

The
G7 Research Group
at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College
in the University of Toronto presents the

2019 G7 Biarritz Summit Second Interim Compliance Report

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit



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Introduction

In a year that has seen many plans disrupted, this report marks two unusual events in the history of the G7. First, as a result of the rapid global spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, G7 leaders planned to meet by videoconference on the dates they were to meet in person at Camp David under the U.S. presidency on 10-12 June 2020. Then, on 30 May, just before the virtual summit was to take place, it was postponed indefinitely.

This provided the G7 Research Group the opportunity to produce two interim compliance reports, the first midway between the Biarritz Summit in August 2019 and the Camp David Summit scheduled for June 2020, and this second report, which assesses compliance up to the point when the summit was to take place. A third report will assess final compliance for the full inter-summit period, once the dates of the 2020 summit are known.

Both interim reports, as well as all previous compliance reports, are available at the G7 Information Centre website at <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance>.

The timing of the 2020 reports on compliance with the priority commitments of the Biarritz Summit reflects a turning point in global activity and attention. Released on 15 March 2020, the first report covered G7 members' implementing actions up to 20 December 2019, just before the SARS-CoV-2 virus began to spread internationally. This second report extends the assessment period to 3 June 2020, and thus offers an opportunity to see the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

For its assessment of compliance with the 2019 commitments, G7 Research Group researchers selected 21 priority commitments from the total of 71 commitments made at the Biarritz Summit, hosted by France on 24-26 August 2019. Researchers rely on publicly available information, documentation and media reports of actions taken beginning the day after the summit.

The G7 Research Group has been producing annual compliance reports since 1996. It began publishing interim reports since 2002 to assess progress at the time of the transition from the outgoing G7 presidency to the incoming presidency each 1 January. These 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 G7 more transparent and accessible, and to provide scientific data to enable meaningful analysis of the impact of this unique informal international institution.

Based at the University of Toronto and founded in 1987, the G7 Research Group strives to be the leading independent source of information and analysis on the institutions, performance, issues and participants of the G7 summit and system of global governance. It is a global network of scholars, students and professionals. The group oversees the G7 Information Centre, which publishes freely available research on the G7 as well as official documents issued by the G7.

This report is produced entirely on a voluntary basis. It receives no direct financial support from any source. It comes from a process entirely insulated from the other major activities of the G7 Research Group, such as its pre-summit conferences sponsored by various institutions or the "background books" produced by GT Media.

To ensure the accuracy, comprehensiveness and integrity of these reports, comments and suggestions are always welcome. Indeed, this is a living document, and the scores can be recalibrated if new material becomes available. All feedback remains anonymous and is never attributed. Responsibility for this report's contents lies exclusively with the report's authors and the analysts of the G7 Research Group.

The work of the G7 Research Group would not be possible without the steadfast dedication of many people around the world. This report is the product of a team of energetic and hard-working analysts led by Meagan Byrd, chair of summit studies, and her team of compliance directors, lead analysts and analysts. It would also not be possible without the efforts of Brittaney Warren, director of compliance, Dr. Ella Kokotsis, director of accountability, and Madeline Koch, executive director. We are also indebted to the many people who provide feedback on our drafts, whose comments are always carefully considered in the published report.

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Summary

The University of Toronto G7 Research Group's Second Interim Compliance Report on the 2019 Biarritz Summit assesses the compliance of the G7 members with 21 priority commitments selected from the total of 71 made at their summit in France on 24-26 August, based on members' implementing actions taken between 27 August 2019 and 3 June 2020 (see Table A). This selection of commitments reflects the breadth and focus of the summit agenda, including the host's priorities and the built-in issues. This analysis, which builds on the first interim compliance report published on 15 March 2020, was intended to present the final findings for the period leading up to the originally scheduled G7 summit, to be hosted by the United States at Camp David on 10–12 June 2020. Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in March, the U.S. host shifted to planning for a summit held by videoconference. On 20 May, just weeks before the summit, President Donald Trump announced his intention to return to an in-person summit, and then announced it would take place later in the year. The G7 Research Group is continuing to monitor G7 members' actions to fulfill their Biarritz commitments, and a final report will be issued on the eve of the 2020 summit, when that date became known.

The first interim compliance report is available for comparison at <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance>.

The Second Interim Compliance Score

Compliance is measured on a three-point scientific scale. A score of +1 (100%) indicates full compliance with a commitment, a score of 0 (50%) indicates partial compliance or a work in progress, and a score of -1 (0%) indicates non-compliance or a failure to comply or action taken that is counter to the commitment. Table B contains the second interim compliance scores.

For the period of 27 August 2019 to 3 June 2020, average compliance for the 21 commitments assessed is +0.50 (75%). This is a significant increase from the first interim score of +0.24 (62%), which measured compliance midway between the previous and upcoming summits. It is similar to the interim scores of +0.51 (75%) for compliance with the 2018 and 2016 summits' commitments and higher than the interim score of +0.44 (72%) with the 2017 summit. It is lower, however, than the final scores for compliance of +0.66 (83%) with the 2018 summit and +0.59 (80%) with the 2017 summit, and the same as the score for compliance with the 2016 summit commitments, all of which covered essentially the same period from the day after the summit until just before the next one. Table C contains the compliance scores from previous years.

Compliance by Member

The United Kingdom ranked first with an average score of +0.76 (88%), followed by Germany at +0.71 (86%) and the European Union at +0.67 (83%). This is a different configuration from the first interim Biarritz compliance report, with the European Union at +0.52 (76%) Germany at +0.48 (74%) and the United Kingdom (+0.43) at 71%. France, which hosted the 2019 summit, now ranks fourth at +0.33 (67%), up from fifth although with the same score as in March. Italy had the lowest score at +0.10 (55%), up from its previous interim score of -0.29 (36%). Table C contains the scores by member.

Compliance by Commitment

Three commitments had compliance of +1.00 (100%): one on digital democracy, one on artificial intelligence and one on universal health coverage. They were followed by two commitments at +0.88 (94%): one on gender equality and one on the Sustainable Development Goals. The lowest compliance came on the commitment on primary health care and the commitment on G5 Sahel police, both with the score of -0.13 (44%). Table D contains all the scores by commitment.

The Compliance Gap Between Members

These final results from the Biarritz Summit show a difference of 0.67 between the highest and lowest compliance scores of members, smaller than the gap of 0.81 in March.

Future Research and Reports

The information contained within this report provides G7 members and other stakeholders with an indication of the G7 members' compliance with 21 commitments for the period beginning immediately after the Biarritz Summit in August 2019 until 3 June 2020. The draft of this report that was distributed to stakeholders for feedback covered actions taken up to 13 April 2020, but research continued up to just before the original summit dates in June 2020. A final report will be published on the eve of the 2020 summit. As with previous compliance reports, this report has been produced as an invitation for others to provide additional or more complete information on G7 members' compliance. Comments are always welcomed and would be considered as part of an analytical reassessment. Please send your feedback to g7@utoronto.ca.

Table A: 2019 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment*

	Commitment
1	“Enabling the necessary digital infrastructure in order to reduce the digital gap and inequality, including in isolated countries and regions that are excluded or underserved.” (2019-37)
2	“We are determined to work collaboratively to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behavior and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.” (2019-67)
3	“We will continue to explore ways to advance our work on AI [artificial intelligence] to understand and share on a regular basis, multidisciplinary research results on artificial intelligence issues and best practices, as well as bringing together international artificial intelligence initiatives.” (2019-71)
4	“Aside from our domestic commitments, we stand ready to support interested countries through our different expertise and development mechanisms to adopt, implement and monitor laws that remedy this and advance gender equality.” (2019-54)
5	“We support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).” (2019-30)
6	“We will continue to support women’s entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic participation and empowerment.” (2019-35)
7	“[We] ... endeavor to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).” (2019-60)
8	“[We share an objective] to foster peace and stability in the region.” (2019-7)
9	“We [support the efforts of countries in the region, notably those in the G5, in coming together to address these security and development challenges and] remain committed to working with them to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.” (2019-12)
10	“As the G7, we will work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.” (2019-16)
11	“We support facilitating increased access of G5 countries to all available public and private finance.” (2019-18)
12	“We are determined to work together to address global challenges, in line with Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and taking into account the African Union Agenda 2063.” (2019-29)
13	“We reiterate our willingness to continue to develop entrepreneurship and private sector youth employment in Africa through multilateral initiatives, such as the G20 Compact with Africa and other bilateral initiatives supported by individual G7 members.” (2019-28)
14	“[Therefore, the G7 wishes to overhaul the WTO [World Trade Organization] to improve effectiveness with regard to eliminate unfair trade practices.” (2019-4)
15	“The G7 commits to reaching in 2020 an agreement to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development].” (2019-5)
16	“We commit to pursuing our efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment.” (2019-23)
17	“We recall our commitment to moving towards achieving universal health coverage according to national contexts and priorities, building resilient and sustainable health systems, in order to be able to reach the most affected communities.” (2019-25)
18	“We will continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological and social needs while making those responsible accountable.” (2019-56)
19	“Leaders endorsed the G7 Metz Charter on Biodiversity and committed to take swift action on biodiversity, either individually or jointly, in the run up to COP15 [15th Conference of the Parties] of the Convention on Biological Diversity.” (2019-61)

20	“We support enhancing public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organization, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.” (2019-33)
21	“[We will encourage partner countries’ governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing our coordination and our political and financial support to education, including basic education.” (2019-22)

*For the full list of commitments, please contact the G7 Research Group at g7@utoronto.ca.

Table B: 2019 G7 Biarritz Second Interim Compliance Scores

		Canada	France	Germany	Italy	Japan	United Kingdom	United States	European Union	Average	
1	Digital economy: Digital infrastructure	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	-1	+1	+0.38	69%
2	Digital economy: Digital democracy	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
3	Digital economy: Artificial intelligence	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
4	Gender: Gender equality	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
5	Gender: Affirmative finance action for women in Africa	0	0	+1	-1	0	+1	0	0	+0.13	56%
6	Gender: Women's entrepreneurship in Africa	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	0	0	+0.63	81%
7	Gender: STEM education	+1	+1	+1	-1	-1	0	0	0	+0.13	56%
8	Regional security: Iran	0	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.75	88%
9	Regional security: G5 Sahel security and development	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.75	88%
10	Regional security: G5 Sahel police	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-0.13	44%
11	Development: G5 Sahel	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	0	0	+0.50	75%
12	Development: Sustainable Development Goals	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.88	94%
13	Development: Entrepreneurship in Africa	+1	+1	+1	-1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.63	81%
14	Trade: World Trade Organization reform	0	+1	+1	-1	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.50	75%
15	Trade: Tax policy	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	-1	0	+0.25	63%
16	Health: Primary health care	+1	-1	0	-1	-1	0	+1	0	-0.13	44%
17	Health: Universal health coverage	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1.00	100%
18	Health: Mental health	-1	+1	+1	-1	-1	0	0	+1	0	50%
19	Environment: Biodiversity	+1	+1	0	0	+1	+1	0	+1	+0.63	81%
20	Crime and corruption: Procurement	-1	+1	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+0.63	81%
21	Education: G5 Sahel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+1	+0.13	56%
	2019 second interim compliance average	+0.48	+0.67	+0.76	+0.10	+0.38	+0.76	+0.19	+0.67	+0.50	75%
		74%	83%	88%	55%	69%	88%	60%	83%		

Table C: 2019 G7 Biarritz Second Interim Compliance Scores by Member

	2019				2018				2017				2016			
	2nd interim		1st interim		final		interim		final		interim		final		interim	
United Kingdom	+0.76	88%	+0.43	72%	+0.85	93%	+0.70	85%	+0.84	92%	+0.56	78%	+0.53	77%	+0.64	82%
Germany	+0.67	83%	+0.48	74%	+0.50	75%	+0.40	70%	+0.63	82%	+0.44	72%	+0.67	84%	+0.55	78%
European Union	+0.67	83%	+0.52	76%	+0.90	95%	+0.85	93%	+0.95	98%	+0.94	97%	+0.67	84%	+0.91	96%
France	+0.76	88%	+0.33	67%	+0.65	83%	+0.45	73%	+0.68	84%	+0.50	75%	+0.26	63%	+0.27	64%
Canada	+0.48	74%	+0.05	53%	+0.80	90%	+0.70	85%	+0.68	84%	+0.44	72%	+0.58	79%	+0.55	78%
Japan	+0.38	69%	+0.38	69%	+0.68	84%	+0.58	79%	+0.47	74%	+0.25	63%	+0.28	64%	+0.18	59%
United States	+0.19	60%	+0.05	53%	+0.47	74%	+0.24	62%	+0.17	59%	+0.13	57%	+0.63	82%	+0.82	91%
Italy	+0.10	55%	-0.29	396%	+0.50	75%	+0.15	58%	+0.37	69%	+0.31	66%	+0.21	61%	+0.18	59%
Average	+0.50	75%	+0.24	62%	+0.66	83%	+0.51	76%	+0.59	80%	+0.44	72%	+0.49	75%	+0.51	76%
Spread	0.66		0.81		0.45		0.70		0.78		0.81		0.46		0.73	

Table D: 2019 G7 Biarritz Second Interim Compliance Scores by Commitment

1	Digital economy: Artificial intelligence	+1.00	100%
	Digital economy: Digital democracy		
	Health: Universal health coverage		
4	Development: Sustainable Development Goals	+0.88	94%
	Gender: Gender equality		
6	Regional security: G5 Sahel security and development	+0.75	88%
	Regional security: Iran		
8	Crime and corruption: Procurement	+0.63	81%
	Development: Entrepreneurship in Africa		
	Environment: Biodiversity		
11	Gender: Women's entrepreneurship in Africa		
12	Development: G7 Sahel	+0.50	75%
	Trade: World Trade Organization reform		
14	Digital economy: Digital infrastructure	+0.38	69%
15	Trade: Tax policy	+0.25	63%
16	Education: G5 Sahel	+0.13	56%
	Gender: Affirmative finance action for women in Africa		
	Gender: STEM education		
19	Health: Mental health	0	50%
20	Regional security: G7 Sahel Police	-0.13	44%
	Health: Primary health care		

1. Digital Economy: Digital Infrastructure

“Enabling the necessary digital infrastructure in order to reduce the digital gap and inequality, including in isolated countries and regions that are excluded or underserved.”

Biarritz Declaration for the G7 and Africa Partnership: Annex II Digital Transformation in Africa

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States	-1		
European Union			+1
Average	+0.38 (69%)		

Background

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, the leaders agreed to the Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, which recognized the need to seize opportunities created from Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).¹ The leaders recognized the need to “bridge the digital divide” by providing universal and “affordable” internet access for underserved and “under-privileged” populations.² The Okinawa Summit marked the first time digital infrastructure, and addressing the digital gap was in the G7 agenda.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, the leaders recognized the internet as unique information resource for education, to conduct commerce, drive innovation and to improve efficiency.³ The leaders recognized the internet as a multi-stakeholder issue and noted broadband internet access as an “essential infrastructure” to enable participation in the digital economy.⁴ The leaders also acknowledged the importance of “enhanced access to the Internet” for developing countries to ensure equal opportunities for all.⁵

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders agreed to the G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber that promoted the importance of digital innovations to maximize economic growth in the 21st century.⁶ The leaders recognized the potential of digital technology to improve quality of life, enable innovation and achieve progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.⁷ The G7 leaders

¹ G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 5 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

² Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2000. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>

³ G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html#internet>

⁴ G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html#internet>

⁵ G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html#internet>

⁶ G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/cyber.html>

⁷ G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/cyber.html>

committed to supporting measures against the malicious use of cyberspace to protecting privacy and data protection, promoting digital innovation through enabling transparent policy and legal frameworks through ICT standards and to bridge digital divides through ensuring universal and high quality access to ICT.⁸ Also, the leaders acknowledged the Charter of the Digitally Connected World, which emphasized the role of ICT to enable connectivity and to become a driver of social activities and source of economic growth.⁹

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders recognized the opportunity posed by the Next Production Revolution to improving competitiveness and boosting economic growth through innovation development.¹⁰ The leaders noted the importance of reshaping existing production systems to allow people from all sectors to reap the benefits from innovation and digitalization and to enhance opportunities for all, including women to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.¹¹

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders recognized the threats posed by digital technologies through malicious misuse of information.¹² The leaders recognized the importance to directly engage with internet service providers and social media platforms to improving transparency to prevent illegal use of personal data and breaches of privacy.¹³

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders recognized the G7 and Africa Partnership. This partnership which committed strong support to reduce the digital divide.¹⁴ The leaders recognized the role for digital transformation to “boost economic growth and industrialization, alleviate poverty and improve lives.”¹⁵ The Digital Transformation in Africa declaration recognized the role of digital technology to drive innovation, economic growth and job creation in different sectors of the economy.¹⁶ G7 leaders recognized the underlying role of digitalization to maximize the work done in other sectors including in health, energy, transport, agriculture, education in line with good governance and development policies and programs. To that end, G7 leaders recognized the importance of “accessible, secure and reliable internet” to reducing digital gaps and reducing inequalities.¹⁷ The leaders also noted that women and girls especially in rural communities are most

⁸ G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 5 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/cyber.html>

⁹ Charter for the Digitally Connected World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 30 April 2016. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/ict/2016-ict-charter.html>

¹⁰ G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 5 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

¹¹ G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 5 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

¹² Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>

¹³ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>

¹⁴ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-declaration-africa-partnership.html>

¹⁵ Digital Transformation in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 Oct. 19. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/digital-transformation.html>

¹⁶ Digital Transformation in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 Oct. 19. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/digital-transformation.html>

¹⁷ Digital Transformation in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 Oct. 19. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/digital-transformation.html>

likely to be affected by the digital divide and underlined the need to address specific situations in fragile regions of the Sahel, Horn of Africa and Lake Chad regions.¹⁸

Commitment Features

Within this framework of digital infrastructure and reducing digital divides, “enabling” is understood as supporting and providing support to make the necessary steps required to build and run digital infrastructure. This support can be in various forms such as through financial, technical or other measures of support.

“Digital infrastructure” is understood as the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for the operation of the internet. This includes all forms of digital infrastructure supported or developed by G7 members that support the access of digital information or the functions of the internet. Examples of supporting digital infrastructure can include financing installation of fixed and mobile infrastructure, fibre optic cables, mobile broadcasting stations, cell towers and terminal facilities used for interconnections.

The terms “digital inequality,” “digital gap” and “digital divide” are used interchangeably. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development’s glossary of statistical terms defines digital divide as “the gap between individuals, households, businesses and geographic areas at different socio-economic levels with regard to both their opportunities to access information and communication technologies (ICTs) and to their use of the Internet for a wide variety of activities.”¹⁹ Moreover, digital divides can reflect various differences both among and within countries with regard to access to digital resources.²⁰ Examples of initiatives to reduce the digital divide include the financing or provision of subsidies, gifts or grants that use digital infrastructure to support the learning or reduction of digital gaps.

“Underserved” refers to groups that have been inadequately provided with a service of a facility. In this context, it refers to sub-Saharan African countries. Lack of access to digital infrastructure for individuals in these countries and regions can be due to a wide range of barriers including financial or physical accessibility, educational accessibility or other forms of barriers, all contributing to widen the digital divide. As this commitment was made in the Biarritz Declaration for the G7 and Africa Partnership: Annex II Digital Transformation in Africa, this report analysis G7 efforts to enable digital infrastructure in Africa’s isolated and underserved countries and regions.

“Isolated” refers to countries that are geographically, or infrastructurally separate. For compliance, isolated countries will be those within regions of the Sahel, Sahara, Savanna, Ethiopian Highlands and Swahili Coast. Isolated countries for compliance include Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Cote d’Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Sahel region countries include, Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Sudan, Sudan. Sahara region countries include Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Sudan and Tunisia. Savanna region countries include Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and

¹⁸ Digital Transformation in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 Oct. 19. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/digital-transformation.html>

¹⁹ Glossary of Statistical Terms - Digital Divide, OECD (Paris), 5 August 2002. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=4719>

²⁰ Glossary of Statistical Terms - Digital Divide, OECD (Paris), 5 August 2002. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=4719>

Zimbabwe. Ethiopian Highland countries include Eritrea and Ethiopia. Countries in the Swahili Coast region include Comoros, Kenya, Mozambique, Somalia and Tanzania.

To achieve full compliance, G7 members must take steps to enable digital infrastructure in an African region and take steps to enable digital infrastructure in an excluded or underserved African region or country. Actions must be taken in multiple countries in the African regions to achieve a score of full compliance and must be inclusive of at least two separate actions.

If a G7 member takes action to take steps to enable digital infrastructure in an African region or take steps to enable digital infrastructure in an excluded or underserved African region or country, a score of 0 or partial compliance will be assigned.

A score of no compliance will also be awarded if a G7 member takes no action to either of the two thresholds of the commitment.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does NOT take steps to enable digital infrastructure in an African region OR take steps to enable digital infrastructure in an excluded or underserved African region or country.
0	G7 member takes steps to enable digital infrastructure in an African region OR to enable digital infrastructure in an excluded or underserved African region or country.
+1	G7 member takes steps to enable digital infrastructure in an African region AND takes steps to enable digital infrastructure in an excluded or underserved African region or country.

*Compliance Director: Joe Wu
Lead Analyst: Priscilla Layarda*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to enable digital infrastructure by enabling digital infrastructure in an African region and in one isolated/excluded/underserved country.

On 27 August 2019, a funding partnership of CAD6.7 million was signed by Sustainable Development Technology Canada owned by the Canadian Federal government and Ecopia Tech to digitally map the SubSaharan African Region.²¹ The project intends to promote data-driven decisions in African countries in areas including the environment, economy, health care and vaccination, and infrastructure.²² The project expects a total of 38 million kilometres of roads, 342 million buildings and 582 million hectares of forest to be included in the digital map.²³

On 10 February 2020, during a visit to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that Canada will support the growth of small and medium-sized businesses and

²¹ Sub-Saharan Africa: Canada funds first digital map for renewables, Smart Energy International (Rondebosch) 27 August 2019. Access Date: 09 December 2019. <https://www.smart-energy.com/industry-sectors/business-finance-regulation/sub-saharan-africa-canada-funds-first-digital-map-for-renewables/>

²² Sub-Saharan Africa: Canada funds first digital map for renewables, Smart Energy International (Rondebosch) 27 August 2019. Access Date: 09 December 2019. <https://www.smart-energy.com/industry-sectors/business-finance-regulation/sub-saharan-africa-canada-funds-first-digital-map-for-renewables/>

²³ Sustainable Development Technology Canada Funds Ecopia Tech Corporation to Map All of Sub-Saharan Africa, Financial Post (Toronto): 22 August 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <https://business.financialpost.com/pmn/press-releases-pmn/business-wire-news-releases-pmn/sustainable-development-technology-canada-funds-ecopia-tech-corporation-to-map-all-of-sub-saharan-africa>

entrepreneurs particularly those owned by youth and women in Ethiopia.²⁴ Canada will provide CAD12.9 million to the Digital Opportunity Trust and CAD8.5 million to RENEW (an impact investment firm) to support Ethiopian Youth with digital solutions and technology.²⁵

Canada has taken actions to enable the development digital infrastructure in one African region and an action enabling digital infrastructure in one isolated/excluded/underserved country.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Omar Abdellatif

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to enable digital infrastructure, by enabling digital infrastructure in an African region but not in an isolated/excluded/underserved country.

On 9 December 2019, France announced that it had created a EUR15 million seed fund to expand Africa's "digital ecosystem."²⁶ This fund seek to help small and medium enterprises in 45 African countries which lacks funding.²⁷ The Agence Française de Développement (Afd) will be running this initiative.²⁸ Each emerging start-up can receive a maximum of EUR300,000 via "AFD's local partners."²⁹

On 9 April 2020, France approved financial donations to the "COVID-19 – Health in Common" initiative, which collected EUR1.2 billion to help vulnerable countries address the short-term health and economic challenges that posed by the pandemic.³⁰

On 30 April 2020, the French National Research Agency pledged EUR20 million in funding for research and innovation projects "coordinated by a higher education establishment in an African country and one or more French establishments."³¹ This initiative is made open to 18 African countries, namely "Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros,

²⁴ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Prime Minister of Canada (Addis Ababa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 09 March 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

²⁵ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Prime Minister of Canada (Addis Ababa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 09 March 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

²⁶ AFD Group: Driver For African Start-Ups, Agence française de développement (AFD) (Paris). 09 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups>

²⁷ AFD Group: Driver For African Start-Ups, Agence française de développement (AFD) (Paris). 09 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups>

²⁸ AFD: Towards A World In Common, Agence française de développement (AFD) (Paris). Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en>

²⁹ AFD Group: Driver For African Start-Ups, Agence française de développement (AFD) (Paris). 09 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups>

³⁰ France Launches, via AFD, The "Covid-19 – Health in Common" Initiative to Support African Countries (9 April 2020), AFD (Paris). 9 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/france-launches-afd-covid-19-health-common-initiative-support-african-countries>

³¹ Press release – Launch of the Partnerships with African Higher Education (PEA) programme: France strengthens its support to African universities, France Diplomacy (Paris). 30 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/educational-cooperation/news/article/press-release-launch-of-the-partnerships-with-african-higher-education-pea>

Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo.”³²

France has taken an action to foster digital infrastructure in an African region but has not taken specific actions to enable digital infrastructure in an isolated/excluded/underserved country.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mark Edwards

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to enable digital infrastructure, by enabling digital infrastructure in an African region and in multiple isolated/excluded/underserved countries.

On 30 October 2019, Germany held the 6th German-African Healthcare Forum, sponsored by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), where a “recurring theme” was “the need for support with IT-infrastructure.”³³

On 18 November 2019, Germany announced the launch of seven flagship digital projects in Africa.³⁴ The BMZ announced an investment of EUR270 Million in over 200 digital projects across Africa.³⁵ Development Minister Gerd Müller announced the launch of the Africa Cloud Initiative that will provide “e-learning opportunities to young people in remote and rural areas of Africa.”³⁶ Other projects include the Digital Africa Initiative, with EUR150 million distributed between over 50 projects to “strengthen good governance using internet-based public participation methods,”³⁷ the Make-IT Initiative that focuses on “supporting the digital start-up scene” in countries such as Kenya, Rwanda, Nigeria, Ghana and Tunisia,³⁸ and Digital Centres to provide technical expertise,

³² Press release – Launch of the Partnerships with African Higher Education (PEA) programme: France strengthens its support to African universities, France Diplomacy (Paris). 30 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/educational-cooperation/news/article/press-release-launch-of-the-partnerships-with-african-higher-education-pea>.

³³ African ministers meet German innovators and investors, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. 30 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. http://health.bmz.de/events/Events_2019/african_ministers_meet_german_innovators_investors/index.html

³⁴ Minister Müller announces launch of Africa Cloud initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. 18 November 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191118_pm_065_Minister-Mueller-announces-launch-of-Africa-Cloud-initiative/index.html

³⁵ Minister Müller announces launch of Africa Cloud initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. 18 November 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191118_pm_065_Minister-Mueller-announces-launch-of-Africa-Cloud-initiative/index.html

³⁶ Minister Müller announces launch of Africa Cloud initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. 18 November 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191118_pm_065_Minister-Mueller-announces-launch-of-Africa-Cloud-initiative/index.html

³⁷ Minister Müller announces launch of Africa Cloud initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. 18 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191118_pm_065_Minister-Mueller-announces-launch-of-Africa-Cloud-initiative/index.html

³⁸ Minister Müller announces launch of Africa Cloud initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. 18 November 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191118_pm_065_Minister-Mueller-announces-launch-of-Africa-Cloud-initiative/index.html

information technology theory and digital entrepreneurship “under one roof.”³⁹ To date, Digital Centres have been built in Tunisia, Senegal, Kenya, Ghana and Rwanda with the aim of enabling a “pan-African network.”⁴⁰

On 26 November 2019, Chancellor Angela Merkel spoke about the necessity of “improv[ing] internet access and equal participation in the digital transformation.”⁴¹

Germany has taken actions to enable digital infrastructure in the Africa region and in multiple isolated/excluded/underserved countries.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mark Edwards

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to enable digital infrastructure in the Africa region and enable digital infrastructure in one isolated/excluded/underserved country.

