Trade and Investment Framework Agreement was held in Riyadh, covering, among others, the issues of enhancing the volume of trade, ways of technical cooperation, exchange of expertise relevant to trade and investment, consumer protection, examining consumer goods, certificate of conformity, cooperation related to trademark protection, customs, protection of intellectual and cultural property.[3724]

On 31 January 2017, the "SALES" application for smart devices was launched (sponsored and supervised by the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment); the application creates a database of all licensed and updated commercial sales and promotions in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (more than 27,000 selling outlets and 700,000 products) to save consumers' time and effort and protect them from fake products.[3725]

On 6 February 2017, it was reported Saudi Arabia took part in the "Beirut Round" of negotiations for the Agreement for Liberalization Trade in Services among Arab countries that stipulates opening up the field of investment in specific services sectors to investors from the member states, so that the investors those states have exclusive right to invest in the services sectors.[3726]

On 5 March 2017, the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment reported elaborations on more than thirty pieces of rules and regulations were underway, with the goal to develop trade, investment and consumer protection regulations to provide a stimulating environment for investment, facilitate doing

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[3720] Peru, Saudi Arabia ratify Trade Facilitation Agreement, WTO 28 July 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/fac_28jul16_e.htm.

[3721] MCI Holds A Workshop To Present And Introduce Trade Facilitation Agreement In Riyadh, Ministry of Commerce and Investment 20 October 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/08-10-16-02.aspx.

[3722] "MCI" Organizes A Workshop To Discuss The Free Trade Agreement With China, Ministry of Commerce and Investment 13 November 2106. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/13-11-16-01.aspx.

[3723] "MCI" Host A Meet For The Retail Companies Within "Partners 2030" Initiative, Ministry of Commerce and Investment 17 November 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/17-11-16-01.aspx.

[3724] Saudi- American Trade And Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) Discusses Enhancing Cooperation And Increasing Trade Exchange Between The Two Countries, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 18 January 2017. Access date: 22 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/18-01-17-01.aspx.

[3725] H.E. MCI Minister Inaugurates "SALES" Application, Including More Than 700 Thousand Products For 27 Thousand Selling Outlets, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 31 January 2017. Access date: 22 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/31-01-17-01.aspx.

[3726] The Kingdom's Delegation Concludes Its Participation In Beirut Negotiations To Liberalize Trade In Services Among Arab Countries, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 6 February 2017. Access date: 22 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/06-02-17-02.aspx.

business, reduce the procedures cost, ensure flexibility, transparency and stability of trading facilities and honest practices of commercial transactions.[3727]

On 11 March 2017, it was reported that 44 recommendations of the "National Program for Enhancing Competitiveness" within the Saudi National Transformation Program 2020 had been implemented, specifically recommendations on issuing business visas within 48 hours, completing the New Corporate Law, forming reconciliation committees to prevent insolvency, inauguration of the Commercial Arbitration Center, issuing the electronic certificate of origin including the adoption of the electronic signature, reducing the import and export requirements, providing ports services round the clock and releasing the commercial containers within 24 hours.[3728]

On 16 March 2017, Saudi and China trade ministries signed an agreement on launching a cooperation program in the field of trade and investment, covering, among others, the issues of expansion and development of trade exchange, taking advantage of the available business opportunities, exchange of publications on the global market, as well as the necessary statistics on intra-regional and international trade, cooperation for enabling national products and services to have mutual access to markets and prevention of harmful practices in business operations.[3729]

On 24 March 2017, Saudi Arabia announced its decision to accede to the Convention on International Transport of Goods Under Cover of TIR (global transit system for moving goods across regional and international borders) Carnets (TIR Convention) and makes its national TIR system operational in 2017 (as part of the Saudi contribution to streamline trade facilitation across the Arabian Gulf).[3730] On 1 April 2017, it was reported that the Saudi Customs held a workshop in Riyadh in connection with the decision of Saudi Arabia to complete in 2017 the process of accession to the and introduction of respective pieces of regulation.[3731] The seminar was attended by a delegation from the International Road Transport Union including its secretary general, who confirmed it was highly motivated to facilitate knowledge-sharing and to help generate a clear understanding of the TIR system.

On 7 April 2017, it was announced that during the visit of Korea's Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy to Riyadh Saudi Arabia reiterated the Gulf Cooperation Council's (GCC) suggestion that the preliminary talks to create the base for a free trade agreement between GCC and Korea should be started.[3732]

Saudi Arabia has taken actions to lower trade costs nationally and assisted developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

[3727] More Than Thirty (30) Rules & Regulations Are Being Developed By The Ministry Of Trade And Investment To Stimulate Investment, Facilitate Business And For Consumer Protection, Twelve (12) R&R Have Been Completed, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 5 March 2017. Access date: 22 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/05-03-17-02.aspx.

[3728] MCI, 44 Recommendations Have Been Completed To Enhance The Competitiveness Of The Investment Environment, And To Raise The Kingdom's Global Rank, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 11 March 2017. Access date: 22 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/11-03-17-01.aspx.

[3729] Ministry Of Commerce And Investment In K.S.A. Signs A Cooperation Program With The Ministry Of Trade In China To Raise The Level Of Trade Exchange, Rehabilitation Of Cadres And For Having Value-Added Investments, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 16 March 2017. Access date: 22 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/16-03-17-01.aspx.

[3730] #SaudiArabia's decision to accede to TIR will boost trade across the region, EU Reporter Correspondent 24 March 2017. Access date: 22 April 2017. https://www.eureporter.co/frontpage/2017/03/24/saudiarabias-decision-to-accede-to-tir-will-boost-trade-across-the-region/.

[3731] Saudi Arabia on road to implementing customs transit system, Arab News 1 April 2017. Access Date: 22 April 2017. http://www.arabnews.com/node/1077381/saudi-arabia.

[3732] S. Korean Companies to Participate in Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 Project, Business Korea 7 April 2017. Access Date: 22 April 2017. http://www.businesskorea.co.kr/english/news/national/17770-saudi-arabia%E2%80%99s-national-project-s-korean-companies-participate-saudi-arabia%E2%80%99s.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 16 September 2016, the Amendments to the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) Agreement 2002 to institutionalize the SACU Summit 2013 have come into force. South Africa was the last country across all members of SACU to finish implementation of the joint agreement.[3733]

On 26 September 2016, the Manifest Processing System (automated solution for the receipt and processing of prescribed reports in respect of international cargo to be imported into, or to be exported from South Africa) has been enhanced with paperless benefits.[3734,3735]

On 2 October 2016, South Africa and Egypt signed a memorandum of understanding on trade and investment. The counterparts are the Investment South Africa and Egypt's General Authority of Investment and Free Zones. Two countries have committed to facilitate bilateral trade and investment frameworks.[3736]

On 10 October 2016, the Economic Partnership Agreement between the European Union and five southern African countries — Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland and South Africa — entered into effect. It gives the first four countries duty-free, quota-free access to the EU while also benefiting South Africa which will have enhanced market access. The African markets will open partially to EU exports, providing their industries with the requisite intermediary goods.[3737]

On 11 October 2016, the presidents of South Africa and Kenya articulated their commitment to remove all trade barriers between two countries. The announcement was made during a meeting at State House in Nairobi, Kenya. The measures are aimed at strengthening economic ties between the countries and fostering trade growth. Six bilateral agreements were signed during the meeting including Memorandum of Understanding on trade and investment.[3738]

On 14 October 2016, the automation of Provisional Payments for Customs Imports Declaration and Activation of Preferential Codes took place in South Africa to offer improved and efficient customs service.[3739]

On 15-17 October 2016, the 8th summit of BRICS group of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa was held in Goa, India. The leaders signed the Statute on the Establishment of the Customs

[3733] Status of Agreements concluded by the Southern African Customs Union States. Access date: 13 March 2017. http://www.sacu.int/docs/agreements/2017/SACU%20Status%20Register%20March%202017.pdf .

[3735] Customs and Excise, South African Revenue Service. Access Date: 16 January 2017. http://www.sars.gov.za/ClientSegments/Customs-Excise/Pages/default.aspx.

[3736] Trade and Industry on signing of MOU on investment by South Africa and Egypt. Access date: 13 March 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/mou-investment-2-oct-2016-0000.

[3737] Economic Partnership Agreement with southern African countries enters into effect, European Commission 10 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3338_en.htm.

[3738] Kenya, South Africa to remove trade barriers, strengthen security ties. Access date: 13 March 2017. https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/m/article/2000219310/kenya-south-africa-to-remove-trade-barriers-strengthen-security-ties.

[3739] Customs and Excise, South African Revenue Service. Access Date: 16 January 2017. http://www.sars.gov.za/ClientSegments/Customs-Excise/Pages/default.aspx.

Cooperation Committee of BRICS countries. This event was an important step towards creating a legal and regulatory framework in the field of customs cooperation in the framework of the association.[3740]

On 17 October 2016, Updated Customs Provisional Payments external guides were issued.[3741] The purpose of the guides was to ensure uniform implementation of Customs procedures in the Customs declaration process.[3742]

On 21 October 2016, the preferential trade agreement between the Southern African Customs Union and MERCOSUR came into force after South Africa had fulfilled all the administrative procedures. The agreement includes tariff concessions on more than 1000 tariff lines on both sides with preference margins range from 100 to 10 per cent.[3743]

On 2 March 2017, Ismail Vadi, Member of Executive Council for Roads and Transport of the Gauteng province has launched an infrastructure project in Johannesburg. The Cedar road project is aimed at increasing transport capacity in the town's outskirt. The government designed the project as a precondition for further development of the town's investment climate.[3744]

On 8 March 2017, the Annex to the SACU Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance, 2011 has come into force. Signed in 2011, the Agreement has become valid in a month after the provisions were implemented by Namibia. South Africa is a party to the Agreement since its implementation on 23 September 2015.[3745]

South Africa has taken actions to lower trade costs nationally and assisted developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Irina Popova and Alexander Ignatov

Turkey: 0

Turkey has partially complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 11 November 2016, Minister of Customs and Trade of Turkey, Bülent Tüfenkci, and Chairman of the State Customs Committee of Belarus, Yuri Senko, signed an Agreement on Mutual Trade Promotion System between the two countries.[3746]

On 23-24 November 2016, the International Forum on the Role of Customs Administrations on Promoting and Facilitating Trade among Silk Road Countries was held in Aktau, Kazakhstan. On the sidelines of the Forum, bilateral meeting between the Turkey and Georgia were held. During the meetings

[3740] 8th BRICS Summit Goa Declaration, The Indian Express 16 October 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/8th-brics-summit-goa-declaration-here-is-the-full-text-adopted-by-the-member-nations/.
[3741] Customs and Excise, South African Revenue Service. Access Date: 16 January 2017. http://www.sars.gov.za/ClientSegments/Customs-Excise/Pages/default.aspx.
[3742] Customs External Completion Manual Declarations, South African Revenue Service 14 October 2016. Access Date: 16 January 2017. http://www.sars.gov.za/AllDocs/OpsDocs/Manuals/SC-CF-04%20-%20Completion%20of%20declarations%20-%20External%20Manual.pdf.
[3743] Trade and Industry on Implementation of SACU and MERCOSUR Preferential Trade Agreement. Access date: 13 March 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/trade-and-industry-implementation-sacu-and-mercosur-preferential-trade-agreement-27-oct.
[3744] MEC Ismail Vadi launches R87 million Cedar road upgrade project. Access date: 13 March 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/cedar-road-upgrade-2-mar-2017-0000.
[3745] Status of Agreements concluded by the Southern African Customs Union States. Access date: 13 March 2017. http://www.sacu.int/docs/agreements/2017/SACU%20Status%20Register%20March%202017.pdf .
[3746] Mutual Trade Promotion System between Turkey and Belarus, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Customs and Trade 11 November 2016. Access Date: 16 January 2017. http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/mutual-trade-promotion-system-between-turkey-and-belarus.

cooperation at the border crossing points Sarp-Sarpi. The Project of Joint Use of Border Gates and other projects were discussed.[3747]

On 17-19 October 2016, Turkish Deputy Minister Fatih Çiftci represented the Ministry of Customs and Trade at the seventh meeting of the Council of Heads of Customs Administration of Economic Cooperation Organization. The main issues discussed included entry into force of the Agreement on Establishment and Operation of Economic Cooperation Organization Smuggling and Customs Offences Data Bank and agreements connected with customs and trade facilitation.[3748]

On 4 March 2017, Turkish-Hungarian Joint Economic Committee has signed a new plan aimed at fostering bilateral trade. The plan includes 9 key dimensions of cooperation with the ultimate goal to reach the volume of mutual trade of USD5 billion annually.[3749]

Turkey has taken actions to assist developing countries in lowering trade costs but failed to lower trade costs nationally. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Irina Popova and Alexander Ignatov

United Kingdom: 0

United Kingdom has partially complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 23 September 2016, Corridors for Growth program was launched by Department for International Development to increase Tanzania's infrastructure capacity and trade opportunities. Project budget is GBP71,000,000.[3750]

On 2 November 2016, the government announced an investment up to GBP1 billion to support trade and development in Colombia. The government's export credit agency will provide up to GBP1 billion in support for UK trade with Colombia to support rural and post-conflict projects.[3751]

On 24 November 2016, a list of suspension and quota applications round: 1 July 2017 was published. It provides a list and current status of applications for the 1 July 2017 round of the European Union temporary duty suspensions and tariff quotas scheme. This scheme allows "the duty free importation into the EU of raw materials, components and semi-finished products which cannot be supplied, or supplied in sufficient quantities, from EU or Turkish manufacturers and are used in a process to make another product."[3752]

United Kingdom has taken actions to assist developing countries in lowering trade costs but failed to lower trade costs nationally. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

[3747] VII International Silk Road Forum, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Customs and Trade 30 November 2016. Access Date: 16 January 2017. http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/vii-international-silk-road-forum.
[3748] Deputy Minister Çiftci Attends ECO Customs Heads Council Meeting, Republic of Turkey Ministry of Customs and Trade 24 November 2016. . Access Date: 16 January 2017. http://english.gtb.gov.tr/news/deputy-minister-ciftci-attends-eco-customs-heads-council-meeting.
[3749] Hungarian-Turkish trade set to step into new dimension. Access date: 12 May 2017. http://www.kormany.hu/en/ministry-of-foreign-affairs-and-trade/news/hungarian-turkish-trade-set-to-step-into-new-dimension.
[3750] Corridors for Growth, Department for International Development. Access Date: 16 January 2017. https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-204369.
[3751] Colombia state visit strengthening trade and investment links, UK Government 2 November 2016. Access Date: 16 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/colombia-state-visit-strengthening-trade-and-investment-links.
[3752] Import duty suspensions and tariff quotas: status of applications, Government of the United Kingdom 24 November 2016. Access Date: 16 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/list-of-suspension-and-quota-prolongation-applications-round-1-7-2013#history.

Analysts: Irina Popova and Anrey Shelepov

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 21 September 2016, the USDA accepted applications for projects funded under the Facility Guarantee Program. Deputy Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services Jonathan Cordone reported at the US-Africa Business Forum in New York. The program provides credit guarantees to contribute to establishment or up graduation of facilities or infrastructure in developing markets, "enhancing the ability of those countries to import US agricultural commodities."[3753]

On 16 November 2016, US Customs and Border Protection announced the process of preparing for installation systems, through which the trade community would report imports/ exports and the government would determine admissibility. The Automated Commercial Environment aims at lowering trade costs nationally. It is being developed for the electronic importing and exporting of goods facilitation and trade processing modernization across all sectors.[3754]

As of 22 November, the US government contributed USD600,000 to encourage developing countries and least-developed countries participation in negotiations on global trade.[3755]

On 15 November 2016, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack reported that the US Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service was "awarding USD200 million to more than 70 US agricultural organizations to help expand export markets for US farm and food products through the Market Access Program (MAP) and the Foreign Market Development (FMD) Program."[3756]

The US has taken actions to lower trade costs nationally and assisted developing countries in lowering trade costs. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Sedova

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment on lowering trade costs.

On 28 September 2016, the European Commission proposed to simplify and harmonize the export control rules. The specific measures aim to: 1) optimize licensing processes, introduce EU General Export Authorizations, simplify the controls on technology transfers; 2) avoid divergent levels of controls throughout the EU; 3) prevent the misuse of dual-use items in relation to terrorism.[3757]

On 10 October 2016, the Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and five southern African countries — Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland and South Africa — entered into effect. It gives the first four countries duty-free, quota-free access to the EU while also benefiting South Africa which will

[3753] USDA is accepting applications for Facility Guarantee Program, the US department of agriculture 21 September 2016. Access date: 15 November 2016. https://www.fas.usda.gov/newsroom/usda-accepting-applications-facility-guarantee-program.

[3754] ACE and Automated Systems, Official webcite of the department of Homeland Security 16 November 2016. Access date: 20 November 2016. https://www.cbp.gov/trade/automated.

[3755] US donates USD 600,000 to help developing countries participate in trade talks, World Trade Organization 22 November 2016. Access date: 30 November 2016. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news16_e/news16_e.htm.

[3756] USDA Awards Funds for Fiscal Year 2017 Market Development Programs, the US department of agriculture 15 November 2016. Access date: 30 November 2016. https://www.fas.usda.gov/newsroom/usda-awards-funds-fiscal-year-2017-market-development-programs.

[3757] Commission proposes to modernize and strengthen controls on exports of dual-use items, European Commission 28 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3190_en.htm.

have enhanced market access. The African markets will open partially to EU exports, providing their industries with the requisite intermediary goods;[3758]

On 14 October 2016, the EU signed a 3-year EUR380,000 deal with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to support Central African countries in cutting the costs of their cross-border trade. The deal enables UNCTAD to help Central African countries comply with different trade regulations, including the Trade Facilitation Agreement;[3759]

On 30 October 2016, the EU and Canada signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). 99 per cent of import duties will be eliminated, saving European exporters of industrial goods and agricultural products more than 500 million euros per year. CETA is a landmark accord that includes ambitious chapters on sustainable development, labor and the environment.[3760] CETA was ratified by the European Parliament on 15 February 2017, and ratification by Canada is pending (provisional application to start in a month from ratification by both parties).[3761]

On 9 November 2016, the European Commission presented a proposal for a new method for calculating dumping on imports from countries where there are significant market distortions or where the state has a pervasive influence on the economy. The adoption of a proposed new anti-dumping methodology would allow the EU to impose higher anti-dumping duties in some instances while respecting World Trade Organization rules.[3762]

On 1 January 2017, the Protocol of Accession of Ecuador to the EU-Colombia/Peru Trade Agreement was published, covering the issues of tariff elimination schedule for trade in goods, rules of origin, market access for trade in services and government procurement.[3763]

On 11 January 2017, the European Commission announced one-way removal of duties on 66 per cent of tariff lines for goods imports from Sri Lanka under the EU Generalized Scheme of Preferences, conditioned that Sri Lankan government commits to ratify and effectively implement 27 international conventions on human rights, labour conditions, protection of the environment and good governance.[3764]

On 24 January 2017, speaking at Bruegel, the EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström outlined the EU's trade agenda for 2017 and beyond, stressing its particular focus on a new, country-neutral approach to anti-dumping; a transparent and predictable investment court system; using trade policy as a vehicle for values such as the environment and human rights; and general fairness and transparency of trade policy aimed to ensure its effectiveness.[3765]

[3758] Economic Partnership Agreement with southern African countries enters into effect, European Commission 10 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3338_en.htm.
[3759] New EU-UNCTAD agreement to help Central Africa cut its trade costs, UNCTAD 14 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1356.
[3760] EU-Canada summit: newly signed trade agreement sets high standards for global trade, European Commission 30 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3581_en.htm.
[3761] European Commission welcomes Parliament's support of trade deal with Canada, European Commission 15 February 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1624.
[3762] Commission proposes changes to the EU's anti-dumping and anti-subsidy legislation, European Commission 9 November 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3604_en.htm.
[3763] Protocol of Accession of Ecuador to the EU-Colombia/Peru Trade Agreement, European Commission 1 January 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1261&title=Protocol-of-Accession-of-Ecuador-to-the-EU-Colombia/Peru-Trade-Agreement.
[3764] Commission proposes increased market access for Sri Lanka as reform incentive, European Commission 11 January 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1612&title=Commission-proposes-increased-market-access-for-Sri-Lanka-as-reform-incentive.
[3765] Speech: The future of EU trade policy, European Commission 24 January 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1614&title=Speech-The-future-of-EU-trade-policy.

