OECD’s role reaffirmed following Ministerial meeting on Covid-19 recovery

OECD Ministers met over the last two days as we are entering a second wave of lockdowns in several countries, leading to increased uncertainty about the economic outlook and deleterious impacts on business.

The final statement, which we are sharing with you in the article below, reaffirms the role of international coordination the Organization should play, and reflects several of our business recommendations to the OECD.

As we continue convening our global network through virtual means, we are rolling out a series of business briefings that should help our members compare best practices and policy insights. This exchange will be critical in informing the OECD in areas where their action over the next months will affect how business can operate on the ground, like in the case of taxation. In other areas, our business dialogue with the OECD should help guide governments make sound decisions to help us get our economies on a healthy footing despite the significant challenges we are facing.

Hanni Rosenbaum
Acting Secretary General
Business at OECD

Ali Karami Ruiz
Senior Director, Strategic Engagement and Communications
Business at OECD
Our call to the OECD to overcome Covid-19

The OECD held its Annual Ministerial Council, under the chairmanship of Spain, focusing on *The Path to Recovery, Strong, Sustainable Green and Inclusive.*

We called on the OECD and its members to implement three recommendations to overcome Covid-19:

1. Identify policy measures to protect people’s lives and livelihoods
2. Defend open markets for international trade and investment
3. Call for policy integration across government measures

Our *Business at OECD* Chair Phil O'Reilly conveyed to Ministers “*the time is now for the OECD to convey a strong vision for a better future through coordination and collaboration*. Iñigo Fernández de Mesa, Vice-chair of CEOE, and Seiji Inagaki, *Business at OECD* Executive Board Vice Chair, delivered messages on sustainable recovery plans, trade, and investment.

In our Recommendations to this year’s Ministerial Council Meeting, we stress that the recovery of today should not compromise our future. We encourage you to watch and share our video summarizing the recommendations.

*2020 OECD Ministerial Statement*

CONTACT – Nicole Primmer & Frederik Lange
Three business asks to the OECD

Business outlines need to modernize the OECD Arrangement on Export Credits

Last week, our business experts participated in the OECD’s annual Export Credits Forum. They presented our positions on modernizing the Arrangement on Officially Supported Export Credits and discussed the future of related Sector Understandings, which lay out sector-specific rules in annexes to the Arrangement.

We stressed that the recovery and post-Covid-19 period needs to be framed with an appropriate set of global rules guaranteeing a level playing field, making a modernized Arrangement crucial.

Detailed views are outlined in our 2020 position on Export Credits and Covid-19, available here.

CONTACT – Frederik Lange
Supporting countries to ‘invest themselves out of the crisis’

Investment Promotion Agencies can play a critical role in fostering a sound and future-oriented Covid-19 recovery by attracting and retaining foreign direct investment and acting as ‘early warning systems’ with regards to emerging investment policy barriers.

Last week, business actively participated in this year’s meeting of the OECD Investment Promotion Agency Network. We underlined that these Agencies can contribute to recovery and resilience-building efforts by leveraging investments that are critical to spur jobs and growth and meet key societal challenges including climate action and digitalization.

For more information on the OECD work on investment promotion agencies, please click here.
Upcoming meetings of the Business at OECD Trade and Environment & Energy Committees

Next week, on 2 November, our Trade and Environment & Energy Committee members are invited to join our Introductory Conversation on Trade and Climate Change with our Business at OECD global network.

This meeting will allow members from various regions to exchange on priorities, and explore potential first steps for future work with the OECD. The session will be held-back-to-back with our bi-annual Trade Committee meeting, which will finalize our contributions to the OECD Special Session on Building Resilience in supply chains to be held on 3 November, and prepare for the fall OECD Trade Committee meeting.

CONTACT – Dominik Kummerle & Rokas Morkunas
Over 50 business communicators and public affairs strategists from across the globe joined our virtual roundtable last week.