On 13 December 2019, Italy’s Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Emanuela Del Re, hosted an inaugural meeting of the South Africa-Italy Bilateral Consultations with the Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa, Alvin Botes.⁴² Vice-Minister Del Re emphasized Italy’s wish to enhance their relationship through investments and technologies.⁴³

On 13 February 2020, Vice-Minister Del Re attended a meeting regarding Africa and Cooperation with Josep Borrell, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.⁴⁴ The meeting focused on digital technologies, Africa’s “green transition,” and growth and

³⁹ Minister Muller announces launch of Africa Cloud initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. 18 November 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191118_pm_065_Minister-Mueller-announces-launch-of-Africa-Cloud-initiative/index.html

⁴⁰ Minister Muller announces launch of Africa Cloud initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. 18 November 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191118_pm_065_Minister-Mueller-announces-launch-of-Africa-Cloud-initiative/index.html

⁴¹ Speech by Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel opening the 14th Annual Meeting of the Internet Governance Forum in Berlin on 26 November 2019, Federal Ministry on Economic Cooperation and Development. 26 November 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-opening-the-14th-annual-meeting-of-the-internet-governance-forum-in-berlin-on-26-november-2019-1701494>

⁴² Deputy Minister Botes to host Bilateral Consultations with his Italian counterpart, Department of Foreign Affairs (Pretoria). 30 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <http://www.dirco.gov.za/docs/2019/media1212.htm>

⁴³ Del Re Attends Italy-South Africa Bilateral Political Consultations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome). 13 December 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/12/del-re-a-consultazioni-politiche-bilaterali-italia-sudafrica.html

⁴⁴ Del Re in Brussels, meeting on Africa and Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome). 13 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/02/del-re-a-bruxelles-riunione-su-africa-e-cooperazione.html

employment.⁴⁵ Vice-Minister Del Re expressed Italy's desire for supporting Africa through these transitions.⁴⁶

Italy has taken action in enabling digital infrastructure in an isolated/excluded/underserved country, but has not taken a concrete action toward enabling digital infrastructure in another African country or region.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Sophie Sondhelm and Priscilla Layarda

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to enable digital infrastructure, by enabling digital infrastructure in the Africa region, but not in an isolated/excluded/underserved country.

From 28 August to 30 August 2019, Japan co-hosted the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) with the United Nations, United Nations Development Programme, World Bank, and African Union (AU) Commission.⁴⁷ The conference was attended by “42 African leaders from 53 African countries, 52 development partner countries, 108 heads of international and regional organizations, and representatives of civil society and the private sector.”⁴⁸ Japan pledged to assist the development of digital infrastructure in Africa through “develop[ing] 5,000 highly skilled people for Science Technology and Innovation (STI) [including artificial intelligence] at Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST) and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT).”⁴⁹ E-JUST received 150 African students to develop their “information and communications technology (ICT) talents.”⁵⁰ Other areas of cooperation include developing ICT talents through “supporting the development, operation and utilization of small satellites, including small satellites deployment from the Japanese Experiment module “kibo” of International Space Station and satellite data to solve social issues.”⁵¹

Between 28 August and 31 August 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe “held 47 meetings with leaders from 42 countries and the chair of the AU Commission, 3 heads of international organizations and 1 private invitee,” while Foreign Minister Kono Taro “held 25 bilateral meetings with ministers of African countries and heads of international organizations.” In one of the meetings on 29 August 2019 between Mr. Kono Taro and H. Dr. Unity Dow, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International

⁴⁵ Del Re in Brussels, meeting on Africa and Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome). 13 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/02/del-re-a-bruxelles-riunione-su-africa-e-cooperazione.html

⁴⁶ Del Re in Brussels, meeting on Africa and Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome). 13 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/zcomunicati/2020/02/del-re-a-bruxelles-riunione-su-africa-e-cooperazione.html

⁴⁷ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) (Yokohama, 28th - 30th August, 2019), Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/afr/af2/page25e_000274.html

⁴⁸ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) (Yokohama, 28th - 30th August, 2019), Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/afr/af2/page25e_000274.html

⁴⁹ Summary of results, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>

⁵⁰ Summary of results, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>

⁵¹ Summary of results, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>

Cooperation of the Republic of Botswana,⁵² Japan expressed its support for Botswana “in expanding the use of the Japanese system of the digital terrestrial broadcasting that Botswana has adopted.”⁵³

On 27 September 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, delivered a speech at the Europa Connectivity Forum which re-emphasized Japan’s commitment to “from now choose ten priority countries in Africa each year for the next three years, for a gross total of thirty countries, and provide their officials with training in sovereign debt and risk management.”⁵⁴

On 27 September 2019, during the official announcement of EU-Japan Connectivity Partnership, the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, and the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, promised Africa to be the “geographical spaces of special concern for the new partnership.”⁵⁵

Japan has taken actions to enable the development of digital infrastructure in the Africa region, but has not taken specific actions to address digital infrastructure development in isolated/excluded/underserved countries.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Lauren Hung

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to enable digital infrastructure, by enabling digital infrastructure in the African region and in multiple isolated/excluded/underserved countries.

On 6 May 2019, Secretary of Britain’s Department of International Development (DFID) urged “basic connectivity of underserved communities, digital skills and investment in EdTech solutions, support in digital ID [identification] deployment, partnerships on digital financial services, and the promotion of digital ecosystems and entrepreneurship.”⁵⁶ The secretary, however, did not elaborate on the specific plans to improve such conditions.

On 14 October 2019, United Kingdom’s Minister for Africa, Andrew Stephenson, announced the UK-Africa Investment Summit which will take place on 20 January 2020. The summit aims to “mobilise new and substantial investment to create jobs and boost mutual prosperity”⁵⁷ through commercial partnerships in building technological infrastructure.⁵⁸ Additionally, it was announced

⁵² Japan-Botswana Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/afr/af2/bw/page3e_001073.html

⁵³ Japan-Botswana Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/afr/af2/bw/page3e_001073.html

⁵⁴ “Japan and the EU: The Strong and Steady Pillars Supporting Many Bridges”– Keynote Speech by the Prime Minister at the Europa Connectivity Forum, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2020. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/98_abe/statement/201909/_00003.html

⁵⁵ Discours d’ouverture du Président Jean-Claude Juncker au Europa Connectivity Forum, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/fr/SPEECH_19_5909

⁵⁶ Achieving Africa’s Digital Transformation is an Ambition that Requires Game-changing cooperation, World Bank (Washington D.C) May 6, 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2019/05/06/achieving-africas-digital-transformation-is-an-ambition-that-requires-game-changing-cooperation>.

⁵⁷ UK-Africa Investment Summit 2020, Government of the United Kingdom (London) N.D. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/uk-africa-investment-summit-2020/about>.

⁵⁸ FT Africa Summit 2019: Minister for Africa’s speech, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/speech-by-andrew-stephenson-minister-for-africa-to-ft-africa-summit-october-2019>.

that an Infrastructure Commission was established to secure sustainable development and technological innovation in Africa.⁵⁹

On 20 January 2020, the UK held the UK-Africa Investment Summit in London with 21 African countries represented.⁶⁰ DFID funded GBP45 million to the “Digital Access Program” to increase connectivity, digital skills of marginalized community, build cybersecurity capacity and establish local Tech Hubs to grow local digital economies and empower startups with technical skills⁶¹ The Digital Access programs will be implemented across Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa.⁶² The CDC Group, the UK’s development financial institution, also plans to invest up to GBP2 billion in Africa over the next two years.^{63,64}

United Kingdom has taken actions to enable digital infrastructure in the Africa region and in multiple isolated/excluded/underserved countries.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.⁶⁵

Analyst: Michael Levinson

United States: –1

The United States has not complied with its commitment to enable digital infrastructure in the Africa region and or in one isolated/excluded/underserved country.

On 30 September 2019, the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) in partnership with Atlas Mara announced an agreement to provide USD200 million in financing for the Union Bank of Nigeria to support inclusive lending across Nigeria.⁶⁶ The loan will enable

⁵⁹ FT Africa Summit 2019: Minister for Africa’s speech, Government of the United Kingdom(London14 October 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/speech-by-andrew-stephenson-minister-for-africa-to-ft-africa-summit-october-2019>.

⁶⁰ UK Government Statement UK-Africa Investment Summit 2020, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf

⁶¹ UK Government Statement UK-Africa Investment Summit 2020, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf

⁶² UK Government Statement UK-Africa Investment Summit 2020, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf

⁶³ UK Government Statement UK-Africa Investment Summit 2020, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf

⁶⁴ UK aims to be Africa’s partner of choice for trade and investment, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment>

⁶⁵ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: www.gov.uk, www.worldbank.org, www.bbc.com, www.economist.com, www.ft.com.

⁶⁶ Atlas Mara, OPIC and UBN Partner to Fund \$200 Million for Inclusive Lending in Nigeria, US International Development Finance Corporation (Washington). 30 September 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.dfc.gov/media/opic-press-releases/atlas-mara-opic-and-ubn-partner-fund-200-million-inclusive-lending>

investments in digitization, lending to Small and Medium Enterprises and funding for women-led businesses as part of the 2X Women's Initiative.⁶⁷

On 12 November 2019, at the Africa Investment Forum in Johannesburg, South Africa, Adam Boehler, Chief Executive Officer of the DFC, announced at the first disbursement of a USD40 Million loan to Tetra4 Proprietary Ltd. to support the development of critical gas infrastructure and advance energy security in South Africa.⁶⁸ The project will introduce new technology to South Africa with important applications in telecommunications and other sectors.⁶⁹

On 17 March 2020, US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, touted potential investment opportunities in Africa as an alternative to the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative.⁷⁰

On 5 March 2020, the US announced a commitment to invest USD5 billion in Ethiopia through the DFC to support the nation's private sector.⁷¹

The United States has not taken actions to enable digital infrastructure in the Africa region and in multiple isolated/excluded/underserved countries.

Thus, the United States receives a score of -1.⁷²

Analyst: Michael Levinson

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to enable digital infrastructure in the African region and in multiple isolated/excluded/underserved countries.

On 27 September 2019, during the official announcement of EU-Japan Connectivity Partnership, the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, and the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, promised Africa to be the "geographical spaces of special concern for the new partnership."⁷³

On 15 October 2019, the official launch of the "Digital Explorers" programme financed by the European Commission Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs took place in the

⁶⁷ Atlas Mara, OPIC and UBN Partner to Fund \$200 Million for Inclusive Lending in Nigeria, US International Development Finance Corporation (Washington, DC). 30 September 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019.

⁶⁸ U.S. Provides Financing to Tetra4 to Develop Energy Infrastructure in South Africa, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (Washington, DC) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019.

⁶⁹ Information Summary for the Public, OPIC (United States) N.D. Access Date: 15 December 2019.

⁷⁰ Pompeo touts US investment as alternative to Chinese loans on Africa trip, France 24 (Paris) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200217-pompeo-touts-us-investment-as-alternative-to-chinese-loans-on-africa-trip>.

⁷¹ US ready to back Ethiopian reform with \$5bn investment, Financial Times (London) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.ft.com/content/b0c2963c-5e1a-11ea-8033-fa40a0d65a98>.

⁷² This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: www.dfc.gov, www.opic.gov, www.eda.gov, www.worldbank.org.

⁷³ Discours d'ouverture du Président Jean-Claude Juncker au Europa Connectivity Forum, European Commission (Brussels) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/fr/SPEECH_19_5909

Lithuanian capital.⁷⁴ The programme aims to enhance the EU-African cooperation in information and communication technologies (ICT).⁷⁵ Lithuanian experts will engage with Nigerian ICT specialists in efforts to digitalize public services, secure critical cyber infrastructures, and develop mobile products or e-commerce platforms in Africa and Nigeria.⁷⁶ Elėjus Čivilis, the Vice Minister of Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania stated: “the programme brings together public, non-profit and private organizations from EU, Lithuania and Nigeria and looks for innovative ways for exploiting the potential of digitalization.”⁷⁷

On 12 November 2019, simultaneously in Luxembourg at the European Investment Bank (EIB) headquarters and at the Africa Investment Forum in Johannesburg, South Africa, the EIB launched the SheInvest initiative mobilising EUR1 billion for women across Africa.⁷⁸ Guided by the 2X Challenge Criteria, the EIB aims to invest in projects, sectors and markets that have “transformative effects on gender equality and can increase the capacity of women and girls to participate in the economy and labour market.”⁷⁹ The initiative will provide technical assistance in providing capacity building and mentoring to women entrepreneurs to “better access finance” and to design “financial products tailored to their needs.”⁸⁰ The initiative will focus on investment in “innovative digital solutions and financial products” to reach women and girls often excluded from such services to “increase the economic opportunities and social inclusion.”⁸¹

On 18 December 2019, the European Union granted the “Africa Connect” project, EUR30 million to fund the implementation of the third phase of the project, connecting 800 academic institutions across the African continent with high-speed internet capacity and affordable connectivity.⁸² The fund will be distributed to three research and academic networks, each covering a different region: UbuntuNet Alliance (Eastern and Southern Africa), WACREN (Western and Central Africa), and ASREN (Northern Africa and Middle East). The European Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen stated: “affordable high-speed broadband connectivity enables African

⁷⁴ “Digital Explorers” at the Forefront of EU - Africa Digital Partnership, Enterprise Lithuania (Vilnius) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.enterpriselithuania.com/en/news/digital-explorers-forefront-eu-africa-digital-partnership/>

⁷⁵ “Digital Explorers” at the Forefront of EU - Africa Digital Partnership, Enterprise Lithuania (Vilnius) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.enterpriselithuania.com/en/news/digital-explorers-forefront-eu-africa-digital-partnership/>

⁷⁶ “Digital Explorers” at the Forefront of EU - Africa Digital Partnership, Enterprise Lithuania (Vilnius) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.enterpriselithuania.com/en/news/digital-explorers-forefront-eu-africa-digital-partnership/>

⁷⁷ “Digital Explorers” at the Forefront of EU - Africa Digital Partnership, Enterprise Lithuania (Vilnius) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.enterpriselithuania.com/en/news/digital-explorers-forefront-eu-africa-digital-partnership/>

⁷⁸ SheInvest-New Initiative to mobilise EUR 1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019 <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>

⁷⁹ SheInvest-New Initiative to mobilise EUR 1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019 <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>

⁸⁰ SheInvest-New Initiative to mobilise EUR 1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019 <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>

⁸¹ SheInvest-New Initiative to mobilise EUR 1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019 <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>

⁸² Africa-Europe Alliance: EU boosts pan-African Internet connectivity with €30 million, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/africa-europe-alliance-eu-boosts-pan-african-internet-connectivity-eu30-million_en

youths, students, and researchers to boost collaborative scientific research with their peers around the world to help them tackle challenges in Africa. This is an important step towards tackling the digital divide.”⁸³

On 27 January 2020, the EIB signed a partnership with UNICEF to help equip children in South and West Africa, Central Asia and Europe with the digital, entrepreneurial and business skills demanded by the labour market, through equitable education.⁸⁴ European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights Nicolas Schmit stated: “The social agenda of this European Commission aims for a more certain future for our children and young people.⁸⁵ We want to protect them from poverty and make sure they have access to the skills and training they need to navigate the green and digital transitions.”⁸⁶

On 27 February 2020, EIB President Werner Hoyer announced at the EIB-UN Habitat Africa Day 2020 conference in Dakar, a total of EUR63 million new financing by the EIB to promote access to digital finance, banking skills development, new job opportunities and the stimulation of infrastructure development in Senegal and Africa.⁸⁷

On 27 February 2020, the European Union Commission and the African Union Commission (AUC) agreed during the 10th AUC-EC Commission-to-Commission (C2C) meeting in Addis Ababa to stimulate digital infrastructure and establish a single secured digital market in Africa by 2030.⁸⁸ The EU and AUC also agreed on promoting digital entrepreneurship and innovation in addition to the skill development of youth to meet with the demands of digital economy and ICT markets.⁸⁹

On 9 March 2020, the European Commission and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy published the initiative “Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa.”⁹⁰ The strategy sets out a roadmap to promote joint cooperation and partnerships between the European

⁸³ Africa-Europe Alliance: EU boosts pan-African Internet connectivity with €30 million, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/africa-europe-alliance-eu-boosts-pan-african-internet-connectivity-eu30-million_en

⁸⁴ European Investment Bank and UNICEF partner to help improve access to quality education and protect children from climate change, UNICEF (New York) 27 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/european-investment-bank-and-unicef-partner-help-improve-access-quality-education>

⁸⁵ European Investment Bank and UNICEF partner to help improve access to quality education and protect children from climate change, UNICEF (New York) 27 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/european-investment-bank-and-unicef-partner-help-improve-access-quality-education>

⁸⁶ European Investment Bank and UNICEF partner to help improve access to quality education and protect children from climate change, UNICEF (New York) 27 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/european-investment-bank-and-unicef-partner-help-improve-access-quality-education>

⁸⁷ President Macky Sall and EIB President welcome EUR 63 million of new deals to support business growth and banking skills in Senegal and across Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 27 February 2020. Access Date: 13 March 2020 <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2020-071-president-macky-sall-and-eib-president-welcome-eur-63-million-of-new-deals-to-support-business-growth-and-banking-skills-in-senegal-and-across-africa>

⁸⁸ 10th African Union Commission-European Commission Meeting-Joint Communiqué, European Commission (Brussels) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 8 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_20_365

⁸⁹ 10th African Union Commission-European Commission Meeting-Joint Communiqué, European Commission (Brussels) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 8 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_20_365

⁹⁰ Joint communication to the European Parliament and the Council: Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 30 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/communication-eu-africa-strategy-join-2020-4-final_en.pdf

Union and the African Union in five key sectors including digital transformation.⁹¹ The strategy proposes boosting Africa's digital transformation through actions such as investing in digital infrastructure, expanding digital access, promotion of e-governance and digital financial services, in addition to the digitalisation of public administration.⁹²

The European Union has taken actions to enable digital infrastructure in multiple African regions and multiple isolated/excluded/underserved countries.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Omar Abdellatif

⁹¹ Joint communication to the European Parliament and the Council: Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 30 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/communication-eu-africa-strategy-join-2020-4-final_en.pdf

⁹² Joint communication to the European Parliament and the Council: Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 30 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/communication-eu-africa-strategy-join-2020-4-final_en.pdf

2. Digital Economy: Digital Democracy

“We are determined to work collaboratively to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behavior and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.”

Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Overall Score		+1.00 (100%)	

Background

The relatively recent introduction of digital issues into the G7 agenda began with a variety of commitments that sought to harness the power of the digital transformation to improve governance and accountability, most notably in the G8 Open Data Charter adopted at the 2013 Lough Erne Summit.⁹³

The first discussion of the problems that the digital transformation posed for democratic institutions was introduced with the G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber adopted the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, which included a pledge to “take decisive and robust measures in close cooperation against malicious use of cyberspace both by states and non-state actors, including terrorists.”⁹⁴ Further commitments include both national and international cooperation to maintain the security and resilience of cyberspace.⁹⁵

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 committed to combatting the “misuse of the Internet by terrorists” in the G7 Taormina Statement on the Fight Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism.⁹⁶ Part of this commitment emphasized increased engagement with civil society, youth and others at risk of radicalization.⁹⁷

The 2018 Charlevoix Summit addressed the issues of this commitment feature in its Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, which committed to “strengthen G7 cooperation to prevent, thwart and respond to malign interference by foreign actors aimed at

⁹³ G8 Open Data Charter, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-open-data.html>.

⁹⁴ G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/cyber.html>.

⁹⁵ G7 Principles and Actions on Cyber, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/cyber.html>.

⁹⁶ G7 Taormina Statement on the Fight Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 May 2017. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/statement-on-terrorism-and-extremism.html>.

⁹⁷ G7 Taormina Statement on the Fight Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 May 2017. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/statement-on-terrorism-and-extremism.html>.

undermining the democratic processes and the national interests of a G7 member.⁹⁸ A key commitment in that document was the establishment of a G7 Rapid Response Mechanism to increase international coordination in the face of threats to democracy.⁹⁹

The 2019 Biarritz Summit outlined its commitments on digital democracy in the wide-ranging Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation.¹⁰⁰ The commitments in that document include upholding freedom of opinion and expression, the privacy and data protection issues raised by the digital transformation, and the potential of artificial intelligence to generate innovation and growth.¹⁰¹ The document also takes note of the work done by the G7 Rapid Response Mechanism established at the 2018 Charlevoix Summit.¹⁰²

Commitment Features

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit the G7 members committed to “work collaboratively to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behavior and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.” This commitment should be interpreted as having two dimensions required for compliance: domestic versus international actions, and reinforcing against hostile interference by state versus non-state actors.

A domestic action is an action that a G7 member undertakes to reinforce its own institutions against illicit and malign behaviour and foreign hostile interference while respecting the rights of freedom of opinion and expression. Relevant actions can include the promotion of positive narratives surrounding institutions and democracy. An international action is an action that a G7 member undertakes to reinforce global institutions or the institutions of their global partners against illicit and malign behavior and foreign hostile interference while respecting relevant international law and the laws of other jurisdictions.

Reinforcing against hostile interference by state actors involves the use of diplomacy, stronger security measures, and potentially sanctions against other states whose actions are undermining democratic institutions. Such actions could include the deliberate spread of misinformation, the infiltration of political institutions (including political parties), and attempts to use state resources to influence the outcomes of decision-making processes. Reinforcing against hostile interference by non-state actors includes the strengthening of anti-terrorism measures, the promotion of positive narratives surrounding democratic institutions, and cooperation with other states who are facing threats from similar or identical non-state actors.

As examples, an action taken by a country to regulate political advertising on social media during election campaigns would count as a domestic action that reinforces against non-state actors, whereas

⁹⁸ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

⁹⁹ Charlevoix Commitment on Defending Democracy from Foreign Threats, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/democracy-commitment.html>.

¹⁰⁰ Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-strategy-for-digital-transformation.html>.

¹⁰¹ Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-strategy-for-digital-transformation.html>.

¹⁰² Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-strategy-for-digital-transformation.html>.

an action taken to create a multilateral protocol to respond to attempted state-based interference in democratic institutions would count as an international action that reinforces against state actors.

Thus, to receive a score of full compliance, G7 members must take substantial action in three or four dimensions, including multiple actions in at least two dimensions to reinforce democracies against illicit and malign behaviour, as well as foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.

If action is only taken in two dimensions to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behaviour, as well as foreign and hostile interferences by state and non-state actors, a score of partial compliance, or 0 will be assigned.

A score of -1, or no compliance, will be assigned if the G7 member exemplifies demonstrable action in one or fewer dimensions to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behaviour, and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member takes action in ONE or fewer dimensions to reinforce democracy against illicit and malign behaviour, and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.
0	G7 member takes action in at least TWO dimensions to reinforce democracy against illicit and malign behaviour, and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.
+1	G7 member takes substantial action in THREE OR FOUR dimensions, including multiple action in at least two dimensions to reinforce democracy against illicit and malign behaviour, and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.

*Compliance Director: Christopher Sims
Lead Analyst: Emily Eng*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to “work collaboratively to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behaviour and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.”

Throughout September 2019, the Government of Canada launched programs as part of Canadian Heritage’s Digital Citizen Initiative.¹⁰³ The Government of Canada has invested almost CAD7 million in programs teaching citizens to think critically and recognize fake news.¹⁰⁴ This initiative protects citizens from being susceptible to disinformation.¹⁰⁵

¹⁰³ Backgrounder – Helping Citizens Critically Assess and Become Resilient Against Harmful Online Disinformation, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 August 2019. Access Date: 4 December 2019.
<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/news/2019/07/backgrounder--helping-citizens-critically-assess-and-become-resilient-against-harmful-online-disinformation.html>.

¹⁰⁴ Backgrounder – Helping Citizens Critically Assess and Become Resilient Against Harmful Online Disinformation, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 August 2019. Access Date: 4 December 2019.
<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/news/2019/07/backgrounder--helping-citizens-critically-assess-and-become-resilient-against-harmful-online-disinformation.html>.

¹⁰⁵ Backgrounder – Helping Citizens Critically Assess and Become Resilient Against Harmful Online Disinformation, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 August 2019. Access Date: 4 December 2019.
<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/news/2019/07/backgrounder--helping-citizens-critically-assess-and-become-resilient-against-harmful-online-disinformation.html>.

On 26 September 2019, the Government of Canada announced the Joint Initiative for Digital Citizen Research.¹⁰⁶ Canadian Heritage will partner with and provide funding to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, with the goal of better understanding the effects of online disinformation and finding the most effective programs and policies to counter online disinformation.¹⁰⁷

From 6 November to 9 November 2019, Canadian law makers represented Canada at the third meeting of the International Grand Committee on Disinformation and “Fake News” in Dublin, Ireland.¹⁰⁸ The goal of this meeting was to discuss how to collaboratively regulate the spread of disinformation on social media platforms.¹⁰⁹

On 12 March 2020, the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICP) Annual Report 2019 was tabled.¹¹⁰ This report examined threats posed by state and non-state actors against Canada’s democracy, and proposed recommendations to reduce threats.¹¹¹ These recommendations included “develop[ing] practical, whole-of-government operational and policy mechanisms to identify and respond to the activities of hostile states” and “updat[ing] existing legislation, such as the Security of Information Act or the Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act.”¹¹² The NSICP suggested using a sustained central leadership and coordination to implement these changes.¹¹³

Canada has taken both domestic and international actions toward reinforcing democratic institutions. Canada has acted to reinforce democratic institutions against state and non-state actors. These actions fulfil all four components of the commitment.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Isabelle Buchanan

¹⁰⁶ Joint Initiative for Digital Citizen Research, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 September 2019. Access Date: 4 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/online-disinformation/joint-initiative-digital-citizen-research.html>.

¹⁰⁷ Joint Initiative for Digital Citizen Research, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 September 2019. Access Date: 4 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/online-disinformation/joint-initiative-digital-citizen-research.html>.

¹⁰⁸ Update: International Grand Committee on Disinformation and ‘Fake News’ Dublin, Ireland – Wednesday 6 and Thursday 7 November 2019, Houses of the Oireachtas (Dublin) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/press-centre/press-releases/20191106-update-international-grand-committee-on-disinformation-and-fake-news-dublin-ireland-wednesday-6-and-thursday-7-november-2019/>.

¹⁰⁹ Update: International Grand Committee on Disinformation and ‘Fake News’ Dublin, Ireland – Wednesday 6 and Thursday 7 November 2019, Houses of the Oireachtas (Dublin) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/press-centre/press-releases/20191106-update-international-grand-committee-on-disinformation-and-fake-news-dublin-ireland-wednesday-6-and-thursday-7-november-2019/>.

¹¹⁰ National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians Annual Report 2019, National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (Ottawa) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. https://www.nsicop-cpsnr.ca/reports/rp-2020-03-12-ar/annual_report_2019_public_en.pdf.

¹¹¹ National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians Annual Report 2019, National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (Ottawa) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. https://www.nsicop-cpsnr.ca/reports/rp-2020-03-12-ar/annual_report_2019_public_en.pdf.

¹¹² National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians Annual Report 2019, National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (Ottawa) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. https://www.nsicop-cpsnr.ca/reports/rp-2020-03-12-ar/annual_report_2019_public_en.pdf.