On 1 February 2017, it was reported that the EU and Mexico agreed to accelerate talks aimed at modernizing different elements of the current EU-Mexico Free Trade Agreement, with the goal to better mirror other ambitious trade deals that the EU and Mexico have negotiated lately.[3766] As reported by the European Commission, good progress on rules of origin, public procurement, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, energy and raw materials, intellectual property rights and trade by small and medium-sized businesses was made at the 3rd round of the EU-Mexico Negotiations held in Brussels on 3-7 April 2017.[3767]

On 7 February 2017, the EU's initial negotiating position for the EU-Indonesia trade deal were published, having focus, among others, on making trade and investment easier, trade and investment policy more transparent and reducing unnecessary overlapping regulatory barriers to trade.[3768]

On 7 March 2017, it was reported that following the conclusion of preparatory talks for potential EU-New Zealand trade negotiations the European Commission would ask Member States for a negotiating mandate to negotiate a trade deal on the basis of specific objectives.[3769]

On 10 March 2017, it was announced that trade ministerial consultations between the EU and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) resulted in decision to take new steps towards resuming free trade talks between the two regions, in particular — tasking senior officials to work out the parameters of the negotiations for a future ASEAN-EU region-to-region agreement.[3770]

On 20-24 March 2017, the 27th round of consultations on the MERCOSUR–EU Association Agreement was held, bringing considerable progress in negotiating the trade part of the text, including the issues of sanitary and phytosanitary measures, trade facilitation, services, intellectual property rights, government procurement and trade and sustainable development.[3771]

On 29 March 2017, it was reported the EU committed some EUR6.1 million to the Philippines for the Trade-Related and Technical Assistance Project Phase Four (2017–2021);[3772]

On 3-5 April 2017, the 18th round of negotiations on the Japan–EU Economic Partnership Agreement was held in Tokyo, focusing on the issues of trade in goods and services, market access for goods and services, intellectual property rights, non-tariff measures, government procurement and investment.[3773]

[3766] EU and Mexico agree to accelerate trade talks, European Commission 1 February 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1617&title=EU-and-Mexico-agree-to-accelerate-trade-talks.

[3767] Good Progress in Third Round of EU-Mexico Trade Negotiations, European Commission 10 April 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1648&title=Good-Progress-in-Third-Round-of-EU-Mexico-Trade-Negotiations.

[3768] Commission publishes negotiating proposals for EU-Indonesia trade deal, European Commission 7 February 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1621&title=Commission-publishes-negotiating-proposals-for-EU-Indonesia-trade-deal.

[3769] EU and New Zealand move a step further in expanding trade links, European Commission 7 March 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1633&title=EU-and-New-Zealand-move-a-step-further-in-expanding-trade-links.

[3770] EU and ASEAN gear up for possible re-launch of trade talks, European Commission 10 March 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1631&title=EU-and-ASEAN-gear-up-for-possible-re-launch-of-trade-talks.

[3771] Joint EU-Mercosur Communiqué Following the XXVIIth Round of Negotiations, European Commission 27 March 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1639&title=Joint-EU-Mercosur-Communiqu%C3%A9-Following-the-XXVIIth-Round-of-Negotiations.

[3772] U commits 6.1M euros trade assistance to PH, Philippines News Agency 29 March 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://www.manilatimes.net/eu-commits-6-1m-euros-trade-assistance-ph/319783/.

[3773] Eighteenth Round of Negotiation on the Japan EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 7 April 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ie/page24e_000205.html.

On 6 April 2017, it was reported that the EU-Australia free trade agreement preliminary consultations were over and that the European Commission would soon ask members for the authorization to launch formal negotiations and for the specific negotiating directives.[3774]

On 7 April 2017, the EU-Norway negotiations to enhance trade of agricultural products were reported to have concluded; the agreement will facilitate bilateral trade in agricultural products granting mutual duty-free access for 36 tariff lines and tariff quotas for some products.[3775]

On 10 April 2017, the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development announced that the EU's Aid for Trade Strategy "is currently being revised to improve complementarity between trade and development policies and increase the effectiveness of Aid for Trade on least developed countries," in order "to ensure that this public money is channeled not only towards economic sectors but also to areas where it could reduce inequality and improve the distribution of gains from trade."3776

The European Union has taken actions to lower trade costs nationally and assist developing countries in lowering trade costs.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

[3774] EU and Australia one step closer to launching trade negotiations, European Commission 6 April 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1643&title=EU-and-Australia-one-step-closer-to-launching-trade-negotiations.
[3775] EU and Norway conclude negotiations to enhance trade of agricultural products, European Commission 6 April 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1650&title=EU-and-Norway-conclude-negotiations-to-enhance-trade-of-agricultural-products.
[3776] Aid for Trade Review: Prioritising inclusiveness and sustainability, Brussels Office Weblog 10 April 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://brussels.cta.int/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=14901:aid-for-trade-review-prioritising-inclusiveness-and-sustainability-.

18. Investment

We endorse the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking, which will help foster an open, transparent and conductive global policy environment for investment.

G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
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			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.90		

Background

The 2016 Chinese presidency was marked by the first G20 attempt to "foster an open, transparent and conducive global policy environment for investment." The G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking were endorsed by the G20 trade ministers at the meeting in Shanghai on 10 July 2016 and later supported by the leaders at the Hangzhou Summit.[3777,3778]

Commitment Features

The G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking document contains nine principles, which the G20 members pledged to uphold, namely:

1. Recognizing the critical role of investment as an engine of economic growth in the global economy, Governments should avoid protectionism in relation to cross-border investment.

2. Investment policies should establish open, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable conditions for investment.

[3777] G20 Trade Ministerial Meeting Statement, G20 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160710-trade.html.
[3778] G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit, G20 2016. Access date: 14 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/160905-communique.html.

3. Investment policies should provide legal certainty and strong protection to investors and investments, tangible and intangible, including access to effective mechanisms for the prevention and settlement of disputes, as well as to enforcement procedures. Dispute settlement procedures should be fair, open and transparent, with appropriate safeguards to prevent abuse.

4. Regulation relating to investment should be developed in a transparent manner with the opportunity for all stakeholders to participate, and embedded in an institutional framework based on the rule of law.

5. Investment policies and other policies that impact on investment should be coherent at both the national and international levels and aimed at fostering investment, consistent with the objectives of sustainable development and inclusive growth.

6. Governments reaffirm the right to regulate investment for legitimate public policy purposes.

7. Policies for investment promotion should, to maximize economic benefit, be effective and efficient, aimed at attracting and retaining investment, and matched by facilitation efforts that promote transparency and are conducive for investors to establish, conduct and expand their businesses.

8. Investment policies should promote and facilitate the observance by investors of international best practices and applicable instruments of responsible business conduct and corporate governance.

9. The international community should continue to cooperate and engage in dialogue with a view to maintaining an open and conducive policy environment for investment, and to address shared investment policy challenges.[3779]

To achieve full compliance with the commitment members are required to take actions in accordance with the abovementioned principles, i.e., government actions which may affect investment policy, and investors' decision-making process should not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Partial compliance allows for members to take both conforming and contravening actions during the monitoring period.

To assess the compliance with this commitment the exhaustive analysis of members' investment policies should be undertaken, with all actions checked against the set of principles applicable in each situation.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	Member makes only investment-related policy decisions that contravene the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking
0	Member makes both investment-related policy decisions that contravene and those that conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking
+1	Member makes only investment-related policy decisions that conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking

Argentina: 0

Argentina has partially complied with the commitment on investment.

On 1 November 2016, President Mauricio Macri defended a program that lets Argentines who possess USD500 billion of undeclared overseas assets avoid more severe tax penalties by bringing back the money and investing it in the funds. The goal is to provide vital capital for infrastructure, agricultural and

[3779] Annex III: G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking, G20 2016. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/july/tradoc_154790.pdf.

housing projects.[3780] This measure contradicts the principle: Regulation relating to investment should be developed in a transparent manner with the opportunity for all stakeholders to participate, and embedded in an institutional framework based on the rule of law.

On 14 November 2016, the agreement for a loan from the World Bank entitled "Flood risk management support project for the city of Buenos Aires" was signed by Argentine Finance Minister Alfonso Prat Gay, and Buenos Aires City Governor Horacio Rodríguez Larreta.[3781] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 16 November 2016, a Public Private Partnership law aimed at lowering regulatory barriers to foreign investment in Argentine public works projects was given final approval by Congress, a step welcomed by the government as it seeks to pull the country out of recession.[3782] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 23 November 2016, during a meeting, the leaders of Japan and Argentina confirmed that their countries will facilitate public-private policy dialogue for improving the business environment in Argentina.[3783] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 23 November 2016, Roberto Viton, a partner at agricultural advisory firm Valoral, stated that Argentine agricultural reforms could help it regain some of its long-lost share in the global beef market, with increased investment in the sector and high availability of feed.[3784] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 20 March 2017, the country's CIARA-CEC exporters' chamber stated that companies in the private investment sector began an investment plan last year that will continue in 2017, aimed at making general logistics and grains processing more efficient.[3785] This measure corresponds to all principles of The G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking document.

On 21 March 2017, the Argentine government and the United Kingdom signed a memorandum of understanding to "increase, promote and develop trade and investment" and an agreement designed to improve air connections between the two nations.[3786] This measure corresponds to all principles of The G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking document.

[3780] Tax Cheats' USD 500 Billion Targeted for Argentina Fund Revival, Bloomberg Markets, 1 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-11-01/tax-cheats-with-500-billion-targeted-for-argentina-fund-revival.

[3781] Argentina to stem Buenos Aires floods with USUSD 326mn investments, BNamericas, 14 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bnamericas.com/en/news/infrastructure/argentina-to-stem-buenos-aires-floods-with-us326mn-investments.

[3782] Argentina Lowers Barriers to Foreign Investment in Public Works, VOA News, 20 September 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.voanews.com/a/argentina-lowers-barriers-foreign-investment-public-works/3599461.html.

[3783] Japan, Argentina Eyeing Early Investment Pact, JIJI PRESS, 21 November 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://the-japan-news.com/news/article/0003363814.

[3784] Can Argentina become a beef exporting giant again?, Agrimoney.com, 24 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.agrimoney.com/feature/can-argentina-become-a-beef-exporting-giant-again--478.html.

[3785] Argentine grains sector to get $1.7 bln in investment -chamber, Tomson Reuters, 20 March 2017. Access date: 11 May 2017. http://www.reuters.com/article/argentina-grains-investment-idUSL2N1GX1QL.

[3786] Argentina, UK Sign Memorandum to Increase Trade, Investment, Latin America Herald Tribune, 21 March 2017. Access date: 11 May 2017. http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=2433223&CategoryId=14093.

On 30 March 2017, Dutch development bank FMO has signed a deal with the government of Argentina to develop an investment programme for water and wastewater infrastructure projects in the country.[3787] This measure corresponds to all of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

Argentina took both measures that conformed and those that conformed to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Angelina Khudoleeva

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 28 September 2016, Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) issued a revised policy and regulatory framework for charities that raise investment funds. The framework removes regulatory barriers to the issue of financial products while strengthening protection for public investors. The changes are aimed at ensuring the policy is consistent with the objectives of confident and informed investors and fair and efficient markets.[3788] This action matches such principles as non-discriminatory and protective nature of investment policies and dispute settlements; transparency of the regulation relating to investment; efficiency of policies for investment promotion. This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 24 November 2016, the guidance note on tax conditions was released. It includes a template for reporting to the Foreign Investment Review Board on compliance with tax conditions and descriptions of tax condition forms themselves[3789] This action matches such principles as non-discriminatory nature of investment policies; transparency of regulation relating to investment. This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 26 November 2016, a media-release informing that "the Turnbull Government would implement changes under the foreign investment framework to allow foreign buyers to purchase an off-the-plan dwelling when another foreign buyer has failed to reach settlement" was published.[3790] This action matches such principles as recognizing the critical role of investment as an engine of economic growth in the global economy; transparency of regulation relating to investment; efficiency of policies for investment promotion. This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 8 March 2017, the Australian Government issued a consultation paper on potential changes in Australia's foreign investment framework, including such areas as low-sensitivity business investment and non-vacant commercial land. These changes deal with particular legislative issues. They are aimed at ensuring the efficiency of the foreign investment framework and result in cost saving.[3791] This action covers such principles as the provision of open, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable conditions for investment; the ensuring of the transparent manner of regulation with the opportunity for all stakeholders to participate based on the rule of law. The measure breaks none of the G20 principles.

[3787] FMO backs Argentina water projects, Global Trade Review, 30 March 2017. Access date: 11 May 2017. http://www.gtreview.com/news/americas/fmo-backs-argentina-water-projects/.

[3788] 16-329MR ASIC updates regulatory framework for charitable investment fundraisers, Australian Securities and Investment Commission. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://asic.gov.au/about-asic/media-centre/find-a-media-release/2016-releases/16-329mr-asic-updates-regulatory-framework-for-charitable-investment-fundraisers/.

[3789] Guidance Note 47, Foreign Investment Review Board. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://cdn.tspace.gov.au/uploads/sites/79/2016/11/47_GN_FIRB_2016-1-3.pdf.

[3790] Government to allow on-sale of off-the-plan dwellings failing to reach settlement, Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://sjm.ministers.treasury.gov.au/media-release/122-2016/.

[3791] FOREIGN INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK 2017 LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE, Australian Government The Treasury 29 March 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. https://firb.gov.au/2017/03/foreign-investment-framework/.

On 29 March 2017, ASIC announced the establishment of Financial Advisers Consultative Committee in order to provide industry with better understanding of particular issues including investment, insurance, superannuation, etc.[3792] This action covers such principles as the provision of open, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable conditions for investment; the ensuring of the transparent manner of regulation with the opportunity for all stakeholders to participate based on the rule of law; the facilitation of the observance of international best practices and applicable instruments of responsible business conduct and corporate governance. The measure breaks none of the G20 principles.

Australia has made only investment-related policy decisions which conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ildar Khalilyulin

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 13 September 2016, the Investment Partnership Program was created by the government to expand and strengthen the relationship between the state and private initiative. The main objective is to generate jobs and growth for the country through new investments in infrastructure and privatization projects. This program will strengthen legal security, regulatory stability and modernize governance. In practice, the project will create new business opportunities and help Brazil to resume growth.[3793] This program complies with the principles 2 and 7 of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 12 September 2016, to attract the interest of investors, Moreira Franco guaranteed that the projects under the Investment Partnership Program will be carried out with more transparency, reliability and legal certainty, which complies with the principle 2 of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.[3794] These measures and the program comply with all the principles of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 16 October 2016, attending the BRICS Business Council meeting, President Michel Temer encouraged the business of the other countries of the group to invest in Brazil. He listed the measures that are being put in place by the federal government to improve the business environment: reducing in bureaucratic procedures and operating costs as well as ensuring predictability and legal certainty. Stable rules of the Investment Partnerships Program, which is approved by the Senate present investment opportunities in 34 initial projects in the areas of ports, airports, highways, railways, energy, oil and gas, which also will allow creating new jobs and enhance economic growth.[3795] The President Temer said that the Federal Constitution of 1988 opened the opportunity for concessions to decentralize administration,

[3792] 17-088MR ASIC establishes Financial Advisers Consultative Committee, Australian Securities and Investment Commission 29 March 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://www.asic.gov.au/about-asic/media-centre/find-a-media-release/2017-releases/17-088mr-asic-establishes-financial-advisers-consultative-committee/.

[3793] Entenda o Programa de Parcerias de Investimentos, Palácio do Planalto Presidência da República 13 Sptember 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www2.planalto.gov.br/acompanhe-planalto/noticias/2016/09/entenda-o-programa-de-parcerias-de-investimentos.

[3794] Programa de Parcerias de Investimentos fará o País crescer, diz Moreira Franco, Palácio do Planalto Presidência da República 12 Sptember 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www2.planalto.gov.br/acompanhe-planalto/noticias/2016/09/programa-de-parcerias-de-investimentos-fara-o-pais-crescer-diz-moreira-franco.

[3795] Temer incentiva empresas dos países do BRICS a investirem no Brasil, Palácio do Planalto Presidência da República 16October 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www2.planalto.gov.br/acompanhe-planalto/noticias/2016/10/temer-incentiva-empresas-dos-paises-do-brics-a-investirem-no-brasil.

which is for the program.[3796] These measures and the program comply with all the principles of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 24 November 2016, Secretary of Planning and Economic Affairs Marcos Ferrari stressed the importance of fiscal adjustment so that the country can overcome the economic crisis. In his opinion, "The fiscal adjustment will stabilize the macroeconomic environment, aligning expectations and allowing the resumption of growth with the resumption of investment and the generation of employment and income." The secretary stressed the need for approval and implementation of the New Tax Regime, under discussion in Congress, and the Pension Reform to guarantee an environment of fiscal stability and attraction of investments. Moreover, according to Marcos Ferrari, the review of the regulatory framework for telecommunications, under discussion in the National Congress, will create new opportunities to make investments in Brazil feasible.[3797] This New Tax Regime and review of the regulatory framework comply with the principles 2, 3 and 7 of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.[3798]

On 18 January 2017, on the World Economic Forum the Minister of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services, Marcos Pereira, highlighted the advances in the negotiations of the Agreements of Cooperation and Facilitation of Investments. According to Marcos Pereira, the Brazilian government developed an unprecedented approach to investment agreements, focused on the concept of facilitating the capital flow, mitigating risks and preventing controversy. He also said that currently already there were eight completed agreements.[3799] This complies with the 2, 3, 5 and 7 principles of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

Brazil has made only investment-related policy decisions which conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sofia Streltsova

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 19 December 2016, the federal government released new guidelines on national security reviews under the Investment Canada Act (ICA). The guidelines are part of a new transparency initiative intended to encourage foreign investment by providing investors more information about a) the types of transactions that may require a national security review, and b) the factors considered by the government when assessing national security risk.[3800] This measure complies with all the principles of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

[3796] Objetivo central do Programa de Parcerias de Investimentos é gerar empregos, diz Temer, Palácio do Planalto Presidência da República 13 Sptember 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www2.planalto.gov.br/acompanhe-planalto/noticias/2016/09/objetivo-central-do-programa-de-parcerias-de-investimentos-e-gerar-empregos-diz-temer.

[3797] Ajuste fiscal é necessário para equilíbrio das contas, Portal Brasil 24 November 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2016/11/ajuste-fiscal-e-necessario-para-equilibrio-das-contas.

[3798] Annex III: G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking, G20 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/july/tradoc_154790.pdf .

[3799] Política de comércio exterior é prioridade do governo, diz ministro, Portal Brasil 18 January 2017. Access date: 2 Abril 2017. http://www.brasil.gov.br/economia-e-emprego/2017/01/politica-de-comercio-exterior-e-prioridade-do-governo-diz-ministro.

[3800] Canada: New Guidelines To Help Foreign Investors Navigate National Security Rules Under The Investment Canada Act, Mondaq 28 december 2016. Access date: 16 January 2017. http://www.mondaq.com/canada/x/556268/Antitrust+Competition/New+Guidelines+To+Help+Foreign+Investors+Navigate+National+Security+Rules+Under+The+Investment+Canada+Act.