During the session, Siobhan Masterson from Ibec presented the Irish case study and Ibec's Reboot and Reimagine campaign. Participants then shared best practices on how to communicate effectively during the global pandemic. Discussions also focused on the role that Business at OECD can play to strengthen our global network of communicators.

This first virtual roundtable is part of a series of virtual roundtables that will bring communicators and public affairs experts together.

CONTACT – Ali Karami Ruiz & Angel Alonso Ferrer
OECD launches Digital Economy Reviews of Brazil

Earlier this week, the OECD launched two key peer review reports of Brazil. The presentation event featured Brazilian Ministers and Angel Gurría highlighting key findings of the OECD Telecommunication and Broadcasting Review and the Going Digital Review of Brazil, emphasizing the importance of Brazil’s digital transformation to reinforce its economic recovery from the Covid-19 crisis.

The reports analyze Brazil’s digital transformation, as well as the market performance of its telecommunications and broadcasting sectors, underlying policies, and regulations. We contributed with business input during the development of these reports.

CONTACT – Nicole Primmer
Maintaining competitive neutrality

State-owned enterprises (SOEs) represent a significant share of the global economy. Today, one quarter of the world’s largest multinationals are effectively under state control and an increasing number of SOEs are active in the global marketplace.

At this week’s OECD meeting, business provided input to the implementation of the OECD Anti-Corruption and Integrity Guidelines as well as discussions on a voluntary transparency and disclosure standard for internationally active SOEs, underlining the importance of a global level playing field.

CONTACT – Hanni Rosenbaum and Hideaki Ozu
A radical new strategy for lifetime reskilling must be the bedrock of UK economic recovery

Legislation for Support Programs Must Be Top Priority

"We have to find a smart level of restrictions that allow the economy to continue"
(article in French)

Why can't taxes be raised more in Spain?
(article in Spanish)
The country’s efforts should be focused on reactivating, helping companies and jobs
(article in Spanish)

International conditions contribute uncertainty

OECD LATEST PUBLICATIONS
UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

2
Business at OECD Joint Trade and Environment Committee Meetings
Business at OECD Chemical Committee Meeting
Virtual Working Party on Consumer Product Safety
Stakeholder consultation with the Working Party on Responsible Business Conduct

3
OECD Global Forum on Environment: Towards cost-effective management systems for industrial and consumer chemicals
OECD Trade Committee Meetings
Virtual meeting of the Committee on Consumer Policy
Business at OECD Corporate Governance Call

4
OECD Global Forum on Environment: Towards cost-effective management systems for industrial and consumer chemicals
OECD Trade Committee Meetings
Virtual meeting of the Committee on Consumer Policy

5
OECD Trade Committee Meetings
Virtual meeting of the Committee on Consumer Policy
OECD Joint Meeting of the Chemicals Committee
OECD Roundtable on Data Portability

6
Virtual meeting of the Committee on Consumer Policy
OECD Joint Meeting of the Chemicals Committee
Business at OECD Member Federation briefing on tax
Special OECD stakeholder session: Due Diligence for Business

9
Virtual OECD Committee for Agriculture
OECD Working Party on Private Pensions

10
Virtual OECD Committee for Agriculture

11
OECD Working Party on Private Pensions

17
OECD Committee on Fisheries
OECD Education Policy Committee Meeting
OECD Working Party on Resource Productivity and Waste
UN 9th Annual Business and Human Rights Forum

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OECD Committee on Fisheries
OECD Education Policy Committee Meeting
OECD Working Party on Resource Productivity and Waste
UN 9th Annual Business and Human Rights Forum

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OECD CERI Governing Board
OECD Working Party on Resource Productivity and Waste

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OECD CERI Governing Board

23
Virtual OECD Committee for Agriculture (COAG)

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OECD Green Growth and Sustainable Development Forum
Virtual OECD Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets
OECD Corporate Governance Committee

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OECD Green Growth and Sustainable Development Forum
Virtual OECD Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets
OECD Corporate Governance Committee