¹¹³ National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians Annual Report 2019, National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (Ottawa) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. https://www.nsicop-cpsnr.ca/reports/rp-2020-03-12-ar/annual_report_2019_public_en.pdf.

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to “work collaboratively to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behaviour and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.” It has exemplified progress in three of the four dimensions, only failing to act in a multilateral fashion against state actors specifically.

On 31 August 2019, the Government of France officially accepted French translations of terms such as “data privacy” and “cyber espionage” for use in government and legislative contexts.¹¹⁴

On 28 November 2019, President Emmanuel Macron, speaking alongside NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, said he “requested [France’s government] services to work on [cybersecurity]” though never pointing out a particular operator or a particular actor to defend against.¹¹⁵

On 3 December 2019, the Government of France put out a news release regarding President Emmanuel Macron’s agenda at the NATO summit.¹¹⁶ Within the second priority issue, regarding a “common enemy,” France called on members to address “new security challenges, such as cybersecurity.”¹¹⁷

On 22 January 2020, the French Government’s Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des Systèmes d’Information (ANSSI) published its strategic direction “manifesto” for the next ten years, which places emphasis on national cybersecurity partnerships as well as strengthening its European commitments.¹¹⁸

On 29 January 2020, France developed a “5G Toolbox” following discussions with the European Commission and the European Agency for Cybersecurity. A 5G Toolbox identifies strategic measures to enhance cybersecurity including by diversifying network supply needs across multiple providers, and conducting risk assessments of such suppliers.¹¹⁹

On 29 January 2020, the ANSSI published a report on the subject of ransomware, which consists of malware attacks in which files or system access can be held hostage by an intervening third party.¹²⁰ Ransomware is considered “the most serious current IT [information technology] threat for

¹¹⁴ Vocabulaire du droit (liste de termes, expressions et définitions adoptés), Government of France (Paris) 31 August 2019. Access date: 16 December 2019.

<https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=JORFTEXT000039002295&categorieLien=id>.

¹¹⁵ Joint press point with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg and the President of France Emmanuel Macron, NATO (Paris) 28 November 2019. Access date: 14 December 2019.

https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/opinions_170790.htm?selectedLocale=en.

¹¹⁶ NATO Summit, Government of France (Paris) 3 December 2019. Access date: 16 December 2019.

<https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/nato-summit>.

¹¹⁷ NATO Summit, Government of France (Paris) 3 December 2019. Access date: 16 December 2019.

<https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/nato-summit>.

¹¹⁸ l’ANSSI Dévoile ses Nouvelles Orientations Stratégiques pour les Années à Venir, Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des systèmes d’information (Paris) 22 January 2020. Access date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.ssi.gouv.fr/actualite/lanssi-devoile-ses-nouvelles-orientations-strategiques-pour-les-annees-a-venir/>.

¹¹⁹ La France Accueille Favorablement La Publication de la « Boîte à outils 5G », Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des Systèmes d’Information (Paris) 29 January 2020. Access date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.ssi.gouv.fr/actualite/la-france-accueille-favorablement-la-publication-de-la-boite-a-outils-5g/>.

¹²⁰ Rançongiciels - L’ANSSI Livre Son Analyse de la Menace pour les Entreprises et les Institutions, Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des Systèmes d’Information (Paris) 29 January 2020. Access date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.ssi.gouv.fr/actualite/rancongiels-lanssi-livre-son-analyse-de-la-menace-pour-les-entreprises-et-les-institutions/>.

businesses and institutions.”¹²¹ The report examined techniques of the perpetrators alongside costs of the victims, to provide more information about the threat and prevention efforts.¹²²

On 29 January 2020, ANSSI participated in the 12th Forum International de la Cybersécurité (FIC).¹²³ It used such a forum to call on the European Union to develop sovereignty in matters of “autonomy and leadership in cybersecurity” and to support European citizens and institutions in threat prevention.¹²⁴ For ANSSI, this “European sovereignty” will require “renewed efforts in terms of capacity developments, regulations, industrial policy, as well as governance adapted to the challenges.”¹²⁵ At the FIC, ANSSI expressed its interest in “cooperation with its European partners” and wants to “make this common set of rules operational” throughout the EU.¹²⁶

France has taken both domestic and international actions toward reinforcing democratic institutions. France has acted to reinforce democratic institutions against non-state actors. These actions fulfil three of the four components of the commitment.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alex Erickson

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to “work collaboratively to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behaviour and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.”

On 12 September 2019, German lawmakers introduced a new cloud-computing project, Gaia-X.¹²⁷ The cloud-computing platform was designed for European companies to store, process, exchange

¹²¹ Rançongiciels - L'ANSSI Livre Son Analyse de la Menace pour les Entreprises et les Institutions, Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des Systèmes d'Information (Paris) 29 January 2020. Access date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.ssi.gouv.fr/actualite/ranconciels-lanssi-livre-son-analyse-de-la-menace-pour-les-entreprises-et-les-institutions/>.

¹²² Rançongiciels - L'ANSSI Livre Son Analyse de la Menace pour les Entreprises et les Institutions, Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des Systèmes d'Information (Paris) 29 January 2020. Access date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.ssi.gouv.fr/actualite/ranconciels-lanssi-livre-son-analyse-de-la-menace-pour-les-entreprises-et-les-institutions/>.

¹²³ FIC 2020: L'ANSSI Plaide pour une Souveraineté Européenne en Matière de Cybersécurité, Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des systèmes d'information, (Paris) 29 January 2020. Access date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.ssi.gouv.fr/actualite/fic-2020-lanssi-plaide-pour-une-souverainete-europeenne-en-matiere-de-cybersecurite/>.

¹²⁴ FIC 2020: L'ANSSI Plaide pour une Souveraineté Européenne en Matière de Cybersécurité, Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des systèmes d'information, (Paris) 29 January 2020. Access date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.ssi.gouv.fr/actualite/fic-2020-lanssi-plaide-pour-une-souverainete-europeenne-en-matiere-de-cybersecurite/>.

¹²⁵ FIC 2020: L'ANSSI Plaide pour une Souveraineté Européenne en Matière de Cybersécurité, Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des systèmes d'information, (Paris) 29 January 2020. Access date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.ssi.gouv.fr/actualite/fic-2020-lanssi-plaide-pour-une-souverainete-europeenne-en-matiere-de-cybersecurite/>.

¹²⁶ FIC 2020: L'ANSSI Plaide pour une Souveraineté Européenne en Matière de Cybersécurité, Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des systèmes d'information, (Paris) 29 January 2020. Access date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.ssi.gouv.fr/actualite/fic-2020-lanssi-plaide-pour-une-souverainete-europeenne-en-matiere-de-cybersecurite/>.

¹²⁷ Germany's Plan to Control its own Data, Politico (Berlin) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.politico.eu/article/germanys-plan-to-control-its-own-data-digital-infrastructure/>.

data, and cooperate on developing products.¹²⁸ The idea of the project came over fears of heavy reliance of foreign-owned cloud platforms which have been known for data interference practices.¹²⁹ German lawmakers claim that Gaia-X will not cut the country off from the global-supply chain or end divisions of labour, but instead will enable Germany's "digital infrastructures to run independently if they were ever to be cut off from foreign cloud providers."¹³⁰

On 8 November 2019, German Data Protection Authorities released new temporary guidelines for fining companies that violate the regulations set out by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).¹³¹ The fines are classified as minor, moderate, severe and very severe.¹³² Following the announcement of the new enforcement procedures on online platforms, the Berlin Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information issued a EUR14.5 million fine against a real estate agency for unjustified retention of customer data.¹³³

On 18 November 2019, the Bundestag Budget Committee approved 67 new posts to the Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information.¹³⁴ The federal supervisory authority plans to push the implementation of the GDPR by imposing new regulations that will limit and block tracking across all devices and platforms, and curtailing insufficient technical protection of data.¹³⁵

Germany took actions to strengthen cybersecurity through domestic policy changes, thus fulfilling the domestic dimension. Germany took actions to reinforce democratic institutions against both state and non-state actors. These actions fulfill three of the four dimensions of the commitment.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Yousef Choudhri

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to "work collaboratively to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behaviour and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors."

¹²⁸ Germany's Plan to Control its own Data, Politico (Berlin) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.politico.eu/article/germanys-plan-to-control-its-own-data-digital-infrastructure/>.

¹²⁹ Germany's Plan to Control its own Data, Politico (Berlin) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.politico.eu/article/germanys-plan-to-control-its-own-data-digital-infrastructure/>.

¹³⁰ Germany's Plan to Control its own Data, Politico (Berlin) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.politico.eu/article/germanys-plan-to-control-its-own-data-digital-infrastructure/>.

¹³¹ How are German Data Protection Authorities going to determine a fine? / EUR 14.5 million fine imposed by Berlin DPA, Baker McKenzie (Berlin) November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/-/media/files/insight/publications/2019/11/client-alert-dpa-concept-for-fines-final.pdf>.

¹³² How are German Data Protection Authorities going to determine a fine? / EUR 14.5 million fine imposed by Berlin DPA, Baker McKenzie (Berlin) November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/-/media/files/insight/publications/2019/11/client-alert-dpa-concept-for-fines-final.pdf>.

¹³³ How are German Data Protection Authorities going to determine a fine? / EUR 14.5 million fine imposed by Berlin DPA, Baker McKenzie (Berlin) November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bakermckenzie.com/-/media/files/insight/publications/2019/11/client-alert-dpa-concept-for-fines-final.pdf>.

¹³⁴ The Bundestag strengthens the data protection supervisory authority, Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information (Berlin) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.bfdi.bund.de/EN/Home/Press_Release/2019/28_Budget-BfDI.html.

¹³⁵ The Bundestag strengthens the data protection supervisory authority, Federal Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information (Berlin) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.bfdi.bund.de/EN/Home/Press_Release/2019/28_Budget-BfDI.html.

On 21 September 2019, the Italian Government adopted the Law Decree n. 105 as part of the implementation of a comprehensive national cybersecurity framework.¹³⁶ The decree requires that individuals in the public and private sectors, who serve functions that are key components of the national security system, disclose relevant information to the Council of Ministers and the Minister of Economic Development and comply with measures aimed at upholding a high level of national security.¹³⁷

On 22 December 2019, Industry Minister Stefano Patuanelli announced that Chinese telecommunication firm Huawei, should be allowed to participate in the development of Italy's future 5G network.¹³⁸ The announcement was released after the parliamentary security committee, Copasir, stated that the government should consider preventing Huawei from participating in the development of a future 5G network.¹³⁹

Italy has taken domestic actions toward reinforcing democratic institutions. Italy has acted to reinforce democratic institutions against state and non-state actors. These actions fulfil three of the four components of the commitment.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Eunice Yong

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to “work collaboratively to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behaviour and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.”

On 9 to 13 September 2019, a Japanese delegation, which included Japanese Deputy Assistant Minister Satoshi Akahori, Foreign Policy Bureau, attended the first meeting of the United Nations Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Cybersecurity held in New York.¹⁴⁰ On 9 September 2019, Akahori stated that Japan increased its international collaboration in three areas: “promotion of the rule of law, confidence-building measures, and capacity-building.”¹⁴¹ He reaffirmed Japan's position that “existing international law applies in cyberspace” and expressed Japanese support for the upcoming Group of Governmental Experts on cybersecurity.¹⁴²

¹³⁶ Italy towards an effective National Cyber Security Strategy, Lexology (Rome) 26 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=bfe7f1d9-d5ea-4126-adf6-e74a58096249>.

¹³⁷ Italy towards an effective National Cyber Security Strategy, Lexology (Rome) 26 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=bfe7f1d9-d5ea-4126-adf6-e74a58096249>.

¹³⁸ Huawei should be allowed 5G role in Italy: Industry minister, Reuters (Rome) 22 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-5g-security-patuanelli/huawei-should-be-allowed-5g-role-in-italy-industry-minister-idUSKBN1YQ0D7>.

¹³⁹ Huawei should be allowed 5G role in Italy: Industry minister, Reuters (Rome) 22 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-5g-security-patuanelli/huawei-should-be-allowed-5g-role-in-italy-industry-minister-idUSKBN1YQ0D7>.

¹⁴⁰ The UN Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) on Cybersecurity 1st Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 September 2019. Access Date: 2 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002616.html.

¹⁴¹ Statement by H.E. Mr. Takeshi Akahori, Ambassador in charge of Cyber Policy, Deputy Assistant Minister, Foreign Policy Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, At the Open Ended Working Group on Information and Communications, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000515730.pdf>.

¹⁴² Statement by H.E. Mr. Takeshi Akahori, Ambassador in charge of Cyber Policy, Deputy Assistant Minister, Foreign Policy Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, At the Open Ended Working Group on Information and Communications, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000515730.pdf>.

On 9 to 12 September 2019, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the Industrial Cyber Security Center of Excellence (ICSCoE) under the information-technology Promotion Agency (IPA), hosted the Japan-US Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Training in Tokyo.¹⁴³ American and Japanese experts delivered lectures on the security of control systems of critical infrastructure.¹⁴⁴ Attendees were from 14 countries and regions in the Indo-Pacific region.¹⁴⁵

On 9 October 2019, Japan and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), held defence staff talks on cybersecurity to assess current cyber threats and policies.¹⁴⁶ Officials compared notes on current efforts in strengthening cyber defence.¹⁴⁷ They also affirmed commitment in “[supporting] a norms-based, predictable, and secure cyberspace.”¹⁴⁸ Japanese Director of Strategic Planning Division at the Ministry of Defence Kyosuke Matsumoto, said Japan gave priority to “strengthening our cyber defence capability” and Japan valued “effectively cooperate with other like-minded countries to take prompt and appropriate actions against cyberattacks.”¹⁴⁹

On 11 October 2019, Japan hosted the 7th US-Japan Cyber Dialogue in Tokyo.¹⁵⁰ Representatives of both countries reaffirmed their commitment in confronting emerging cyber challenges, including “shared commitment to deter cyber adversaries and malicious cyber activities, to protect the cybersecurity of critical infrastructure, to enhance information sharing, to improve military-to-military cyber cooperation, and to address international security issues in cyberspace.”¹⁵¹

On 18 October 2019, the Japanese government increased the budget for cybersecurity from JPY71.29 billion to JPY88.11 billion.¹⁵² The new budget distributed more fundings for unauthorized communication monitoring, operation cost of the Cyber Security Council, cyber security awareness-raising projects, and international collaboration.¹⁵³

On 29 October 2019, Japan and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) held the 12th Policy Conference on Cyber Security. These countries affirmed commitments on “strengthening information sharing systems and response systems in the event of cyber incidents, promoting

¹⁴³ Japan - US Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Training for Indo-Pacific Region Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 2 December 2019.

https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0912_002.html.

¹⁴⁴ Japan - US Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Training for Indo-Pacific Region Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 2 December 2019.

https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0912_002.html.

¹⁴⁵ Japan - US Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Training for Indo-Pacific Region Held, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (Tokyo) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 2 December 2019.

https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0912_002.html.

¹⁴⁶ NATO and Japan Intensify Dialogue on Cyber Defence, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 2 December 2019. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_169493.htm?selectedLocale=en.

¹⁴⁷ NATO and Japan Intensify Dialogue on Cyber Defence, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 2 December 2019. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_169493.htm?selectedLocale=en.

¹⁴⁸ NATO and Japan Intensify Dialogue on Cyber Defence, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 2 December 2019. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_169493.htm?selectedLocale=en.

¹⁴⁹ NATO and Japan Intensify Dialogue on Cyber Defence, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (Brussels) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 2 December 2019. https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_169493.htm?selectedLocale=en.

¹⁵⁰ The 7th Japan-US Cyber Dialogue, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002646.html.

¹⁵¹ The 7th Japan-US Cyber Dialogue, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002646.html.

¹⁵² Government Cybersecurity Budget, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/active/kihon/pdf/yosan2020.pdf>.

¹⁵³ Government Cybersecurity Budget, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/active/kihon/pdf/yosan2020.pdf>.

initiatives related to protection of critical infrastructure, and [promoting cooperation] in capacity building and awareness awareness.”¹⁵⁴

On 4 November 2019, Japan and ASEAN issued the Joint Statement of the 22nd ASEAN-Japan Summit on connectivity.¹⁵⁵ These countries declared to “[enhance] cybersecurity capacity building for ASEAN through the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre and the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence.”¹⁵⁶

On 18 November 2019, Ambassador in Charge of Cyber Security Akahori Takeshi attended the 4th Trilateral Cyber Policy Consultation between Japan, the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of Korea.¹⁵⁷ They discussed the current environment in the field of cyber affairs, each country’s policies on cyber issues, and future cooperation on cyber issues.¹⁵⁸

On 18 November 2019, Deputy Director General of the National Center of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (NISC) Tomoo Yamauchi issued a document on 2020 Cyber Security Month.¹⁵⁹ The government planned to raise public awareness on cybersecurity through various public activities during the Cyber Security Month (1 February 2020 to 18 March 2020). Governmental agencies will collaborate with awareness-raising organizations for this event.¹⁶⁰

On 19 November 2019, Minister for Foreign Affairs Motegi Toshimitsu met with Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the Chair of Rasmussen Global and former NATO secretary general.¹⁶¹ Rasmussen acknowledged Japan as “an important partner for Europe in a global battle for freedom and

¹⁵⁴ Results of the Japan-ASEAN Cybersecurity Policy Conference, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.nisc.go.jp/press/pdf/aseanj_meeting20191119.pdf.

¹⁵⁵ Joint Statement of the 22nd ASEAN-Japan Summit on Connectivity, ASEAN Thailand 2019 (Bangkok) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.asean2019.go.th/en/news/joint-statement-of-the-22nd-asean-japan-summit-on-connectivity-2/>.

¹⁵⁶ Joint Statement of the 22 nd ASEAN-Japan Summit on Connectivity, ASEAN Thailand 2019 (Bangkok) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.asean2019.go.th/en/news/joint-statement-of-the-22nd-asean-japan-summit-on-connectivity-2/>.

¹⁵⁷ The 4th Trilateral Cyber Policy Consultation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 18 November 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002682.html.

¹⁵⁸ The 4th Trilateral Cyber Policy Consultation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 18 November 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002682.html.

¹⁵⁹ With the implementation of Cybersecurity Month 2020 Recruitment of related events, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/active/kihon/pdf/csm2020kanren.pdf>.

¹⁶⁰ With the implementation of Cybersecurity Month 2020 Recruitment of related events, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/active/kihon/pdf/csm2020kanren.pdf>.

¹⁶¹ Meeting between Foreign Minister Motegi and Mr. Rasmussen Chairman of Rasmussen Global (former Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), former Prime Minister of Denmark), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002688.html.

democracy.”¹⁶² He also invited Japan to attend a democracy summit meeting next June in Copenhagen.¹⁶³

On 20 November 2019, Japan hosted the 4th Japan-Russia Cyber Security Consultation in Tokyo.¹⁶⁴ The representatives discussed the current landscape in cyberspace, and strategies and policies each country’s strategies and policies on cyber issues.¹⁶⁵ They also discussed the issues of cybersecurity in multilateral and regional context and security of critical information infrastructure.¹⁶⁶

On 16 January 2020, Japan, represented by Isamu Yamaguchi, the director of Emerging Security Challenges Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, co-chaired the fifth open-ended study group of Asean Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-Sessional Meeting on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) on Confidence Building Measures, with Malaysia and Singapore.¹⁶⁷ The participating experts discussed proposals on a whole range of ICT security issues, including confidence building measures.¹⁶⁸

On 21 January 2020, the Management Committee of ICT Information Sharing and Analysis Centre, headed by Management Committee Chair Satoru Koyama, discussed information sharing initiatives, including collaborations with domestic and international working groups.¹⁶⁹ The committee also discussed the private sector’s expectation and issues regarding public-private information sharing.¹⁷⁰

On 23 January 2020, NISC collaborated with “Sword Art Online Alicization War of Underworld” project to create a tie-up poster and a web banner using characters from the aforementioned animation, to disseminate knowledge and raise awareness about cyber security, especially toward the younger demographic.¹⁷¹

On 27 January 2020, Japan Internet Providers Association and Japan Network Information Center organized a brief session for the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2019 report, “Is One World,

¹⁶² Meeting between Foreign Minister Motegi and Mr. Rasmussen Chairman of Rasmussen Global (former Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), former Prime Minister of Denmark), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002688.html.

¹⁶³ Meeting between Foreign Minister Motegi and Mr. Rasmussen Chairman of Rasmussen Global (former Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), former Prime Minister of Denmark), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002688.html.

¹⁶⁴ The 3rd Japan-Russia Cyber Policy Consultation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002687.html.

¹⁶⁵ The 3rd Japan-Russia Cyber Policy Consultation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002687.html.

¹⁶⁶ The 3rd Japan-Russia Cyber Policy Consultation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002687.html.

¹⁶⁷ ARF-ISM on ICTs Security 5th SG, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 23 March 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002757.html.

¹⁶⁸ ARF-ISM on ICTs Security 5th SG, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 23 March 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002757.html.

¹⁶⁹ ICT-ISAC Initiatives, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 1 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/conference/cs/ciip/dai21/pdf/21shiryuu04.pdf>.

¹⁷⁰ ICT-ISAC Initiatives, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 1 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/conference/cs/ciip/dai21/pdf/21shiryuu04.pdf>.

¹⁷¹ Tie-up with Sword Art Online Alicization War of the Underworld. National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 1 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/security-site/month/sao.html>.

One Net, One Vision Possible?”¹⁷² The event planned to discuss “the main agenda items at IGF2019” and the development of Internet governance in Japan.¹⁷³

On 29 January 2020, NISC issued a quarterly situation analysis of critical infrastructure.¹⁷⁴ The report acknowledged the importance of exchanging values and sharing information regarding critical infrastructure and analysis of cybersecurity incidents with stakeholders.¹⁷⁵ The report also suggested cybersecurity policies, such as implementing multifaceted defence, designing countermeasures based on thorough understanding of current attacks, using external services if necessary, and reviewing supply chain risks.¹⁷⁶

On 30 January 2020, NISC Deputy Director General Tomoo Yamauchi discussed the formulation of the 2020 cyber security annual plan.¹⁷⁷ The centre asked for the public’s input on necessary measures for cyber security.¹⁷⁸

On 31 January 2020, the Fifth Japan-UK Bilateral Consultation on Cyberspace, chaired by Ambassador Akahori Takeshi and Dr. Alexandre Evans, took place in Tokyo.¹⁷⁹ At this meeting, the participants discussed “the latest cybersecurity strategy and efforts,” bilateral cooperation on capacity building, and multilateral cooperation in the United Nations.¹⁸⁰

On 7 February 2020, the 13th meeting of the Cyber Security Strategy Division Research and Development Strategy Expert Committee took place in Tokyo.¹⁸¹ The participants discussed initiatives of ministries and agencies based on “Cyber Security Research and Technology Development Policy” and community formation through industry-academia-government collaboration.¹⁸²

¹⁷² Announcement of IGE2019 Report Session-Is One World, One Net, One Vision Possible? Access Date: March 2020. https://japanigf.jp/topics/igf2019_readout.

¹⁷³ Announcement of IGE2019 Report Session-Is One World, One Net, One Vision Possible? Access Date: March 2020. https://japanigf.jp/topics/igf2019_readout.

¹⁷⁴ Situation surrounding critical infrastructure. National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 1 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/conference/cs/ciip/dai21/pdf/21shiryuu05.pdf>.

¹⁷⁵ Situation surrounding critical infrastructure. National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 1 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/conference/cs/ciip/dai21/pdf/21shiryuu05.pdf>.

¹⁷⁶ Situation surrounding critical infrastructure. National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 1 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/conference/cs/ciip/dai21/pdf/21shiryuu05.pdf>.

¹⁷⁷ Call for opinions on measures to be implemented in 2020 based on the Cyber Security Strategy (closed), National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/active/kihon/cyber-security2020.html>.

¹⁷⁸ Call for opinions on measures to be implemented in 2020 based on the Cyber Security Strategy (closed), National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/active/kihon/cyber-security2020.html>.

¹⁷⁹ The 5th Japan-UK Consultations on Cyberspace, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002766.html.

¹⁸⁰ The 5th Japan-UK Consultations on Cyberspace, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002766.html.

¹⁸¹ Cyber Security Strategy Division Research and Development Strategy Expert Committee, the 13th Meeting Agenda, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/conference/cs/kenkyu/dai13/pdf/13gijishidai.pdf>.

¹⁸² Cyber Security Strategy Division Research and Development Strategy Expert Committee, the 13th Meeting Agenda, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/conference/cs/kenkyu/dai13/pdf/13gijishidai.pdf>.

On 10 February 2020, the Japan-Estonia Summit Meeting took place in Tokyo.¹⁸³ Prime Minister Shinzo Abe mentioned a previous collaboration with Estonia regarding ICT.¹⁸⁴ He also discussed Japanese participation in NATO cyber defence exercises, and the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence hosted by Estonia.¹⁸⁵

On 2 March 2020, NISC released a Cyber Security Law Q and A Handbook, aimed at informing businesses on “legal issues concerning information handling” and laws “related to cyber security measures and response to incidents.”¹⁸⁶

On 2 March 2020, the 12th meeting of the Cyber Security Strategy Headquarters Awareness Promotion/Human Resource Development Special Investigation Committee took place in Tokyo.¹⁸⁷ The participants discussed the approaches of the Cyber Security Awareness and Action Enhancement Program, the overview of development of strategic management, the cyber security laws and regulations sub-workings, and to report on group study results.¹⁸⁸

Japan has taken both domestic and international actions toward reinforcing democratic institutions. Japan has acted to reinforce democratic institutions against state and non-state actors. These actions fulfil all four components of the commitment.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Zihan (Alison) Pang

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to “work collaboratively to reinforce G7 democracies against illicit and malign behavior and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.”

From 3 September 2019 to 17 March 2020, the Democracy and Digital Technologies Committee convened 16 times to converse with witnesses about the reconciliation of democracy and digital technologies.¹⁸⁹ Ranging from government officials to industry experts, these witnesses answered various inquiries that the committee may have about misinformation, cybersecurity, digital campaigning, etc.¹⁹⁰

¹⁸³ Japan-Estonia Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 18 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/ee/page4e_001177.html.

¹⁸⁴ Japan-Estonia Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 18 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/ee/page4e_001177.html.

¹⁸⁵ Japan-Estonia Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 18 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/erp/we/ee/page4e_001177.html.

¹⁸⁶ About "Cyber Security Law Q & A Handbook," National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.nisc.go.jp/security-site/law_handbook/index.html.

¹⁸⁷ Cyber Security Strategy Headquarters Awareness Promotion / Human Resource Development Special Investigation Committee, the 12th meeting agenda, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/conference/cs/jinzai/dai12/pdf/12gijishidai.pdf>.

¹⁸⁸ Cyber Security Strategy Headquarters Awareness Promotion / Human Resource Development Special Investigation Committee, the 12th meeting agenda, National Centre of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (Tokyo) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.nisc.go.jp/conference/cs/jinzai/dai12/pdf/12gijishidai.pdf>.

¹⁸⁹ All events, UK Parliament Democracy and Digital Technologies Committee (London) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 4 April 2020. <https://committees.parliament.uk/work/5/democracy-and-digital-technologies/events/all/?SessionId=0&SortBy=StartDateAscending>.

¹⁹⁰ Committee news, UK Parliament Democracy and Digital Technologies Committee (London) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 4 April 2020. <https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/407/democracy-and-digital-technologies-committee/news/>.