On 24 April 2017, the ICA threshold for review of direct acquisitions of Canadian businesses by i) a investor that is a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and is not a state-owned enterprise and ii) a non-WTO investor and is not a state-owned enterprise) where the Canadian business that is the subject of the investment is, immediately prior to the implementation of the investment, controlled by a WTO investor, has been increased from CAD600 million to CAD800 million in enterprise value.[3801]

Canada has made only investment-related policy decisions which conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

China: +1

China has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 8-9 September 2016 Vice Premier Wang Yang attended the International Investment Forum 2016 and the 19th China International Fair for Investment and Trade (CIFIT), where he gave speech, emphasizing that China should follow the "Innovation, Coordination, Green, Open and Sharing" development concept as well as the consensus of Hangzhou Summit, consider CIFIT to play the role of a bridge and ground platform for organizing cross-border investment and cooperation, further exploit the growing openness of the economy, improve business environment in order to make it more suitable for foreign invested enterprises and accelerate the construction of the new open economy pattern, which is meant to promote the sustainable growth of international investment and trade by means of practical actions.[3802] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 26-30 September 2016, the 12th round of the EU-China investment negotiations took place in Brussels. The talks focused on such areas as: definitions ("investment," "covered investment," "investor," "juridical person/enterprise," "national/natural person"); fair and equitable treatment/ minimum standard of treatment; expropriation; performance requirements; domestic regulation; dispute settlement; sustainable development and the EU text proposals on state owned enterprises; procedural fairness in competition related procedures and standard setting.[3803] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 8 October 2016, the National Development and Reform Commission and the Ministry of Commerce issued the Announcement No. 22 defining that the scale of the special management measures of the foreign investment would be implemented according to the limited and banned regulations of the Catalogue for Guidance of Foreign Investment (2015 Revised), and encouraged regulations with stock rights and senior management. This action was aimed at implementing of the requirements of the Decision of the 22nd Conference of the 12th Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, on Modifying Four Laws Such as the Law on Foreign-funded Enterprises of the People's Republic of China,

[3801] Ministry for Innovation, Science and economic Development of Canada. Access date: 14 June 2017. https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/ica-lic.nsf/eng/h_lk00050.html.

[3802] The 19th China International Fair for Investment and Trade Opens and Wang Yang Makes a Keynote Speech, Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China 09 September 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017. http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201609/20160901396610.shtml.

[3803] EU-China Investment Agreement: Report of the 12th Round of negotiations, European Commission 30 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/october/tradoc_155061.pdf.

adopted on 3 September 2016.[3804] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 30 November 2016, the State Administration of Foreign Exchange of China stated that China will always support legitimate and authentic direct investments in other countries. Administration, with the help of related departments will struggle fallacious investment activities in order to assure validity and authenticity of foreign direct investments.[3805] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 23 May 2017, a revised guidance catalogue for foreign investment was adopted. It will reduce restrictions on foreign ownership in automotive electronics, new energy vehicle batteries, motorcycles and some other industries.[3806]

China has made only investment-related decisions which conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kirill Gribkov

France: +1

France has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 4 October 2016, the second edition of Invest in France was published. Relevant events were held at 66 embassies to promote France's appeal to local economic decision-makers. The goal of this initiative was to make economic decision-makers and opinion-shapers aware of France's assets, reforms relating to competitiveness and measures taken to better welcome international investors. This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 3 November 2016, then French Prime Minister Manuel Valls launched "Choose Paris Region" project, a one-stop shop for simplifying procedures for foreign investors in Paris and Île-de-France region. The aim was to present a strong case for Paris as the natural choice for businesses looking for a gateway into Europe. This one-stop shop is part of a policy to boost appeal that France is actively implementing.[3807] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 27 November 2016, the decree setting out the conditions for certain French investment funds to grant loans directly to borrowers came into force. It allows such French funds to be more competitive, in particular for transactions set up in a multi-jurisdictional context.[3808]

On 10 December 2016, French Law no. 2016-1691 on anti-corruption measures (also known as Sapin 2) was published in the French Journal Officiel. The law introduces substantial changes to French anti-

[3804] National Development and Reform Commission and Ministry of Commerce Announces to Promote the Reform of Foreign-invested Enterprises to Set up Filing Management, Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China 10 October 2016. Access date: 8 January 2017. http://english.mofcom.gov.cn/article/newsrelease/significantnews/201610/20161001407033.shtml.

[3805] State Administration of Foreign Exchange of China stated its support of legitimate and authentic direct investments in other countries, Xinhua News Agency – Russia 30 November 2016. Access date: 8 January 2017. http://russian.news.cn/2016-11/30/c_135869780.htm.

[3806] China to further open auto sector to foreign investment, Xinhuanet 25 May 2017. Access date: 14 June 2017. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/25/c_136314900.htm.

[3807] "Choose Paris Region": a one-stop shop for simplifying procedures for foreign investors, French government 04 November 2016. Access date: 8 December 2016. http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/choose-paris-region-a-one-stop-shop-for-simplifying-procedures-for-foreign-investors.

[3808] France — Law Year in Review 2016 and Year to Come 2017, Lexology 5 January 2017. Access date: 9 March 2017. http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=3e6cb436-38b9-42df-868d-9ff1bd39eede.

corruption and transparency laws, in line with international efforts. Among other things, the Law mandates French companies subject to its provisions to implement certain anti-corruption policies and procedures, training programs, whistleblower processes, risk-mapping, monitoring procedures and accounting controls to detect and prevent corrupt conduct.[3809]

On 2 February 2017, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) published the report, according to which foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows to France rose 5 per cent in 2016 to USD46 billion, underpinning France's position as a major FDI destination. Backed by its long history of openness to inward investment, UNCTAD's figures show France was among the world's 10 leading recipients of FDI inflows last year.[3810]

On 2 March 2017, Business France published improved operating results, according to which 643 foreign investment decisions receiving support from Business France and its regional development partners were successfully completed during the year. It currently operates in 73 countries and organized 462 collective events abroad in 2016 as part of the France Export Program.[3811]

France has made investment-related policy decisions which conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Mark Rakhmangulov and Anastasia Polovko

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 14 September 2016, the Federal Cabinet adopted the "draft law for the further development of the tax-based loss allocation for corporations." With this law, the Federal Government hopes to improve the conditions for capital investments and the further growth of companies. The new regulation will remove tax obstacles to the capital adequacy of companies. Companies that are dependent on the acquisition or the change of shareholders for their financing will be able to take account of unused losses, if they continue the same business operation after a change of ownership, what considerably improves their financing options.[3812] This action does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 29 September 2016, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, Matthias Machnig, and State Secretary of Austria's Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy Dr Harald Mahrer submitted EU Competitiveness Council joint proposals. The aim of the joint initiative from Germany and Austria is to safeguard access to finance for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). In many European Union members, and particularly in Germany, bank loans are still the main component of financing for SMEs, but there is a growing need for alternative funding sources, such as

[3809] New French Anti-Corruption Law: French Parliament Adopts Law "Sapin 2" on Transparency, Fight Against Corruption and Modernization of the Economy, Sullivan & Cromwell LLP 21 December 2016. Access date: 9 March 2017. https://www.sullcrom.com/new-french-anti-corruption-law-french-parliament-adopts-law-sapin-2-on-transparency-fight-against-corruption-and-modernization-of-the-economy.

[3810] France remains as attractive as ever to foreign investors, Business France 2 February 2017. Access date: 9 March 2017. http://en.businessfrance.fr/news/france-remains-as-attractive-as-ever-to-foreign-investors.

[3811] Business France publishes improved operating results across the board, Business France 2 March 2017. Access date: 9 March 2017. http://en.businessfrance.fr/news/business-france-publishes-improved-operating-results-across-the-board.

[3812] Bessere Rahmenbedingungen für die Kapitalausstattung von Unternehmen, Federal Ministry for Finance 14 September 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2016/09/2016-09-14-PM19-verlustrechnung-koerperschaften.html.

venture capital, especially for technology-oriented start-ups.[3813] This action does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 25 October 2016, the high-level policy seminar, co-organized by the Organiastion for Economic Co-operation and Development and the German Federal Ministry of Finance, was held. The event brought together policy makers and academics to discuss financial openness and integration as well as risks to open capital movements.[3814] This action does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 3 November 2016, Sigmar Gabriel, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy, visited Hong Kong, where he attended the 15th Asia Pacific Conference of German Business. The Asia-Pacific region is very attractive for German business, but to realize this potential the elimination of the barriers to trade and investment is necessary, so they are going to develop common rules on investment.[3815] This action does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 24 November 2016, Federal Minister Gabriel emphasized that stability in Germany could only be preserved by investing in sustainable competitive economy in the context of energy policy, digitization in particular of small and medium enterprises and the relief of local budgets.[3816] This action does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 1 March 2017, German Stock Exchange opened the new segment for young companies and small and medium-sized enterprises. It will provide these companies with better access to investors and growth capital. The opening of the new stock exchange segment is the result of two roundtables of the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs together with German Stock Exchange, as well as with high-ranking representatives from politics, finance and the start-up industry.[3817] This action matches such principles as maximization of economic benefit and is matched by facilitation efforts that promote transparency and is conducive for investors to establish, conduct and expand their businesses. This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 2 March 2017, German Economic Delegation held talks with Tunisian Industry Minister Laadhari and participated in a Business Roundtable of the German-Tunisian Chamber of Industry and Commerce. Tunisia is traditionally a major investment location for German companies. State Secretary Beckmeyer said that the federal government and the German companies are prepared to support Tunisia in its economic transition.[3818] This action matches such principles as promotion of international cooperation and dialogue with a view to maintain an open and conducive policy environment for investment. This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

[3813] Germany and Austria present joint proposals for improved SME financing, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 29 September 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/EN/Press/press-releases,did=785458.html.

[3814] Does international co-operation matter, OECD 25 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.oecd.org/investment/seminar-capital-movements-international-cooperation-2016.htm.

[3815] Minister Gabriel wants to step up cooperation with Asia-Pacific region, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 3 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmwi.de/EN/Press/press-releases,did=788416.html.

[3816] Haushalt 2017: Investitionen in die wirtschaftliche Zukunft, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy 24 November 2016. Access date: 25 december .2016. http://www.bmwi.de/DE/Ministerium/Minister-und-Staatssekretaere/Visitenkarten/sigmar-gabriel,did=790626.html.

[3817] Zypries: Mehr Börsengänge junger Wachstumsunternehmen möglich,, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy 1 March 2017. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170301-zypries-boersengang-junger-wachstumsunternehmen.html.

[3818] Staatssekretär Beckmeyer in Ägypten und Tunesien: Ausbau der Wirtschaftsbeziehungen, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy 2 March 2017. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/DE/Pressemitteilungen/2017/20170302-beckmeyer-in-aegypten-und-tunesien.html.

Germany has made only investment-related decisions which conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Nekrasova

India: +1

India has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 1 October 2016, India's Ministry of Corporate Affairs introduced a new e-form called "Simplified Proforma for Incorporating Company Electronically" by notifying the "Companies (Incorporation) Fourth Amendment Rules, 2016." It allows for all of the relevant documentation to be submitted online. The main objective is to provide speedy incorporation-related services and streamline the process of corporate setup.[3819] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 20 October 2016, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) amended regulations in order to "further liberalise and rationalise the investment regime for foreign venture capital investors (FVCI) and to give a fillip to foreign investment in the startups." As per the amendment, FVCI will not require any approval from RBI and can invest in equity or equity-linked instruments or debt instruments issued by an Indian company in certain sectors (such as biotechnology, IT, nanotechnology) whose shares are not listed. Also, FVCI will not require any approval from RBI and can invest in equity or equity-linked instrument or debt instrument issued by an Indian 'start-up', irrespective of the sector in which the start-up is engaged. FVCI will, however, have to be registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India. This mjeasure does not violate any G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.[3820]

On 24 May 2017, the Union Cabinet approved the phasing out of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board. Previously, applications for foreign direct investment requiring government approval were considered by the board, resulting in a recommendation. After the Cabinet decision, they would be handled independently by Administrative Ministries as per Sector.[3821]

India has made only investment-related decisions which conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment on investment.

On 10 November 2016, Indonesian government released an economic policy package dubbed the e-Commerce Road Map (the 14th within the framework of a larger policy aimed at "maintaining structural reform momentum" and encouraging investment into Indonesia, which was launched on 9 September 2015).[3822] One of the stated goals of the package was to "provide certainty and ease of doing business in the use of e-commerce with strategic guidelines and direction in accelerating the implementation of

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[3819] Companies (Incorporation) Fourth Amendment Rules, 2016, Oct 01, 2016, Ministry of Corporate Affairs 1 October 2016. Acces date: 17 January 2017. http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/CompaniesIncorporationFourthAmendmentRules_01102016.pdf.

[3820] Investment by a Foreign Venture Capital Investor (FVCI) registered under SEBI (FVCI) Regulations, 2000, Reserve Bank of India 26 October 2016. Access date: 17 January 2017. https://rbi.org.in/scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Mode=0&Id=10649.

[3821] Press information Bureu of Government of India 24 May 2017. Access date: 14 June 2017. http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=162097.

[3822] Indonesia to Release 15th Economic Policy Package Soon, Indonesia Investments 22 November 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.indonesia-investments.com/news/todays-headlines/indonesia-to-release-15th-economic-policy-package-soon/item7379.

electronic-based national trade system in the period of 2016-2019." As stipulated in the policy package the Indonesian government will provide tax incentives to local start-up investors, simplify permit obtaining process for e-commerce start-ups, and ensure equal treatment for foreign entrepreneurs investing in electronic commerce.[3823] This policy package does not contravene any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 1 January 2017, a new Information Ministry Regulation No. 27/2015 on the Technical Requirements for Long Term Evolution Technology Standard Based Telecommunication Tool and Equipment came into force, requiring all smartphone producers, who sell their products in the country, to comply with a higher minimum local content requirement. The requirement was increased from 20 percent to 30 percent.[3824] The measure contradicts the first of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking, as it increases protectionist pressure on foreign investors.

The overall policy, conducted by the Indonesian government since September 2015 through introducing consecutive "packages" of measures, has secured Indonesia's rise in the World Bank's Doing Business Index in 2016. Investment climate was particularly improved by the 12th economic stimulus package, issued in April 2016, which has reduced the number of regulatory procedures from 94 to 49, decreased compliance time from 1,566 days to 132 days, and cut corresponding costs from 92.8 million to 72.7 million.[3825]

Indonesia has made both investment-related policy decisions that conformed to and those that contradicted the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus it recieves a score of 0.

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 21 September 2016, Italian Ministry for Simplification and Public Administration released the third plan of action on "Open Government in Italy" initiative. One of the objectives is to further enhance the OpenCUP Portal, which discloses the information on public investment projects in Italy.[3826] Targeted results of this objective include: facilitating access to and usefulness of the information provided by the Portal for all stakeholders, and increasing integration between OpenCUP and other 'Open' portals, maintained by the Italian government.[3827] This action aims to promote transparency of public investment, in full correspondence with the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 27-28 October 2016, Italian Agency for Territorial Cohesion, the public body accountable directly to the Prime Minister, organized a series of workshops, round tables and capacity building activities for authorities in charge of various aspects of investment environment. The consultations targeted both the

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[3823] Main Points of 14th Economic Policy Package, Sekretariat Kabinet Republik Indonesia 11 November 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://setkab.go.id/en/main-points-of-14th-economic-policy-package/.

[3824] Rising Investment in Local Content for Indonesia's 4G LTE Smartphones. Indonesia-Investments. http://www.indonesia-investments.com/business/business-columns/rising-investment-in-local-content-indonesia-s-4g-lte-smartphones/item7316.

[3825] It's Getting Easier to Do Business in Indonesia: Report, Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://www3.bkpm.go.id/en/publication-investment/detail/investment-news/its-getting-easier-to-do-business-in-indonesia-report.

[3826] Terzo Piano d'Azione Ogp Italia 2016-2018, Italian Ministry for Public Administration and Simplification 21 September 2016. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://www.funzionepubblica.gov.it/articolo/ministro/21-09-2016/terzo-piano-dazione-ogp-italia.

[3827] Open Government in Italia 3 Piano d'azione, Italian Ministry for Simplification and Public Administration 21 September 2016. Access date: 12 January 2017.
http://www.funzionepubblica.gov.it/sites/funzionepubblica.gov.it/files/Terzo_Piano_Azione_OGP_Nazionale_23set2016.pdf

officials working with the European commission and representatives of regional authorities form Campania to bring about stronger cohesion between government investment policy on both supranational and regional levels. The event was aimed at increasing the authorities' capacity to manage structural funds' programs, updating the European Investment Plan and discuss the issues relating to the use of financial instruments.[3828] This action promotes effectiveness of Italy's investment policy, while improving its consistency with that of the European Union.

On 29 March 2017, Pakistan and Italy agreed to expand bilateral ties in diverse areas, especially trade and investment. The agreement was reached during the meeting between Prime Minister's Adviser on Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz and Italian Undersecretary of State of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Benedetto Della Vedova in Islamabad. They also emphasized the need to strengthen existing partnership for promoting regional peace and security.[3829]

Italy has only made investment-related policy decisions conforming to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Maria Strelnikova

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 7 October 2017, Invest Japan Forum 2016 was held, organized by Nikkei, Inc. with the support of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), the Cabinet Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Japan External Trade Organization.[3830] Speaking at the forum, METI's vice-minister reaffirmed that Abenomics would continue to be focused on improving the investment environment and advancing working style, regulatory and administrative procedural reform, aiming to achieve the goal of Japan as the "most business-friendly country in the world."[3831]

Japan's officials took part in several major events within the negotiations process on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). It would provide a section on investment liberalization (with certain limitations and transition periods) among members. The negotiation process within the compliance period included:

- 15th round of negotiations for the RCEP (China, 17-21 October 2016);[3832]
- Second RCEP Intersessional Ministerial Meeting (Philippines, 3-4 November 2016);[3833]
- 16th round of negotiations for the RCEP (Indonesia, 6-10 December 2016);[3834]

[3828] Il Piano di Investimenti per l'Europa e il Mezzogiorno d'Italia: l'Agenzia per la Coesione Territoriale il 27 e il 28 ottobre alla tavola rotonda della rappresentanza italiana della Commissione europea e della Regione Campania, Italian Agency for Territorial Cohesion 24 Ocober 2016. Access date: 11 January 2017. http://www.agenziacoesione.gov.it/it/Notizie_e_documenti/news/2016/ottobre/piano_investimenti_mezzogiorno.

[3829] ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Italy have agreed to expand bilateral ties in diverse areas, especially trade and investment., Pakistan News 29 March 2017. http://aaj.tv/2017/03/pakistan-italy-agree-to-expand-bilateral-ties-in-diverse-sectors/.

[3830] INVEST JAPAN Forum 2016 Held, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 11 October 2016. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1011_01.html .

[3831] Ibid.

[3832] Fifteenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 12 October 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1012_01.html.

[3833] Second Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Intersessional Ministerial Meeting, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 1 November 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1101_01.html.

[3834] Sixteenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 2016. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1202_001.html.

- 17th round of negotiations for the RCEP (Japan, 27 February-3 March 2017.[3835] The meeting received even more attention than usual as it was the first RCEP meeting since the decision of the Trump administration on the US withdrawal from the Transpacific Partnership (TPP) came into force, de-facto leaving RCEP the only Asia-Pacific trade mega-bloc and potentially the basis for prospective Asia Pacific Free Trade Area.

On 12 April 2017, it was reported that Japan [at the roadshow of economic ministers from the Association of South East Asian Nations to Japan on 6-9 April 2017] had expressed readiness to "work for an early establishment of the RCEP and conclude the pact's negotiations by the end of this year [2017]."[3836]

Japan's recent actions in the investment promotion domain are in full compliance with the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it recieves a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 27 February 2017, the 11th Trade and Investment Promotion Meeting was held by Korea's Ministry of Strategy and Finance; among other things the Ministry committed to continue work on removing uncertainties and improving investment-related regulations in order to help lift investor confidence and resolve difficulties that interfere with investment.[3837]

During the compliance period, Korea has taken a number of actions to promote international investment facilitation.

Korea's officials took part in several major events within the negotiations process on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). It would include a section on investment liberalization (with certain limitations and transition periods) among members. The negotiation process within the compliance period included:

- 15th round of negotiations (China, 17-21 October 2016);[3838]
- Second RCEP Intersessional Ministerial Meeting (Philippines, 3-4 November 2016);[3839]
- 16th round of negotiations (Indonesia, 6-10 December 2016);[3840]
- 17th round of negotiations (Japan, 27 February-3 March 2017.[3841] The meeting received even more attention than usual as it was the first RCEP meeting since the decision of the Trump administration

[3835] Seventeenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 22 February 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/0222_001.html.

[3836] RCEP put on fast track to fend off US, Bangkok Post 12 April 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.bangkokpost.com/business/news/1231224/rcep-put-on-fast-track-to-fend-off-us

[3837] 11th Meeting Focuses on Boosting Domestic Demand, Korea's Ministry of Strategy and Finance 27 February 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. https://english.mosf.go.kr/co/singleFileDown.do;jsessionid=xhqwYSrR9Bb-yR5RX6vOrxMs.node10?seq=4265&fileSeq=7185&boardCd=N0001.

