

3rd High-Level Meeting of the OECD Development Centre Governing Board 2 June 2016

Communiqué

1. We, Members of the OECD Development Centre, met under the co-chairmanship of China and France to set strategic directions over the medium term. High-level representatives, including H.E. Macky Sall, President of Senegal, and leaders from partner international and regional organisations joined the meeting and shared their valuable perspectives.
2. We welcomed the important achievements since our last High-Level Meeting in 2014, notably: the expansion of the Development Centre's work on global social challenges, gender equality and migration; the results of the Development Centre's policy dialogues¹; a successful revision of the systems of assessed contributions for the Development Centre; the accession of Denmark, Greece, Côte d'Ivoire, Kazakhstan, Tunisia, Slovenia, China, Ghana and Uruguay since 2014 and the return of Japan.
3. The expanding membership confirms the increasing importance that developed and developing countries attach to the Development Centre as a platform for solid analysis and fruitful policy dialogue on an equal footing and to its role in the OECD and in the international development arena. We encourage even stronger global engagement and invite other countries to join, including developing countries and OECD Member countries that are currently not Members of the Development Centre, in line with the Development Centre's Membership Strategy.²
4. We analysed the emerging global trends and their policy implications, notably in the area of migration and development. We look forward to the results of the project on the *Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration and Development* and of the *Perspectives on Global Development* in the 4th quarter of 2016. We welcomed the latest *African Economic Outlook* and discussed the perspectives of African countries for their structural transformation, with a special role for the new generation of industrialisation policies and for the Centre's engagement with the Continent. We exchanged on our efforts to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including on the OECD's work to support its Members, the Members of the Development Centre and the international community in implementing them. We notably discussed the positive contribution of the Multi-Dimensional Country Reviews (MDCR) in support of SDG implementation. We concluded by identifying priority areas and giving the strategic orientations for the Development Centre's work in the next biennium.
5. Strong growth over the 2000s has contributed to a faster catching-up in the per-capita income of many developing countries towards OECD levels. The process of shifting wealth is entering a new phase. The slowdown in external demand, especially for commodities, and the rebalancing and changing growth model of some large emerging economies are redefining the global landscape. This new phase in shifting wealth creates both challenges and opportunities for developed and developing countries, as countries need to adapt their strategies for development to the new global context to sustain their development gains and achieve the SDGs. This medium-term scenario makes the design of development strategies to promote structural transformation and increase citizens' well-being more complex.

¹ Including: Natural Resource-based Development; the establishment of the CONNEX Negotiation Support Forum (NSF); and the creations of the Framework on Public-Private Collaboration for In-Country Shared Value Creation from Extractive Projects, the Typology on Corruption Risks in Extractives with Mitigation Measures and Incentives, and the Policy Dialogue on Global Value Chains and Production Transformation.

² Development Centre Membership Strategy [DEV/GB(2014)1]

6. Thanks to its membership structure, its analyses and policy dialogues at global, regional and national levels, the Development Centre is well-positioned to help its Member countries respond to this evolving landscape. The Development Centre should continue to help Members: a) identify emerging global issues and analyse their interactions and impacts on development outcomes to better adjust their responses; b) promote stronger co-operation with and within regions, currently in Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean; c) strengthen diagnostic tools to support the design of better national strategies and policies to implement the SDGs; and d) enhance their ability to dialogue and partner with development stakeholders, including regional institutions and non-state actors, such as the private sector, foundations, civil society and think tanks.

7. We recognise the role that the Development Centre can play in helping its Members to respond to emerging economic and social challenges of mutual concern for OECD and non-OECD countries across a wide range of development issues instrumental to improving development outcomes and achieving the SDGs. The Development Centre will contribute, thanks to its data, tools and policy dialogue, to the vision set out in the proposed OECD Action Plan on the Sustainable Development Goals.³ We invite the Development Centre to contribute actively to this endeavour, including the promotion of better communication to development stakeholders on development and the SDGs.

8. We invite the Development Centre to deepen its work on Africa and explore opportunities to engage with other countries and regions, such as Southeast Europe and Central Asia. We welcome the launch of the OECD Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Programme and the co-manager role that the Development Centre has been invited to play, also by leveraging the *Latin American Economic Outlook*. We reaffirm the Development Centre's enhanced engagement to the OECD Southeast Asia Regional Programme, notably through the *Economic Outlook on Southeast Asia, China and India*.

9. We agreed to:

- ◆ Launch a *Dialogue on Migration and Development* to leverage the Development Centre's work on international migration with several of its Members and beyond, and in co-operation with other OECD Directorates;
- ◆ Develop an *Initiative with Africa* to contribute to advancing the African Union's Agenda 2063, leveraging the African Members' input in the Development Centre and existing partnerships throughout the Continent;
- ◆ Promote the uptake of MDCRs, launch a mutual learning group amongst Development Centre Members and countries undertaking MDCRs, and organise an expert group for MDCRs to further fine-tune them to the SDGs;
- ◆ Further the Development Centre's engagement in the OECD Southeast Asia Regional Programme and in the OECD Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Programme, while continuing engagement with other regions;
- ◆ Deepen the Development Centre's engagement with the rest of the OECD Development Cluster, on issues such as “gender and development” and “structural transformation/productivity for development”;
- ◆ Strengthen the Development Centre's engagement with non-government stakeholders, including the private sector, foundations, civil society and think tanks;
- ◆ Revise the Development Centre Membership Strategy by the end of 2016, in accordance with the Development Centre's Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) cycle as scheduled in the current strategy.

³ [C/MIN(2016)6 and C/MIN(2016)6/ADD1]