On 18 October 2019, Business Secretary Andrea Leadsom announced that the UK government will be partnering with technology firm ARM, by providing GBP36 million toward a new project to develop computer hardware that is more resistant to cyber attacks.¹⁹¹ This is the next phase of the UK government's Digital Security by Design initiative.¹⁹²

In November 2019, Politico reported that the UK's electoral laws were insufficient in addressing "clandestine digital political interference."¹⁹³ In the article, Politico quotes special advisor to the UK House of Lords committee on democracy and digital technologies Kate Dommett, who expressed that existing laws have loopholes regarding the verification of "online campaign material," and that "voters are ... at risk" of manipulation and can expect "limited, if any, responses from both regulators and politicians to protect them."¹⁹⁴

On 4 November 2019, Digital Minister Matt Warman launched a "call for evidence" to seek views from across the digital sector on how the government can help organizations improve their cybersecurity measures.¹⁹⁵ Minister Warman stated that overcoming barriers to improving cybersecurity "can help make the UK the safest place to live and do business online."¹⁹⁶

On 5 November 2019, Minister for the Cabinet Office Oliver Dowden updated Parliament on numerous actions that the government took "to tackle intimidation" online, especially in relation to electoral matters.¹⁹⁷ In this update, the Minister spoke about the Online Harms White Paper, intended to make online platforms responsible for their user's illegal activities; to illegalize "undue influence of" a voter during elections; to "introduce a digital imprints regime"; and to introduce the Defending Democracy Programme, which aims to "protect ... UK democratic processes ... from interference, including from cyber ... threats."¹⁹⁸

On 25 November 2019, the Ministry of Justice announced that it was inviting bids for the creation of a centralized cybersecurity log collection and aggregation platform.¹⁹⁹ A spokesperson for the Ministry of Justice stated that the objective of the project is to resolve the Ministry's inability to

¹⁹¹ Confronting cyber threats to businesses and personal data, Government of the UK (London) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/confronting-cyber-threats-to-businesses-and-personal-data>.

¹⁹² Confronting cyber threats to businesses and personal data, Government of the UK (London) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/confronting-cyber-threats-to-businesses-and-personal-data>.

¹⁹³ UK ignores warnings of digital election interference, Politico (Brussels) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. <https://www.politico.eu/article/uk-general-election-facebook-misinformation-boris-johnson-interference-russia/>.

¹⁹⁴ UK ignores warnings of digital election interference, Politico (Brussels) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. <https://www.politico.eu/article/uk-general-election-facebook-misinformation-boris-johnson-interference-russia/>.

¹⁹⁵ Call for evidence launched on improving cyber security across the UK economy, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/call-for-evidence-launched-on-improving-cyber-security-across-the-uk-economy>.

¹⁹⁶ Call for evidence launched on improving cyber security across the UK economy, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/call-for-evidence-launched-on-improving-cyber-security-across-the-uk-economy>.

¹⁹⁷ Update on tackling intimidation in public life, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/update-on-tackling-intimidation-in-public-life>.

¹⁹⁸ Update on tackling intimidation in public life, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/update-on-tackling-intimidation-in-public-life>.

¹⁹⁹ UK Government Invites Bids for New Cybersecurity Platform, Infosecurity Magazine (London) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/uk-invites-bids-for-cybersecurity/>.

“understand the cybersecurity posture of its current estates due to security logs being held in multiple systems.”²⁰⁰

On 16 December 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced that his government will release an Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament report on Russian interference during the 2016 UK European Union membership referendum in 2020.²⁰¹

On 15 January 2020, then Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Baroness Nicky Morgan revealed that the government had invested “1.9 billion pounds to protect the nation online” through the National Cyber Security Strategy.²⁰²

On 3 February 2020, Baroness Nicky Morgan disclosed that the government committed GBP 2 million “for the pilot of the Future News Fund”²⁰³. According to the innovation charity Nesta, who is responsible for the pilot, the project gives “communities in England ... access to reliable ... news” to protect the UK’s democracy.²⁰⁴

On 12 February 2020, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport revised the Online Harms White Paper²⁰⁵. This report addresses the “real danger that hostile actors” online can have on the UK’s “democratic values and principles” and outlines the UK government’s intention to establish a “duty of care to make companies ... tackle harm caused by content or activity on their services,” invest in new technologies in the field of cybersecurity, and inform citizens about online safety.²⁰⁶

The UK has taken domestic actions toward reinforcing democratic institutions. The UK has acted to reinforce democratic institutions against state and non-state actors. These actions fulfil three of the four components of the commitment.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kevin Zuo

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to reinforce democratic institutions against illicit and malign behaviour and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.

²⁰⁰ UK Government Invites Bids for New Cybersecurity Platform, Infosecurity Magazine (London) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/uk-invites-bids-for-cybersecurity/>.

²⁰¹ Boris Johnson approves release of Russian interference report following election win, Independent (London) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/boris-johnson-russia-report-brexite-interference-general-election-release-a9248446.html>.

²⁰² Baroness Morgan speaking on how we can make technology work for everyone, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/baroness-morgan-speaking-on-how-we-can-make-technology-work-for-everyone>.

²⁰³ Letter from Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, Rt Hon Baroness Morgan of Cotes to the Chair, UK Parliament Democracy and Digital Technologies Committee (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/407/democracy-and-digital-technologies-committee/publications/3/correspondence/>.

²⁰⁴ Government-backed pilot fund to innovate public interest news to protect democracy, Nesta (London) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.nesta.org.uk/news/government-backed-pilot-fund-innovate-public-interest-news-protect-democracy/>.

²⁰⁵ Online Harms White Paper, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/online-harms-white-paper/online-harms-white-paper>.

²⁰⁶ Online Harms White Paper, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/online-harms-white-paper/online-harms-white-paper>.

On 4 September 2019, US government officials met with representatives of major American technological companies, such as Microsoft, Facebook, Google and Twitter, to discuss strategies for securing the upcoming American election from the kind of foreign interference associated with the 2016 election.²⁰⁷ The discussion revolved around potential threats and threat detection, effective information sharing methods, as well as prevention of disinformation and foreign interference via social media.²⁰⁸ An FBI official stated that the agency, along with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and the Department of Homeland Security, attended this meeting to explore ways of “protecting democracy and securing the 2020 U.S. state, federal and presidential elections.”²⁰⁹

From 9 to 13 September 2019, the United States hosted the first meeting of the United Nations Open-Ended Working Group on Cybersecurity in New York City. Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs Ambassador Atul Keshap promised to continue offering cybersecurity, digital economy, and cybercrime workshops for the benefit of many Indo-Pacific nations.²¹⁰ He has also stated that one of the key goals of this initiative is to ensure that the US and its partners maintain secure networks as well as information and communications technology (ICT) supply chains to reduce the risk of unauthorized access and malicious cyber activity.²¹¹

On 24 September 2019, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) released an updated National Emergency Communications Plan aimed at improving the U.S. emergency communications capabilities at all levels of government.²¹² The update includes the addition of a cybersecurity goal and a focus on integrating new technologies which would improve the U.S. first responders’ ability to effectively communicate in real time.²¹³ This public safety development will prevent the exacerbation of internal emergencies within the United States due to malign interference in the communications system.²¹⁴

On 30 September 2019, the United States imposed sanctions on four entities and seven individuals associated with the Russian Internet Research Agency and its financier, Yevgeniy Prigozhin.²¹⁵ The

²⁰⁷ Big Tech Companies Meeting With U.S. Officials on 2020 Election Security, The New York Times (New York City) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/04/technology/2020-election-facebook-google.html>.

²⁰⁸ Big Tech Companies Meeting With U.S. Officials on 2020 Election Security, The New York Times (New York City) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/04/technology/2020-election-facebook-google.html>.

²⁰⁹ Big Tech Companies Meeting With U.S. Officials on 2020 Election Security, The New York Times (New York City) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/04/technology/2020-election-facebook-google.html>.

²¹⁰ Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Training, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 6 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/industrial-control-systems-cybersecurity-training/>.

²¹¹ Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Training, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 6 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/industrial-control-systems-cybersecurity-training/>.

²¹² CISA Releases the Updated National Emergency Communications Plan, CISA (Washington) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.cisa.gov/cisa/news/2019/09/24/cisa-releases-updated-national-emergency-communications-plan>.

²¹³ CISA Releases the Updated National Emergency Communications Plan, CISA (Washington) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.cisa.gov/cisa/news/2019/09/24/cisa-releases-updated-national-emergency-communications-plan>.

²¹⁴ CISA Releases the Updated National Emergency Communications Plan, CISA (Washington) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.cisa.gov/cisa/news/2019/09/24/cisa-releases-updated-national-emergency-communications-plan>.

²¹⁵ U.S. Targets Russian Actors Involved in Efforts to Influence U.S. Elections, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 6 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-targets-russian-actors-involved-in-efforts-to-influence-u-s-elections/>.

government of the United States promised to ensure that people who “carry out destabilizing activities that threaten the interests of the United States and its allies and partners” are subject to sanctions.²¹⁶ Michael R. Pompeo, Secretary of State, also stated that the US will continue fighting against malign actors who seek to subvert American democratic processes and will impose further punishment on Russian Federation for “its destabilizing and unacceptable activities” because the US will not tolerate foreign interference in its elections.²¹⁷

On 3 October 2019, an inaugural US-ASEAN Cyber Policy Dialogue was held in Singapore. The Statement of the Co-chairs — the United States and Laos — supported the 2015 Report of the UN Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and telecommunications in the Context of International Security and emphasized the recommended voluntary norms of behaviour in cyberspace.²¹⁸ Participating delegations, including that of the US, highlighted the importance of capacity building as well as initiatives and programmes related to “the protection of the critical infrastructure, combating cybercrime and terrorist use of ICT.”²¹⁹

On 16 October 2019, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs David R. Stilwell appeared before the American Senate to discuss the US policy in the Indo-Pacific region.²²⁰ As part of the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018, the US is providing increased support to its Indo-Pacific partners to help defend their networks from cyber threats, improve the resilience of critical infrastructure, and “counter malicious cyber activities by North Korea, China, cyber criminals, and other state and non-state cyber actors that seek to steal ... sensitive information.”²²¹

On 28 October 2019, the United States formalized a contribution of USD639,015 to the Organization of American States (OAS) Cybercrime Program, which is a training and technical assistance program to train judges, law enforcement, and prosecutors “the admissibility of electronic and digital evidence,” among other purposes.²²² Since 2015, this is the third such contribution made by the government of the United States to support the work of the OAS as a shared regional

²¹⁶ U.S. Targets Russian Actors Involved in Efforts to Influence U.S. Elections, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 6 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-targets-russian-actors-involved-in-efforts-to-influence-u-s-elections/>.

²¹⁷ U.S. Targets Russian Actors Involved in Efforts to Influence U.S. Elections, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 6 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-targets-russian-actors-involved-in-efforts-to-influence-u-s-elections/>.

²¹⁸ ASEAN-US Cyber Policy Dialogue Initiated, GIP Digital Watch Observatory (Geneva) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://dig.watch/updates/asean-us-cyber-policy-dialogue-initiated>.

²¹⁹ ASEAN-US Cyber Policy Dialogue Initiated, GIP Digital Watch Observatory (Geneva) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://dig.watch/updates/asean-us-cyber-policy-dialogue-initiated>.

²²⁰ Statement Before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 6 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/statement-before-the-senate-foreign-relations-committee-subcommittee-on-east-asia-the-pacific-and-international-cybersecurity-policy/>.

²²¹ Statement Before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 6 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/statement-before-the-senate-foreign-relations-committee-subcommittee-on-east-asia-the-pacific-and-international-cybersecurity-policy/>.

²²² United States Fights Cybercrime With Contribution to Organization of American States Program, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 6 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-fights-cybercrime-with-contribution-to-organization-of-american-states-program/>.

commitment to protect individuals and businesses across the Western Hemisphere from cybercrime and transnational crime.²²³

On 5 November 2019, CISA released a joint statement from a number of US government agencies concerning the 2020 election security.²²⁴ It stated that the federal government prioritizes the sharing of threat intelligence and providing services that improve the security of election infrastructure.²²⁵ The US government is cooperating with all 50 states to identify threats, safely share information, and protect the democratic process.²²⁶ The statement also assures that, despite the current absence of threats to the US elections, the FBI, Department of Homeland Security and other agencies are monitoring cyberspace for suspicious social media campaigns, disinformation operations, or disruptive and/or destructive cyber attacks on state and local infrastructure.²²⁷

On 5 December 2019, the United States and co-host Jamaica completed a three-day cyber capacity development workshop which included 12 Caribbean and Latin American countries.²²⁸ This innovative workshop, organized by the US, was the first such event in the region and designed to enhance local cybersecurity and combat cybercrime.²²⁹

On 5 December 2019, the US Department of State's Transnational Organized Crime (TOC) Rewards Program announced a USD5 million reward offer for information that could lead to the arrest and/or conviction of Russian cybercriminal Maksim Yakubets, following the Department of Justice's issue of federal indictments against him.²³⁰ Yakubets was involved with several computer malware conspiracies that caused significant damage to the US as well as international financial institutions in both North America and Europe.²³¹ The TOC Rewards Program is one of the tools used by US

²²³ United States Fights Cybercrime With Contribution to Organization of American States Program, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 6 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-fights-cybercrime-with-contribution-to-organization-of-american-states-program/>.

²²⁴ Joint Statement from DOJ, DOD, DHS, DNI, FBI, NSA, AND CISA on Ensuring Security of 2020 Elections, CISA (Washington) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.cisa.gov/cisa/news/2019/11/05/joint-statement-doj-dod-dhs-dni-fbi-nsa-and-cisa-ensuring-security-2020>.

²²⁵ Joint Statement from DOJ, DOD, DHS, DNI, FBI, NSA, AND CISA on Ensuring Security of 2020 Elections, CISA (Washington) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.cisa.gov/cisa/news/2019/11/05/joint-statement-doj-dod-dhs-dni-fbi-nsa-and-cisa-ensuring-security-2020>.

²²⁶ Joint Statement from DOJ, DOD, DHS, DNI, FBI, NSA, AND CISA on Ensuring Security of 2020 Elections, CISA (Washington) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.cisa.gov/cisa/news/2019/11/05/joint-statement-doj-dod-dhs-dni-fbi-nsa-and-cisa-ensuring-security-2020>.

²²⁷ Joint Statement from DOJ, DOD, DHS, DNI, FBI, NSA, AND CISA on Ensuring Security of 2020 Elections, CISA (Washington) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.cisa.gov/cisa/news/2019/11/05/joint-statement-doj-dod-dhs-dni-fbi-nsa-and-cisa-ensuring-security-2020>.

²²⁸ The United States Holds Inaugural Cyber Capacity Building Workshop for the Caribbean and Latin America, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-holds-inaugural-cyber-capacity-building-workshop-for-the-caribbean-and-latin-america/>.

²²⁹ The United States Holds Inaugural Cyber Capacity Building Workshop for the Caribbean and Latin America, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-holds-inaugural-cyber-capacity-building-workshop-for-the-caribbean-and-latin-america/>.

²³⁰ Reward Offer for Information on Russian Cybercriminal Maksim Yakubets, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/reward-offer-for-information-on-russian-cybercriminal-maksim-yakubets/>.

²³¹ Reward Offer for Information on Russian Cybercriminal Maksim Yakubets, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/reward-offer-for-information-on-russian-cybercriminal-maksim-yakubets/>.

authorities to bring major cybercriminals like Yakubets, who pose a national security threat, to justice.²³²

On 16 January 2020, Bill S.3207, titled Cybersecurity State Coordinator Act of 2020, was introduced to the US Senate.²³³ This bill would obligate the Department of Homeland Security to appoint a Cybersecurity State Coordinator in each state, who would be responsible for advising on the development of secure infrastructure, serving as the main federal cybersecurity risk advisor, and facilitating the transmission of cyberthreat information between federal and non-federal entities.²³⁴

On 29 January 2020, Bill H.R.5680, titled the Cybersecurity Vulnerability Identification and Notification Act of 2020, passed the House Committee on Homeland Security.²³⁵ This bill proposes to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 by granting the CISA subpoena authority to compel internet service providers to disclose the identity of owners of critical infrastructure whose devices the agency cannot identify otherwise.²³⁶ This information would be used to notify critical infrastructure entities of vulnerabilities in their systems.²³⁷

On 30 January 2020, the US expressed its support for a Toolbox developed by the European Union Network Information Security Cooperation Group.²³⁸ This toolbox includes an acknowledgment of risks posed by 5G suppliers based in authoritarian countries with previous history of malign cyber behaviour and a recommendation for EU Member States to exclude such companies from critical parts of their 5G networks.²³⁹ The US welcomed this action by the EU; however, it added that all parts of 5G networks must be viewed as “critical infrastructure” that every country should take steps to protect.²⁴⁰ The US called upon its European allies to implement EU recommendations, referencing its own measures taken to secure American 5G networks, mainly prohibiting “untrusted suppliers” such as Huawei and ZTE.²⁴¹

²³² Reward Offer for Information on Russian Cybercriminal Maksim Yakubets, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/reward-offer-for-information-on-russian-cybercriminal-maksim-yakubets/>.

²³³ S. 3207 - Cybersecurity State Coordinator Act of 2020, Congress.gov (Washington) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3207>.

²³⁴ S. 3207 - Cybersecurity State Coordinator Act of 2020, Congress.gov (Washington) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3207>.

²³⁵ H.R.5680 - Cybersecurity Vulnerability Identification and Notification Act of 2020, Congress.gov (Washington) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5680/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22HR+1%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=1>.

²³⁶ H.R.5680 - Cybersecurity Vulnerability Identification and Notification Act of 2020, Congress.gov (Washington) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5680/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22HR+1%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=1>.

²³⁷ H.R.5680 - Cybersecurity Vulnerability Identification and Notification Act of 2020, Congress.gov (Washington) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5680/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22HR+1%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=1>.

²³⁸ United States Welcomes the EU's Acknowledgement of the Unacceptable Risks Posed by Untrusted 5G Suppliers, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-welcomes-the-eus-acknowledgement-of-the-unacceptable-risks-posed-by-untrusted-5g-suppliers/>.

²³⁹ United States Welcomes the EU's Acknowledgement of the Unacceptable Risks Posed by Untrusted 5G Suppliers, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-welcomes-the-eus-acknowledgement-of-the-unacceptable-risks-posed-by-untrusted-5g-suppliers/>.

²⁴⁰ United States Welcomes the EU's Acknowledgement of the Unacceptable Risks Posed by Untrusted 5G Suppliers, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-welcomes-the-eus-acknowledgement-of-the-unacceptable-risks-posed-by-untrusted-5g-suppliers/>.

²⁴¹ United States Welcomes the EU's Acknowledgement of the Unacceptable Risks Posed by Untrusted 5G Suppliers, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-welcomes-the-eus-acknowledgement-of-the-unacceptable-risks-posed-by-untrusted-5g-suppliers/>.

On 10 February 2020, the National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC) released a report, concluding that the US is facing espionage threats from state adversaries, namely China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, Cuba, the Lebanese Hizballah, ISIS and al-Qaeda.²⁴² This report, titled the National Counterintelligence Strategy for 2020-2022, warns against artificial intelligence, advanced encryption, and the Internet, as the aforementioned adversaries are increasingly using emerging technologies to attack the US private sector and democratic institutions.²⁴³ The objectives outlined in this document include “countering cyber and other technological espionage” as well as defending the democratic tradition from covert media campaigns designed to sway Americans’ public opinion against the US government and toward foreign agendas.²⁴⁴

On 10 February 2020, the Department of Justice issued charges against four members of China’s People’s Liberation Army who stole personal data of millions of American citizens from the US credit agency, Equifax, in 2017.²⁴⁵ Their action was labelled as a “counterintelligence attack” on the US.²⁴⁶ During a subsequent briefing for reporters, NCSC Director William Evanina stated that the diversity and intensity of cyber attacks against the US are increasing, so any individuals involved in them will face severe legal consequences.²⁴⁷

On 11 February 2020, Republican Senators rejected three election-security bills.²⁴⁸ The first one was the Defending Elections from Threats by Establishing Redlines Act designed to disincentivize Russia from interfering in the US elections via sanctions.²⁴⁹ The second one was the Securing America’s Federal Elections Act that required voting systems to use backup paper ballots and technological safeguards.²⁵⁰ The last one was the Stopping Harmful Interference in Elections for a Lasting Democracy Act mandating candidates to inform law enforcement officials about a foreign power’s offer of campaign assistance.²⁵¹ The rejection of these bills blocks US efforts to strengthen cybersecurity in the upcoming presidential elections.²⁵²

²⁴² U.S. Counterintelligence Chief Warns of Broadening Spy Threat, CBS News (New York City) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/u-s-counterintelligence-chief-warns-of-broadening-spy-threat/>.

²⁴³ U.S. Counterintelligence Chief Warns of Broadening Spy Threat, CBS News (New York City) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/u-s-counterintelligence-chief-warns-of-broadening-spy-threat/>.

²⁴⁴ U.S. Counterintelligence Chief Warns of Broadening Spy Threat, CBS News (New York City) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/u-s-counterintelligence-chief-warns-of-broadening-spy-threat/>.

²⁴⁵ U.S. Counterintelligence Chief Warns of Broadening Spy Threat, CBS News (New York City) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/u-s-counterintelligence-chief-warns-of-broadening-spy-threat/>.

²⁴⁶ U.S. Counterintelligence Chief Warns of Broadening Spy Threat, CBS News (New York City) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/u-s-counterintelligence-chief-warns-of-broadening-spy-threat/>.

²⁴⁷ U.S. Counterintelligence Chief Warns of Broadening Spy Threat, CBS News (New York City) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/u-s-counterintelligence-chief-warns-of-broadening-spy-threat/>.

²⁴⁸ Senate GOP Rejects Election-Security Measures (Yes, Again), MSNBC (New York City) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April, 2020. <https://www.msnbc.com/rachel-maddow-show/senate-gop-rejects-election-security-measures-yes-again-n1135221>.

²⁴⁹ Senate GOP Rejects Election-Security Measures (Yes, Again), MSNBC (New York City) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April, 2020. <https://www.msnbc.com/rachel-maddow-show/senate-gop-rejects-election-security-measures-yes-again-n1135221>.

²⁵⁰ Senate GOP Rejects Election-Security Measures (Yes, Again), MSNBC (New York City) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April, 2020. <https://www.msnbc.com/rachel-maddow-show/senate-gop-rejects-election-security-measures-yes-again-n1135221>.

²⁵¹ Senate GOP Rejects Election-Security Measures (Yes, Again), MSNBC (New York City) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April, 2020. <https://www.msnbc.com/rachel-maddow-show/senate-gop-rejects-election-security-measures-yes-again-n1135221>.

²⁵² Senate GOP Rejects Election-Security Measures (Yes, Again), MSNBC (New York City) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April, 2020. <https://www.msnbc.com/rachel-maddow-show/senate-gop-rejects-election-security-measures-yes-again-n1135221>.

On 20 February 2020, the US government condemned a cyber attack against the country of Georgia. This attack was carried out by Russian General Staff Main Intelligence Directorate and disrupted the operation of several thousand Georgian government and private websites as well as interrupting the broadcasts of two television stations.²⁵³ The US called on Russia to discontinue its behaviour in Georgia as it undermines democratic institutions and creates uncertainty.²⁵⁴ The US Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo reiterated that responsible behaviour of countries is key to stable international cyberspace, which the US will continue to uphold.²⁵⁵ Furthermore, the US pledged to support Georgia in improving their cybersecurity by providing technical assistance to strengthen the country's public institutions.²⁵⁶

On 11 March 2020, the Cyberspace Solarium Commission published a report that presented a strategic approach to protecting the security of American cyberspace against cyber attacks.²⁵⁷ The Commission proposed “a strategy of layered cyber deterrence,” which consisted of more than 80 recommendations.²⁵⁸ These recommendations include reforming the federal government's structure and organization for cyberspace, strengthening non-military cyber tools, promoting national resilience, and enhancing cybersecurity cooperation with the private sector.²⁵⁹

The US has taken domestic and international actions toward reinforcing democratic institutions. The US has acted to reinforce democratic institutions against state and non-state actors. These actions fulfil all four components of the commitment.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nadiya Kovalenko

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to “work collaboratively to reinforce our democracies against illicit and malign behaviour and foreign hostile interference by state and non-state actors.”

On 19 February 2020, the EU Commission released a white paper on artificial intelligence (AI).²⁶⁰ The white paper aims to support Europe's core values of openness, diversity and democracy.²⁶¹

²⁵³ The United States Condemns Russian Cyber Attack Against the Country of Georgia, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-condemns-russian-cyber-attack-against-the-country-of-georgia/>.

²⁵⁴ The United States Condemns Russian Cyber Attack Against the Country of Georgia, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-condemns-russian-cyber-attack-against-the-country-of-georgia/>.

²⁵⁵ The United States Condemns Russian Cyber Attack Against the Country of Georgia, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-condemns-russian-cyber-attack-against-the-country-of-georgia/>.

²⁵⁶ The United States Condemns Russian Cyber Attack Against the Country of Georgia, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-condemns-russian-cyber-attack-against-the-country-of-georgia/>.

²⁵⁷ CSC Executive Summary, United States of America Cyberspace Solarium Commission (Washington) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1c1UQI74Js6vkfjUowl598NjwaHD1YtIY/view>.

²⁵⁸ CSC Executive Summary, United States of America Cyberspace Solarium Commission (Washington) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1c1UQI74Js6vkfjUowl598NjwaHD1YtIY/view>.

²⁵⁹ CSC Executive Summary, United States of America Cyberspace Solarium Commission (Washington) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1c1UQI74Js6vkfjUowl598NjwaHD1YtIY/view>.

²⁶⁰ The European Commission has Released their White Paper on Artificial Intelligence today as Promise, Patently Apple (Brussels) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.patentlyapple.com/patently-apple/2020/02/the-european-commission-has-released-their-white-paper-on-artificial-intelligence-today-as-promised.html>.

President of the EU Commission Ursula von der Leyen outlined the intentions of the “White Paper,” which cover areas including cybersecurity, critical digital infrastructure, democracy and media.²⁶²

On 19 February 2020, Politico released an article stating that the EU Commission intends on delivering a concrete data strategy framework by the end of 2020.²⁶³ The framework would be applied toward “common European data spaces” which could be implemented as early as 2022.²⁶⁴ The report also mentions the Commission’s goal to implement the Data Act by 2021.²⁶⁵ This new policy would seek to remove existing barriers and introduce rules for business-to-business as well as business-to-government data sharing.²⁶⁶

The EU has taken domestic actions toward reinforcing democratic institutions. The EU has acted to reinforce democratic institutions against state and non-state actors. These actions fulfil three of the four components of the commitment.

Thus, The European Union has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Yousef Choudhri

²⁶¹ The European Commission has Released their White Paper on Artificial Intelligence today as Promise, Patently Apple (Brussels) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.patentlyapple.com/patently-apple/2020/02/the-european-commission-has-released-their-white-paper-on-artificial-intelligence-today-as-promised.html>.

²⁶² The European Commission has Released their White Paper on Artificial Intelligence today as Promise, Patently Apple (Brussels) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.patentlyapple.com/patently-apple/2020/02/the-european-commission-has-released-their-white-paper-on-artificial-intelligence-today-as-promised.html>.

²⁶³ Europe’s digital vision, explain, Politico (Arlington) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.politico.eu/article/europes-digital-vision-explained/>.

²⁶⁴ Europe’s digital vision, explain, Politico (Arlington) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.politico.eu/article/europes-digital-vision-explained/>.

²⁶⁵ Europe’s digital vision, explain, Politico (Arlington) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.politico.eu/article/europes-digital-vision-explained/>.

²⁶⁶ Europe’s digital vision, explain, Politico (Arlington) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.politico.eu/article/europes-digital-vision-explained/>.

3. Digital Economy: Artificial Intelligence

“We will continue to explore ways to advance our work on AI [artificial intelligence] to understand and share, on a regular basis, multidisciplinary research results on artificial intelligence issues and best practices, as well as bringing together international artificial intelligence initiatives.”

Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1 (100%)		

Background

Artificial intelligence (AI) is defined as the following, “AI systems are software (and possibly also hardware) systems designed by humans that, given a complex goal, act in the physical or digital dimension by perceiving their environment through data acquisition, interpreting the collected structured or unstructured data, reasoning on the knowledge, or processing the information, derived from this data and deciding the best action(s) to take to achieve the given goal.”²⁶⁷ These systems can derive the processing and reasoning of information through either “symbolic rules or numeric models and can adapt their behaviour by analysing how the environment is affected by their previous actions.”²⁶⁸ The applications of AI can be defined and described in terms of its scope of application. This scope can be either in terms of narrow/weak or general/strong. Narrow AI are systems that can perform one or a few specific tasks.²⁶⁹ General AI are intended to be systems that can perform most activities that humans can do.²⁷⁰ While current AI systems are limited to their application in narrow terms, general AI systems can have broad effects on culture, society and the economy.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders agreed to the G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor which acknowledged the role of AI to drive inclusive economic growth and progress.²⁷¹ The leaders assessed the potential opportunities and challenges for the next product revolution.²⁷² To that end, G7 leaders acknowledged the need for production innovation, developing

²⁶⁷ A definition of Artificial Intelligence: main capabilities and scientific disciplines, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 7 November 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=56341

²⁶⁸ A definition of Artificial Intelligence: main capabilities and scientific disciplines, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/definition-artificial-intelligence-main-capabilities-and-scientific-disciplines>

²⁶⁹ A definition of Artificial Intelligence: main capabilities and scientific disciplines, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 7 November 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=56341

²⁷⁰ A definition of Artificial Intelligence: main capabilities and scientific disciplines, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 7 November 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=56341

²⁷¹ G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/action-plan.html>

²⁷² G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/action-plan.html>

knowledge-based capital and enabling infrastructure and evaluating the future of work.²⁷³ The 2017 Taormina Summit marked the first time that the G7 leaders discussed AI.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders agreed to the Charlevoix Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence.²⁷⁴ The leaders committed to a common approach to addressing issues on the future of AI, with particular emphasis to foster economic growth, societal trust, gender equality and inclusion.²⁷⁵ The leaders acknowledged that developing a human-centric vision of AI requires a predictable and stable policy environment that encompasses multi-stakeholder engagement.²⁷⁶ The leaders encouraged investments in AI technology to create new opportunities for all people and the development of voluntary codes of conduct, standards or guidelines and the sharing of best practises.²⁷⁷ In addition, the leaders committed to promoting investments in research and development that generates public trust while addressing issues relating to accountability, safety, biases and potential misuse.²⁷⁸

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, the G7, plus Australia, Chile, India, and South Africa agreed to the Biarritz Strategy for an Open Free and Secure Digital Transformation.²⁷⁹ The leaders committed to promoting an open, free and secure digital transformation and recognised the role of the Internet to enable societal and economic development.²⁸⁰ The leaders assessed the potential contributions of AI to provide innovative solutions and progress toward achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and current challenges.²⁸¹ The leaders recognised the potential of AI to transform societies, the global economy, and the future of work to improve the well-being of people, but also the disparate effects regarding privacy and data protection, and the implications for democracy.²⁸² In addition, the leaders also committed to exploring advancements in AI to share and understand best practices as well as to bring together international AI initiatives.²⁸³

²⁷³ G7 People-Centered Action Plan on Innovation, Skills and Labor, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/action-plan.html>

²⁷⁴ Charlevoix Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/ai-commitment.html>

²⁷⁵ Charlevoix Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/ai-commitment.htm>

²⁷⁶ Charlevoix Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/ai-commitment.htm>

²⁷⁷ Charlevoix Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/ai-commitment.htm>

²⁷⁸ Charlevoix Common Vision for the Future of Artificial Intelligence, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/ai-commitment.htm>

²⁷⁹ Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-strategy-for-digital-transformation.html>

²⁸⁰ Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-strategy-for-digital-transformation.html>

²⁸¹ Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-strategy-for-digital-transformation.html>

²⁸² Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-strategy-for-digital-transformation.html>

²⁸³ Biarritz Strategy for an Open, Free and Secure Digital Transformation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-strategy-for-digital-transformation.html>

Commitment Features

This commitment has two main components.

The first component of this commitment is to “explore ways to advance our work on AI to understand and share multidisciplinary research results on artificial intelligence issues and best practices.” which refers to actions that improve on the understanding of AI and its impacts on society.²⁸⁴ This includes efforts to untangle the implications of AI on different sections or specific industries of society that do not directly relate to technical issues regarding the implementation or development of AI.

“Explore ways” can be achieved through the development of working groups, intergovernmental research programs, or allocating funding for the exploration of AI with regards to multidisciplinary research.

“Share” refers to the distribution and dissemination of research findings. Examples include the research and development of practices for distribution of the results from nationally funded AI research programs, contributions to AI specific forums and research projects and the outcomes of discussions. Thus, to be measured as compliance, G7 leaders must research, develop and create methods to which information from research findings can be shared amongst each other.

“Multidisciplinary research” is understood as research that encompasses more than one area of study. Examples include research on AI from public policy, science and technology policy, health, consumer protection, education, industry and transport.²⁸⁵

“Artificial intelligence issues and best practices” are understood as ideas, concepts and standards that relate to the study of AI and its implications on society as the product of research, study and relevant discussions. Thus, these research results must be developed as the product of learned experiences for specific issues relating to AI. Examples can include methods to ensure “human centric” values in the development of AI, the development of workflows to remove potential biases and/or the best methods of measuring the impact of AI on agricultural and other jobs.

The second component is “bringing together international artificial intelligence initiatives.”²⁸⁶ “Bringing together” refers to taking actions directed at developing international norms, standards, and common approaches to AI. “International artificial intelligence initiatives” is interpreted as initiatives that involve coordination with external partners that facilitate a common pool of research. Examples include supporting Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development policy initiatives on AI, developing international forums and/or partnerships on AI related issues to facilitate knowledge exchange and the establishment of common legal standards on AI issues.²⁸⁷

To achieve full compliance, G7 members must take actions that support at least three of the four parts of the commitment: 1) explore ways to improve their understanding of the issue; 2) explore ways to share results; 3) explore ways to share best practices; or 4) take actions that support the development of international best practices.

²⁸⁴ Digital Transformation in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/digital-transformation.html>

²⁸⁵ OECD AI Policy Observatory: A Platform for AI information, evidence and policy options, OECD (Paris) September 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/going-digital/ai/about-the-oecd-ai-policy-observatory.pdf>

²⁸⁶ Digital Transformation in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/digital-transformation.html>

²⁸⁷ Canada and France work with international community to support responsible use of artificial intelligence, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 16 May 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/05/canada-and-france-work-with-international-community-to-support-responsible-use-of-artificial-intelligence.html>

If only two of four parts of this commitment are fulfilled, members will receive a score of partial compliance. For instance, if a G7 member takes actions toward exploring ways to improve their understanding of the issue and share results, but does not explore ways to share best practices or take actions that support the development of international best practices, the member will receive a score of 0. The same score will be applied if a G7 member explores ways to share results and best practices, but does not examine ways to improve their understanding of the issue or support the development of international best practices; or if the member explores ways to improve their understanding of the issue and share practices, but fails to examine ways to share results or promote the development of international best practices.

A score of -1, no compliance, will be assigned if the G7 member fulfills only one of four parts of the commitment. A score of no compliance will also be assigned if a G7 member takes no action toward any of the four parts of the commitment.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member has ONLY taken action toward ONE of the four parts of the commitment, OR has NOT taken any action towards any of the four parts of the commitment.
0	G7 member takes actions toward TWO of the four parts of the commitment and has NOT taken action towards the other parts of the commitment.
+1	G7 member takes actions toward at least THREE of the four parts of the commitment by exploring ways to improve their understanding of the issue, OR exploring ways to share results, OR exploring ways to share best practices, OR taking actions to develop international best practices.

*Compliance Director: Joe Wu
Lead Analyst: Feaven Abidta*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to explore ways to improve its understanding of artificial intelligence (AI), as well as to share results and best practices.

On 26 August 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and French President Emmanuel Macron established the Global Partnership in Artificial Intelligence, in collaboration with several other countries and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.²⁸⁸ This global partnership will enable policymakers and experts from the industry and academia, to come together to deliberate on further developments in AI and its policy implications.²⁸⁹

On 6 September 2019, Canada's Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Navdeep Bains and Quebec's Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie Nadine Girault announced the creation of a Montreal-based international centre of expertise in AI, as part of

²⁸⁸ Address by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at the G7 Summit, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2019/08/26/prime-minister-concludes-productive-g7-leaders-summit-france>

²⁸⁹ G7 Leaders Summit: Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence, OECD (Paris) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/about/secretary-general/artificial-intelligence-g7-summit-france-august-2019.htm>

the Global Partnership in Artificial Intelligence.²⁹⁰ The Canadian government has committed to investing CAD10 million over five years to support the activities of the centre, while an additional CAD5 million in funding will be provided by the Quebec government.²⁹¹ Once it formally begins its operation, the centre will facilitate collaboration between industry, academia, and civil society, to identify and anticipate issues associated with AI.²⁹² The centre's research and analysis will also be aimed at supporting the responsible development of AI, which is based in ethical values, human rights, innovation, and economic growth.²⁹³

On 10 January 2020, Canada's School of Public Service Scott McNaughton released a podcast series titled "Innovate on Demand: Regulatory Artificial Intelligence" available to the general public, in order to better understand how federal regulators can integrate technologies such as AI and Rules as Code into their work.²⁹⁴ This podcast aims to demystify and improve public understanding of AI policy for all.²⁹⁵

On 14 January 2020, the Government of Canada's Innovation Superclusters Initiative announced ten new AI projects.²⁹⁶ These projects will bring together private companies, academic institutions, and non-for profits organizations, that are examining how artificial intelligence can modernize and enhance productivity in the sectors of shipping, retail trade, aeronautics, and healthcare. The federal government, the Quebec government, and industry partners will invest CAD74.7 million in these projects.²⁹⁷

On 15-16 January 2020, in Toronto, Canada the Canadian Institution for Advance Research, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada and the U.S. Consulate General Toronto held the Canada – U.S. AI Symposium on Economic Innovation.²⁹⁸ The Symposium brought together students, researchers, policy makers, government and industry members to discuss the

²⁹⁰ Government of Canada and Government of Quebec announce the creation of an international centre of expertise in Montreal for the advancement of artificial intelligence, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic->

²⁹¹ Government of Canada and Government of Quebec announce the creation of an international centre of expertise in Montreal for the advancement of artificial intelligence, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic->

²⁹² Government of Canada and Government of Quebec announce the creation of an international centre of expertise in Montreal for the advancement of artificial intelligence, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic->

²⁹³ Government of Canada and Government of Quebec announce the creation of an international centre of expertise in Montreal for the advancement of artificial intelligence, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2019/09/government-of-canada-and-government-of-quebec-announce-the-creation-of-an-international-centre-of-expertise-in-montreal-for-the-advancement-of-arti.html>

²⁹⁴ Innovate on Demand: Regulatory Artificial Intelligence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 January 2020. Access Date: 6 April 2020. <https://www.cspc-efpc.gc.ca/podcasts/innovate7-eng.aspx>

²⁹⁵ Innovate on Demand: Regulatory Artificial Intelligence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 January 2020. Access Date: 6 April 2020. <https://www.cspc-efpc.gc.ca/podcasts/innovate7-eng.aspx>

²⁹⁶ Supercluster invests in AI's economic potential for Canadians, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 6 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2020/01/supercluster-invests-in-ais-economic-potential-for-canadians.html>

²⁹⁷ Supercluster invests in AI's economic potential for Canadians, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 6 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2020/01/supercluster-invests-in-ais-economic-potential-for-canadians.html>

²⁹⁸ Canada-U.S. AI Symposium on Economic Innovation, CIFAR (Toronto) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.cifar.ca/ai/ai-society/canada-us-ai-symposium-on-economic-innovation>

future of work, data governance and regulatory innovations to support the development of competitive AI strategies.²⁹⁹ The participants agreed to cooperate across the private sector, government, academia and civil society to support measures of competitive develop AI technologies that support economic growth and regional development in socially responsible methods, that “cultivate public trust” and address societal concerns.³⁰⁰

On 28 January 2020, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada announced that it would launch a consultation process to help ensure the appropriate regulation of AI.³⁰¹ Through this process, experts in the field will have an opportunity to provide feedback on how existing federal legislation should potentially be reformed in order enhance the protection of personal data and promote responsible innovation as there continues to be rapid developments in AI.³⁰²

On 1 February 2020, the Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence Initiative released its funding to program participants.³⁰³ The joint initiative launched in June 2019, aimed support AI collaboration to build competitive and resilient economies and maximize social and health benefits.³⁰⁴ Research participants in the initiative will conduct interdisciplinary research within the fields of social sciences and humanities, health and biomedical sciences, and natural sciences and engineering.³⁰⁵

On 24 February 2020, the Minister of Innovation, Science, and Industry, Navdeep Bains and the British High Commissioner to Canada, Susan le Jeune d’Allegeershecque announced that their respective governments would provide an additional investment of CAD5 million and GBP5 million to fund ten international research teams, under the Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence Initiative.³⁰⁶ These research teams will consist of experts from Canada and the UK, who will work on multidisciplinary projects that examine how AI can be harnessed to combat abusive online language, detect and monitor global disease outbreaks, and other purposes.³⁰⁷

²⁹⁹ Canada-U.S. AI Symposium on Economic Innovation, CIFAR (Toronto) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.cifar.ca/ai/ai-society/canada-us-ai-symposium-on-economic-innovation>

³⁰⁰ Canada-U.S. AI Symposium on Economic Innovation, CIFAR (Toronto) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.cifar.ca/ai/ai-society/canada-us-ai-symposium-on-economic-innovation>

³⁰¹ Consultation on the OPC’s Proposals for ensuring appropriate regulation of artificial intelligence, Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (Ottawa) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020.

https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/about-the-opc/what-we-do/consultations/consultation-ai/pos_ai_202001/

³⁰² Consultation on the OPC’s Proposals for ensuring appropriate regulation of artificial intelligence, Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (Ottawa) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020.

https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/about-the-opc/what-we-do/consultations/consultation-ai/pos_ai_202001/

³⁰³ Announcement-Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence Initiative, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 1 February 2020. Access Date: 6 April 2020. <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51520.html>

³⁰⁴ Announcement-Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence Initiative, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 1 February 2020. Access Date: 6 April 2020. <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51520.html>

³⁰⁵ Announcement-Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence Initiative, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 1 February 2020. Access Date: 6 April 2020. <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51520.html>

³⁰⁶ Canada and the United Kingdom Collaborate on responsible artificial intelligence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/social-sciences-humanities-research/news/2020/02/canada-and-the-united-kingdom-collaborate-on-responsible-artificial-intelligence.html>

³⁰⁷ Canada and the United Kingdom Collaborate on responsible artificial intelligence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/social-sciences-humanities-research/news/2020/02/canada-and-the-united-kingdom-collaborate-on-responsible-artificial-intelligence.html>

On 1 April 2020, Public Services and Procurement Canada, in partnership with Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, released a list of AI suppliers that can provide responsible and effective AI products and services to the federal government.³⁰⁸

Canada has taken clear measures to improve its understanding of AI and its impact on society. It has also explored ways to share results and best practices, through its involvement in both the Global Partnership in Artificial Intelligence and the Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence Initiative.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tiffany Kwok

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to explore ways to improve its understanding of artificial intelligence (AI), as well as to share results and best practices.

On 26 August 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and French President Emmanuel Macron established the Global Partnership in Artificial Intelligence, in collaboration with several other countries and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.³⁰⁹ This global partnership will enable policymakers and experts from the industry and academia, to come together to deliberate on further developments in AI and its policy implications.³¹⁰

On 27 September 2019, the Ministry of Finance published the 2020 finance bill, which pledges EU38 million toward research programs on AI.³¹¹ The AI program will reinforce and focus on research collaboration between the public and private sector.³¹²

On 16 October 2019, during the Franco-German Ministerial Council in Toulouse, Germany and France agreed to reach a joint approach in early 2020 on a common data infrastructure and to explore new data sharing initiatives in specific industries.³¹³ A roadmap on AI was presented during the Council.³¹⁴ The four ministries from both sides (in charge of economy and research) finalized the plans for the creation of a “virtual AI network,” with the establishment of a “research link” and a

³⁰⁸ List of interested Artificial Intelligence (AI) Suppliers, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/government/system/digital-government/modern-emerging-technologies/responsible-use-ai/list-interested-artificial-intelligence-ai-suppliers.html>

³⁰⁹ Address by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at the G7 Summit, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2019/08/26/prime-minister-concludes-productive-g7-leaders-summit-france>

³¹⁰ G7 Leaders Summit: Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence, OECD (Paris) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/about/secretary-general/artificial-intelligence-g7-summit-france-august-2019.htm>

³¹¹ Baisser Les Impôts, Préparer L’Avenir 2020, Ministry of Finance (Paris) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=1DC53905-71C2-4CC9-86C6-4B9CC24CF246&filename=Dossier%20de%20presse%20-%20PLF%202020.pdf

³¹² Baisser Les Impôts, Préparer L’Avenir 2020, Ministry of Finance (Paris) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=1DC53905-71C2-4CC9-86C6-4B9CC24CF246&filename=Dossier%20de%20presse%20-%20PLF%202020.pdf

³¹³ Franco-German Ministerial Council: new roadmap on economic and financial cooperation, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2019-10-16-franco-german-ministerial-council.html>

³¹⁴ Franco-German Ministerial Council: new roadmap on economic and financial cooperation, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2019-10-16-franco-german-ministerial-council.html>

“business” link, to facilitate the transfer of skills and technologies between companies and research institutions on both sides.³¹⁵ A joint working group was also set up to identify common methods for bilateral and multilateral cooperation with the objective of reaching coordinated action on AI standardisation and a common position on AI legislation.³¹⁶

On 28-30 October 2019, France hosted the Global Forum on AI for Humanity in Paris.³¹⁷ This forum served as the formal launch pad for Global Partnership on AI and was attended by policy makers, experts from the industry and academia, and civil society representatives.³¹⁸ Participants explored and discussed the various opportunities and challenges associated with AI.³¹⁹ Participants also deliberated on the best methods and tools to address the challenges raised by AI.³²⁰ At the end of the forum, President Macron also acknowledged the importance of further examining the impact that AI has had on society.³²¹

On 4 November 2019, the Ministry of Environment published a General Commission for Sustainable Development report, which detailed the benefits of AI to carry out effective data processing and for public policy makers.³²²

On 12 November 2019, during the Paris Peace Forum, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian opened the roundtable session on the Alliance for Multilateralism.³²³ The Minister reaffirmed the importance of multilateral approaches to digital technology such as AI to appropriately address issues concerning cyberspace which includes a multitude of actors.³²⁴

On 22-23 November 2019, the Secretary of State to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne attended the G20 meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers in Nagoya, Japan.³²⁵

³¹⁵ Roadmap for a Research and Innovation Network on Artificial Intelligence between the Governments of the French Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 5 December 2019. https://www.bmbf.de/files/191016_Roadmap_FRA_GER_AI_Network.pdf

³¹⁶ Franco-German Minister Council: new roadmap on economic and financial cooperation, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2019-10-16-franco-german-ministerial-council.html>

³¹⁷ Global Forum on AI for Humanity, Embassy of France in Washington DC (Paris) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9413>

³¹⁸ Global Forum on AI for Humanity, Embassy of France in Washington DC (Paris) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9413>

³¹⁹ Global Forum on AI for Humanity, Embassy of France in Washington DC (Paris) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9413>

³²⁰ Global Forum on AI for Humanity, Embassy of France in Washington DC (Paris) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9413>

³²¹ Global Forum on AI for Humanity, Embassy of France in Washington DC (Paris) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9413>

³²² General Commission for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment (Paris) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/Th%C3%A9ma%20-%20Challenge%20RST-Analytics%20.pdf>

³²³ Paris Peace Forum Roundtable session at the Alliance for Multilateralism, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/our-ministers/jean-yves-le-drian/speeches/article/paris-peace-forum-round-table-session-at-the-alliance-for-multilateralism>

³²⁴ Paris Peace Forum Roundtable session at the Alliance for Multilateralism, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/our-ministers/jean-yves-le-drian/speeches/article/paris-peace-forum-round-table-session-at-the-alliance-for-multilateralism>

³²⁵ G20 Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne’s participation in the G20 Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 23 November 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g20-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-s-participation-in-the-g20-meeting-of-foreign-affairs>

The minister highlighted the regulatory challenges relating to the digital economy, particularly in the areas of corporate tax, AI, and data protection.³²⁶

On 28 November 2019, the French government released the results and findings of the first six AI projects proposed for public service.³²⁷

On 15 January 2020, the French government announced a public call for innovative projects that would examine how AI can be implemented to improve the healthcare system, particularly with regards to medical diagnoses and the management of health data.³²⁸

On 18 February 2020, the government launched the French National Institute for Research in digital sciences (Inria) under the project “Ambition Inria 2023.”³²⁹ Through this project, Inria will be undertake research projects that focus on how digital technology, digital security, AI, and quantum computing, can address contemporary challenges.³³⁰ This project forms part of the foundation for France’s digital strategy to speed up France’s scientific and technological leadership in digital technology, as part of a broader Europe wide approach.³³¹

On 27 February 2020, France’s AI Strategy Report was updated to note that Inria would play a leading role in the national AI strategy and will conduct research on AI and provide annual reports on its coordination activities to the ministerial steering committee of the national AI strategy.³³²

On 5 March 2020, the AI France Summit was held in Paris by TECH IN France, in partnership with the Ministry of Economy and Finance.³³³ The summit brought together researchers, business officials, and civil servants, to discuss various topics, such as the impact of AI on work and society.³³⁴

France has taken clear measures to improve its understanding of AI and its impact on society through its funding of research projects and forums on AI. It has also explored ways to share results and best practices, through its participation in the Global Partnership in Artificial Intelligence.

³²⁶ G20 Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne’s participation in the G20 Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 23 November 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g20-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-s-participation-in-the-g20-meeting-of-foreign-affairs>

³²⁷ Proposed Experimented Projects for Public Service, Government of France (Paris) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://static.data.gouv.fr/resources/appele-a-manifestation-dinteret-ia-ndeg1/20191213-134819/20191128-pitch.pdf>

³²⁸ Call for Projects: Let’s innovate to improve the healthcare system thanks to artificial intelligence, Government of France (Paris) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/appele-a-projets-innovons-pour-ameliorer-le-systeme-de-sante-grace-a-l-intelligence-artificielle>

³²⁹ Inria: for scientific, technological and industrial leadership in digital technology, French government News 24 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/inria-for-scientific-technological-and-industrial-leadership-in-digital-technology>

³³⁰ Inria: for scientific, technological and industrial leadership in digital technology, French government News 24 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/inria-for-scientific-technological-and-industrial-leadership-in-digital-technology>

³³¹ Inria: for scientific, technological and industrial leadership in digital technology, French government News 24 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/inria-for-scientific-technological-and-industrial-leadership-in-digital-technology>

³³² France AI Strategy Report, European Commission (Brussels) 27 February 2020. Access date: 10 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/knowledge4policy/ai-watch/france-ai-strategy-report_en

³³³ AI France Summit, AI France Summit (Paris) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.aifrancesummit.fr/>

³³⁴ Opinion of the Data Ethics Commission, Data Ethics Commission of the Federal Government (Berlin) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019.

³³⁴ AI France Summit, AI France Summit (Paris) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.aifrancesummit.fr/>

Thus, France has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Jessie Choden Namgyal

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to explore ways to advance its understanding of artificial intelligence (AI) and share, on a regular basis, multidisciplinary research results on AI issues and best practices, as well as bringing together international AI initiatives.

On 16 October 2019, during the Franco-German Ministerial Council in Toulouse, Germany and France agreed to reach a joint approach in early 2020 on a common data infrastructure and to explore new data sharing initiatives in specific industries.³³⁵ A roadmap on AI was presented during the Council.³³⁶ The four ministries from both sides (in charge of economy and research) finalized the plans for the creation of a “virtual AI network,” with the establishment of a “research link” and a “business” link, to facilitate the transfer of skills and technologies between companies and research institutions on both sides.³³⁷ A joint working group was also set up to identify common methods for bilateral and multilateral cooperation with the objective of reaching coordinated action on AI standardisation and a common position on AI legislation.³³⁸

On 23 October 2019, Germany’s federally sponsored Data Ethics Commission published a report that sets out recommendations for how data and algorithmic development should happen in regard to AI.³³⁹ The German government set up the commission in 2018 to develop ethical guidelines with respect to AI and recommendations for protecting individual rights.³⁴⁰

On 10-11 November 2019, during a Cabinet retreat in Meseberg, senior officials from the German government and industry experts discussed concerns relating to AI, particularly with respect to democracy.³⁴¹ For instance, they addressed the potential use of “deepfakes” during democratic elections – which refers to when AI is used to produce fake videos and audio that appear to be

³³⁵ Franco-German Ministerial Council: new roadmap on economic and financial cooperation, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2019-10-16-franco-german-ministerial-council.html>

³³⁶ Franco-German Ministerial Council: new roadmap on economic and financial cooperation, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2019-10-16-franco-german-ministerial-council.html>

³³⁷ Roadmap for a Research and Innovation Network on Artificial Intelligence between the Governments of the French Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 5 December 2019. https://www.bmbf.de/files/191016_Roadmap_FRA_GER_AI_Network.pdf

³³⁸ Franco-German Minister Council: new roadmap on economic and financial cooperation, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2019-10-16-franco-german-ministerial-council.html>

³³⁹ Opinion of the Data Ethics Commission, Data Ethics Commission of the Federal Government (Berlin) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. https://www.bmfv.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Themen/Fokusthemen/Gutachten_DEK_EN.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=1

³⁴⁰ Opinion of the Data Ethics Commission, Data Ethics Commission of the Federal Government (Berlin) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. https://www.bmfv.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Themen/Fokusthemen/Gutachten_DEK_EN.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=1

³⁴¹ Government retreat focuses on digital issues, Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (Berlin), 20 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/digital-klausur-meseberg-1693590>

authentic.³⁴² Officials and experts also discussed strategies that could be undertaken in order to address these challenges that AI poses to democracy.³⁴³

On 2 December 2019, the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy launched the “Regulatory Sandboxes Innovation Prize.”³⁴⁴ The Ministry said the project will support innovation with regulation exemptions or “experimentation clauses” for a “limited time” where new and emerging technologies and their business models are tested in a “real life” environment.³⁴⁵ These regulatory “Sandboxes” will allow for testing of compatibility of legal and regulatory frameworks and new technologies to develop insights where for legal framework improvement.³⁴⁶ These regulatory sandboxes will be used applied to test technologies such as self-driving cars, telemedicine and new e-public administration models.³⁴⁷

On 5 December 2019, during an interview conducted by the German broadcasting service Deutsche Welle, Ina Schifferdecker, a junior minister in Germany’s Federal Ministry of Education and Research, defended the “trustworthiness” of AI and technology in general.³⁴⁸ Junior minister Schifferdecker also called for an interdisciplinary approach to developing AI, involving business, science and education sectors.³⁴⁹

On 17 January 2020, the German government and the state of Berlin announced that they would be funding the establishment of a new AI research centre.³⁵⁰ The two existing AI research centres at the

³⁴² Government retreat focuses on digital issues, Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (Berlin), 20 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/digital-klausur-meseberg-1693590>

³⁴³ Government retreat focuses on digital issues, Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (Berlin), 20 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/digital-klausur-meseberg-1693590>

³⁴⁴ Minister Altmaier: “Spotlighting regulatory sandboxes” - Economic Affairs Ministry awards innovation prize for testing environments for innovation and regulation, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20191202-altmaier-spotlighting-regulatory-sandboxes.html>

³⁴⁵ Minister Altmaier: “Spotlighting regulatory sandboxes” - Economic Affairs Ministry awards innovation prize for testing environments for innovation and regulation, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20191202-altmaier-spotlighting-regulatory-sandboxes.html>

³⁴⁶ Minister Altmaier: “Spotlighting regulatory sandboxes” - Economic Affairs Ministry awards innovation prize for testing environments for innovation and regulation, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20191202-altmaier-spotlighting-regulatory-sandboxes.html>

³⁴⁷ Minister Altmaier: “Spotlighting regulatory sandboxes” - Economic Affairs Ministry awards innovation prize for testing environments for innovation and regulation, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (Berlin) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/20191202-altmaier-spotlighting-regulatory-sandboxes.html>

³⁴⁸ Minister, what's a European artificial intelligence?, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.dw.com/en/minister-whats-a-european-artificial-intelligence/a-51599207?maca=en-gk_volltext_AppleNews_scitech-16401-xml-atom

³⁴⁹ Minister, what's a European artificial intelligence?, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.dw.com/en/minister-whats-a-european-artificial-intelligence/a-51599207?maca=en-gk_volltext_AppleNews_scitech-16401-xml-atom

³⁵⁰ ³⁵⁰ Novel cutting-edge AI research Centre in Berlin is funded with millions of euros by the German Government and the State of Berlin, The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin), 17 January 2020. Access Date: 9 March 2019 https://www.research-in-germany.org/news/2020/1/2020-01-17_Novel_cutting-edge_AI_research_Centre_in_Berlin_is_funded_with_millions_of_euros_by_the_German_Government_and_the_State_of_Berlin.html

Technische Universität Berlin, the Berlin Big Data Center and the Berlin Centre for Machine Learning, will be merged in the newly created Berlin Institute for the Foundation of Learning.³⁵¹

On 7 February 2020, the German consulate in New York hosted an event which examined AI ethics.³⁵² The event examined current trends and practices in effectively applying the AI ethics principles of explainability and enforceability.³⁵³ Other topics of discussion included social media, big data, and data sovereignty.³⁵⁴

Germany has taken actions to enhance its understanding of AI, through pursuing various research initiatives and other funded projects. Furthermore, it has also worked with other G7 members, such as France, to further the means of exploring and sharing its results of AI research development and best practices.