[3838] Fifteenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 12 October 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1012_01.html.

[3839] Second Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Intersessional Ministerial Meeting, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 1 November 2016. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1101_01.html.

[3840] Sixteenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 2016. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2016/1202_001.html .

on the US withdrawal from the Transpacific Partnership came into force, de facto leaving RCEP the only Asia-Pacific trade mega-bloc and potentially the basis for prospective Asia Pacific free trade area.

On 17 November 2016, it was announced that Korea had reached an agreement for a free trade deal with six Central American countries, including Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Panama, having certain provisions for market access.[3842]

On 2 March 2017, Korea and Mercado Común del Sur (MERCOSUR) signed a joint statement facilitating the launch of official negotiations for a multilateral trade agreement between Korea and four South American countries in the first half of the year.[3843] On the same day, a memorandum of understanding on the Korea-Argentina trade and investment dialogue channel was signed.[3844]

On 10-13 April 2017, 12th the round of negotiations on Japan-China-Korea Free Trade Agreement was held in Tokyo, discussing the issues of investment among others.[3845]

Korea's actions adhere to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Korea's investment-related policies, in particular toward attracting foreign direct investment, are well recognized globally.[3846] Thus, it recieves a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 2 September 2016, Mexico clarified the meaning of certain rules on foreign investment. The clarifications relate to the definition of the term "control" and to the registration procedure for foreign investment.[3847] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 10 November 2016, ProMéxico, the Mexican Government trust fund subordinate to the Secretariat of Economy, presented the specialized editions for businessmen and representatives of chambers of commerce in which various aspects of doing business in Mexico as well as Mexican companies' activities

[3841] Seventeenth Round of Negotiations for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 22 February 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/0222_001.html .

[3842] Korea-Central America reach FTA agreement. Korea's Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy 17 November 2016. Access date: 5 December 2016. http://english.motie.go.kr/?p=7537&paged=0.

[3843] Korea, MERCOSUR sign joint statement for launch of trade agreement negotiations, Korea's Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy 3 March 2017. Access date: 17 April 2017. http://english.motie.go.kr/en/pc/pressreleases/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=526&bbs_cd_n=2&currentPage=9&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=.

[3844] Korea, MERCOSUR sign joint statement for launch of trade agreement negotiations, Korea's Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy 3 March 2017. Access date: 17 April 2017. http://english.motie.go.kr/en/pc/pressreleases/bbs/bbsView.do?bbs_seq_n=526&bbs_cd_n=2&currentPage=9&search_key_n=&search_val_v=&cate_n=.

[3845] Twelfth Round of Negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement among Japan, China and the ROK to be Held, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 7 April 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/0407_001.html.

[3846] E.g. World Bank Group suggests developing countries should emulate Korea's FDI attraction system, where Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) focuses on the attraction of FDI while the Ombudsman resolves the grievances of foreign investors in Korea. More at: World Bank's advice on FDI policy, The Korea Times 14 November 2016. Access date: 5 December 2016. http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/opinon/2016/11/198_218156.html .

[3847] Mexico clarified the meaning of certain rules on foreign investment. Access date: 25 November 2016. http://investmentpolicyhub.unctad.org/IPM/MeasureDetails?id=2977&hubc=null&rgn=&grp=&c=128&t=&s=&df=&dt=&pg=1&map=true&isSearch=true.

abroad analyzed. One of the editions entitled “Mexico — a strategic destination for productive investment” is a roadmap aims to facilitate an access for new companies to the Mexican market, having responses to main questions which potential investors could have in this process. All editions are available for free download in electronic format from the ProMéxico web-site to provide potential investors with all information on investment in Mexico they need.[3848] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 16-18 November 2016, Mexico organized the Cancún Forum 2016. More than 500 representatives of Mexican, Central American and Caribbean companies operating in agriculture, plastics manufacturing, construction, chemical, textile, automotive, machinery, information and communications technology (ICT) and many other sectors and export promotion agencies attended the event. The main objective was to explore the barriers which the companies face in their export and investment activities and integration to the global value chains as well as to align the policies implemented by the national investment promotion agencies supporting the companies.[3849] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 5-6 December 2016, Mexico organized “Green Solutions” event to discuss promotion of investment in renewable energy as well as national policy in green energy. The event was attended by the representatives of governmental authorities, businesses, academia working in the renewable energy sphere. The event engaged more than 80 companies of Korea, Finland, Italy, the United States, Spain, Venezuela, Guatemala, the Netherlands and the Dominican Republic with aim to hold B2B meetings.[3850] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 6 December 2016, ProMéxico, a subdivision of the Secretariat of Economy, signed a cooperation agreement with Switzerland Global Enterprise to implement joint actions aimed at boosting mutually beneficial trade and investment between the countries. The agreement will simplify an engagement between Mexican and Swiss companies, particularly for small and medium enterprises, to boost mutual investment.[3851] (9 — international cooperation)

On 9 March 2017, Mexican Secretary of Finance Meade Kuribreña presented the Strategy to Boost Public Private Partnership Projects that includes 12 projects with a total investment of more than USD1 billion. Other 18 projects in the communication, transport, health, hydraulics, education and security sectors are under preparation. The strategy aims to ensure that the processes of tendering, awarding and contracting projects are carried out in an open, competitive, fair, efficient and transparent manner and accountability (2 — favorable investment environment).[3852]

On 30 March 2017, ProMéxico organized a roundtable discussion with the representatives of the information and communications technology industry in Mexico. The participants discussed the possible

[3848] ProMéxico presenta colección editorial. Access date: 25 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/promexico/prensa/promexico-presenta-coleccion-editorial?idiom=es.

[3849] Foro de Cancún 2016 cumple objetivo de promover acercamiento de empresas mexicanas con las 25 economías de Centroamerica y el Gran Caribe. Access date: 25 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/promexico/prensa/foro-de-cancun-2016-cumple-con-el-objetivo-de-promover-el-acercamiento-entre-empresarios-mexicanos-con-las-25-economias-de-centroamerica-y-el-gran-caribe?idiom=es.

[3850] Únete a la discusión sobre políticas públicas verdes y la promoción de inversión en energías renovables. Access date: 25 November 2016. http://www.gob.mx/promexico/articulos/unete-a-la-discusion-sobre-politicas-publicas-verdes-y-la-promocion-de-inversion-en-energias-renovables?idiom=es.

[3851] ProMéxico firma convenio con agencia de promoción suiza. Date of access: 1 April 2017. http://www.gob.mx/promexico/prensa/promexico-firma-convenio-con-agencia-de-promocion-suiza?idiom=es.

[3852] Comunicado No. 039. Con inversiones público privadas, México se mantiene en la ruta del desarrollo: Meade Kuribreña. Date of access: 1 April 2017. http://www.gob.mx/shcp/prensa/comunicado-no-039-con-inversiones-publico-privadas-mexico-se-mantiene-en-la-ruta-del-desarrollo-meade-kuribrena?idiom=es.

measures to attract foreign direct investment to this sector as well as to boost export of its services (7 — investment attraction*)*.[3853]

Mexico makes only investment-related policy decisions which conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 13 October 2016, the workshop on Practical Aspects of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects implementation was held in the Russian Ministry of Economic Development. The participants from both public sector and private companies discussed the Russian regulation on PPP and recent developments aimed at improving the investment climate. The members of the Business Council of the United Nations European Economic Commission shared their experience on the topic.[3854] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

In November 2016, a special working group on conducting research on the basis of most relevant provisions of Policy Framework for Investment was created. This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

In December 2016, the Russian Ministry of Economic Development prepared an assessment of the investment climate in Russia on the basis of the Policy Framework for Investment.[3855] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

Russia has made investment-related policy decisions that conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 20 September 2016, the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment confirmed that it was conducting a complete review to its regulations and systems governing trade, investment, consumer protection, free labour professions, counseling and advisory to provide an encouraging environment for economic activities in accordance with Vision 2030 program.[3856]

On 8 October 2017, it was reported more than 400 suggestions had been received by the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment from local and foreign companies and chambers of commerce aimed to

[3853] ProMéxico propone plan de trabajo con la industria de tecnologías de la información y comunicaciones. Date of access: 1 April 2017. http://www.gob.mx/promexico/prensa/promexico-propone-plan-de-trabajo-con-la-industria-de-tecnologias-de-la-informacion-y-comunicaciones.

[3854] State-provate partnership was duscussed in the Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation 13 October 2016. Access date: 19 June 2017. http://economy.gov.ru/minec/about/structure/depinvest/2016131001.

[3855] Report on the assessment of investment climate in Russia on the basis of the OECD Policy Framework for Investment (PFI), Ministry of Economic Development of th Russian Federation. Access date: 19 June 2017. http://economy.gov.ru/minec/about/structure/depinvest/index?WCM_PI=1&WCM_PageSize.ba829c0043dd990bb210b6ca0b86d358=40.

[3856] "MCI": Complete The Review To 30 Systems And Legislations To Comply With The Saudi Vision 2030 And Stimulate Investment And Consumer Protection, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 20 September 2016. Access date: 23 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/20-09-16-01.aspx.

solve the challenges facing the investment sector in the Kingdom and enhance the investment environment; it was also reported that the contributors would be invited to workshops for face-to-face communication on the investment climate agenda.[3857] On 9 October 2017 the Ministry held a workshop with a broad range of government stakeholders to launch the operational plan for the initiatives of trade and investment system for the Saudi Vision 2030 program.[3858]

On 6 February 2017, Saudi Arabia took part in the "Beirut Round" of negotiations for the Agreement for Liberalization Trade in Services among Arab countries that stipulates opening up the field of investment in specific services sectors to investors from the Member States, so that the investors from the Member States have exclusive right to invest in the services sectors.[3859]

On 9 February 2017, the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment held a workshop on improving performance the Saudi commercial dispute settlement offices to enhance the confidence of traders, investors and commercial papers dealers with such offices.[3860]

On 5 March 2017, the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment reported elaborations on more than thirty pieces of rules and regulations were underway, with the goal to develop trade, investment and consumer protection regulations to provide a stimulating environment for investment, facilitate doing business, reduce the procedures cost, ensure flexibility, transparency and stability of trading facilities and honest practices of commercial transactions.[3861]

On 11 March 2017, it was reported that 44 recommendations of the "National Program for Enhancing Competitiveness" within the Saudi National Transformation Program 2020 had been implemented, specifically — recommendations on issuing business visas within 48 hours, completing the New Corporate Law, forming reconciliation committees to prevent insolvency, inauguration of the Commercial Arbitration Center, issuing the electronic certificate of origin including the adoption of the electronic signature, reducing the import and export requirements, providing ports services round the clock and releasing the commercial containers within 24 hours.[3862]

On 16 March 2017, Saudi and China trade ministries signed an agreement on launching a cooperation program in the field of trade and investment, covering, among others, the issues of expansion and development of trade exchange, taking advantage of the available business opportunities, exchange of publications on the global market, as well as the necessary statistics on intra-regional and international

[3857] "MCI" Received More Than 400 Suggestions To Develop The Investment Environment In The Kingdom As An Interaction With "Partners" Program 2030, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 8 October 2016. Access date: 23 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/08-10-16-01.aspx.

[3858] MCI Holds A Workshop To Launch The Initiatives Of Trade And Investment System For The Saudi Vision 2030, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 8 October 2016. Access date: 23 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/09-10-16-01.aspx.

[3859] The Kingdom's Delegation Concludes Its Participation In Beirut Negotiations To Liberalize Trade In Services Among Arab Countries, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 6 February 2017. Access date: 23 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/06-02-17-02.aspx.

[3860] MCI, Organizing A Workshop To Develop The Performance Of The Dispute Settlement Offices In The Kingdom, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 9 February 2017. Access date: 23 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/09-02-17-02.aspx.

[3861] More Than Thirty (30) Rules & Regulations Are Being Developed By The Ministry Of Trade And Investment To Stimulate Investment, Facilitate Business And For Consumer Protection, Twelve (12) R&R Have Been Completed, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 5 March 2017. Access date: 23 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/05-03-17-02.aspx.

[3862] MCI, 44 Recommendations Have Been Completed To Enhance The Competitiveness Of The Investment Environment, And To Raise The Kingdom's Global Rank, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 11 March 2017. Access date: 23 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/11-03-17-01.aspx.

trade, cooperation for enabling national products and services to have mutual access to markets and prevention of harmful practices in business operations.[3863]

On 16 April 2017, the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment issued a decree aimed at enhancing the protection of the rights of the minority shareholders and improving the competitiveness of the investment environment in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.[3864]

Saudi Arabia's actions in the investment promotion domain taken during the compliance period are in full compliance with the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it recieves a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 17 March 2017, the One Stop Shop was launched in South Africa. It is a focal point of the government to shorten and simplify administrative procedures and guidelines for foreign companies wishing to invest in South Africa. It brings together key government entities dealing with issues including policy and regulation, permits and licensing, infrastructure, and finance and incentives, with a view to reducing lengthy bureaucratic procedures, reducing bottlenecks, and providing an enhanced aftercare service. It intends to provide a more coordinated, streamlined and professional service to those who wish to set up a business.[3865] This measure does not contradict any G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

During the monitoring period Saudi Arabia has not made any investment-related policy decisions that violated the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Turkey: +1

Turkey has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 7 September 2016, the Law on Supporting Investments on Project Basis and Amending Certain Laws and Decree Laws (Law No. 6745) entered into force. The most significant article is dedicated to a project-based investment incentives package that provides financial support for innovative, technology-oriented, focused on research and development, high value-added projects that also help to reduce foreign dependency. Projects seeking support under the new law must be in conformity with the Turkish government's targets set forth in national development plans and annual programs, and also with those specifically promoted by the Ministry of Economy.[3866] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

[3863] Ministry Of Commerce And Investment In K.S.A. Signs A Cooperation Program With The Ministry Of Trade In China To Raise The Level Of Trade Exchange, Rehabilitation Of Cadres And For Having Value-Added Investments, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 16 March 2017. Access date: 23 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/16-03-17-01.aspx.
[3864] H.E.The Minister Of Commerce And Investment Issues A Ministerial Decree To Protect The Minority Investors Of The Unlisted Joint Stock And The Limited Liability Companies, Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Investment 16 April 2017. Access date: 23 April 2017. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/16-04-17-02.aspx.
[3865] President Jacob Zuma: Launch of Invest South Africa One Stop Shop, South African Government 17 March 2017. Access date: 14 June 2017. http://www.gov.za/speeches/invest-south-africa-one-stop-shop-launch-17-mar-2017-0000.
[3866] Turkey to grant new incentives for eligible investments on a project basis, Invest in Turkey 8 September 2016. Access date: 17 January 2016. http://www.invest.gov.tr/en-US/infocenter/news/Pages/turkey-grants-new-incentives-for-eligible-investments-on-project-basis.aspx.

On 29 September 2016, Turkey published secondary legislation intended to encourage investment (General Communiqué on Stamp Tax Law, Serial No. 60), outlining further details for a recent law which significantly loosened stamp tax obligations and notary fees for a range of documents. Notable new exemptions include stamp tax no longer being applied to documents regarding share transfers in joint stock or limited liability companies. Furthermore, copies of papers subject to proportional stamp tax are no longer subject to stamp tax.[3867] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 9 October 2016, Turkish Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources has introduced details for operation, investments and license procedures regarding large-scale renewable energy resource areas ("Investment Areas"). Investment Areas can be located on public or private property and are intended to promote efficient use of renewable energy resources. The concept was introduced into legislation in 2005, but not widely adopted. These latest detailed provisions are intended to encourage allocation of Investment Areas to investors, to enable fast utilization of energy investments, supporting production and/or purchase of high-tech components in Turkish renewable energy facilities.[3868] This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 23 January 2017, Turkey and Mozambique have signed six agreements including cooperation in facilitating bilateral investment ties. It is the result of Tayyip Erdogan's official visit to the country. The countries hope to promote "win-win" mutual cooperation.[3869]

Turkey has made only investment-related policy decisions which conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 10 November 2016, Chancellor Phillip Hammond, International Trade Secretary Liam Fox, and Northern Powerhouse Minister Andrew Percy presented the Northern Powerhouse investment projects portfolio to the Chinese delegation during the eighth UK-China Economic and Financial Dialogue. The portfolio contains 13 North England-based projects worth GBP5 billion of opportunities to Chinese, as well as any other interested international investment. "Investors from abroad know that the North has some of the world's best and most talented entrepreneurs and businesses, and today we're showcasing 13 oven-ready opportunities to them which could create thousands of jobs for years to come," commented Minister Percy.[3870] This action by the UK government represents its openness for engagements with foreign investors, and its recognition of the critical role of international investment as an engine of economic growth. This measure does not contradict any of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

The United Kingdom has made only investment-related policy decisions that conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

[3867] Turkey Publishes Further Details of Stamp Tax Exemptions Intended to Encourage Investment, MaGazette 17 October 2016. Access date: 17 January 2016. http://www.morogluarseven.com/magazette/ma-gazette-edition-31-17-october-2016.

[3868] Turkey Introduces Detailed Legislative Regime to Encourage Large-Scale Renewable Energy Investment, MaGazette 17 October 2016. Access date: 17 January 2016. http://www.morogluarseven.com/magazette/ma-gazette-edition-31-17-october-2016.

[3869] Turkey, Mozambique ink 6 agreements. Access date: 12 May 2017. http://clubofmozambique.com/news/turkey-mozambique-ink-6-agreements/.

[3870] Northern Powerhouse investments showcased to Chinese investors, UK Government 10 November 2016. Access date: 16 January 2017. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/northern-powerhouse-investments-showcased-to-chinese-investors.

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 29 September 2016, the Federal Communications Commission issued a report and order that "simplifies the foreign ownership filing and review process for broadcast licensees." The rule restricting direct possession of a broadcast station to US citizens or to entities in which non-US citizens own no more than 20 per cent, did not change, but rules on indirect ownership were adjusted by expanding "the rules developed for foreign ownership reviews for common carrier and certain aeronautical licensees to the broadcast context."[3871] This measure does not violate any G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking and makes US investment policy more coherent.

On 2 December 2016, US President Barack Obama banned the acquisition of Aixtron, a German semiconductor producer, by a Chinese company on the base of national security concerns. Aixtron technology can be used to produce products including light-emitting diodes, lasers and solar cells, and can have military applications in satellite communications and radar. Northrop Grumman Corp., a major US defense contractor, is among its customers. Grand Chip is a special purpose investment owned by investors in China, some of whom have Chinese government ownership. The proposed acquisition was to be funded in part by Sino IC Leasing Co. Ltd., which belongs to an industrial investment fund established by the Chinese government to develop the country's integrated circuit industry.[3872] Although this measure seems to violate some of the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking (mainly "open, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable conditions for investment"), it can be justified by the sixth principle: "Governments reaffirm the right to regulate investment for legitimate public policy purposes." Undertaken for national security concerns, it does not violate G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking.

On 30 September 2016, the Federal Communications Commission released rules "to extend to broadcast licensees the same streamlined rules and procedures that common carrier wireless licensees use to seek approval for foreign ownership, with appropriate broadcast-specific modifications" and reformed the publicly traded broadcast and common carrier licensees methodology and controlling "U.S. parents to assess compliance with the statutory foreign ownership limits," raising transparency of investment conditions and legal certainty.[3873]

On 20 December 2016, the US Securities and Exchange Commission announced that Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC would pay USD7.5 million "to settle charges it used trades involving customer cash to lower the firm's borrowing costs in violation of the SEC's Customer Protection Rule." This fact proves that USA government actions' aim is to provide investors with strong protection and to improve investment operations transparency by regular monitoring of these processes.[3874]

On 27 February 2017, the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy received approximately USD1.5 billion investment in R&D funding to conduct about "more than 580 projects through 36 focused

[3871] FCC Streamlines Foreign Ownership Rules & Procedures For Broadcast & Common Carrier Licensees, US Federal Communications Commission 29 September 2016. Access date: 13 January 2017. http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2016/db0929/DOC-341506A1.pdf.