Thus, Germany has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Henry Luo

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to explore ways to improve its understanding of artificial intelligence (AI), as well as to share results and best practices.

On 13 September 2020, the Ministry of Economic Development closed the public consultation period for “Intelligenza Artificiale Verso una strategia nazionale” (National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence).³⁵⁵ The National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence identifies nine objectives including: increasing public and private collaboration; developing a research and innovation ecosystem; supporting the adoption of digital technologies; placing AI in the workforce; consolidating an ethical regulatory framework; promoting trust and awareness in AI among citizens and fostering European and International cooperation for responsible and inclusive AI.³⁵⁶

On 22 November 2019, Italian President Conte gave a speech at the “Conferenza statuto etico e giuridico dell’intelligenza artificiale” (Conference on the ethical and legal status of artificial intelligence) in the Chamber of Deputies.³⁵⁷ In his speech, President Conte called for the need to

³⁵¹ Novel cutting-edge AI research Centre in Berlin is funded with millions of euros by the German Government and the State of Berlin, The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin), 17 January 2020. Access Date: 9 March 2019 https://www.research-in-germany.org/news/2020/1/2020-01-17_Novel_cutting-edge_AI_research_Centre_in_Berlin_is_funded_with_millions_of_euros_by_the_German_Government_and_the_State_of_Berlin.html

³⁵² For Better or for Worse? Peter Dabrock Debates AI Ethics, The German Consulates General in the United States (New York), 7 February 2020. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <https://www.germany.info/us-en/embassy-consulates/newyork/-/2305080>

³⁵³ For Better or for Worse? Peter Dabrock Debates AI Ethics, The German Consulates General in the United States (New York), 7 February 2020. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <https://www.germany.info/us-en/embassy-consulates/newyork/-/2305080>

³⁵⁴ For Better or for Worse? Peter Dabrock Debates AI Ethics, The German Consulates General in the United States (New York), 7 February 2020. Access Date: 9 March 2019. <https://www.germany.info/us-en/embassy-consulates/newyork/-/2305080>

³⁵⁵ Consultazione sulla Strategia nazionale per l’Intelligenza Artificiale, Governo Italiano (Rome), 5 September 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/consultazione-sulla-strategia-nazionale-l-intelligenza-artificiale/12694>

³⁵⁶ Consultazione sulla Strategia nazionale per l’Intelligenza Artificiale, Governo Italiano (Rome), 5 September 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/consultazione-sulla-strategia-nazionale-l-intelligenza-artificiale/12694>

³⁵⁷ Intervento del Presidente Conte alla Conferenza sullo statuto etico e giuridico dell’intelligenza artificiale, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome), 22 November 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/intervento-del-presidente-conte-alla-conferenza-sullo-statuto-etico-e-giuridico-dell>

address AI from a regulatory and political point of view to preserve the role for the human in society and to protect their “cultural and material wealth.”³⁵⁸ President Conte also called for the study and research to address the needs of small and medium size businesses from the impacts of AI and technological innovation.³⁵⁹

On 28 February 2020, in Rome, Italy, the Italian Government alongside the Pontifical Academy for Life of the Vatican City, Microsoft, IBM, and the FAO signed the “Rome Call for AI Ethics.”³⁶⁰ The document aims to support the development of an ethical approach to AI which “promotes a sense of responsibility” for governments, organizations and institutions which serve human creativity.³⁶¹

On 2 March 2020, the UK-Italy robotics and AI research collaboration workshop between the UK Turing Institute, Consorzio Interuniversitario Nazionale per Informatica (CINI) – Laboratorio Nazionale di Artificial Intelligence and Intelligent Systems, Centro di Competenza ad Alta Specializzazione in Industria 4.0 e Robotica (Artes 4.0) and Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia postponed its workshop due to be held on 18-19 March 2020 due to COVID-19.³⁶² The workshop was to be held at the residence of the British Ambassador in Rome.³⁶³ The workshop aimed to bring together leading researchers in AI from Italy and the UK to identify topics of collaboration and establish a basis for future joint venture activities in AI.³⁶⁴

On 14 January 2020, CINI and NVIDIA signed a three-year joint collaboration partnership aimed to accelerate AI research and commercial adoption across Italy.³⁶⁵ The initiative has an estimated value of EUR2 million over three years.³⁶⁶ The initiative will create a local research hub at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (Unimore) and aims to train students, nurture start-ups and spread adoption of AI technology in industry.³⁶⁷

On 23 March 2020, the government of Italy announced the “Innova per l’Italia” initiative, which encourages companies, universities, research centers, and other organizations to contribute products

³⁵⁸ Intervento del Presidente Conte alla Conferenza sullo statuto etico e giuridico dell’intelligenza artificiale, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome), 22 November 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2020.

<http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/intervento-del-presidente-conte-alla-conferenza-sullo-statuto-etico-e-giuridico-dell>

³⁵⁹ Intervento del Presidente Conte alla Conferenza sullo statuto etico e giuridico dell’intelligenza artificiale, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome), 22 November 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2020.

<http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/intervento-del-presidente-conte-alla-conferenza-sullo-statuto-etico-e-giuridico-dell>

³⁶⁰ AI ethics backed by Pope and tech giants in new plan, BBC (London), 28 February 2020. Access Date 27 April 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-51673296>

³⁶¹ Rome Call for AI Ethics, Pontifical Academy for Life (Vatican City), 28 February 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020 [http://www.academyforlife.va/content/dam/pav/documenti%20pdf/2020/CALL%2028%20febbraio/AI%20Rome%20Ca](http://www.academyforlife.va/content/dam/pav/documenti%20pdf/2020/CALL%2028%20febbraio/AI%20Rome%20Call%20x%20firma_DEF_DEF_.pdf)

³⁶² UK-Italy robotics and AI research collaboration workshop, The Alan Turing Institute (London), 2 March 2020. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/events/uk-italy-robotics-and-ai-research-collaboration-workshop>

³⁶³ UK-Italy robotics and AI research collaboration workshop, The Alan Turing Institute (London), 2 March 2020. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/events/uk-italy-robotics-and-ai-research-collaboration-workshop>

³⁶⁴ UK-Italy robotics and AI research collaboration workshop, The Alan Turing Institute (London), 2 March 2020. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/events/uk-italy-robotics-and-ai-research-collaboration-workshop>

³⁶⁵ Italy Forges AI Future in Partnership with NVIDIA, NVIDIA (Santa Clara), 15 January 2020. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <https://blogs.nvidia.com/blog/2020/01/15/italy-ai-nvaitc/>

³⁶⁶ La prima sede italiana di NVIDIA AI Technology Center apre in Unimore, Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia Magazine (Modena), 14 January 2020, Access Date: 2 May 2020. <https://www.magazine.unimore.it/site/home/notizie/articolo820052606.html>

³⁶⁷ Italy Forges AI Future in Partnership with NVIDIA, NVIDIA (Santa Clara), 15 January 2020. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <https://blogs.nvidia.com/blog/2020/01/15/italy-ai-nvaitc/>

and technologies that can help the fight against COVID-19.³⁶⁸ Through this initiative, the Italian government is seeking to utilize artificial intelligence and other technology to more effectively monitor and contain the spread of the virus.³⁶⁹

Italy has taken measures to enhance its understanding of AI and has attempted to /worked to explore ways to share results or best practices relating to further developments in AI. It has also taken actions that would promote the development of international best practises.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tigran Abelyan

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to improve its understanding of artificial intelligence (AI) as well as explore ways to share results and best practices.

On 29 August 2019, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Kenji Yamada committed to working with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for AI application and capacity-building in Africa, at the Seventh Tokyo International Conference for African Development (TICAD).³⁷⁰ The main focus of TICAD was to promote business for both countries involved, with the theme of ‘Advancing Africa’s development through people, technology and innovation’.³⁷¹ The panel discussion revolved around African AI prospects and challenges, and it also explored how AI could potentially be used in areas of disaster reduction.³⁷² Japan also committed to continuing to work with and support UNESCO as it develops ethical guidelines for AI.³⁷³

On 19 September 2019, at the Alan Turing Institute in London, the United Kingdom government in partnership with the Japanese government held a workshop in the fields of robotics, AI and the ethical use of data.³⁷⁴ The workshop involved over 130 participants including academic researchers from Japan and industry representatives from Japan and the UK.³⁷⁵ The workshop recognised the need to share and develop solutions on using data legally, ethically and safely while facilitating

³⁶⁸ Innova per l’Italia: technology, research and innovation against the COVID emergency, Ministry for Technological Innovation and Digitization (Rome), 23 March 2020. Access Date: 2 April 2020. <https://innovazione.gov.it/innova-per-l-italia-technology-research-and-innovation-against-the-covid-emergency/>

³⁶⁹ Innova per l’Italia: technology, research and innovation against the COVID emergency, Ministry for Technological Innovation and Digitization (Rome), 23 March 2020. Access Date: 2 April 2020. <https://innovazione.gov.it/innova-per-l-italia-technology-research-and-innovation-against-the-covid-emergency/>

³⁷⁰ Japan renews commitment to UNESCO through enhanced cooperation on artificial intelligence and cultural diversity, UNESCO (Paris) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 18 November 2019. <https://en.unesco.org/news/japan-renews-commitment-unesco-through-enhanced-cooperation-artificial-intelligence-and>

³⁷¹ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 18 November 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>

³⁷² The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 18 November 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>

³⁷³ TICAD7 official side event “Panel Discussion on AI Utilization,” Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 18 November 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/pr_pd/mcc/page4e_001090.html

³⁷⁴ UK-Japan robotics and AI workshops produce promising collaboration in health, transport and smart city infrastructure. Alan Turing Institute (London). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/research/research-programmes/artificial-intelligence-robotics/programme-articles/uk-japan-robotics-and-ai-workshops-produce-promising-collaborations-health-transport-and-smart-city>

³⁷⁵ UK-Japan robotics and AI workshops produce promising collaboration in health, transport and smart city infrastructure. Alan Turing Institute (London). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/research/research-programmes/artificial-intelligence-robotics/programme-articles/uk-japan-robotics-and-ai-workshops-produce-promising-collaborations-health-transport-and-smart-city>

technological breakthroughs in scalable deployment of algorithms.³⁷⁶ The participants identified key potential impact areas for AI and robotics including “sustaining the health of aging populations; infrastructure inspection repair and maintenance in extreme environment; mitigating climate change; and managing transport systems within smart cities.”³⁷⁷

On 10-11 October 2019, during the tenth U.S.-Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy in Tokyo, the US and Japan emphasised their commitment to an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet and the global digital economy policy environment.³⁷⁸ The dialogue included discussions with public and private sector representatives on “public-private partnerships regarding the social implementation of artificial intelligence (AI) in a manner that fosters public trust in AI.”³⁷⁹ The U.S. and Japan reaffirmed their commitment to international policy discussions for an inclusive, open and transparent system of internet governance based on a multi-stakeholder approach.³⁸⁰ Furthermore, both countries also emphasised the importance of sharing best practises of the results of social implementation on AI at international forums.³⁸¹

On 3 December 2019, in Paris, France, the UNESCO held a roundtable on the topic of the “Changing Relationship between Artificial Intelligence and Humans.”³⁸² The roundtable is part of a series of events hosted by the UNESCO with funding from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan.³⁸³ The roundtable aimed to address issues relating to AI assisted decision making and the impact of AI on human communications for policy makers, researchers, and the general public.³⁸⁴

³⁷⁶ UK-Japan robotics and AI workshops produce promising collaboration in health, transport and smart city infrastructure. Alan Turing Institute (London). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/research/research-programmes/artificial-intelligence-robotics/programme-articles/uk-japan-robotics-and-ai-workshops-produce-promising-collaborations-health-transport-and-smart-city>

³⁷⁷ UK-Japan robotics and AI workshops produce promising collaboration in health, transport and smart city infrastructure. Alan Turing Institute (London). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/research/research-programmes/artificial-intelligence-robotics/programme-articles/uk-japan-robotics-and-ai-workshops-produce-promising-collaborations-health-transport-and-smart-city>

³⁷⁸ Joint Statement on the 10th U.S.- Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo). 11 October 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2019/10/20191018005/20191018006-2.pdf>

³⁷⁹ Tenth U.S.-Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy Held, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/1018_005.html

³⁸⁰ Joint Statement on the 10th U.S.- Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo). 11 October 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2019/10/20191018005/20191018006-2.pdf>

³⁸¹ Joint Statement on the 10th U.S.- Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo). 11 October 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2019/10/20191018005/20191018006-2.pdf>

³⁸² Roundtable on “Changing Relationships between Artificial Intelligence and Humans,” UNESCO (Paris) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://en.unesco.org/events/roundtable-changing-relationship-between-artificial-intelligence-and-humans>

³⁸³ Roundtable on “Changing Relationships between Artificial Intelligence and Humans,” UNESCO (Paris) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://en.unesco.org/events/roundtable-changing-relationship-between-artificial-intelligence-and-humans>

³⁸⁴ Roundtable on “Changing Relationships between Artificial Intelligence and Humans,” UNESCO (Paris) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://en.unesco.org/events/roundtable-changing-relationship-between-artificial-intelligence-and-humans>

On 5 December 2019 in Brussels, Belgium, the European Union and Japan co-chaired the fifth Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation.³⁸⁵ The EU and Japan recognized research and innovation as key areas of cooperation and explored priority areas for future collaboration.³⁸⁶ Subsequently, the EU and Japan reviewed the results from previous collaborations and discussed present activities, new initiatives, and ways to strengthen future thematic cooperation in AI among other areas.³⁸⁷

On 22 January 2020, the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) through the Arts and Humanities Research Council announced the launch of six joint Japanese-UK research projects with the Japanese Science and Technology Agency (JST).³⁸⁸ These research projects will investigate the impacts of AI technologies effect on society, culture and economy for a duration of three years beginning in January 2020.³⁸⁹ The projects aim to improve the understanding of how AI technologies could affect people's lives in healthcare, housework and the ethics of AI driven legal decision making.³⁹⁰ The projects are funded through the joint UK-Japan initiative of the UKRI Fund for International Collaboration with a GBP2.4 million contribution from the UKRI and JPY180 million from the JST.³⁹¹

In February 2020, the JST announced a call for proposal for the Moonshoot research and development program.³⁹² Through this program, the Japanese government has committed to spending JPY100 billion over five years to fund research on how technological innovations and further development in AI can address contemporary challenges, such as the early detection and prevention of infectious diseases.³⁹³

On 19 February 2020, the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Kajiyama Hiroshi held a meeting with the Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization Director, Francis

³⁸⁵ The 5th Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the EU and Japan Joint Summary. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/dns/isc/page22e_000937.html

³⁸⁶ The 5th Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the EU and Japan Joint Summary. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/dns/isc/page22e_000937.html

³⁸⁷ The 5th Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the EU and Japan Joint Summary. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/dns/isc/page22e_000937.html

³⁸⁸ UK-Japanese projects to explore effects of AI on society and economy. UK Research Institute Economic and Social Research Council (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://esrc.ukri.org/news-events-and-publications/news/news-items/uk-japanese-projects-to-explore-effects-of-ai-on-society-and-economy/>

³⁸⁹ UK-Japanese projects to explore effects of AI on society and economy. UK Research Institute Economic and Social Research Council (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://esrc.ukri.org/news-events-and-publications/news/news-items/uk-japanese-projects-to-explore-effects-of-ai-on-society-and-economy/>

³⁹⁰ UK-Japanese projects to explore effects of AI on society and economy. UK Research Institute Economic and Social Research Council (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://esrc.ukri.org/news-events-and-publications/news/news-items/uk-japanese-projects-to-explore-effects-of-ai-on-society-and-economy/>

³⁹¹ UK-Japanese projects to explore effects of AI on society and economy. UK Research Institute Economic and Social Research Council (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://esrc.ukri.org/news-events-and-publications/news/news-items/uk-japanese-projects-to-explore-effects-of-ai-on-society-and-economy/>

³⁹² Moonshot: Announcing Calls for Proposals, Japanese Science and Technology Agency (Tokyo) February 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.jst.go.jp/moonshot/en/application/>

³⁹³ Moonshot: Announcing Calls for Proposals, Japanese Science and Technology Agency (Tokyo) February 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.jst.go.jp/moonshot/en/application/>

Gurry.³⁹⁴ The two leaders agreed on the importance on sharing knowledge and information in order to better protect intellectual property related to emerging technologies such as AI.³⁹⁵

Japan has taken clear measures to enhance its understanding of AI through its support of various research initiatives. It has also explored ways to share results and best practices with various international partners.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tiffany Kwok

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to take actions that improve on its understanding of artificial intelligence (AI) and its impacts on society as well as explore ways to share results and best practices.

On 19 September 2019, at the Alan Turing Institute in London, the UK government in partnership with the Japanese government held a workshop in the fields of robotics, AI and the ethical use of data.³⁹⁶ The workshop involved over 130 participants including academic researchers from Japan and industry representatives from Japan and the UK.³⁹⁷ The workshop recognised the need to share and develop solutions on using data legally, ethically, and safely while facilitating technological breakthroughs in scalable deployment of algorithms.³⁹⁸ The participants identified key potential impact areas for AI and robotics including “sustaining the health of aging populations; infrastructure inspection repair and maintenance in extreme environment; mitigating climate change; and managing transport systems within smart cities.”³⁹⁹

On 18 October 2019, the UK government updated their guide to using AI in the public sector, sharing best practices regarding the use of AI.⁴⁰⁰ A new case study was added in “Examples of Artificial Intelligence Use” which detailed the use of AI in a UK based bank to reduce the duration

³⁹⁴ Minister Kajiya Holds Meeting with WIPO Director General Gurry, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2020/0219_001.html

³⁹⁵ Minister Kajiya Holds Meeting with WIPO Director General Gurry, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2020/0219_001.html

³⁹⁶ UK-Japan robotics and AI workshops produce promising collaboration in health, transport and smart city infrastructure. Alan Turing Institute (London). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

<https://www.turing.ac.uk/research/research-programmes/artificial-intelligence-robotics/programme-articles/uk-japan-robotics-and-ai-workshops-produce-promising-collaborations-health-transport-and-smart-city>

³⁹⁷ UK-Japan robotics and AI workshops produce promising collaboration in health, transport and smart city infrastructure. Alan Turing Institute (London). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

<https://www.turing.ac.uk/research/research-programmes/artificial-intelligence-robotics/programme-articles/uk-japan-robotics-and-ai-workshops-produce-promising-collaborations-health-transport-and-smart-city>

³⁹⁸ UK-Japan robotics and AI workshops produce promising collaboration in health, transport and smart city infrastructure. Alan Turing Institute (London). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

<https://www.turing.ac.uk/research/research-programmes/artificial-intelligence-robotics/programme-articles/uk-japan-robotics-and-ai-workshops-produce-promising-collaborations-health-transport-and-smart-city>

³⁹⁹ UK-Japan robotics and AI workshops produce promising collaboration in health, transport and smart city infrastructure. Alan Turing Institute (London). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

<https://www.turing.ac.uk/research/research-programmes/artificial-intelligence-robotics/programme-articles/uk-japan-robotics-and-ai-workshops-produce-promising-collaborations-health-transport-and-smart-city>

⁴⁰⁰ A guide to using artificial intelligence in the public sector, UK Government (London) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/a-guide-to-using-artificial-intelligence-in-the-public-sector#history>

of a compliance process.⁴⁰¹ The application of AI allowed the bank to automate its internal compliance processes to improve compliance risk, accuracy risk and processing time in accordance to regulatory compliance requirements.⁴⁰²

On 20 October 2019, the United Kingdom will be the first country to pilot government procurement guidelines published by the World Economic Forum.⁴⁰³ The guidelines aim to aid governments in optimizing the use of AI in the public sector, as well as answering and mitigating concerns regarding rapid AI development.⁴⁰⁴

On 24 October 2019, the United Kingdom Research and Innovation (UKRI) promoted applications to the Turing AI Fellowship.⁴⁰⁵ The Fellowship encourages research and development in the AI sector in both the study of AI and the applications of it.⁴⁰⁶

On 22 January 2020, the UKRI through the Arts and Humanities Research Council announced the launch of six joint Japanese-UK research projects with the Japanese Science and Technology Agency (JST).⁴⁰⁷ These research projects will investigate the impacts of AI technologies effect on society, culture and economy for a duration of three years beginning in January 2020.⁴⁰⁸ The projects aim to improve the understanding of how AI technologies could affect people's lives in healthcare, housework and the ethics of AI driven legal decision making.⁴⁰⁹ The projects are funded through the joint UK-Japan initiative of the UKRI Fund for International Collaboration with a GBP2.4 million contribution from the UKRI and JPY180 million from the JST.⁴¹⁰

On 1 February 2020, the Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence Initiative released its funding to program participants. The joint initiative launched in June 2019, aimed support AI collaboration to build

⁴⁰¹ A guide to using artificial intelligence in the public sector, UK Government (London) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/a-guide-to-using-artificial-intelligence-in-the-public-sector#history>

⁴⁰² A guide to using artificial intelligence in the public sector, UK Government (London) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/a-guide-to-using-artificial-intelligence-in-the-public-sector#history>

⁴⁰³ UK Government First to Pilot AI Procurement Guidelines Co-Designed with World Economic Forum, World Economic Forum (Geneva) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.weforum.org/press/2019/09/uk-government-first-to-pilot-ai-procurement-guidelines-co-designed-with-world-economic-forum/>

⁴⁰⁴ UK Government First to Pilot AI Procurement Guidelines Co-Designed with World Economic Forum, World Economic Forum (Geneva) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.weforum.org/press/2019/09/uk-government-first-to-pilot-ai-procurement-guidelines-co-designed-with-world-economic-forum/>

⁴⁰⁵ Turing AI Fellowships to keep UK at forefront of Artificial Intelligence, UK Research and Innovation (London) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.ukri.org/news/turing-ai-fellowships-to-keep-uk-at-forefront-of-artificial-intelligence-revolution1/>

⁴⁰⁶ Turing AI Fellowships to keep UK at forefront of Artificial Intelligence, UK Research and Innovation (London) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.ukri.org/news/turing-ai-fellowships-to-keep-uk-at-forefront-of-artificial-intelligence-revolution1/>

⁴⁰⁷ UK-Japanese projects to explore effects of AI on society and economy. UK Research Institute Economic and Social Research Council (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://esrc.ukri.org/news-events-and-publications/news/news-items/uk-japanese-projects-to-explore-effects-of-ai-on-society-and-economy/>

⁴⁰⁸ UK-Japanese projects to explore effects of AI on society and economy. UK Research Institute Economic and Social Research Council (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://esrc.ukri.org/news-events-and-publications/news/news-items/uk-japanese-projects-to-explore-effects-of-ai-on-society-and-economy/>

⁴⁰⁹ UK-Japanese projects to explore effects of AI on society and economy. UK Research Institute Economic and Social Research Council (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://esrc.ukri.org/news-events-and-publications/news/news-items/uk-japanese-projects-to-explore-effects-of-ai-on-society-and-economy/>

⁴¹⁰ UK-Japanese projects to explore effects of AI on society and economy. UK Research Institute Economic and Social Research Council (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://esrc.ukri.org/news-events-and-publications/news/news-items/uk-japanese-projects-to-explore-effects-of-ai-on-society-and-economy/>

competitive and resilient economies and maximize social and health benefits.⁴¹¹ Research participants in the initiative will conduct interdisciplinary research within the fields of social sciences and humanities, health and biomedical sciences, and natural sciences and engineering.⁴¹²

On 10 February 2020, the UK Government's Committee on Standards in Public Life published its report on AI and its impact on public service standards.⁴¹³ This report analyzes how AI can be utilized to enhance efficiency, accuracy, and effectiveness in the provision of public services.⁴¹⁴ The report also examines the potential negative implications of the growing use of AI in the public sector and provides several recommendations on how to mitigate these risks, such as establishing additional safeguards, regulations, and more clearly defined ethical guidelines to address concerns regarding data bias and transparency.⁴¹⁵

On 21 February 2020, the UK government launched a joint initiative with several companies in the private sector to offer additional funding for postgraduate students pursuing studies in the field of AI.⁴¹⁶ The objective of this joint initiative is to provide greater support to research and development into AI, as further developments in this field can enhance productivity and help address contemporary challenges.⁴¹⁷

On 24 February 2020, the Minister of Innovation, Science, and Industry Navdeep Bains and the British High Commissioner to Canada Susan le Jeune d'Allegresheque announced that their respective governments would invest CAD5 million and GBP5 million to fund ten international research teams, under the Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence Initiative.⁴¹⁸ These research teams will consist of experts from Canada and the UK, who will work on multidisciplinary projects that examine how AI can be harnessed to combat abusive online language, detect and monitor global disease outbreaks, and other purposes.⁴¹⁹

On 2 March 2020, the UK- Italy robotics and AI research collaboration workshop between the UK Turing Institute, Consorzio Interuniversitario Nazionale per Informatica – Laboratorio Nazionale di Artificial Intelligence and Intelligent Systems, Centro di Competenza ad Alta Specializzazione in

⁴¹¹ Announcement-Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence Initiative, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 1 February 2020. Access Date: 6 April 2020. <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51520.html>

⁴¹² Announcement-Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence Initiative, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 1 February 2020. Access Date: 6 April 2020. <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51520.html>

⁴¹³ Artificial Intelligence and Public Standards: Committee publishes report, UK Government (London) 10 February Access Date: 8 March 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/artificial-intelligence-and-public-standards-committee-publishes-report>

⁴¹⁴ Artificial Intelligence and Public Standards: Committee publishes report, UK Government (London) 10 February Access Date: 8 March 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/artificial-intelligence-and-public-standards-committee-publishes-report>

⁴¹⁵ Artificial Intelligence and Public Standards: Committee publishes report, UK Government (London) 10 February Access Date: 8 March 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/artificial-intelligence-and-public-standards-committee-publishes-report>

⁴¹⁶ Next generation of artificial intelligence talent to be trained at UK universities, UK Government (London) 21 February. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-generation-of-artificial-intelligence-talent-to-be-trained-at-uk-universities>

⁴¹⁷ Next generation of artificial intelligence talent to be trained at UK universities, UK Government (London) 21 February. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-generation-of-artificial-intelligence-talent-to-be-trained-at-uk-universities>

⁴¹⁸ Canada and the United Kingdom Collaborate on responsible artificial intelligence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/social-sciences-humanities-research/news/2020/02/canada-and-the-united-kingdom-collaborate-on-responsible-artificial-intelligence.html>

⁴¹⁹ Canada and the United Kingdom Collaborate on responsible artificial intelligence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/social-sciences-humanities-research/news/2020/02/canada-and-the-united-kingdom-collaborate-on-responsible-artificial-intelligence.html>

Industria 4.0 e Robotica (Artes 4.0) and Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia postponed its workshop due to be held on 18-19 March 2020 due to COVID-19.⁴²⁰ The workshop was to be held at the residence of the British Ambassador in Rome.⁴²¹ The workshop aimed to bring together leading researchers in AI from Italy and the UK to identify topics of collaboration and establish a basis for future joint venture activities in AI.⁴²²

On 21 May 2020, through the Centre of Data Ethics and Innovation the UK published a repository of novel uses cases of AI and data to counter and mitigate the effects of COVID-19. The repository highlighted the use of different applications to manage the effects of the pandemic and different use cases in the healthcare and digital sectors. However, the repository concluded that the impact of AI and data-driven technology in mitigating the effects of the pandemic may be “overstated” as the evidence is still unclear as use cases are still in “early stages of development.”⁴²³

On 28 May 2020, the UK announced its participation in the global COVID-19 High Performance Computer consortium to share supercomputing resources to allow researchers access to the world’s largest and fastest super computers and perform complex calculations quickly. This will accelerate coronavirus research and further understanding on how the disease behaves.⁴²⁴ The UK also committed to launching a global partnership on artificial intelligence while developing solutions to the crisis.⁴²⁵

The United Kingdom has supported various research initiatives to improve its knowledge and understanding of AI. It has also explored ways to share results and best practices with its international partners, such as Canada and Japan.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Benjamin Liu

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to explore ways to advance its understanding of artificial intelligence (AI) and share, on a regular basis, multidisciplinary research results on AI issues and best practices.

On 9 September 2019, the White House hosted the Summit on Artificial Intelligence in Government to facilitate discussions on how the federal government can adopt AI to better achieve its mission and improve services to citizens.⁴²⁶ Over 175 leaders and experts from government, industry, and

⁴²⁰ UK-Italy robotics and AI research collaboration workshop, The Alan Turing Institute (London), 2 March 2020. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/events/uk-italy-robotics-and-ai-research-collaboration-workshop>

⁴²¹ UK-Italy robotics and AI research collaboration workshop, The Alan Turing Institute (London), 2 March 2020. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/events/uk-italy-robotics-and-ai-research-collaboration-workshop>

⁴²² UK-Italy robotics and AI research collaboration workshop, The Alan Turing Institute (London), 2 March 2020. Access Date: 2 May 2020. <https://www.turing.ac.uk/events/uk-italy-robotics-and-ai-research-collaboration-workshop>

⁴²³ Surveying the landscape: COVID-19 repository, Center for Data Ethics and Innovation (London). 21 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://cdei.blog.gov.uk/2020/05/21/surveying-the-landscape-covid-19-repository/>

⁴²⁴ International supercomputer pact set to fire up UK COVID-19 research, UK Government (London). 28 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-supercomputer-pact-set-to-fire-up-uk-covid-19-research>

⁴²⁵ International supercomputer pact set to fire up UK COVID-19 research, UK Government (London). 28 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-supercomputer-pact-set-to-fire-up-uk-covid-19-research>

⁴²⁶ Summary of the 2019 White House Summit on AI in Government, White House (Washington) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Summary-of-White-House-Summit-on-AI-in-Government-September-2019.pdf>

academia came together to identify best practices in the use of AI, opportunities to foster collaborative partnerships, and ways to potentially incorporate AI in the public service.

On 10 September 2019, the White House released a supplementary report following the announcement from the Trump administration that nearly USD1 billion would be allocated to non-defense AI research and development in 2020.⁴²⁷ The report outlined the strategic priorities around AI across various government agencies, such as examining the impact of further developments in AI, exploring collaboration opportunities, and exploring ways to design AI systems that align with ethical, legal, and societal standards.⁴²⁸

On 10-11 October 2019, during the tenth US-Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy in Tokyo, the US and Japan emphasised their commitment to an open, interoperable, reliable and secure internet and the global digital economy policy environment.⁴²⁹ The dialogue included discussions with public and private sector representatives and on regarding “public-private partnerships regarding the social implementation of artificial intelligence (AI) in a manner that fosters public trust in AI.”⁴³⁰ The US and Japan reaffirmed their commitment to international policy discussions for an inclusive, open and transparent system of internet governance based on a multi-stakeholder approach.⁴³¹ Furthermore, both countries also emphasised the importance of sharing best practises of the results of social implementation on AI at international forums.⁴³²

On 5 December 2019, the Department of Veteran Affairs launched the National Artificial Intelligence Institute.⁴³³ The institute, working in collaboration with partners across federal agencies, industry, and academic institutions, will aim to explore ways to advance AI technology in the healthcare sector to benefit veterans and the wider public.⁴³⁴

On 15-16 January 2020, in Toronto, Canada the Canadian Institution for Advance Research, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada and the US Consulate General Toronto held the Canada–US AI Symposium on Economic Innovation.⁴³⁵ The Symposium brought together students, researchers, policy makers, government and industry members to discuss the future of work, data governance and regulatory innovations to support the development of competitive AI

⁴²⁷ The Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program: Supplement to the President’s FY2020 Budget, White House (Washington) 10 September 2019. Access date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FY2020-NITRD-AI-RD-Budget-September-2019.pdf>

⁴²⁸ The Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program: Supplement to the President’s FY2020 Budget, White House (Washington) 10 September 2019. Access date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FY2020-NITRD-AI-RD-Budget-September-2019.pdf>

⁴²⁹ Joint Statement on the 10th U.S.- Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo). 11 October 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2019/10/20191018005/20191018006-2.pdf>

⁴³⁰ Tenth U.S.-Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy Held, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/1018_005.html

⁴³¹ Joint Statement on the 10th U.S.- Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo). 11 October 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2019/10/20191018005/20191018006-2.pdf>

⁴³² Joint Statement on the 10th U.S.- Japan Policy Cooperation Dialogue on the Internet Economy, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry of Japan (Tokyo). 11 October 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019.

<https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2019/10/20191018005/20191018006-2.pdf>

⁴³³ VA Launches National Artificial Intelligence Institute, US Department of Veterans Affairs (Washington) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5369>

⁴³⁴ VA Launches National Artificial Intelligence Institute, US Department of Veterans Affairs (Washington) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5369>

⁴³⁵ Canada-U.S. AI Symposium on Economic Innovation, CIFAR (Toronto) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.cifar.ca/ai/ai-society/canada-us-ai-symposium-on-economic-innovation>

strategies.⁴³⁶ The participants agreed to cooperate across the private sector, government, academia and civil society to support measures of competitive develop AI technologies that support economic growth and regional development in socially responsible methods, that “cultivate public trust” and address societal concerns.⁴³⁷

On 10 February 2020, the White House announced that the government would double federal spending for nondefense AI research and development by 2022 in the new Federal Budget for 2021.⁴³⁸ The budget prioritizes accelerating developing AI solutions in the Administration’s efforts to foster “industries of the future.”⁴³⁹ The White House also announced that the Department of Energy (DOE) established the Artificial Intelligence and Technology Office to provide oversight on AI and ensure AI technological developments are applied across the DOE.⁴⁴⁰ The budget allocates USD5 Million to the office under the DOE pursue and enhance research and development for projects already underway.⁴⁴¹ The office will also align investments and efforts with the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy’s AI strategic priorities.⁴⁴²

On February 24, 2020, the Department of Defense announced that it would adopt a series of ethical principles for the use of AI.⁴⁴³ These principles will be applied in both combat and non-combat situation and will ensure the US military maintains its legal, ethical, and policy commitments in the area of AI.⁴⁴⁴

On 18 May 2020, the Department of Defense awarded a USD800 million contract to develop a Joint Artificial Intelligence Center with AI products to “support war fighting operations” and embed AI decision making and analysis across all tiers of the DOD’s operations.⁴⁴⁵ The program will include AI product development and transitioning AI products into new and existing programs and systems across the department.⁴⁴⁶

The United States has taken actions to improve its understanding of AI. It has also explored ways to share multidisciplinary research results on AI issues and share best practices, particularly through funding for AI research and development as well as engagement with industry and academia and international partners.

⁴³⁶ Canada-U.S. AI Symposium on Economic Innovation, CIFAR (Toronto) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.cifar.ca/ai/ai-society/canada-us-ai-symposium-on-economic-innovation>

⁴³⁷ Canada-U.S. AI Symposium on Economic Innovation, CIFAR (Toronto) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.cifar.ca/ai/ai-society/canada-us-ai-symposium-on-economic-innovation>

⁴³⁸ Fiscal Year 2021: A Budget for America’s Future, White House (Washington). 10 February 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2020. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/budget_fy21.pdf

⁴³⁹ Fiscal Year 2021: A Budget for America’s Future, White House (Washington). 10 February 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2020. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/budget_fy21.pdf

⁴⁴⁰ Fiscal Year 2021: A Budget for America’s Future, White House (Washington). 10 February 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2020. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/budget_fy21.pdf

⁴⁴¹ Fiscal Year 2021: A Budget for America’s Future, White House (Washington). 10 February 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2020. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/budget_fy21.pdf

⁴⁴² Fiscal Year 2021: A Budget for America’s Future, White House (Washington). 10 February 2020. Access Date: 4 March 2020. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/budget_fy21.pdf

⁴⁴³ DOD Adopts ethical principles for artificial intelligence, US Department of Defense (Washington). 24 February 2020 Access Date: 04 March 2020. <https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Releases/Release/Article/2091996/dod-adopts-ethical-principles-for-artificial-intelligence/>

⁴⁴⁴ DOD Adopts ethical principles for artificial intelligence, US Department of Defense (Washington). 24 February 2020 Access Date: 04 March 2020. <https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Releases/Release/Article/2091996/dod-adopts-ethical-principles-for-artificial-intelligence/>

⁴⁴⁵ Contracts For May 18, 2020, U.S. Department of Defense (Washington D.C.) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Contracts/Contract/Article/2190758/>

⁴⁴⁶ Contracts For May 18, 2020, U.S. Department of Defense (Washington D.C.) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Contracts/Contract/Article/2190758/>

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Rhoda Akeul Philip

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to explore ways to advance its understanding of artificial intelligence (AI), share multidisciplinary research results in AI issues and best practices, as well as bringing together international AI initiatives.

On 21 November 2019, the Expert Group on Liability and New Technologies – New Technologies Formation, an independent expert group set up by the European Commission, published the Report on liability for AI and other emerging technologies.⁴⁴⁷ The report assesses the limitations of existing liability regimes and lists necessary changes to appropriately respond to new challenges from emerging digital technologies including AI.⁴⁴⁸

On 5 December 2019 in Brussels, the EU and Japan co-chaired the fifth Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation.⁴⁴⁹ The EU and Japan recognized research and innovation as key areas of cooperation and explored priority areas for future collaboration.⁴⁵⁰ Subsequently, the EU and Japan reviewed the results from past collaborations and discussed present activities, new initiatives and ways to strengthen future thematic cooperation in AI among other areas.⁴⁵¹

In January 2020, the European Commission organized a series of five workshops on reference testing and experimentation facilities (TEF) for AI.⁴⁵² The workshops aim to support the development of shared European reference TEF's for AI hardware, software, components, systems and solutions and underlying resources for difference sectors.⁴⁵³ The shared reference TEF's will work to foster the deployment and adoption of trustworthy AI.⁴⁵⁴ In the workshops, the

⁴⁴⁷ Artificial Intelligence, European Commission (Brussels) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/artificial-intelligence>

⁴⁴⁸ Liability for Artificial Intelligence and other emerging digital technologies, European Commission (Brussels) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupMeetingDoc&docid=36608>

⁴⁴⁹ The 5th Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the EU and Japan Joint Summary. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/dns/isc/page22e_000937.html

⁴⁵⁰ The 5th Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the EU and Japan Joint Summary. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/dns/isc/page22e_000937.html

⁴⁵¹ The 5th Joint Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the EU and Japan Joint Summary. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/dns/isc/page22e_000937.html

⁴⁵² Workshops on reference testing and experimentation facilities for Artificial Intelligence in the Digital Europe Programme, European Commission (Brussels) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 2 April 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/workshops-reference-testing-and-experimentation-facilities-artificial-intelligence-digital>

⁴⁵³ Workshops on reference testing and experimentation facilities for Artificial Intelligence in the Digital Europe Programme, European Commission (Brussels) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 2 April 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/workshops-reference-testing-and-experimentation-facilities-artificial-intelligence-digital>

⁴⁵⁴ Workshops on reference testing and experimentation facilities for Artificial Intelligence in the Digital Europe Programme, European Commission (Brussels) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 2 April 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/workshops-reference-testing-and-experimentation-facilities-artificial-intelligence-digital>

Commission presented its goals for future TEFs for different sectors and technologies and asked for input from invited experts and national delegations on the existing structure and future needs.⁴⁵⁵

On 19 February 2020, the European Commission published its White Paper on Artificial Intelligence. This paper proposes a series of measures that will streamline research, foster collaboration between EU member states, and increase investment into AI development and deployment.⁴⁵⁶ This paper also addresses the potential risks associated with the growing use of AI and proposes policy options for a future EU regulatory framework which would determine legal requirements that would apply to relevant actors, with a focus on high-risk applications.⁴⁵⁷ The paper is also open to public consultation until 31 May 2020, which all European citizens, member states, and other relevant stakeholders can participate in.⁴⁵⁸

On 19 February 2020, the European Commission published a Commission Report on safety and liability implications of AI, the Internet of Things and Robotics.⁴⁵⁹ The report identified gaps in EU wide safety legislation as they apply to AI, and called for work to address these gaps in a “consistent and harmonised manner.”⁴⁶⁰ The report noted AI products poses new challenges for liability, which require clarifications of scope and to develop solutions compared to approaches currently applied to traditional technologies.⁴⁶¹ The report also highlighted that solutions need to balance with the needs of product innovation with those of protection as solutions which help create trust in digital technologies and enable investment stability.⁴⁶²

On 19 May 2020, the EU launched a new call for medical technologies, digital tools and AI analytics solutions to tackle the coronavirus.⁴⁶³ The new initiative, funded with EUR56 million and through the Horizon 2020 program, will be used to deploy and develop new solutions using medical

⁴⁵⁵ Workshops on reference testing and experimentation facilities for Artificial Intelligence in the Digital Europe Programme, European Commission (Brussels) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 2 April 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/workshops-reference-testing-and-experimentation-facilities-artificial-intelligence-digital>

⁴⁵⁶ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 18 November 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>

⁴⁵⁷ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 18 November 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>

⁴⁵⁸ White Paper on Artificial Intelligence – a European approach to excellence and trust, European Commission (Brussels) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 2 April 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/white-paper-artificial-intelligence-european-approach-excellence-and-trust>

⁴⁵⁹ Commission Report on safety and liability implications of AI, the Internet of Things and Robotics, European Commission (Brussels). 19 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/commission-report-safety-and-liability-implications-ai-internet-things-and-robotics-0_en

⁴⁶⁰ Commission Report on safety and liability implications of AI, the Internet of Things and Robotics, European Commission (Brussels). 19 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/commission-report-safety-and-liability-implications-ai-internet-things-and-robotics-0_en

⁴⁶¹ Commission Report on safety and liability implications of AI, the Internet of Things and Robotics, European Commission (Brussels). 19 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/commission-report-safety-and-liability-implications-ai-internet-things-and-robotics-0_en

⁴⁶² Commission Report on safety and liability implications of AI, the Internet of Things and Robotics, European Commission (Brussels). 19 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/commission-report-safety-and-liability-implications-ai-internet-things-and-robotics-0_en

⁴⁶³ Coronavirus response: €56 million for solutions using medical technologies, digital tools and artificial intelligence, European Commission (Brussels). 19 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020 <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/coronavirus-response-eu56-million-solutions-using-medical-technologies-digital-tools-and>

technologies, digital tools and AI to increase responses to COVID-19 and to improve recovery and better prepare for future crises or waves of coronavirus infections.⁴⁶⁴

On 25 May 2020, the EU through the Digital Innovations Hubs (DIH) program hosted a webinar to discuss the application of AI in the European context and how DIH's can help build "smart cities" with AI.⁴⁶⁵ The event discussed how local level actors can most benefit from AI and concluded that communities are "not yet fully exploiting the value of data and AI."⁴⁶⁶ The event also discussed the role that AI can play in enabling developing solutions which enable cities to benefit most from their application.⁴⁶⁷

On 27 May 2020, the EU launched a proposal for a recovery plan titled "Next Generation EU."⁴⁶⁸ The proposal will bring together financial resources across EU members and will aim to strengthen the Single Market and "adapt" it to the digital age.⁴⁶⁹ The proposal has an aim to develop "stronger industrial and technological presences" in strategic sectors for the EU including cybersecurity, supercomputing and AI.⁴⁷⁰

On 8 June 2020, the EU will host a Webinar to discuss the civil liability aspects of AI and discuss methods to handle liability concerns for AI technologies.⁴⁷¹

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to explore ways of improving their understanding of AI issues, sharing multidisciplinary research results, and sharing best practices.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Emily Yu

⁴⁶⁴ Coronavirus response: €56 million for solutions using medical technologies, digital tools and artificial intelligence, European Commission (Brussels). 19 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020 <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/coronavirus-response-eu56-million-solutions-using-medical-technologies-digital-tools-and>

⁴⁶⁵ DIH Webinar: Artificial Intelligence for Smart Cities, European Commission (Brussels). 25 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/dih-webinar-artificial-intelligence-smart-cities>

⁴⁶⁶ DIH Webinar: Artificial Intelligence for Smart Cities, European Commission (Brussels). 25 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/dih-webinar-artificial-intelligence-smart-cities>

⁴⁶⁷ DIH Webinar: Artificial Intelligence for Smart Cities, European Commission (Brussels). 25 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/dih-webinar-artificial-intelligence-smart-cities>

⁴⁶⁸ Europe's moment: Repair and prepare for the next generation, European Council (Brussels) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_940

⁴⁶⁹ Europe's moment: Repair and prepare for the next generation, European Council (Brussels) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_940

⁴⁷⁰ Europe's moment: Repair and prepare for the next generation, European Council (Brussels) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_940

⁴⁷¹ Webinars on Liability for Artificial Intelligence, European Commission (Brussels) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 4 June 2020 https://ec.europa.eu/info/events/artificial-intelligence-who-should-be-liable-damage-2020-may-05_en

4. Gender: Gender Equality

“Aside from our domestic commitments, we stand ready to support interested countries through our different expertise and development mechanisms to adopt, implement and monitor laws that remedy this and advance gender equality.”

G7 Biarritz Leaders’ Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

Background

G7/G8 members initially recognized gender equality in 2000 as an issue in context of schooling and education. At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, members committed to supporting African efforts to promote gender equality and empowerment of women.⁴⁷² At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, members expressed regret toward not meeting interim targets to eliminate disparities in gender equality in primary and secondary education, and reaffirmed commitment to achieve gender equality in schooling by 2015.⁴⁷³

Gender equality was acknowledged as an aspect of promoting good governance for the first time at the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit. Furthermore, members also committed to working together to stop sexual exploitation and gender-based violence at the 2007 summit.⁴⁷⁴ The 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit was the first time when gender equality and women’s empowerment were considered an important principle of development.⁴⁷⁵ At the 2014 Brussels Summit, members recognized the necessity to promote gender equality and to end all forms of violence and discrimination against girls and women, specifically by ending child, early and forced marriage and promoting empowerment of all women and girls.⁴⁷⁶ At the 2015 Elmau Summit, members once again reaffirmed their commitment to promote gender equality and empowerment of women.⁴⁷⁷ At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, members agreed to integrate gender equality within all policy areas of the United Nations

⁴⁷² All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7/8 (Toronto). Access date: 13 October 2019.
http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf

⁴⁷³ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7/8 (Toronto). Access date: 13 October 2019.
http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf

⁴⁷⁴ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975-2012, G7/8 (Toronto). Access date: 13 October 2019.
http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf

⁴⁷⁵ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Declaration: Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G7 (Hokkaido Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

⁴⁷⁶ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration: Brussels Summit, G7 (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access date: 13 October 2019.
<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

⁴⁷⁷ G7 Leaders’ Declaration: Elmau, G7 (Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 13 October 2019.
<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Members at this summit also acknowledged the need to continue promoting gender equality and empowerment of women.⁴⁷⁸

The 2017 Taormina Summit was monumental for the G7's recognition of mainstreaming gender equality into all policies. Focus was directed toward ensuring economic gender equality, including – but not limited to – reducing the gender wage gap. Members not only recognized gender equality as fundamental for fulfilling human rights, but also adopted the first “G7 Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment.” The Roadmap outlines structural policies falling within central governments’ jurisdiction that will “have the greatest impact in delivering gender equality.” This roadmap was developed with outcomes of previous G7 presidencies and other relevant international frameworks including 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals and Women’s 7 Forum – Starting from Girls.⁴⁷⁹

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members renewed their recognition of gender equality as fundamental for fulfillment of human rights and reaffirmed their commitment to advance gender equality and end gender-based violence. These objectives were endorsed in the “Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts.”⁴⁸⁰

Commitment Features

The G7 commitment is to “stand ready to support interested countries through our different expertise and development mechanisms to adopt, implement and monitor laws that remedy this and advance gender equality” aside from domestic commitments. In this commitment, the targets are to support interested countries to – 1. develop mechanisms to implement laws toward gender equality, and 2. develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

“Adopt” is understood to mean to accept formally and put into effect.

“Implement” is understood to mean taking steps forward. While the commitment may be a part of a longer-term initiative and actions on it may continue into the prolonged future, for steps to be considered implementation, they need to be taken in the near future. This should not, therefore, be interpreted to mean only prolonged or delayed action.

“Laws” are understood to be binding customs or practices of community, rules of conduct or actions prescribed or formally recognized as binding or enforced by a controlling authority.

To “stand ready” is understood to be prepared mentally or physically for some experience or action.

“Expertise” is understood to mean the skills of an expert.

“Develop mechanisms” should be understood as establishment of new initiatives and projects within an area.

“Gender equality” as defined by European Institute of Gender Equality refers to equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of men and women and girls and boys. Equality does not mean that they will be the same; rather, rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on the gender one identifies as. The term implies that interests, needs and priorities of all genders are taken

⁴⁷⁸ G7 Leaders’ Declaration: Ise-Shima Summit, G7 (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

⁴⁷⁹ G7 Roadmap for a gender-response economic environment, G7 (Taormina) 27 May 2017. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

⁴⁸⁰ G7 Charlevoix Summit Declaration: Charlevoix Summit, G7 (Charlevoix) 5 June 2018. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

into consideration and diversity should be recognized. Gender equality should be viewed as a human rights issue and a “precondition for and indicator of sustainable people-centred development.”⁴⁸¹

Part One: Develop Mechanisms to Implement Laws toward Gender Equality

“Remedy” is understood to mean a measure that corrects or counteracts an action or circumstance.

“Discriminatory laws” refer to legal and legislative frameworks that may disproportionately disadvantage citizens belonging to a specific gender group and/or enable violence against them.

“Legal protection” is understood to be the benefit or safety which the government affords to its citizens.

Compliance is achieved by creating new laws surrounding gender equality in any policy sector. Examples include, but are not limited to, reducing wage gap, creating equal opportunity workplaces, improving access to equal education and reducing gender-based violence. It is important to note that domestic actions to advance gender equality will not count toward compliance.

Full compliance within part one is achieved through supporting interested countries in correcting discriminatory laws and/or implementing laws that provide legal protection to populations discriminated against and/or implementing laws that advance gender equality, using domestic expertise and development mechanisms.

Part Two: Develop Mechanisms to Monitor Laws toward Gender Equality

“Monitor” is understood to mean to watch, to keep track of or check usually for a special purpose.

An example of compliance within part two includes establishment of various relevant indicators that will be monitored over a pre-established time period to measure progress toward achieving gender equality; such examples of relevant indicators include cases of sexual harassment, enrolment in gender equality schemes, and gender wage gap. Another example of compliance within part two includes establishment of dedicated personnel to monitor progress. It is important to note that domestic actions to advance gender equality will not count toward compliance.

Full compliance within part two is achieved through supporting interested countries in developing mechanisms to monitor and measure progress of laws toward improving gender equality.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

–1	G7 member does NOT stand ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality OR stand ready to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.
0	G7 member stands ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality OR stands ready to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.
+1	G7 member stands ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality AND stands ready to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

Compliance Director: Drishti Thakkar
Lead Analyst: Kaylin Dave

⁴⁸¹ Gender Mainstreaming Concepts and Definitions, European Institute of Gender Equality. Access date: 13 October 2019. <https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming/concepts-and-definitions>

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 29 October 2019, Canada represented a group of 56 countries at a meeting of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), which adopted Resolution 2492 to promote women, peace and security agenda.⁴⁸² The UNSC urges members to facilitate full and equal participation of women at every stage of peacebuilding processes, to address threats and violence against women and to increase number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping operations.⁴⁸³

On 3 December 2019, Jamaica's Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport Olivia Grange announced that the High Commission of Canada in Jamaica will offer five grants to local organisations to advance gender equality, peace and security in the communities they serve across the island.⁴⁸⁴ Organizations include the Boxing Board of Jamaica, National Youth Orchestra of Jamaica, Peace Management Initiative, Institute of Law and Economics, and Advocates for Change.⁴⁸⁵ The money will be used by each organization in order to further their mandates, specifically those that relate to gender equality.⁴⁸⁶

On 9 December 2019, Minister of International Development Karina Gould declared that Canada will provide CAD21 million over five years to “support a gender-sensitive approach to women’s reproductive health services in Pakistan” as part of the United Nations-led “Healthy Families Pakistan” initiative.⁴⁸⁷ It will also aim to tackle underlying factors that prevent women and girls from accessing health services.⁴⁸⁸

On 6 February 2020, Minister Gould gave a speech with the Canadian Partnership for Women and Children’s Health and Canadian Council for International Cooperation in celebration of International

⁴⁸² Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁴⁸³ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁴⁸⁴ Canada Gives Grants to Local Organizations to Advance Gender Equality, Jamaican Information Service (Jamaica) 3 December 2019. Accessed Date: 6 December 2019. <https://jis.gov.jm/canada-gives-grants-to-local-organisations-to-advance-gender-equality/>.

⁴⁸⁵ Canada Gives Grants to Local Organizations to Advance Gender Equality, Jamaican Information Service (Jamaica) 3 December 2019. Accessed Date: 6 December 2019. <https://jis.gov.jm/canada-gives-grants-to-local-organisations-to-advance-gender-equality/>.