[3872] Obama Blocks Chinese Takeover of Aixtron as US Security Risk, Bloomberg 3 December 2016. Access date: 13 January 2017. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-12-02/obama-blocks-chinese-takeover-of-aixtron-as-u-s-security-risk.

[3873] FCC streamlines foreign ownership rules and procedures for broadcast and common carier licensees, the US Federal Communications Commission 29 September 2016. Access date: 15 December 2016 http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2016/db0929/DOC-341506A1.pdf.

[3874] SEC Charges Morgan Stanley With Customer Protection Rule Violations, the US Security and Exchange Comission 20 December 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-269.html.

programs and three open funding solicitations." The agency is supported by Congress in order to contribute to U.S. competitiveness in the energy area.[3875]

The US has made only investment-related policy decisions that conform to the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Irina Popova and Irina Sedova

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment on investment.

On 14 September 2016, the European Commission proposed to extend the European Fund for Strategic Investments, in particular to bring the initial three-year period (2015-2018) with a target of 315 billion euros to half a trillion euros investments by 2020.[3876]

On 14 September 2016, the European Commission announced a new European External Investment Plan which provides for the boosting of investments in Africa and EU Neighborhood countries. The Plan's budget totals EUR3.35 billion and focuses on supporting guarantees of private investment. It will help mobilize up to EUR44 billion in investments. The plan consists of 1) combining existing investment facilities with a new guarantee within the new European Fund for Sustainable Development; 2) enhancing technical assistance for broader policy environment to support public authorities and companies in partner countries; and 3) fostering good governance, fighting corruption, removing barriers to investment and market distortions.[3877]

On 26-30 September 2016, the 12th round of the EU-China investment negotiations took place in Brussels. The talks focused on such areas as: definitions ("investment," "covered investment," "investor," "juridical person/enterprise," "national/natural person"); fair and equitable treatment/ minimum standard of treatment; expropriation; performance requirements; domestic regulation; dispute settlement; sustainable development and the EU text proposals on state owned enterprises; procedural fairness in competition related procedures and standard setting.[3878]

On 30 October 2016, the European Union and Canada signed the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA). It ensures a high level of protection for investors and preserves the governments' right to regulate and pursue legitimate public policy objectives such as the protection of health, safety and the environment.[3879] It was ratified by the European Parliament on 15 February 2017, while ratification by Canada is pending (provisional application to start in a month from ratification by both parties).[3880]

On 22 November 2016, the European Commission started the Start-up and Scale-up Initiative. It adds a new focus on venture capital investment, insolvency law and taxation. In particular, it allows for the

[3875] ARPA-E Projects Receive more than $1.8 Billion in Private Follow-on Funding for Transformational Energy Technologies, the US Energy Department Official Website 27 February 2017. Access date: 27 March 2017. https://energy.gov/articles/arpa-e-projects-receive-more-18-billion-private-follow-funding-transformational-energy.
[3876] State of the Union 2016: Strengthening European Investments for jobs and growth, European Commission 14 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3002_en.htm.
[3877] Ibid.
[3878] EU-China Investment Agreement: Report of the 12th Round of negotiations, European Commission 30 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/october/tradoc_155061.pdf.
[3879] EU-Canada summit: newly signed trade agreement sets high standards for global trade, European Commission 30 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1569.
[3880] European Commission welcomes Parliament's support of trade deal with Canada, European Commission 15 February 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1624.

improved access to finance through the Pan-European Venture Capital Fund of Funds launched by the European Commission and the European Investment Bank Group.[3881]

On 21 December 2016, it was reported that the European Commission launched a public consultation to gather stakeholders' views on possible options for multilateral reform of the way investment disputes are resolved, including the possible establishment of a permanent Multilateral Investment Court, which would apply to all international investment agreements if the parties to those agreements agreed to resort to it.[3882] The call to stakeholders to provide input on these issues was reiterated by the EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström at the investment "Stakeholder event" on 27 February 2017.[3883]

On 24 January 2017, speaking at Bruegel, the EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström outlined the EU's trade agenda for 2017 and beyond, stressing its particular focus, among other things, on a transparent and predictable investment court system.[3884]

On 7 February 2017, the EU's initial negotiating position for the EU-Indonesia trade deal were published, having focus, among others, on making trade and investment easier, trade and investment policy more transparent.[3885]

On 3-5 April 2017, the 18th round of negotiations on the Japan–EU Economic Partnership Agreement was held in Tokyo, focusing on the issues of investment facilitation.[3886]

The European Union has not made any investment-related policy decisions which violated the G20 Guiding Principles for Global Investment Policymaking. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

[3881] Commission gives boost to start-ups in Europe, European Commission 22 November 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3882_en.htm.
[3882] European Commission launches public consultation on a multilateral reform of investment dispute resolution, European Commission 21 December 2016. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1610&title=European-Commission-launches-public-consultation-on-a-multilateral-reform-of-investment-dispute-resolution.
[3883] Commissioner Malmström welcomes stakeholder input on ways to protect investment, European Commission 27 February 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1628.
[3884] Speech: The future of EU trade policy, European Commission 24 January 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1614&title=Speech-The-future-of-EU-trade-policy.
[3885] Commission publishes negotiating proposals for EU-Indonesia trade deal, European Commission 7 February 2017. Access date: 20 April 2017. http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1621&title=Commission-publishes-negotiating-proposals-for-EU-Indonesia-trade-deal.
[3886] Eighteenth Round of Negotiation on the Japan EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 7 April 2017. Access date: 18 April 2017. http://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ie/page24e_000205.html.

19. Corporate Governance

We support the effective implementation of the G20/OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development] Principles of Corporate Governance

G20 Leaders' Communiqué: Hangzhou Summit

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
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			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+1.00	

Background

The Principles of Corporate Governance were first developed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 1999, and subsequently updated in 2004 and 2015.[3887] The 2015 revision, the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance were approved at the meeting of G20 finance ministers and central bank governors in Ankara on 4-5 September 2015[3888] and endorsed by the leaders at the Antalya Summit on 15-16 November 2015.[3889]

Corporate governance is defined by the OECD as "Procedures and processes according to which an organisation is directed and controlled. The corporate governance structure specifies the distribution of rights and responsibilities among the different participants in the organisation — such as the board, managers, shareholders and other stakeholders — and lays down the rules and procedures for decision-making."[3890]

[3887] G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance, OECD 2015. Access date: 11 November 2016. https://www.oecd.org/corporate/principles-corporate-governance.htm.
[3888] Communiqué of G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting, G20 2015. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/150905-finance.html.
[3889] G20 Leaders' Communiqué, G20 2015. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communique.html.
[3890]Glossary of statistical terms, OECD. Access date: 11 November 2016. https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=6778.

Commitment Features

The 2015 G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance document contains six main principles:

1. Ensuring the basis for an effective corporate governance framework
   The corporate governance framework should promote transparent and fair markets, and the efficient allocation of resources. It should be consistent with the rule of law and support effective supervision and enforcement.

2. The rights and equitable treatment of shareholders and key ownership functions
   The corporate governance framework should protect and facilitate the exercise of shareholders' rights and ensure the equitable treatment of all shareholders, including minority and foreign shareholders. All shareholders should have the opportunity to obtain effective redress for violation of their rights.

3. Institutional investors, stock markets, and other intermediaries
   The corporate governance framework should provide sound incentives throughout the investment chain and provide for stock markets to function in a way that contributes to good corporate governance.

4. The role of stakeholders in corporate governance
   The corporate governance framework should recognise the rights of stakeholders established by law or through mutual agreements and encourage active co-operation between corporations and stakeholders in creating wealth, jobs, and the sustainability of financially sound enterprises.

5. Disclosure and transparency
   The corporate governance framework should ensure that timely and accurate disclosure is made on all material matters regarding the corporation, including the financial situation, performance, ownership, and governance of the company.

6. The responsibilities of the board
   The corporate governance framework should ensure the strategic guidance of the company, the effective monitoring of management by the board, and the board's accountability to the company and the shareholders.[3891]

To achieve full compliance members are required to uphold all the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance in conducting their policies regarding corporate governance practices. The assessment implies assessing government actions (including those taken before the compliance period) or currently endorsed local set of corporate governance rules against the principles corresponding to appropriate issue areas.

Scoring Guidelines

−1	Member makes only corporate governance-related policy decisions and/or upholds existing set of corporate governance rules which contravene the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Principles of Corporate Governance
0	Member makes both corporate governance-related policy decisions which contravene and those which conform to the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance
+1	Member makes only corporate governance-related policy decisions made during the monitoring period and/or upholds existing set of corporate governance rules which conform to the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance

[3891] G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance, G20/OECD 2015. Access date: 11 November 2016. http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/governance/g20-oecd-principles-of-corporate-governance-2015_9789264236882-en.

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

During the period of 1990-2000 the following laws were adopted: Foreign Investment Law (Law N° 21382), National Securities Commission (Law N° 22169), Corporate Bonds Law (Law N° 23576), Mutual Funds Law (Law N° 24083), Private Pension Funds Law (Law N° 24241), New Central Bank Chart (Law N° 24144), Trust Funds Law (Law N° 24441), New Penal Law on Taxes (Law N° 24769), Tight Budget Constraint Law, Investors Protection Bill.[3892] These laws still function. These laws conform to all the 2015 G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Principles of Corporate Governance.

On 18 August 2016, Argentina proposed the law that would change the way the country prosecutes malfeasance. The legislation would seek to incentivize corporations to crackdown on corruption themselves by expanding liability to cover businesses as a whole.[3893] This law conforms to all the 2015 G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance.

On 22 March 2016, Argentina's insurance regulator lifted rules that had weighed on insurance companies for several years. The changes included lifting restrictions on the amount of foreign-currency assets insurers could hold, allowing them to better protect the value of their portfolios against any further devaluation of the peso.[3894]This measure corresponds to all principles of the 2015 G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance document.

Argentinean corporate governance regime and recent relevant policy decisions conform to the 2015 G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Angelina Khudoleeva

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

Several Australian organizations provide standards and recommendations on corporate governance issues. These include Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) and the Governance Institute of Australia.[3895] The given field is regulated through the Corporations Act 2001 and a set of regulatory guides.[3896] Moreover, Australian Standard for Corporate Governance of Information and Communication Technology (2005) exists. Apart from named acts, in 2014, the ASX issued the third edition of Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations, which is in force as of December 2016.[3897] These principles, however, are not mandatory.

Overall, the Australian corporate governance framework tend to cover all the G20/OECD key principles:

[3892]Corporate Governance in Argentina, New Developments through 1991-2000, Universidad del CEMA. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.198.5230&rep=rep1&type=pdf.

[3893] Argentina's Quiet (Giant) Step Against Corruption, Americas Quaterly, 18 August 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016.http://americasquarterly.org/content/argentinas-quiet-giant-step-against-corruption.

[3894] Argentine insurance industry outlook changes to stable from negative on improved operating environment and sovereign credit trends, Moody's, 22 March 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.moodys.com/research/Moodys-Argentine-insurance-industry-outlook-changes-to-stable-from-negative--PR_346122.

[3895] Corporate governance, Australian Securities and Investment Commission Access date: 15 April 2017. http://asic.gov.au/regulatory-resources/corporate-governance/.

[3896] CORPORATIONS ACT 2001, Commonwealth Consolidated Acts Access date: 15 April 2017. http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/ca2001172/.

[3897] Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations, ASX 27 March 2014. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://www.asx.com.au/documents/asx-compliance/cgc-principles-and-recommendations-3rd-edn.pdf.

1. Ensuring the basis for an effective corporate governance framework.
   The Corporations Act 2001 provides a set of duties to be followed by officers and employees of the companies in order to establish effective and non-criminal governance environment. These provisions are reflected in Part 2D.1 of the Corporations Act.

2. The rights and equitable treatment of shareholders and key ownership functions
   The Corporations Act specifies in sections 224 and 253C that each shareholder is treated the same way as others when voting by himself/herself or by proxy. In addition, according to section 246C pt. 1-2, the division of shares into classes and the change of rights attached to particular class of shares provoke equal redistribution of rights for each group of shareholders who previously obtained shares of the specific class.

3. Institutional investors, stock markets, and other intermediaries
   The Corporations Act creates environment that provides investors with particular incentives, such as, for instance, they are guaranteed to receive invested money back in case of securities issuers' misbehaviour (Sect. 737). Stock market regulation supports appropriate investment processes as well, the Corporations Act thus totals to 46 descriptions of penalty provisions that need to be prevented (Sect 1317E).

4. The role of stakeholders in corporate governance
   According to the Corporations Act 2001 Pt. 2M.3 effective and legal operation of companies is ensured with the reporting system. There is a range of financial, directors' and auditor's reports provided ASIC. There is an obligation to provide annual financial report to company members as well. In turn, company members are able control directors by appointing and removing them, as it is stated in Pt. 2D.3 of the Corporations Act.

5. Disclosure and transparency
   According to the Corporations Act Sect. 672A, ASIC may require the disclosure of the interest and voting rights of any member of the company. Moreover, companies are to provide annual and half-year financial reports to ASIC (Pt. 2M.3). Concerning to the investors, Pt. 6D.2 of the Corporations Act contains the order of company information disclosure and the situations when the particular form is applicable.

6. The responsibilities of the board
   Overall, the Corporation Act imposes particular duties and liabilities on directors. In case of the failure to perform these duties a director can be sued to financial penalty and/or imprisonment (Sect 1.5.5). In addition, directors are obligated to account for the financial results for the year in annual financial report provided to the company members (Sect. 314).

On 17 March 2016, ASIC provided a guide for securities issuers who are required to prepare and lodge a disclosure document under Ch 6D of the Corporations Act 2001. It helps stakeholders understand the ASIC's interpretation of procedural aspects of Ch 6D.[3898] This action covers the principle of disclosure and transparency. The taken measure does not break any principles.

On 11 September 2016, the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority released a paper on risk culture, noting that the global financial crisis revealed major shortcomings in the way the financial services sector managed risk. The prudential regulation body made the point that these shortcomings were an issue of

[3898] Regulatory Guide 254 Offering securities under a disclosure document, Australian Securities and Investment Commission. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://download.asic.gov.au/media/3578442/rg254-published-17-march-2016.pdf.

deficiencies in institutions' attitudes towards risk.[3899] This action covers such principles as the role of stakeholders in corporate governance; disclosure and transparency; the responsibilities of the board. The taken measure does not break any principles.

On 28 September 2016, ASIC issued a legislative instrument. According to it, a company that was party to a deed of cross guarantee at the end of the relevant financial year does not have to comply with a set of requirements of Part 2M.3 of the Corporation Act 2001 in relation to the financial year. In addition, the directors of a company referred to in subsection (1) do not have to comply with the requirement under section 317 to lay reports before the AGM of the company following the relevant financial year.[3900] This action covers the principles of disclosure and transparency; responsibilities of the board; ensuring the basis for an effective corporate governance framework. The taken measure does not break any principles.

On 1 March 2017, the ASIC issued a new guidance for registered asset liquidators. Among other aspects it clarifies the conditions of becoming and acting as a liquidator.[3901] The measure is taken in accordance with the G20/OECD principle of the promotion of transparent and fair markets. The measure breaks none of the G20 principles.

Australian corporate governance regime and recent relevant policy decisions conform to the 2015 G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ildar Khalilyulin

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

On 13 June 2016, a still important current challenge for members of all management bodies in Brazil is the adjustment of corporate practice and culture to the Brazilian Federal Anti-Corruption Law of late 2013. This law set forth, among other provisions, the strict liability of corporations for corrupt acts carried out on their behalf, or to their benefit, and it is prompting many corporations to adopt or review anti-corruption compliance policies.[3902] These policies comply with the 1 principle of the 2015 G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Principles of Corporate Governance.[3903]

On 16 June 2016, International Financial Reporting Standards were incorporated into law and regulations. Brazil has already adopted them for all companies whose securities are publicly traded and for most financial institutions whose securities are not publicly traded, for both consolidated and separate (individual) company financial statements.[3904] The adoption of such standards complies with the 1 and 5 principles of the 2015 G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance.

[3899] Good Governance Guide, Governance Institute of Australia. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.governanceinstitute.com.au/media/881479/ggg_risk-governance_oct16.pdf.

[3900] ASIC Corporations (Wholly-owned Companies) Instrument 2016/785, Federal Register of Legislation. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L01538.

[3901] 17-047MR ASIC issues new guidance for registered liquidators, Australian Securities & Investment Commission 1 March 2017. Access date: 15 April 2017. http://asic.gov.au/about-asic/media-centre/find-a-media-release/2017-releases/17-047mr-asic-issues-new-guidance-for-registered-liquidators/.

[3902] Brazil Corporate Governance 2016, International Comparative Legal Guides 13 June 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.iclg.co.uk/practice-areas/corporate-governance/corporate-governance-2016/brazil .

[3903] G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance, G20/OECD 2015. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/governance/g20-oecd-principles-of-corporate-governance-2015_9789264236882-en.

[3904] IFRS Application around the world, jurisdictional profile: Brazil, the Website of the IFRS Foundation and the IASB, 16 June 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.ifrs.org/Use-around-the-world/Documents/Jurisdiction-profiles/Brazil-IFRS-Profile.pdf.

On 13 June 2016, according to International Comparative Legal Guides, Brazilian Federal Law 6,385/1976 regulates the securities market and the Comissão de Valores Mobiliários (the Brazilian securities and exchange commission, or CVM). Under this law corporations must adhere to the various rules, regulations and guidance opinions issued by the CVM, among which:

- Ordinance 358/2002, which addresses the disclosure requirements and use of relevant information of the corporation;
- Ordinance 361/2002, which regulates tender offers of Brazilian listed corporations, including delisting offers, hostile offers and sale of control offers;
- Ordinance 400/2003, which regulates the public offer for the distribution of securities, including the disclosure and control of inside information before the offer period;
- Ordinance 480/2009, which contains the requirements for a corporation to obtain registration with the CVM and thus be listed. It also establishes annual, quarterly and periodic financial reporting and other continuing obligations, and imposes additional obligations on directors, officers and controlling shareholders;
- Ordinance 481/2009, which regulates proxy solicitations and information that must be disclosed to shareholders on matters to be voted in shareholder meetings.[3905] This law and rules comply with 1, 3 and 5 principles of the 2015 G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance.

The new Code of Best Practices of Corporate Governance was published in 2016 by the Brazilian Institute of Corporate Governance in order to contribute to the creation of better governance systems within organizations, with a view to improving their performance and longevity. Changes and innovations will fulfill the role of making the Brazilian organizational and institutional environment stronger and fairer, as well as more accountable and transparent. This Code contains general structure and basic principles of corporate governance, defines shareholders' rights, rules for protection of their interests, ownership functions, effective mechanisms for the prevention and settlement of disputes as well as corporate governance structure is clearly stated in this Code in order to ensure the strategic guidance of the company, the effective monitoring of management by the board, and the board's accountability to the company and the shareholders.[3906] This Code complies with the all principles of the 2015 G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance.

Brazil upholds existing set of corporate governance rules which conform to the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sofia Streltsova

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

Corporate governance practices in Canada are shaped by legal rules and best practices promoted by institutional shareholder groups, the media and professional director associations such as the Institute of Corporate Directors. Sources of legal rules include provincial corporate statutes, securities laws and rules,

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[3905] Brazil Corporate Governance 2016, International Comparative Legal Guides 13 June 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. https://www.iclg.co.uk/practice-areas/corporate-governance/corporate-governance-2016/brazil.
[3906] Code of Best Practices of Corporate Governance 5th edition, Brazilian Institute of Corporate Governance 2016. Access date: 28 December 2016. http://www.ibgc.org.br/userfiles/2014/files/CMPGEN.pdf.

stock exchange requirements and the common law, as well as a wide variety of other regulatory statutes, regulations and policies.[3907]

On 1 June 2015, the Canadian Extractive Sector Transparency Measures Act was proclaimed into force. The legislation's stated purpose is to "implement Canada's international commitments to participate in the fight against corruption through the imposition of measures applicable to the extractive sector." It requires Canadian businesses involved in resource extraction to file and make publicly available reports on certain types of payments made to both domestic and foreign governments.[3908]

In February 2016, the Canadian Securities Administrators announced fundamental amendments to the takeover bid regime in Canada. These changes are expected to affect the market practice in connection with shareholder rights plans, the structure of white knight transactions and the ways in which boards of directors in Canada respond to hostile bids.[3909]

On 28 September 2016, the Canadian federal government introduced Bill C-25: An Act to amend the Canada Business Corporations Act. The stated objectives of the proposed amendments are: to reform the process for electing directors of certain corporations; modernize communications between corporations and their shareholders; and require disclosure of information respecting diversity among directors and senior management. The bill introduces amendments that will "increase shareholder democracy and participation, support the push to increase women's participation on corporate boards and in senior management, and improve corporate transparency and business certainty while reducing regulatory burden."[3910]

Canada's set of corporate governance rules and related policy decisions conform to the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

China: +1

China has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

The Chinese corporate governance institutional framework provides for shareholders' equal participation in corporate governance through ensuring "equal voting power, low participation costs, enquiry and inspection rights, proposal right and rights for cumulative voting."[3911]

Related-party transactions of majority shareholders are regulated through the following mechanisms: withdrawing voting rights from shareholders in a related-party guarantee, prohibiting loans to the related

[3907] The Governance Review Corporate Governance Review, Olser. Access date: 17 January 2017. https://www.osler.com/osler/media/Osler/reports/corporate-governance/Corporate-Governance-Review-Canada-2016.pdf.
[3908] Extractive Sector Transparency Measures Act (ESTMA), Natural Resources Canada. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/mining-materials/estma/18180.
[3909] Canadian securities regulators adopt fundamental changes to take-over bid regime, Canadian Securities Administrators 25 February 2016. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.csa-acvm.ca/aboutcsa.aspx?id=1439.
[3910] An Act to amend the Canada Business Corporations Act, the Canada Cooperatives Act, the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act and the Competition Act, 28 September 2016. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1130719.
[3911] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 8 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.

parties and the duty to compensate the damage which was caused in related-party transactions if there were such.[3912]

In case of a violation of medium and minority shareholders' rights, instruments to ensure effective compensation include shareholders' rights to request the confirmation of the resolutions of general shareholder meetings' and board meetings as null and void and thereby revoke them. Shareholders could also demand compensation for damage incurred due to the actions of controlling shareholders, compensation for the damage done by company's directors or executives, and have a right to file derivative suits in case the company's interest is damaged by any other person.[3913]

According to Article 20 of the Company Law, companies have no legal personality status. Thus, if a shareholder of a company evades the payment of his debts by abusing the independent status of legal personality or the shareholder's limited liabilities he shall bear joint liabilities for company debts.[3914]

Creditors may execute their rights of guarantee. According to the Guarantee Law, participating in such economic activities as buying, selling, borrowing, possessing, transporting goods, or outsourcing entails guaranty initiation through "assurance, mortgage, pledge, lien or down-payment to ensure the fulfilment of their rights as debtors."[3915]

Any creditor is entitled to the subrogation rights. Article No. 73 of the Contract Law of China states that in case one of the debtors delays in exercising its creditor's right towards a third person, thus causing harm to the creditor, the latter could file a petition to the People's Court for subrogation and all the expenses for subrogation by the creditor will be paid by the debtor.[3916]

Any creditor is able to file a petition to the court in order to cancel debtors' actions regarding handling abnormal assets. According to the Article No. 74 of the Contract Law, the debtor waives its creditor's right against a third party or assigns its property without reward, thus causing harm to the interests of the creditors, the latter will be able to file a petition to the People's Court demanding cancellation of the debtor's act. If there is a situation in which the debtor appoints the price of its property at a low level and this is evidently unreasonable, thus causing harm to the creditor, and the assignee is considered to be aware of this situation, the creditor is also able to file a petition to the People's Court demanding cancellation of the debtor's act. All expenses incurred by the creditor while exercising his right to cancel will be paid by the debtor.[3917]

The Civil Procedure Law of China (Adopted at the Fourth Session of the Seventh National People's Congress on 9 April 1991) provides that debtors are entitled to the right to initiate a civil procedure at the

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[3912] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 8 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.

[3913] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 8 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.

[3914] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 8 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.

[3915] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.

[3916] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.

[3917] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.

Court. Before the proceedings or during the civil trial, protective measures, debtors may apply for, include: seizure, closure and freezing of assets.[3918]

According to the Company Law of China (entered into force on 1 July 1994), shareholders' have the following self-benefit rights: the right to demand the dispensation of the dividends, the right to demand the dispensation of residual assets, the right to convey shares and the right to enquire share purchases. Shareholders' co-benefit rights consist of the following: the right to vote, the right to represent another shareholder and to assign somebody as a representative, the right to demand or convoke shareholders' general meetings, and also proposal rights, enquiry rights, the right to cancel or confirm the annulment of the decisions taken during a shareholders' meeting, the right to cancel or confirm the annulment of the decisions of the Board, and also inspection rights and rights for cumulative voting.[3919]

According to the Article 107 of the Company Law, a shareholder has a right to attend general shareholders' meetings by proxy, who can provide the statement on behalf of the shareholder. Article No. 9 of the Code of Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China also states that shareholders have a right either to be personally present at the shareholders' meetings or to nominate a proxy to vote on their behalf. Both ways of participating in shareholders' meeting and voting result in a same way from the legal perspective.[3920]

The Code of Corporate Governance of Listed Companies states companies should respect the rights of its stakeholders and provide compensation in case their legitimate interests are violated.[3921]

The Code of Corporate Governance of Listed Companies elaborates that as well as ensuring continuous growth and maximum stakeholder interests, listed companies also should be committed to ensuring community welfare, protecting the environment, addressing charity issues and be concentrated on their own public responsibilities.[3922]

Legislative bodies of People's Republic of China and other regulatory institutions and organizations have attributed great importance to developing the disclosure of corporate information, and intensively supported its improvement in terms of quality and transparency. To some extent, progress has been attained by forming an omni-directional and multi-tier information disclosure framework. The legislations that mold the basis of the framework are complemented by regulatory acts, for example relevant administrative laws, ministerial norms and directions. The directions are compliant with international practices concerning normative principles, operational specifications and methods of

[3918] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.
[3919] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.
[3920] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.
[3921] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.
[3922] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.

disclosure. Generally, listed companies have improved the extent of information disclosure every year, increasing the accuracy, range and depth of the information being disclosed.[3923]

In 2008, China's state-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commissionissued a regulation that strongly encourages state-owned organizations to follow clear corporate social responsibility (CSR) practices and inform about CSR activities. In spite of the fact that this regulation is not binding, the commission has a lot of impact on the business sphere, and this directive shows China's government's commitment to CSR.[3924]

China's set of corporate governance rules and related policy decisions conform to the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kirill Gribkov

France: +1

France has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

On 30 March 2016 the Autorité des Marchés Financiers published a comparison of corporate governance codes in ten European countries where France was considered the only country with codes drawn up by bodies representing issuers. France was also named the only country where the market regulator published an annual monitoring report including individual quotes on good and bad practices.[3925]

On 22 September 2016, the National Assembly adopted a draft law to give shareholders a binding vote on executive pay. The Law on Transparency, the Fight Against Corruption and Economic Modernization, also known as Sapin 2, was introduced in 2015 and triggered an increase in shareholders' power.[3926]

On 4 October 2016, France adopted anti-bribery policies providing for the threat of prosecution if employees bribe government officials seeks to place the same kind of obligations on French businesses. This law also requires one of the procedures of the company to be a whistleblower hotline so employees can report suspected misconduct.[3927]

On 17 November 2016, the AMF published its annual report on corporate governance. The AMF noted that French companies dedicate increased resources invested in this matter regarding time, resource allocation and development of new monitoring tools. Also, it highlighted the methodological transparency of indicators, which appeared to be a strong point for French issuers, even if their comparability between issuers could be improved further.[3928]

[3923] Corporate Governance of Listed Companies in China (Self-Assessment by the China Securities Regulatory Commission), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development 22 September 2011. Access date: 08 January 2017 http://www.oecd.org/china/corporategovernanceoflistedcompaniesinchina.htm.

[3924] Global Trends in Corporate Governance, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP. 01 December 2016. Access date: 08 January 2017. https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/Deloitte/in/Documents/risk/Corporate Governance/in-risk-global-trends-in-corporate-governance-4Dec2015-noexp.pdf.

[3925] Corporate governance: publication of a comparative study of codes in ten European countries, Autorité des marchés financiers 30 March 16 .Access date: 8 December 2016. http://www.amf-france.org/en_US/Reglementation/Dossiers-thematiques/Societes-cotees-et-operations-financieres/Gouvernement-d-entreprise/Etude-comparee--Les-codes-de-gouvernement-d-entreprise-dans-10-pays-europeens.html .

[3926] France to Introduce Binding Pay Votes In Some Form, Glass Lewis 22 September 16. Access date: 8 December 2016 http://www.glasslewis.com/france-introduce-binding-pay-votes-form/.

[3927] How France is toughening anti-corruption laws,Thomson Reuters 04 November 16. Access date: 8 December 2016 http://blog.financial.thomsonreuters.com/france-toughening-anti-corruption-laws/ .

[3928] The AMF assesses the social, societal and environmental responsibility information published by listed companies and publishes its annual report on corporate governance, Autorité des marchés financiers 17 November 16. Access date: 8 December 2016. http://www.amf-france.org/en_US/Actualites/Communiques-de-presse/AMF/annee-2016.html?docId=workspace per cent3A per cent2F per cent2FSpacesStore per cent2F038fded4-d52a-4700-8935-7bcd75f647f6.

On 25 February 2017, the European Coalition for Corporate Justice, along with the French corporate accountability platform, Forum Citoyen pour la RSE, has called for EU institutions to follow the lead of France which has established a duty of vigilance obligation for parent and subcontracting companies. The coalition said that this law marked an historic step towards improving corporate respect for human rights and the environment. The law, which applies to the largest French companies, will make the latter assess and address the adverse impacts of their activities on people and the planet, by making them publish annual, public vigilance plans.[3929]

France has made corporate governance-related policy decisions during the monitoring period and upheld existing set of corporate governance rules which conform to the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Mark Rakhmangulov and Anastasia Polovko

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

The German Corporate Governance Code, adopted in 2002 and updated on a regular basis (last update on 24 June 2014) has a legal effect in accordance with the Stock Corporation Act.[3930] It specifies management and supervision procedures for German listed companies. It also provides recommendations and suggestions on international and national standards for good and responsible corporate governance. Although its provisions are not mandatory, failure to comply with them should be explained and the reasons behind it disclosed in the annual declaration of conformity.[3931]

The code also aims to reflect best practices of corporate governance, in order to "enhance transparency and comprehensibility of the German corporate governance system, strengthen investors' confidence, clients, employees and the general public in the management and supervision of German listed companies."[3932]

On 16 September 2016, the nominees for the Corporate Social Responsibility Prize of the Federal Government were approved.[3933]

On 26 September 2016, the Institute for Ecological and Economic Research and the German Association of Enterprises evaluated corporate social responsibility (CSR) reports from the 150 largest German companies, of which 79 corresponded to the requirements for full reporting. State Secretary Albrecht highlighted the growing importance of good reporting on entrepreneurship. Involving management and employees in the reporting process raises awareness of sustainability as an important topic for the entire company and promotes innovation.[3934]

[3929] Countries should follow France's lead on corporate accountability, Manifest 25 February 2017. Access date: 11 March 2016. https://blog.manifest.co.uk/corporate-vigilance-france/.

[3930] Aktiengesetz,dejure.org. Access date: 17 January 2017. https://dejure.org/gesetze/AktG/161.html.

[3931] German Corporate Governance Code, Regierungskommission Deutscher Corporate Governance Kodex 2017. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.dcgk.de/en/code/archive.html?file=files/dcgk/usercontent/en/download/code/2014-06-24_German_Corporate_Governance_Code_with_highlighted_amendemendts_EN.pdf.

[3932] German Corporate Governance Code, Regierungskommission Deutscher Corporate Governance Kodex 2017. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.dcgk.de/en/code/archive.html?file=files/dcgk/usercontent/en/download/code/2014-06-24_German_Corporate_Governance_Code_with_highlighted_amendemendts_EN.pdf.

[3933] CSR-Preis der Bundesregierung, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs 16 September 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Pressemitteilungen/2016/csr-preis-der-bundesregierung.html.

[3934] Fachkonferenz zur CSR-Berichterstattung von Unternehmen — Transparenz in Lieferketten verbessern, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs 26 September 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmas.de/DE/Presse/Meldungen/2016/fachkonferenz-csr-berichterstattung.html.

On 31 October 2016, the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology issued a brochure aimed at creation of favorable climate for future entrepreneurs. The brochure offers numerous information and practical tips for entrepreneurs and their successors.[3935]

On 16 November 2016, the Cabinet adopted a bill that expands the control rights of the members of the self-governing bodies. Information, reporting and recording obligations will be extended. This helps to avoid irregularities.[3936]

On 25 November 2016, the German Consumer Dispute Resolution Act was released. According to it, companies must disclose whether they participate in consumer dispute resolution. In addition to the individual procedures, companies can also actively set up new branch-specific dispute centres.[3937]

On 7 February 2017, the Government Commission of the German Corporate Governance Code approved amendments to the Code to promote transparency as the basis for stakeholders to assess corporate governance and to comply with international best practices in the German Code for listed companies. The Commission also amended the Preamble of the Code. The new version of the Code will come into force upon publication in the electronic German Federal Newspaper by the German Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection.[3938] This action matches such principles as ensuring the basis for an effective corporate governance framework.

German Corporate Governance is regulated by the German Stock Corporation Act (Aktiengesetz), the German Codetermination Act (Mitbestimmungsgesetz), and the German Corporate Governance Code that is not a law but a "best practice" code that is based on the principle "comply or explain."At the same time the German Protection Association for Securities Owners (DSW) is monitoring precisely whether the statutory regulations and the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Code are valid. The legal system does not require the creation of specific supervisory board committees. However, the code recommends the establishment of an audit committee.[3939]

Germany has made only corporate governance-related policy decisions which conform to the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Nekrasova

India: +1

India has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

[3935] Unternehmensnachfolge, Federal Government 31 October 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/Infomaterial/BMWI/nexxt-unternehmensnachfolge-die-optimale-planung_23490.html.

[3936] Mehr Transparenz in der Selbstverwaltung, Federal Government 16 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/DE/Artikel/2016/11/2016-11-16-gkv-selbstverwaltungsstaerkungsgesetz.html.

[3937] Konferenz „Verbraucherschlichtung aus Unternehmersicht", Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection 25 November 2016. Access date: 25 December 2016. http://www.bmjv.de/SharedDocs/Artikel/DE/2016/11252016_Konferenz_Verbraucherschlichtung.html;jsessionid=1F0FD079A33B62EB80FCB936F58307D0.1_cid297.

[3938] Proposed amendments to Code 2017 published, Deutscher Corporate Governance Kodex 14 February 2014. Access date: 31 March 2017. http://www.dcgk.de/en/kommission-33/die-kommission-im-dialog/details/proposed-amendments-to-code-for-2017-published-183.html .

[3939] Fundamentals of German Corporate Governance, SGl Group. Access date: 30 April 2017. https://www.sglgroup.com/cms/international/investor-relations/corporate-governance/principles-of-german-corporate-governance/index.html?__locale=en .

Corporate governance in India was guided by Clause 49 of the Listing Agreement before the introduction of then Companies Act of 2013.[3940] As per the new provision, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Guidelines authorized some modification in the Listing Agreement to enhance transparency in the transactions of listed companies and to empower minority stakeholders to affect the decisions of the management.[3941] These amendments became effective on 1 October 2014.

In accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act of 2013, Section 149 (1) "all listed companies (with some exceptions) and every other public company having a paid up share capital of INR100 crore or more, or, turnover of INR300 crore or more must have at least one woman director."[3942] Moreover, SEBI had authorized that the assignment of woman directors to the board must turn out no later than 1 April, 2015. If the listed companies don't meet the requirements before 1 April 2015, stock exchanges are forced by SEBI to impose monetary penalties starting from June 30 2015, at the same time that additional penal measures would be accepted for companies remaining in default.[3943]

In the Union Budget 2015–2016, the government announced the establishment of the Bank Boards Bureau to improve governance in the public sector banks. The Bank Boards Bureau was established based on the recommendations of the "Gyan Sangam," a conclave of public sector banks and foreign investors organized in the beginning of 2015. The Bank Boards Bureau, which commenced its functioning on 1 April 2016, was established to strengthen the risk management practices undertaken by the public sector banks.[3944]

On 30 March 2015, the National Stock Exchange of India Limited organized a seminar on "Board Evaluation: An Imperative for Corporate Governance" in Mumbai. The broad objective of this seminar was to familiarize the directors of its listed companies — who constituted the bulk of the audience — with the relevance of board evaluation exercises, the various options available for the same, and the associated implementation issues.[3945]

India's set of corporate governance rules and related policy decisions conform to the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Evgeny Tsarik

Indonesia: +1

Indonesia has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

Firm operations are basically covered by the Law No. 40 of 2007 on Limited Liability Companies ("Company Law"), having provisions for establishment of a company, capital issues, management and governance of a company, shareholders' rights and meetings, major corporate actions (such as mergers,

[3940] The companies act, 2013, Ministry of law and justice of the Republic of India 30 August 2013. Access date: 18 December 2016. http://www.mca.gov.in/Ministry/pdf/CompaniesAct2013.pdf.
[3941] Corporate governance in the Textile Industry, Shobhit Mani Gopal, 16 October 2016. Access date: 18 December 2016. https://lawupdaterblog.wordpress.com/2016/10/03/article-on-corporate-governance-in-the-textile-industry/.
[3942] Director's Handbook, National Foundation for Corporate Governance of the Republic of India. 01 October 2014. Access date: 05 January 2017. http://www.nfcgindia.org/pdf/2014-ICSI.pdf.
[3943] SEBI Board Meeting, SEBI 13 January 2014. Access date: 18 December 2016. http://www.sebi.gov.in/cms/sebi_data/pdffiles/27383_t.pdf.
[3944] Indradhanush plan for revamp of public sector banks, Ministry of Finance of the Republic of India 14 August 2015. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://financialservices.gov.in/PressnoteIndardhanush.pdf.
[3945]An Imperative for Corporate Governance, NSE 30 March 2015. Access date: 27 December 2016. https://www.nseindia.com/research/content/res_panel_1_30032015.pdf.

consolidations, spin-offs and acquisitions) and the dissolution and liquidation of companies.[3946] In addition to the Company Law, public companies are governed by Law No. 8 of 1995 on Capital Markets ("Capital Market Law"), covers issues such as minority protection issues, insider trading, market manipulation, fraud and conflict-of-interest transactions.[3947]

In addition, public companies must also follow the regulations issued by the Financial Services Authority (Otoritas Jasa Keuangan, OJK), as well as the listing rules of the Indonesia Stock Exchange, providing the framework for the work of audit committees, non-affiliated directors, independent commissioners, dealing with conflict-of-interest transactions, material transactions and conservative processes for major corporate actions.[3948]

In 2006, Indonesia's National Committee on Governance issued the Code of Good Corporate Governance, providing "reference points for all companies in Indonesia" and "setting a minimum standard" for companies in their implementation of corporate governance practices.[3949] The code is not a regulation and hence non-binding in its nature, aiming to provide fundamental guidance for companies with respect to the issues general principles of corporate governance, business ethics and code of conduct, shareholders and stakeholders rights and participation, organs and management of the company, etc.[3950]

Implementation, though, is traditionally a weak point of Indonesia's corporate governance practices, due to Indonesia being a "principle-based," "civil law" jurisdiction[3951] and a non-binding nature of the code. To improve the consistency with the framework and transparency of corporate governance practices, in 2014 OJK released the Indonesia Corporate Governance Roadmap and jointly with the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank Group the Indonesia Corporate Governance Manual.

The purpose of the Roadmap is to strengthen the supervising role of company boards, increase the quality of disclosure and company transparency, and the protection of the rights of shareholders and stakeholders.[3952] It also introduces the "comply-or-explain" approach to corporate governance[3953] contrasting with earlier practices of voluntary implementation of the guidelines.

The manual is benchmarked against internationally accepted principles of corporate governance, including the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Principles of Corporate Governance.[3954,3955] The manual is positioned as "a cornerstone for the implementation of good

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[3946] Indonesia. Corporate Governance 2016, International Comparative Legal Guides 13 June 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.iclg.co.uk/practice-areas/corporate-governance/corporate-governance-2016/indonesia.
[3947] Indonesia. Corporate Governance 2016, International Comparative Legal Guides 13 June 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.iclg.co.uk/practice-areas/corporate-governance/corporate-governance-2016/indonesia.
[3948] Indonesia. Corporate Governance 2016, International Comparative Legal Guides 13 June 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.iclg.co.uk/practice-areas/corporate-governance/corporate-governance-2016/indonesia.
[3949] Indonesia's Code of Good Corporate Governance, National Committee on Governance 2006. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.ecgi.org/codes/documents/indonesia_cg_2006_en.pdf.
[3950] Indonesia's Code of Good Corporate Governance, National Committee on Governance 2006. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.ecgi.org/codes/documents/indonesia_cg_2006_en.pdf.
[3951] Indonesia. Corporate Governance 2016, International Comparative Legal Guides 13 June 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.iclg.co.uk/practice-areas/corporate-governance/corporate-governance-2016/indonesia.
[3952] Indonesia Corporate Governance Roadmap, Indonesia Financial Services Authority 2014. Access date: 14 December 2016.http://www.ojk.go.id/id/data-dan-statistik/ojk/Documents/ROADMAPTATAKELOLAPERUSAHAANINDONESIA_1391520776.PDF.
[3953] Indonesia Corporate Governance Roadmap, Indonesia Financial Services Authority 2014. Access date: 14 December 2016.http://www.ojk.go.id/id/data-dan-statistik/ojk/Documents/ROADMAPTATAKELOLAPERUSAHAANINDONESIA_1391520776.PDF.
[3954] The Indonesia Corporate Governance Manual. First edition, Indonesia Financial Services Authority, International Finance Corporation 2014. Access date: 14 December 2016. https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/64185f0042cc3ab0b145fd384c61d9f7/Indonesia_CG_Manual_Feb2014.pdf?MOD=AJPERES.

corporate governance in Indonesia" has, among others, provisions for shareholders rights and participation in management, the responsibilities of the board, disclosure and transparency, etc.[3956]

In November 2015, OJK enacted Rule No. 21/POJK.04/2015 on the Implementation of Public Companies' Corporate Governance Guidelines and issued Circular Letter No. 32/SEOJK.04/2015 on Public Companies' Corporate Governance Guidelines, which impose a legal obligation on public companies to implement the Guidelines or, if any of these recommendations have not been implemented, disclose in their annual reports from 31 December 2016 the reason for non-implementation or any alternative actions taken instead, i.e., legally enforce the "comply-or-explain" approach to corporate governance. The Guidelines contain recommendations on:[3957,3958]

- Increasing the value of general meetings of shareholders;
- Increasing the quality of communications between public companies and their shareholders or investors;
- Strengthening the membership and composition of the boards of commissioners, improving the quality of implementation of their duties;
- Strengthening the membership and composition of the boards of directors, improving the quality of implementation of their duties;
- Certain policies for stakeholders participation, including a policy to prevent insider trading, an anticorruption and anti-fraud policy, a whistleblowing policy and a policy for giving long term incentives to members of the board of directors and employees;
- Improving disclosure.

Indonesia's framework for corporate governance has headline and content matchings with the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

In June 2011, the Italian Corporate Governance Committee was set up by the issuers and investors associations (ABI, ANIA, Assonime, Confindustria and Assogestion), as well as the Italian Stock Exchange (Borsa Italiana S.p.A.). The committee's main objective is to promote the good corporate governance of Italian listed companies, that has to be pursued either by a constant alignment of the Corporate Governance Code for Listed Companies with best practices and through other initiatives which would enhance the credibility of the code.[3959]

[3955] Previous edition of the OECD Principles.

[3956] The Indonesia Corporate Governance Manual. First edition, Indonesia Financial Services Authority, International Finance Corporation 2014. Access date: 14 December 2016. https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/64185f0042cc3ab0b145fd384c61d9f7/Indonesia_CG_Manual_Feb2014.pdf?MOD=AJPERES.

[3957] OJK Raises Corporate Governance Standards Imposed on Public Companies, Global Business Guide Indonesia 11 January 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.gbgindonesia.com/en/main/legal_updates/ojk_raises_corporate_governance_standards_imposed_on_public_companies.php.

[3958] OJK Raises Corporate Governance Standards Imposed on Public Companies, Global Business Guide Indonesia 11 January 2016. Access date: 14 December 2016. http://www.gbgindonesia.com/en/main/legal_updates/ojk_raises_corporate_governance_standards_imposed_on_public_companies.php.

[3959] The Corporate Governance Committee. Access date: 06 January 2017. http://www.borsaitaliana.it/comitato-corporate-governance/homepage/homepage.en.htm.

On 5 December 2011, the new edition of Corporate Governance Code of Listed Companies was presented in Milan. "The Corporate Governance Code sets out the best practices of corporate governance, in line with the main international market experience; such practices are recommended by the Committee to all listed companies and they have to be applied according to the comply or explain principle, requiring the explanation of the reasons for any omitted compliance to one or more recommendations set forth by the principles or the criteria of the code."[3960]

On 9 July 2015, the Corporate Governance Committee, promoted by the most important Italian business associations (i.e., ABI, ANIA, Assonime and Confindustria), the association of institutional investors (i.e., Assogestioni) and the Italian stock exchange (i.e., Borsa Italiana S.p.A.) with the goal of supporting best practices of corporate governance for Italian-listed companies, approved several amendments to the Corporate Governance Code. These amendments reflect developing best practices in corporate governance and cover different areas, including corporate social responsibility, the risk profile of the company, the system of internal control and risk management, the role of the Nomination Committee and the compensation of the Statutory Auditors. The new provisions, besides providing some helpful guidance and clarifications on various points, mainly focus on the area of risks, with an emphasis on the risks that can affect the sustainability of an issue.[3961]

On 20 July 2016, the Italian Corporate Governance Committee held a meeting. The committee pointed out "the importance of the issuers' and the investors' need for the stability and the clarity of the self-regulatory framework, also in order to foster an even more substantive compliance with the most recent revisions of the Code. Furthermore, the Committee highlighted the need to investigate issues concerning the corporate governance of small and medium enterprises, the enhancement of the board of directors' role, the procedures for the appointment of the directors and relations with shareholders — in order to identify areas of improvement in corporate governance practices."[3962]

On 1-2 December 2016, the Italian Corporate Governance Conference that was hosted by Italian Corporate Governance Committee took place in Milan. Participants discussed such issues as corporate governance and long-term decisions; how environmental, social and governance issues affect the performance of investment portfolios by institutional investors; the opportunities stemming from the challenges posed by "integrated governance."[3963]

Italy's set of corporate governance rules and the related policy decisions conform to the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Maria Strelnikova

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance (relevant measures employed prior to the compliance period).

[3960] New edition of the Italian Corporate Governance Code, Press Releases of the Corporate Governance Committee 5 December 2011. Access date: 06 January 2017. http://www.borsaitaliana.it/comitato-corporate-governance/news/20111205.en.pdf.
[3961] The Corporate Governance Code, Corporate Governance Committee July 2015. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://www.borsaitaliana.it/borsaitaliana/regolamenti/corporategovernance/code2015.en.pdf.
[3962] Mr. Tommaso Corcos appointed as Deputy Chairman of the Italian Corporate Governance Committee. No revision of the Corporate Governance Code planned for 2016/2017, Press Releases of the Corporate Governance Committee 20 July 2016. Access date: 06 January 2017. http://www.borsaitaliana.it/comitato-corporate-governance/news/20160720eng.en.pdf.
[3963] Italy Corporate Governance Conference 2016. Access date: 27 December 2016. http://icgconference.org.

The G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Principles of Corporate Governance comprise six items.[3964]

Principle 1 — "Ensuring the basis for an effective corporate governance framework" — has been implemented in Japan through threemain measures. First, corporate governance reform was granted the highest-level political support by making it an important element of the "the third arrow" of Abenomics (structural reforms for growth). Japan's corporate governance reform has been implemented by introduction of Japan's Stewardship Code (Principles for Responsible Institutional Investors) in 2014 and Japan's Corporate Governance Code in 2015 (guiding corporations in establishing corporate governance structures that are more closely aligned with the global norms).[3965,3966] Both codes are examples of soft legislation applying "comply-or-explain" principle (i.e., "either comply with the principles, or explain why you cannot do so in your personal circumstances"), and are positioned as "the two wheels of a cart such that the sustainable growth of companies will be promoted by both sides of investors and companies."[3967] To monitor compliance with the two codes and further improve corporate governance Japan's Financial Services Agency and Tokyo Stock Exchange have jointly established the "Council of Experts Concerning the Follow-up of Japan's Stewardship Code and Japan's Corporate Governance Code."[3968] The key to implementation of the Codes is inspiring all economic actors to share the aim and spirit of the principles they consist of. This turned out to be a very efficient strategy — as of December 2016, out of 2,530 Japanese companies listed on the 1st and 2nd sections of Tokyo Stock Exchange 19.9 per cent of companies had reported full compliance with the Corporate Governance Code and 64.8 per cent of companies had reported compliance with more than 90 per cent of Code's provisions.[3969]

Principle 2 — "The rights and equitable treatment of shareholders and key ownership functions" — is clearly reflected in Japan's Corporate Governance Code Section 1 "Securing the Rights and Equal Treatment of Shareholders" and Section 5 "Dialogue with Shareholders," though correspondence between the two is not complete. Both have provisions for protecting basic shareholders' rights (elimination of impediments to exercising shareholders' rights, explanation of the strategy to shareholders, effective participation in management through general meetings, etc.), the rights of minority and foreign shareholders, related party transactions, anti-takeover measures, etc. As for absent correspondence, Japan's Corporate Governance Code has no provisions on efficient and transparent functioning of markets for corporate control.

Principle 3 — "Institutional investors, stock markets, and other intermediaries" — is partly reflected in Japan's Stewardship Code. Both have provisions for disclosing by institutional investors of their governance and voting policies, managing the conflicts of interest. A number of components of the principle, as stated in the G20/OECD Guidelines, is not reflected in Japan's Stewardship Code. However, its basic orientation towards "sound incentive throughout the investment chain" is reflected in Japan's

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[3964] G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance, OECD website. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/download/2615021e.pdf?expires=1480621751&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=1EF3CB9B4D0C5E6BD69B945528FF37C3.

[3965] Principles for Responsible Institutional Investors "Japan's Stewardship Code" – To promote sustainable growth of companies through investment and dialogue, Japan's Financial Services Agency 26 February 2014. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://www.fsa.go.jp/en/refer/councils/stewardship/20140407/01.pdf .

[3966] Japan's Corporate Governance Code. Seeking Sustainable Corporate Growth and Increased Corporate Value over the Mid- to Long-Term, Tokyo Stock Exchange 1 June 2015. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://www.jpx.co.jp/english/equities/listing/cg/tvdivq0000008jdy-att/20150513.pdf .

[3967] Enhancing Corporate Governance, Japan Exchange Group website. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://www.jpx.co.jp/english/equities/listing/cg/.

[3968] Ibid.

[3969] How Listed Companies Have Addressed Japan's Corporate Governance Code, Tokyo Stock Exchange 16 January 2017. Access date: 22 April 2017. http://www.jpx.co.jp/english/equities/listing/cg/tvdivq0000008jdy-att/20170116.pdf .

Stewardship Code orientation towards "sustainable growth of investee companies" and "constructive engagement with investee companies."

Principle 4 — "The role of stakeholders in corporate governance" — is clearly reflected in Japan's Corporate Governance Code Section 2 "Appropriate Cooperation with Stakeholders Other Than Shareholders," though correspondence between the two is not complete. Both have provisions for granting respect towards the rights of stakeholders and reporting about illegal or unethical (inappropriate) practices without compromising the rights of whistleblowers for doing this. However, the correspondence in Japan's Corporate Governance Code is missing for the provisions in the G20/OECD Framework for redress for violation of the rights of stakeholders, permissions to develop mechanisms for employee participation, access to information for the purposes of participating in the governance processes, and the necessity to complement the corporate governance framework with frameworks on insolvency and enforcement of creditor rights.

Principle 5 — "Disclosure and transparency" — is clearly reflected in Japan's Corporate Governance Code Section 3 "Ensuring Appropriate Information Disclosure and Transparency," though correspondence between the two is not complete. Types of information to be fully disclosed are almost identical in both frameworks. In the G20/OECD Framework those include financial and operating results; company objectives and non-financial information; major share ownership, including beneficial owners, and voting rights; remuneration of members of the board and key executives; information about board members, including their qualifications, the selection process, other company directorships and whether they are regarded as independent by the board; related party transactions; foreseeable risk factors; issues regarding employees and other stakeholders; governance structures and policies. In Japan's Corporate Governance Code those are financial standing and operating results; non-financial information, including business strategies and business issues, risk and governance, company objectives (e.g., business principles), business strategies and business plans; basic views and guidelines on corporate governance based on each of the principles of the Code; board policies and procedures in determining the remuneration of the senior management and directors; board policies and procedures in the appointment of the senior management and the nomination of directors and *kansayaku* [statutory auditor] candidates; explanations with respect to the individual appointments and nominations. Likewise, mostly similar are the provisions of both frameworks on the quality of disclosed information and auditing. However, Japan's Corporate Governance Code, unlike the G20/OECD Framework, has no specific mentioning of "equal, timely and cost-efficient access to relevant information by users" (though it does not seem critical).

Principle 6 — "The responsibilities of the board" — is clearly reflected in Japan's Corporate Governance Code Section 4 "Responsibilities of the Board," though correspondence between the two is not complete. Both have provisions for certain key functions of the board (strategy, budget, oversight, appointments, remuneration, etc.), adequate engagement of independent directors, access to information, training of the board, etc. Japan's Corporate Governance Code has no specific mentioning of the principles of operation of the board, such as acting on "informed basis, in good faith, and in the best interest of the company" (though it does not seem critical).

Japan is determined to continue further enhancement of the country's corporate governance framework and respective companies' practices. A good example of this commitment is work of the Corporate Governance System Study Group under the auspices of Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. In February 2017, the study group issued a report titled "Guidebook for the establishment and operation of effective governance systems," which highlights clarifications on the roles and functions of a board of directors, ways to take advantage of presence of independent directors in boards, ideal approaches to nominating management members and determining their compensation and ways to develop an environment for fortifying the leadership of management members.[3970]

In recent years, Japan has significantly improved its performance on key parameters associated with corporate governance. Despite certain variations, Japan's Corporate Governance Code and Stewardship Code incorporate and are consistent with all key elements of the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it recieves a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

Korea's first attempt to improve chaebol-system based corporate governance was taken in 1999 in response to the advice from the International Monetary Fund in the aftermath of the 1997 Asian financial crisis. It resulted in issuing by the Korea Corporate Governance Service of a non-binding "Code of Best Practices for Corporate Governance," further revised in 2003 and unchanged since then.[3971,3972]

The code has headline and content matchings with the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Principles of Corporate Governance, namely with respect to the issues of rights and equitable treatment of shareholders, stakeholders participation, functioning and responsibilities of the board, and disclosure.[3973]

However, Korea's corporate governance practices are widely recognized as outdated, with Korea ranking last out of 61 countries in a recent survey by the Swiss-based International Institute for Management Development and eighth out of 11 Asian countries as assessed by the Asian Corporate Governance Association.[3974] This finds its reflection in a long-known issue of "Korea discount," meaning that the value of the Korea-originating companies and their products is assessed by the global markets lower their true potential due to obsolete practices of running businesses.[3975]

In recent months the Korean government has been showing its decisiveness to enhance the framework for corporate governance and revise the code (including owing to the impetus received from the G20/OECD Principles modified in 2015). It is planned that the updated "Code" will oblige businesses to make public the reasons for non-compliance with the "Code" (comply-or-explain principle).[3976] It is also expected that

[3970] The CGS (Corporate Governance System) Study Group Compiled a Report, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry 10 March 2017. Access date: 22 April 2017. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/0310_003.html .
[3971] The Korea Corporate Governance Service is a corporation set up by capital market-related organizations, including the Korea Exchange and the Korea Financial Investment Association. Access date: 6 December 2016. http://www.cgs.or.kr/ECGS_main.asp.
[3972] 2003 version of Korea's "Code of Best Practices for Corporate Governance" can be accessed at http://www.cgs.or.kr/ECGS_main.asp?MenuIndex=E (access date: 6 December 2016).
[3973] G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance, OECD website. Access date: 1 December 2016. http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/download/2615021e.pdf?expires=1480621751&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=1EF3CB9B4D0C5E6BD69B945528FF37C3.
[3974] Seoul sets about upgrading lagging corporate governance, The Korea Times 12 September 2016. Access date: 6 December 2016. http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/biz/2016/09/123_213956.html.
[3975] Seoul sets about upgrading lagging corporate governance, The Korea Times 12 September 2016. Access date: 6 December 2016. http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/biz/2016/09/123_213956.html.
[3976] Ibid. and also Korea's corporate governance still a headache: experts, The Korea Herald 24 October 2016. Access date: 6 December 2016. http://www.theinvestor.co.kr/view.php?ud=20161024000966.

a "stewardship code," i.e., a voluntary set of behavioral principles institutional investors should follow, will be introduced in Korea under the new framework of corporate governance.[3977]

The work on enhancing the corporate governance framework has already started with passing of the "Act on Governance of Financial Companies," effective since 1 August 2016, which has brought stricter qualifications for outside directors and introduced a regular review system on the qualification of controlling shareholders.[3978]

It is notable that the presidential crisis in Korea "can spur corporate governance reform at Korea Inc.," giving the potential successor of President Park "a mandate for sweeping political and corporate changes."[3979]

Korea has made only corporate governance-related policy decisions made during the monitoring period and/or upholds existing set of corporate governance rules which conform to the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Mexico: +1

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment on the corporate governance.

The General Law of Business Organisations (GLBO) is the statute governing mercantile entities. The most common or used forms of Mexican mercantile entities are the sociedad anónima (SA) and the sociedad de responsabilidad limitada (S de RL). The GLBO was adopted in 1934. In 1997 the Mexican Code of Best Practices of Corporate Governance was adopted. The best practices of corporate governance provided for in the Code cover not only publicly held companies but also non-publicly held companies and even non-profit entities. The code was updated in 2016. The provisions of the code are not mandatory. The corporate governance best practice codes, including the Cadbury, Greenbury and Hampel Reports (the United Kingdom), the Vienot Report (France) and the Código de las Sociedades Cotizadas (Código Olivencia) (Spain) laid the basis for the Code as well as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) corporate governance rules.

Starting from 2001 a number of Laws were adopted, namely the Stock Exchange Law (the Exchange Act), the Banking Institutions Law (the Banking Act), the Law Ruling Financial Groups and the Investment Funds Law making several of the recommendations of the Code mandatory.

Regulations by the Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores also contain corporate governance matters related to publicly held companies and other financial entities.

As for December 2016, best practices of corporate governance are mandatory for banks, broker dealers, personal holding companies, financial group holding companies and investment funds in Mexico.

According to the rules of the Mexican Stock Exchange (BMV) all information concerning the fulfillment of the best practices of corporate governance described in the Code shall be disclosed to the investors.

Mexico was one of the first countries in Latin America that adopted a best practice corporate governance code.

[3977] Seoul sets about upgrading lagging corporate governance, The Korea Times 12 September 2016. Access date: 6 December 2016. http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/biz/2016/09/123_213956.html.
[3978] Korea's corporate governance still a headache: experts, The Korea Herald 24 October 2016. Access date: 6 December 2016. http://www.theinvestor.co.kr/view.php?ud=20161024000966.
[3979] Ongoing presidential scandal can spur corporate governance reform at Korea Inc, Global Times 27 November 2016. Access date: 6 December 2016. http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1020532.shtml.

Mexico is working on including mandatory best practices of corporate governance in the GLBO.[3980]

On 8-9 September 2016, Mexico participated in the 2016 Meeting of the Latin American Corporate Governance Roundtable held in San José, Costa Rica and shared its experience in developing, monitoring and use of voluntary corporate governance codes as well as legal and regulatory requirements for disclosure.[3981]

On 8-9 September 2016, the Private Capital Update Forum was organized by the Mexican Association of Private Capital (AMEXCAP) with contribution from Mexican Capitalization and Investment Fund for the Rural Sector (FOCIR). The Forum aimed to bring together financial sector decision makers and representatives of consulting firms, funds and law firms with experience in corporate law to discuss the best regulatory and corporate governance practices in companies.[3982]

On 15 September 2016, the amendment to the General Corporations Law came into effect introducing the Simplified Stock Company (Sociedad por Acciones Simplificada, or SAS). The SAS was created to enable individual entrepreneurs to incorporate a company in a much faster procedure through an online application without cost and a need of a public notary. This type of company can be approved within 24 hours online through the electronic system established by the Ministry of Economy.[3983]

Mexico has made only corporate governance-related policy decisions made during the monitoring period and/or upholds existing set of corporate governance rules which conform to the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

In July 2016, Russian Prime-Minister signed the order on improving the corporate governance in Russian companies related to the protection of rights of minority investors. The new regulations include the following provisions:

- Increasing transparency of the Russian companies ownership structure, the protection of rights of minority investors during transaction with the conflict of interest, reorganization, increase of registered capital and concentration of considerable portfolio of shares by specific investors;
- Settlement of the issues related to control of financial and operational activities of companies and the responsibility in case of infliction of losses to the companies;
- Increasing effectiveness and transparency of management in the companies, including in the public sector.[3984]

The new regulation is expected to increase the rank of Russia in the Minority Investors Protection index within the World Bank Doing Business rating.

[3980] Corporate Governance 2017. Mexico. Published on Monday, 12 December 2016. http://latinlawyer.com/reference/topics/69/jurisdictions/16/mexico/.
[3981] The 2016 Meeting of the Latin American Corporate Governance Roundtable. Date of access: 25 November 2016. http://www.oecd.org/daf/ca/LART-2016-Key-Highlights-and-Conclusions.pdf.
[3982] FOCIR participa en el VI Foro de Actualización de Capital Privado organizado por la Asociación Mexicana de Capital Privado (AMEXCAP). Date of access: 26 November 2016. https://www.gob.mx/focir/articulos/focir-participa-en-el-vi-foro-de-actualizacion-de-capital-privado-organizado-por-la-asociacion-mexicana-de-capital-privado-amexcap?idiom=es.
[3983] Mexico. Corporate Governance 2016. Date of access: 26 November 2016. http://www.iclg.co.uk/practice-areas/corporate-governance/corporate-governance-2016/mexico.
[3984] The government defended minority investors, Ministry of Economic Development of thr Russian Federation 5 July 2016. Access date: 19 June 2017. http://economy.gov.ru/minec/about/structure/banking/20160705.

In March 2016, when discussing draft Guidelines for the Development of the Russian Financial Market in 2016–2018 the Russian Prime-Minister emphasized that the Government would continue to "improve the mechanisms of corporate governance of joint stock companies and protect the rights of minority shareholders."[3985]

In May 2016 the Board of Directors of the Bank of Russia approved the Guidelines for the Development of the Russian Financial Market in 2016–2018. One of the goals of the document is "enhancing investor appeal for the equity financing of public companies via improved corporate governance." According to the Guidelines the Bank of Russia plans to implement measures to refine the principles of corporate governance and to introduce them into the practice of public companies in order to "raise the efficiency of enterprises and the attractiveness of the domestic financial market to both internal and external investors."

Russia has made corporate governance-related policy decisions during the monitoring period and upheld existing set of corporate governance rules which conform to the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mark Rakhmangulov

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

The Corporate Governance Regulations dated 12 November 2006 constitute the key document in the area of corporate governance in Saudi Arabia. They apply to joint-stock companies listed on the Saudi Arabian capital market. The rules of the Regulations were initially not mandatory, however since January 2009 listed companies were required by the Capital Market Authority to comply with certain rules of the Regulations for the purpose of enhancing transparency and protecting shareholders' rights. These selected mandatory rules require the directors' annual report to include information about compliance with the Corporate Governance Regulations; the composition of the board of directors and the balance between executive and non-executive directors, and the other joint-stock companies directors holding a seat in its board of directors; a brief description of the composition of committees formed by the board of directors, such as audit, nomination and remuneration committees; the details of compensation and remuneration paid to the chairman, board members and the highest-paid five executives; any punishment, penalty or restrictions imposed on the company by any regulatory, executive or judicial authority, and the annual review of the effectiveness of its internal audit. In line with its efforts towards boosting transparency in the Saudi capital market, the Capital Market Authority adopted other amendments to the mandatory rules of the Corporate Governance Regulations in 2009 and 2010. The purpose of these amendments was to clarify the definition and selection criteria of an "independent member," and disclosures required in relation to conflict of interest and remuneration of board members.[3986]

On 14 March 2016, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry started implementing the new Corporate Law designed to increase the companies` value, reduce procedure costs and stimulate business initiatives. The new system provides the appropriate framework for practice of fair corporate governance principles in terms of transparency and disclosure and allows for a more important role of the shareholders' associations and boards of directors in shaping the corporate strategies.[3987]

[3985] Draft guidelines on the Russian financial market's development in 2016-2018, Government of the Russian Federation 3 March 2016. Access date: 19 June 2017. http://government.ru/en/news/22051/.
[3986] Stricter Corporate Governance in Saudi Arabia, King and Spalding 20 June 2011. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.kslaw.com/imageserver/KSPublic/library/publication/ca062011.pdf.
[3987] The New Corporate Law Comes Into Force Today, Monday 25 July 1437 H, As Confirmed By MCI, Ministry of Commerce and Investment 2 May 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/02-05-16-01.aspx.

On 6 April 2016, the Ministry of Commerce and Investment announced that the officials of 12 joint stock and limited liability companies were referred to the Bureau of Investigation and Public Prosecution because of violating the Corporate Law. The violations included non-compliance with the mandatory rules and regulations such as non-revealing the amendments occurred in the company's contract and recorded in the Commercial Registration, non-disclosure of the transactions in which officials had a personal interest, delay in issuing the annual budgets, lack of commitment to provide the shareholders or partners with the annual reports on the companies` activities, preventing partners from having access to company`s documents.[3988]

On 11 April 2016, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry called on the public to express opinions, views and suggestions on the Draft of Non-Profit Corporate Law. The important objectives of the draft are the following: addressing the endowment issues; supporting the public sector in achieving sustainable and comprehensive development targets; developing the regular environment of the non-profit work.[3989]

On 17 April 2016, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued a number of circulars on the protection of the minority shareholders' rights. These circulars comply with the current corporate law and aim to raise transparency and disclosure of companies operating in the country: 1) Circular No. 24230 obliges all Board of Directors members of joint stock companies not to be engaged in any activity that would compete with the company's business or do it only after obtaining a license from the company`s General Assembly; 2) Circular No. 24233 recommends all joint-stock companies to include in their boards of directors people who meet the necessary requirements on experience, competence and honesty; 3) Circular No. 24231 concerns all limited liability companies distributing profits among their partners; 4) Circular No. 24232 obliges all limited liability companies to hand over invitations to their partners to attend assembly meetings not later than 30 days prior to the date of the meeting.[3990]

On 26 April 2016, the Ministry of Commerce and Investment and the Capital Market Authority published the draft Corporate Governance Regulations and invited the public to submit comments on them. In the Draft the agencies reiterated the importance for companies to adopt clear, efficient and sound decision-making processes which help protect shareholders and stakeholders.[3991]

Saudi Arabia's set of corporate governance rules and related policy decisions conform to the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with the commitment on the corporate governance.

Corporate governance in South Africa is regulated by both hard and soft law. Hard law is represented by Companies Act of 2008, which contains major principles and norms in these sphere. It includes

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[3988] For The Protection Of The Corporate Shareholders, MCI Referred Twenty Four Company Officials For Investigation Recently, Ministry of Commerce and Investment 6 April 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/05-04-16-01.aspx.

[3989] MCI Requests The Opinions Of The Public On The Draft Of Non-Profit Corporate Law, Ministry of Commerce and Investment 11 April 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/10-04-16-01.aspx.

[3990] MCI Has Issued A Number Of Circulars To Improve The Indicators Of Protecting The Minority Shareholders` Right And To Enhance The Competitive Environment In The Kingdom, Ministry of Commerce and Investment 26 April 2016. Access Date: 21 December 2016. https://mci.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/26-04-16-02.aspx.

[3991] Key Highlights Of The Draft Saudi Arabian Corporate Governance Regulations, Mondaq 17 May 2016. Access Date: 29 December 2016. http://www.mondaq.com/saudiarabia/x/491962/Corporate+Governance/Key+Highlights+Of+The+Draft+Saudi+Arabian+Corporate+Governance+Regulations.

provisions on formation, administration and dissolution of companies, enhanced accountability and transparency, public offerings of company securities, fundamental transactions, takeovers and offers, business rescue and compromise with creditors.[3992] These spheres are regulated by principles which correspond to G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Principles of Corporate Governance.

Major peace of soft legislation is King's Report which contains the best practices of corporate governance and supplements and compliments Companies Act. Listed companies whose shares are present at Johannesburg Stock Exchange have to fulfill the requirements disclosed in King's report.[3993] Principles and goals of King's Reports intersect greatly with G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance and in some cases coincide with them.

Also the Code for Responsible Investing in South Africa came into effect in 2012 and required companies to apply the principles of King Report and, if not, to explain why the principles are not applied. The code applies to institutional investors as asset owners (pension funds and insurance companies) as well as to service providers of institutional investors (asset and fund managers). It encourages companies to apply sound governance principles through investee companies' share ownership.[3994]

South Africa upholds existing set of corporate governance rules which conform to the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

Turkey: +1

Turkey has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

On 3 January 2014, major piece of legislation regulating corporate governance in Turkey came into effect.[3995] The new Corporate Governance Communiqué among other issues sets the main principles of corporate governance. These principles regulate:

1. Shareholders' rights and their protection.
   The major components here are facilitation of exercise of shareholders' rights, right to obtain information, regulation of voting and minority rights, payment of dividends and transfer of shares.

2. Public disclosure
   Under this section of principles two issues are disclosed: company's website and annual reports.

3. Stakeholders' rights and scope of participation
   This set of principles regulates Corporation's policy on stakeholders, human resources policy of the corporation, relations with customers and suppliers, ethical rules and social responsibility.

4. Board of directors and its functions and responsibilities.
   This section sets the principles in the following aspects: function of the board of directors, structure of the board of directors, procedure of board of directors meetings, committees formed within the

[3992] No. 71 of 2008: Companies Act, 2008, South African Government 9 April 2009. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.gov.za/sites/www.gov.za/files/32121_421_0.pdf.
[3993] King IV Report on Corporate Governance for South Africa 2016. Adams&Adams. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.adamsadamsip.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/King_IV_Report_draft.pdf.
[3994] Code for Responsible Investing in SA (CRISA), Institute of Directors South Africa. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.iodsa.co.za/?page=CRISACode.
[3995] Communique on Corporate Governance, Erdem&Erdem. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.erdem-erdem.av.tr/publications/law-post/communiqu per centC3 per centA9-on-corporate-governance-i/.

structure of the board of directors, audit committee, corporate governance committee, nomination committee, remuneration committee, financial rights provided for members of the board of directors and executives.[3996]

These principles coincide with the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

The United Kingdom Corporate Governance Code, adopted in September 2014, specifies provisions relating to the role of the board, division of responsibilities between the running of the board and the executive responsibility for the running of the business, chairman's responsibilities, duties of non-executive directors, composition and appointment of the board, the amount of time directors commit to their responsibilities, human resource development, election of directors, financial and business reporting standards, risk management and internal control, audit committee composition and responsibilities, procedures on executive remuneration, dialogue with stakeholders, and general meetings procedure. The Code is based on a well-defined list of main principles divided into five sections: leadership, effectiveness, accountability, remuneration, and relations with stakeholders.[3997] None of the abovementioned principles, and regulations, established by the code, were found to be in contradiction to the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Principles of Corporate Governance.

On 29 November 2016, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy launched a public consultation on measures to strengthen corporate governance. The measures proposed by the government body included: strengthening the corporate governance framework for the UK's largest privately held companies, determining which types of companies need to strengthen stakeholder voices and how best the opinions of workers and customers can be better heard in the boardroom, and increasing shareholder influence over directors' remuneration, including increasing transparency and simplifying and strengthening long-term incentive plans.[3998]

The United Kingdom maintains a set of corporate governance rules which conforms to the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Elina Nizamova

United States: +1

United States fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

In the US corporate governance is regulated on the level of states. Each of them has its own corporate law, with Delaware General Corporation Law being one of the most important and influential one as more than 50 per cent of all publicly traded companies in the United States have chosen Delaware as a place for their registration.[3999]

[3996] II-17.1 Communiqué On Corporate Governance, European Corporate Governance Institute. Access date: 17 January 2017. http://www.ecgi.org/codes/documents/turkey_code_3jan2014_en.pdf.

[3997] The UK Corporate Governance Code, Financail Reporting Council. Access date: 17 January 2017.https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Publications/Corporate-Governance/UK-Corporate-Governance-Code-2014.pdf.

[3998] Government launches review of corporate governance 29 November 2016. Access Date: 15 December 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-review-of-corporate-governance.

[3999] Division of Corporations, About Agency, the Official Web-site of Delaware State. Access date: 13 January 2017. http://www.corp.delaware.gov/aboutagency.shtml.

However, there are two major pieces of federal legislation which contain important provisions on corporate governance principles.

On 30 July 2002, Public Law 107–204 or Sarbanes-Oxley Act was adopted to protect investors from fraudulent accounting activities by corporations. The act mandated strict reforms to improve financial disclosures from corporations and prevent accounting fraud.

The two main provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act required senior management to "certify the accuracy of the reported financial statement" and "establish internal controls and reporting methods on the adequacy of those controls." It also outlined requirements to information technology departments regarding electronic records and their storing.[4000]

This act became a major step towards transparency and introduced strict disclosure principles and requirements. It fully corresponds with the fifth G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Principle of Corporate Governance and does not violate the others.

On 21 July 2010, the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd–Frank) was signed into federal law. Title IX "Investor Protections and Improvements to the Regulation of Securities," Subtitle G "Strengthening Corporate Governance" of the act served to improve the protection of shareholders and stakeholders' rights and corporate governance principles in general. It provides that the Securities and Exchange Commission can "issue rules and regulations that include a requirement that permit a shareholder to use a company's proxy solicitation materials for the purpose of nominating individuals to membership on the board of directors." The company also has to tell investors the reason "why the same person is to serve as chairman of the board of directors and chief executive officer, or why different individuals are to serve as chairman of the board of directors and chief executive officer."[4001]

This act improves the protection of rights of shareholders and stakeholders and is compliant with the first and the fourth G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance and does not violate the others.

The United States has made only corporate governance-related policy decisions made during the monitoring period and/or upholds existing set of corporate governance rules which conform to the G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Irina Popova

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment on corporate governance.

The EU corporate governance strategy was clearly defined in two action plans, published by the European Commission in 2003 and 2012. These long-term action plans are aimed at developing corporate governance practices, increasing competitiveness, and developing sustainability among European companies. The EU Action Plan 2003 established four pillars for corporate governance reforms: 1) Modernizing the board of directors — boards should comprise a balance of executive and nonexecutive directors so that no individual or group of individuals can dominate decision making; a sufficient number of independent directors should be elected to the board of companies to ensure that any material conflict of interest involving directors will be properly dealt with; European listed companies should disclose their remuneration policy and remuneration details of individual directors in their annual report; there should be collective responsibility of all board members for both financial and nonfinancial reporting; 2)

[4000] Public Law 107–204—July 30, 2002, Securities and Exchange Commission. Access date: 13 January 2017. https://www.sec.gov/about/laws/soa2002.pdf.

[4001] Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, United State Government Publishing Office 21 July 2010. Access date: 13 January 2017. https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-111publ203/html/PLAW-111publ203.htm.

Enhancing corporate governance disclosure — all listed companies in the EU should include in their annual report a comprehensive corporate governance statement covering the key elements of their governance structures and practices; 3) Strengthening shareholders' rights — shareholders should have similar rights throughout the EU; 4) Coordinating corporate governance initiatives in member states. The EU Action Plan 2012 envisages new provisions for reporting on board diversity, risk management, and executive remuneration as well as for improving the quality of corporate governance reports, especially explanations made under the comply-or-explain framework.[4002]

On 22-23 September 2016, the Annual Conference on European Company Law and Corporate Governance was held in Trier, Germany. Its key topics: case law and legislation; the Fourth Anti-Money Laundering Directive and the Market Abuse Regulation; sustainable companies and European corporate governance; employee co-determination rules across Europe; the role of foreign employees in codetermination in the light of case C-566/15 Erzberger.[4003]

On 28 September 2016, the European Commission proposed a new inter-institutional agreement on the lobby transparency register. The Commission announced that it will not give an extension to its own ban on high-level officials meeting with unregistered lobbyists and that it will simplify the financial disclosure requirements on lobby consultancies and streamline the definition of lobbying used in the register. The proposed new register will be mandatory but not legally binding.[4004]

On 27 October 2016, the 19th European Corporate Governance Conference was held in Bratislava, Slovakia. The key topic of the conference was "Digitization and Transparency" and their impact on the corporate governance. The program included plenary sessions and panel debates around recent developments in corporate governance, new tendencies and innovations in digitalization.[4005]

On 21 November 2016, the European Banking Authority published additional information related to the application of the proportionality principle to the remuneration provisions laid down in the Capital Requirements Directive in response to a request for advice from the European Commission. The additional information is a follow-up to the Opinion on the application of proportionality issued in December 2015.[4006]

On 22 November 2016, the European Commission proposed a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on preventive restructuring frameworks, second chance and measures to increase the efficiency of restructuring, insolvency and discharge procedures and amending Directive 2012/30/EU. The proposal on business restructuring and rights of shareholders will predominantly contribute to

[4002] A Guide to Corporate Governance Practices in the European Union, International Finance Corporation 2015. Access date: 29 December 2016. http://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/c44d6d0047b7597bb7d9f7299ede9589/CG_Practices_in_EU_ Guide.pdf? MOD=AJPERES.
[4003] Annual Conference on European Company Law and Corporate Governance 2016, Academy of European Law 23 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. https://www.era.int/cgi-bin/cms?_SID=NEW&_sprache=en&_bereich=artikel&_aktion=detail&idartikel=125716.
[4004] ALTER-EU reaction to Commission's announcement on transparency register, Access Info Europe 28 September 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. https://www.access-info.org/eut/26277.
[4005] Digitization and Transparency – transforming the future of corporate governance? EY, 27 October 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. https://emeia.ey-vx.com/969/46335/june-2016/invitation-slovakia(1).asp?sid=3f2ef52b-99f8-4f78-9409-5b69605acddf#.
[4006] EBA provides overview on the proportionate application of remuneration requirements across the EU, European Banking Authority 21 November 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://www.eba.europa.eu/-/eba-provides-overview-on-the-proportionate-application-of-remuneration-requirements-across-the-eu.

"prevention," the rules on avoidance, insolvency practitioners and judicial or administrative authorities to 'value recovery' and the rules on second chance to 'debt discharge'.[4007]

On 24 November 2016, the CFA Institute published the report "Corporate Governance Policy in the European Union: Through an Investor's Lens." According to the report, investors believe that EU can do more to simplify mechanisms on corporate accountability and reap maximum value from the undertaken reforms. Besides, investors are open to many stakeholder issues, such as environmental reporting, promoting board diversity and good corporate citizenship.[4008]

The European Union upholds existing set of corporate governance rules which conform to the G20/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles of Corporate Governance. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Aydar Shakirov and Pavel Doronin

[4007] Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on preventive restructuring frameworks, second chance and measures to increase the efficiency of restructuring, insolvency and discharge procedures and amending Directive 2012/30/EU, European Commission 22 November 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2016:723:FIN.
[4008] Report on corporate governance policy in the European Union, IASPlus 24 November 2016. Access date: 21 December 2016. http://www.iasplus.com/en/news/2016/11/corporate-governance.