⁴⁸⁶ Canada Gives Grants to Local Organizations to Advance Gender Equality, Jamaican Information Service (Jamaica) 3 December 2019. Accessed Date: 6 December 2019. <https://jis.gov.jm/canada-gives-grants-to-local-organisations-to-advance-gender-equality/>.

⁴⁸⁷ Minister Gould announces new support for women’s reproductive health services in Pakistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/12/minister-gould-announces-new-support-for-womens-reproductive-health-services-in-pakistan.html>.

⁴⁸⁸ Minister Gould announces new support for women’s reproductive health services in Pakistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/12/minister-gould-announces-new-support-for-womens-reproductive-health-services-in-pakistan.html>.

Development Week.⁴⁸⁹ The minister stated that Canada will continue to deliver its Feminist International Policy and work with other countries to advance gender equality on a global level.⁴⁹⁰

On 29 February 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Philippe Champagne issued a statement in support of the agreement between the United States and the Taliban.⁴⁹¹ Minister Champagne declared that Canada continues to support stabilization efforts in Afghanistan and that it will continue to engage in meaningful peace negotiations with the Afghan people, particularly women and other minority populations.⁴⁹²

On 6 March 2020, Minister Champagne concluded his visit to Latvia, Ukraine and Poland.⁴⁹³ During his visit to Ukraine, Minister Champagne stated Canada's efforts to engage women in peace building efforts throughout the region.⁴⁹⁴ As such, CAD2 million will be invested in a three year period in order to "strengthen the capacity of the National Police of Ukraine in planning, implementing, monitoring and reviewing reform processes."⁴⁹⁵

On 8 March 2020, International Women's Day, Minister Champagne, Minister Gould, and Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and Trade Mary Ng issued a statement in which they reiterated Canada's support for gender equality initiatives.⁴⁹⁶ The three ministers highlighted Canada's work with women's organizations and civil society groups both at home and abroad and pledged to actively promote the rights of women and girls across the globe.⁴⁹⁷

⁴⁸⁹ Address by Minister Gould at Canadian Partnership for Women and Children's Health (CanWaCH) and Canadian Council for International Co-Operation (CCIC) Celebration for International Development Week (IDW) 2020, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/02/address-by-minister-gould-at-canadian-partnership-for-women-and-childrens-health-canwach-and-canadian-council-for-international-co-operation-ccic-c.html>.

⁴⁹⁰ Address by Minister Gould at Canadian Partnership for Women and Children's Health (CanWaCH) and Canadian Council for International Co-Operation (CCIC) Celebration for International Development Week (IDW) 2020, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/02/address-by-minister-gould-at-canadian-partnership-for-women-and-childrens-health-canwach-and-canadian-council-for-international-co-operation-ccic-c.html>.

⁴⁹¹ Canada Welcomes U.S.-Taliban Agreement in Afghanistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. Canada Welcomes U.S.-Taliban Agreement in Afghanistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/02/canada-welcomes-us-taliban-agreement-in-afghanistan.html>.

⁴⁹² Canada Welcomes U.S.-Taliban Agreement in Afghanistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. Canada Welcomes U.S.-Taliban Agreement in Afghanistan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/02/canada-welcomes-us-taliban-agreement-in-afghanistan.html>.

⁴⁹³ Minister Champagne Concludes Successful Visit to Latvia, Ukraine and Poland, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/minister-champagne-concludes-successful-visit-to-latvia-ukraine-and-poland.html>.

⁴⁹⁴ Minister Champagne Concludes Successful Visit to Latvia, Ukraine and Poland, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/minister-champagne-concludes-successful-visit-to-latvia-ukraine-and-poland.html>.

⁴⁹⁵ Minister Champagne Concludes Successful Visit to Latvia, Ukraine and Poland, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 7 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/minister-champagne-concludes-successful-visit-to-latvia-ukraine-and-poland.html>.

⁴⁹⁶ Statement on International Women's Day, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/statement-on-international-womens-day.html>.

⁴⁹⁷ Statement on International Women's Day, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/statement-on-international-womens-day.html>.

On 20 March 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced CAD50 million in funding to help vulnerable countries respond to the COVID-19 crisis.⁴⁹⁸ This funding will, in part, be used to ensure that these countries respond to the crisis in a way that meets the needs of women and girls who are disproportionately affected by the crisis.⁴⁹⁹

On 10 April 2020, Minister Champagne and Minister Gould announced their support of the UN Secretary-General's call for an immediate global ceasefire.⁵⁰⁰ Both ministers cited their concerns for the plight of women, children and other vulnerable populations during the COVID-19 crisis as a reason for their support.⁵⁰¹ The ministers also reiterated their support for a multilateral response to the COVID-19 crisis and a rules-based international order in which civilians and vulnerable populations, including women, are prioritized.⁵⁰²

On 13 April 2020, Canada's Ambassador to France Isabelle Hudon issued a joint statement with a number of other nations in which together they called upon international governments to ensure that all measures taken in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic are legitimate and lawful.⁵⁰³ The statement further called for all governments to address the COVID-19 pandemic in a gender-responsive manner, taking into account gender-related consequences of the pandemic, of which include a rise in domestic violence.⁵⁰⁴

On 17 April 2020, the Ministerial Coordination Group on COVID-19 issued a declaration in which they urged other countries to take into consideration the populations which are disproportionately affected by COVID-19, particularly women.⁵⁰⁵ In doing so, Canada called upon these other countries to take into account gender-differentiated concerns and respond accordingly to meet the needs of these groups.⁵⁰⁶

⁴⁹⁸ Canada's Humanitarian Assistance to Help Developing Countries Prepare and Respond to COVID-19. Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/canadas-humanitarian-assistance-to-help-developing-countries-prepare-and-respond-to-covid-19.html>.

⁴⁹⁹ Canada's Humanitarian Assistance to Help Developing Countries Prepare and Respond to COVID-19. Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/canadas-humanitarian-assistance-to-help-developing-countries-prepare-and-respond-to-covid-19.html>.

⁵⁰⁰ Statement in Support of Global Ceasefire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/statement-in-support-of-global-ceasefire.html>.

⁵⁰¹ Statement in Support of Global Ceasefire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/statement-in-support-of-global-ceasefire.html>.

⁵⁰² Statement in Support of Global Ceasefire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/statement-in-support-of-global-ceasefire.html>.

⁵⁰³ G7 Must Put a Gender Lens on COVID-19 Efforts, Women Deliver (New York) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://womendeliver.org/2020/step-it-up-g7/>.

⁵⁰⁴ G7 Must Put a Gender Lens on COVID-19 Efforts, Women Deliver (New York) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://womendeliver.org/2020/step-it-up-g7/>.

⁵⁰⁵ Foreign Ministers From 15 Countries Agree on Key Principles to Keep Transportation Links and Supply Chains Open, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/foreign-ministers-from-13-countries-agree-on-key-principles-to-keep-transportation-links-and-supply-chains-open.html>.

⁵⁰⁶ Foreign Ministers From 15 Countries Agree on Key Principles to Keep Transportation Links and Supply Chains Open, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/foreign-ministers-from-13-countries-agree-on-key-principles-to-keep-transportation-links-and-supply-chains-open.html>.

On 21 April 2020, Minister Gould issued a joint statement with Brazil, Italy, and Egypt regarding the effects of COVID-19 on food security and supply.⁵⁰⁷ In the statement, the countries called upon other nations to ensure the sustainability of the food supply chain and recognize the effects of changes in demand and supply on agri-food producers.⁵⁰⁸ In doing so, the minister encouraged countries to invest in women in particular in order to ensure they have access to land, credit and information regarding COVID-19.⁵⁰⁹

On 28 April 2020, Minister Champagne hosted a call with his colleagues from several other countries including France, Germany, Australia, Brazil, Indonesia and Peru to discuss their responses to COVID-19.⁵¹⁰ A number of ministers reiterated their desire to coordinate a multilateral response to the crisis in order to address the particular needs of vulnerable communities, including women.⁵¹¹

On 12 May 2020, Minister Gould announced support for Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's strategy to ensure immunizations for millions of children internationally.⁵¹² The funding will allow for increased access to vaccinations and opportunities for advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights programming.⁵¹³

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to help interested countries implement gender equality laws through providing grants to various organizations, supporting Pakistan monetarily in developing a gender-sensitive reproductive health system and advocating for gender-differentiated responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Aliya Hemani

⁵⁰⁷ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

⁵⁰⁸ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

⁵⁰⁹ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

⁵¹⁰ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

⁵¹¹ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

⁵¹² Minister Gould announces funding for global vaccinations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/05/minister-gould-announces-funding-for-global-vaccinations.html>

⁵¹³ Minister Gould announces funding for global vaccinations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/05/minister-gould-announces-funding-for-global-vaccinations.html>

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 29 October 2019, all states of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), of which France is a member, adopted Resolution 2492 which promotes a women, peace and security agenda.⁵¹⁴ The UNSC urges members to facilitate full and equal participation of women at every stage of peacebuilding processes, to address threats and violence against women and to increase number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping operations.⁵¹⁵

On 25 November 2019, the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs announced its support in the fight to end violence against women internationally.⁵¹⁶ It reaffirmed its commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and called neighboring countries to ratify Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.⁵¹⁷ As a member of the UNSC, France has also adopted and implemented its resolution on women, peace and security, which urges members to increase participation of women in conflict resolution and peacekeeping activities.⁵¹⁸

On 19 December 2019, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian and Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States Marcelo Luis Ebrard Casaubo agreed upon a declaration for effective multilateralism.⁵¹⁹ Both countries emphasized the importance of promoting and protecting human rights while acknowledging gender equality and empowerment of women.⁵²⁰ Both countries also reiterated their commitment to Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and will jointly host Generation Equality Forum to promote the commitments within the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.⁵²¹ Furthermore, both countries agreed to work together to improve access to female education, increase women participation in the labour market, promote the United Nations Women, Peace and Security Agenda, combat violence against women through

⁵¹⁴ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁵¹⁵ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁵¹⁶ France committed to fighting violence against women internationally (Paris) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/article/france-committed-to-fighting-violence-against-women-internationally-25-nov-2019>.

⁵¹⁷ France committed to fighting violence against women internationally (Paris) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/article/france-committed-to-fighting-violence-against-women-internationally-25-nov-2019>.

⁵¹⁸ France committed to fighting violence against women internationally (Paris) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/article/france-committed-to-fighting-violence-against-women-internationally-25-nov-2019>.

⁵¹⁹ French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism (19 December 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mexico/news/article/french-mexican-declaration-for-effective-multilateralism-19-dec-2019>.

⁵²⁰ French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism (19 December 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mexico/news/article/french-mexican-declaration-for-effective-multilateralism-19-dec-2019>.

⁵²¹ French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism (19 December 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mexico/news/article/french-mexican-declaration-for-effective-multilateralism-19-dec-2019>.

the European Union and United Nations Spotlight Initiative and provide more comprehensive sexual education to women.⁵²²

On 15 January 2020, the French Government announced the Action Coalition themes for the Generation Equality Forum to be held in 2021, which is a global and multi-stakeholder coalition organized by UN women and co-hosted by Mexico and France.^{523,524} The forum will launch coalitions on gender-based violence, economic justice and rights, bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights, feminist action for climate justice, technology and innovation for gender equality, and investing in feminist movements and leadership.⁵²⁵ Each coalition will develop and implement targeted solutions to advance gender equality with adolescent girls and young women in mind specifically to fulfill United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.⁵²⁶

On 16 to 17 January 2020, Minister Le Drian visited Saudi Arabia to meet with his counterparts, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah al-Saud and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Abdel al-Jubeir.⁵²⁷ They discussed areas of common interest and reaffirm France's priorities as they relate to the Saudi presidency of the G20, of which include gender equality.⁵²⁸

On 6 February 2020, International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, France encouraged the international community to increase initiatives dedicated toward ending the practice of female genital mutilation.⁵²⁹ France argues these mutilations violate the safety and dignity of women and girls and thus impede a country's ability to achieve substantive equality between men and

⁵²² French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism (19 December 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mexico/news/article/french-mexican-declaration-for-effective-multilateralism-19-dec-2019>.

⁵²³ In lead up to Generation Equality Forum, Action Coalition Themes Announced (2020) Relief Web (New York) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/lead-generation-equality-forum-action-coalition-themes-announced>.

⁵²⁴ Generation Equality Forum Postponed (2020) UN Women (New York) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/4/announcer-generation-equality-forum-postponed>.

⁵²⁵ In lead up to Generation Equality Forum, Action Coalition Themes Announced (2020) Relief Web (New York) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/lead-generation-equality-forum-action-coalition-themes-announced>.

⁵²⁶ In lead up to Generation Equality Forum, Action Coalition Themes Announced (2020) Relief Web (New York) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/lead-generation-equality-forum-action-coalition-themes-announced>.

⁵²⁷ Visit by Jean-Yves Le Drian to Saudi Arabia (16-17 January 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/saudi-arabia/news/article/visit-by-jean-yves-le-drian-to-saudi-arabia-16-17-jan-2020>.

⁵²⁸ Visit by Jean-Yves Le Drian to Saudi Arabia (16-17 January 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/saudi-arabia/news/article/visit-by-jean-yves-le-drian-to-saudi-arabia-16-17-jan-2020>.

⁵²⁹ United Nations International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (6 February 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/events-6401/article/united-nations-international-day-of-zero-tolerance-for-female-genital>.

women.⁵³⁰ This issue and related ones will be addressed by the Gender Equality Forum, which will be held by in July by UN Women and co-chaired by France and Mexico.⁵³¹

On 19 January 2020, France reaffirmed its commitment to bring peace to Libya at the Berlin Conference on Libya.⁵³² The involved countries called on all parties in Libya to hold individuals accountable for violations of international law, including those who commit sexual and gender-based violence.⁵³³ These areas include “the indiscriminate use of force against civilians, attacks on densely populated residential areas, extrajudicial killings, kidnappings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, torture and ill-treatment, human trafficking, and violence against or the abuse of migrants and refugees.”⁵³⁴ Involved countries also called on Libya to encourage effective and meaningful participation of women in activities relating to Libya’s democratic transition, conflict resolution and peacebuilding and to support efforts of Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General Ghassan Salamé to improve female participation in the political process and public institutions.

On 11 March 2020, Swedish Minister For Foreign Affairs Ann Linde and Minister Le Drian issued a joint statement from Paris.⁵³⁵ The two ministers confirmed they will continue to collaborate on gender equality initiatives, including the reproductive rights of women and girls as well as equal economic and social conditions.⁵³⁶ France and Sweden will jointly increase their efforts to support the participation of women in conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction.⁵³⁷ They will also advance gender equality through the European Union and continue to advocate against sex trafficking and sexual exploitation.⁵³⁸

⁵³⁰ United Nations International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (6 February 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/events-6401/article/united-nations-international-day-of-zero-tolerance-for-female-genital>.

⁵³¹ United Nations International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (6 February 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/events-6401/article/united-nations-international-day-of-zero-tolerance-for-female-genital>.

⁵³² The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundestkanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵³³ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundestkanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵³⁴ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundestkanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵³⁵ Joint Press Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and France (11 March 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sweden/events/article/joint-press-statement-by-the-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-of-sweden-and-france>.

⁵³⁶ Joint Press Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and France (11 March 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sweden/events/article/joint-press-statement-by-the-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-of-sweden-and-france>.

⁵³⁷ Joint Press Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and France (11 March 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sweden/events/article/joint-press-statement-by-the-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-of-sweden-and-france>.

⁵³⁸ Joint Press Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and France (11 March 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sweden/events/article/joint-press-statement-by-the-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-of-sweden-and-france>.

On 15 April 2020, France issued a joint statement on the safety of journalists and access to information during the COVID-19 pandemic.⁵³⁹ In this statement, France called upon all countries to ensure the internet access of all citizens in order to ensure that those affected by the virus have access to information.⁵⁴⁰ By extension, France calls upon countries to stop internet shutdowns, provide the most effective access to internet services, and mend any digital divides, including the gender gap.⁵⁴¹

On 16 April 2020, Minister Le Drian issued a joint statement with a number of other nations and Group of Friends on the Safety of Journalists in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Paris in which they called upon international governments to ensure that all measures taken in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic are legitimate and lawful.⁵⁴² The statement further called for all governments to address the COVID-19 pandemic in gender-responsive manner, taking into account gender-related consequences of the pandemic, of which include a rise in domestic violence.⁵⁴³

On 28 April 2020, Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Phillipe Champagne hosted a call with his colleagues from several other countries including France, Germany, Australia, Brazil, Indonesia and Peru to discuss their responses to COVID-19.⁵⁴⁴ A number of ministers reiterated their desire to coordinate a multilateral response to the crisis in order to address the particular needs of vulnerable communities, including women.⁵⁴⁵

France has fully complied with its commitment to help interested countries implement laws promoting gender equality by calling to other countries to ratify Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and collaborating with United Mexican States to host the Generation Equality Forum promoting commitment to Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. France has also called upon other countries to ensure that their responses to the COVID-19 pandemic take into consideration the promotion of gender-equality.

Thus, France receives a score of +1 .

⁵³⁹ Joint Statement on Safety of Journalists and Access to Information During the Covid-19 Crisis (15 April 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/joint-statement-on-safety-of-journalists-and-access-to-information-during-the/>.

⁵⁴⁰ Joint Statement on Safety of Journalists and Access to Information During the Covid-19 Crisis (15 April 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/joint-statement-on-safety-of-journalists-and-access-to-information-during-the/>.

⁵⁴¹ Joint Statement on Safety of Journalists and Access to Information During the Covid-19 Crisis (15 April 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/coming-to-france/coronavirus-advice-for-foreign-nationals-in-france/coronavirus-statements/article/joint-statement-on-safety-of-journalists-and-access-to-information-during-the/>.

⁵⁴² COVID-19 – Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 April 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism-63158/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020>.

⁵⁴³ COVID-19 – Joint Declaration of the Alliance for Multilateralism (16 April 2020), France Diplomatie (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism-63158/article/covid-19-joint-declaration-of-the-alliance-for-multilateralism-16-apr-2020>.

⁵⁴⁴ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

⁵⁴⁵ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

Analysts: Roba Hena and Aliya Hemani

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 29 October 2019, Germany, a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), voted in favour of adopting Resolution 2493 to promote a women, peace and security agenda.⁵⁴⁶ The UNSC urges members to facilitate full and equal participation of women at every stage of peacebuilding processes, to address threats and violence against women and to increase number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping operations.⁵⁴⁷ German Minister of State Michelle Müntefering noted that implementation is key, and Germany is implementing 10 out of 12 commitments on the women, peace and security agenda.⁵⁴⁸

On 31 October 2019, Germany pledged at the Nairobi Summit on the International Conference on Population and Development to work with partners at home and abroad to ensure that pregnancies are wanted and that births are safe.⁵⁴⁹ This involves creating policies that address sexual and reproductive rights and combat violence against women to ensure that women are empowered to make decisions about their health.⁵⁵⁰

On 19 January 2020, Germany reaffirmed its commitment to bring peace to Libya at the Berlin Conference on Libya.⁵⁵¹ The involved countries called on all parties in Libya to hold individuals accountable for violations of international law, including those who commit sexual and gender-based violence.⁵⁵² These areas include “the indiscriminate use of force against civilians, attacks on densely populated residential areas, extrajudicial killings, kidnappings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, torture and ill-treatment, human trafficking, and violence against or the abuse of migrants and refugees.”⁵⁵³ Involved countries also called on Libya to encourage effective and meaningful participation of women in activities relating to Libya’s democratic transition, conflict resolution and peacebuilding and to support efforts of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General Ghassan Salamé to improve female participation in the political process and public institutions.

On 24 January 2020, Germany launched a delegated cooperation agreement with the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malawi to co-finance the project “Promoting Agricultural Technical

⁵⁴⁶ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁵⁴⁷ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁵⁴⁸ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>.

⁵⁴⁹ Investing in Health, Rights and Choices for All, Nairobi Summit ICPD (Nairobi) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.nairobisummiticpd.org/commitment/investing-health-rights-and-choices-all>.

⁵⁵⁰ Investing in Health, Rights and Choices for All, Nairobi Summit ICPD (Nairobi) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.nairobisummiticpd.org/commitment/investing-health-rights-and-choices-all>.

⁵⁵¹ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundestkanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁵² The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundestkanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁵³ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundestkanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

Vocational Education and Training for Women.”⁵⁵⁴ The program has been in place in Malawi since 2017, with the objective to bring women into employment.⁵⁵⁵ This phase of the cooperation will focus on hearing feedback from the project’s beneficiaries and stakeholders and will be financed with approximately EUR 1 million per year until August 2022.⁵⁵⁶

On 28 April 2020, Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Phillipe Champagne hosted a call with his colleagues from several other countries including France, Germany, Australia, Brazil, Indonesia and Peru to discuss their responses to COVID-19.⁵⁵⁷ A number of ministers reiterated their desire to coordinate a multilateral response to the crisis in order to address the particular needs of vulnerable communities, including women.⁵⁵⁸

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to help interested countries implement laws promoting gender equality through adopting Resolution 2493 and collaborating with Nairobi and other partners to create policies addressing sexual and reproductive rights of women.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Daniella Marciano

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 9 September 2019, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation announced a partnership with UN Women to strengthen institutional capacity in Jordan in order to support gender equality and women’s empowerment over two years.⁵⁵⁹ The partnership will provide technical assistance to the Jordanian Ministry of Social Development to enhance the quality of services provided to vulnerable girls and women.⁵⁶⁰ UN Women will also support Jordanian Ministry of Social Development to consolidate

⁵⁵⁴ African Union Project on Malawian Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany (Malawi) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁵⁵⁵ African Union Project on Malawian Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany (Malawi) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁵⁵⁶ African Union Project on Malawian Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany (Malawi) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁵⁵⁷ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

⁵⁵⁸ Readout: Minister of Foreign Affairs Continues to Coordinate With International Counterparts on COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/readout-minister-of-foreign-affairs-continues-to-coordinate-with-international-counterparts-on-covid-190.html>.

⁵⁵⁹ Government of Italy, UN Women announce partnership to strengthen institutional capacity on women’s empowerment, UN Women (Amman) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://jordan.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/september/italy-and-un-women-partnership>

⁵⁶⁰ Government of Italy, UN Women announce partnership to strengthen institutional capacity on women’s empowerment, UN Women (Amman) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://jordan.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/september/italy-and-un-women-partnership>

the experience of model of support for gender mainstreaming and the benefits of it in a report that can be presented to other ministries and at a regional level through a conference.⁵⁶¹

On 19 January 2020, Italy reaffirmed its commitment to bring peace to Libya at the Berlin Conference on Libya.⁵⁶² The involved countries called on all parties in Libya to hold individuals accountable for violations of international law, including those who commit sexual and gender-based violence.⁵⁶³ These areas include “the indiscriminate use of force against civilians, attacks on densely populated residential areas, extrajudicial killings, kidnappings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, torture and ill-treatment, human trafficking, and violence against or the abuse of migrants and refugees.”⁵⁶⁴ Involved countries also called on Libya to encourage effective and meaningful participation of women in activities relating to Libya’s democratic transition, conflict resolution and peacebuilding and to support efforts of Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General Ghassan Salamé to improve female participation in the political process and public institutions.

On 11 March 2020, the United Nations Population Fund-United Nations Children Fund Global Program to End Child Marriage, of which Italy is a member, was renewed for an additional four years.⁵⁶⁵ The program will aim to increase girls’ access to education, health services, skills development, community education, promotion of gender equality, economic support, and enforcement of laws that set 18 years of age as the minimum for marriage. The program is part of the global effort to end child marriages by 2030.

On 21 April 2020, Emanuela Claudia Del Re, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy, issued a joint statement with Brazil, Canada and Egypt regarding the effects of COVID-19 on food security and supply.⁵⁶⁶ In the statement, the countries called upon other countries to ensure the sustainability of the food supply chain and recognize the effects of changes in demand and supply on agri-food

⁵⁶¹ Government of Italy, UN Women announce partnership to strengthen institutional capacity on women’s empowerment, UN Women (Amman) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://jordan.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/september/italy-and-un-women-partnership>

⁵⁶² The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁶³ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁶⁴ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁶⁵ UNICEF and UNFPA Renew Multi-Country Initiative to Protect Millions of Girls from Child Marriage (New York) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unicef-and-unfpa-renew-multi-country-initiative-protect-millions-girls-child>.

⁵⁶⁶ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

producers.⁵⁶⁷ In doing so, the minister encouraged countries to invest in women in particular in order to ensure they have access to land, credit and information regarding COVID-19.⁵⁶⁸

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to implement laws that promote gender equality by committing to support the Jordanian Ministry of Social Development in improving their institutional capacity to support women empowerment and supporting Libya in transitioning toward a more gender-equal democratic system. Italy has fully complied with its commitment to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Daniella Marciano

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 30 August 2019, Japanese and African Union Member States' delegations participated in the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, where Japan committed to working with the African Union to reduce the gender gap, combat gender-based violence, and empower women and youth.⁵⁶⁹

On 18 September 2019, Government of Japan provided JPY218 million of grant aid through United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women for the project of "Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Sri Lanka."⁵⁷⁰ The project aims to improve economic empowerment of women, awareness of women's rights and political participation while paying attention to vulnerable groups.⁵⁷¹

On 4 November 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan released "The Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs [Sustainable Development Goals] toward 2030," which highlighted areas of co-operation between Japan and countries in the Mekong region (e.g. Vietnam, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia).⁵⁷² It included a commitment to promoting gender equality.⁵⁷³ Japan offered to

⁵⁶⁷ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

⁵⁶⁸ Joint Statement by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt Following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Availability and Supply, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-brazil-canada-italy-and-egypt-following-the-extraordinary-high-level-meeting-of-the-group-of-friends-of-food-security-and-nutrit.html>.

⁵⁶⁹ Yokohama Declaration 2019 Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Yokohama) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf

⁵⁷⁰ Japan provides USD 2 million grant aid for Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Sri Lanka, Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo), 18 September 2019. Access date: 3 January 2020. https://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/00_000930.html

⁵⁷¹ Japan provides USD 2 million grant aid for Implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Sri Lanka, Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo), 18 September 2019. Access date: 3 January 2020. https://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/00_000930.html

⁵⁷² The Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs toward 2030, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 4 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000535957.pdf>

⁵⁷³ The Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs toward 2030, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 4 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000535957.pdf>

microfinance women's enterprises in Asia, and to collaborate with Mekong countries to eradicate human trafficking.⁵⁷⁴

On 21 February 2020, Japan announced that they will provide a grant of USD83,708 to support women empowerment in Egypt.⁵⁷⁵ This grant will enable training of women in the old Cairo region for self-employment so they have skills to be compatible with the needs of the labour market, including marketing skills.⁵⁷⁶

On 3 March 2020, Japan donated USD2.3 million to the UN Women's and Sasakawa Africa Association's Grant Aid project to the Lake Chad Region. The Grand Aid aims to support women and girls withstand crises, recover and develop resilience to crises, prepare women to participate in decision making, provide protection from gender-based violence.⁵⁷⁷

On 10 March 2020, Japan donated USD13 million of Emergency Grant Aid to Brazil, Columbia, Ecuador and Peru.⁵⁷⁸ USD3.4 million of Emergency Grant Aid was allocated to Ecuador for the provision of protection services, including sexual and gender-based violence prevention, to people displaced from Venezuela.⁵⁷⁹ USD3.5 million of grant aid was allocated to Peru to develop a protection response for vulnerable people, focusing on sexual and gender-based violence survivors.⁵⁸⁰

On 10 March 2020, Japan donated a total of USD23.7 million to refugees and internally displaced people in the Sahel region. Of this amount, USD 7.3 million was given to the Republic of Niger for the provision of protection activities for people suffering from gender-based violence, along with the improvement of both living and nutritional conditions. Additionally, USD4.7 million was given to the Republic of Mali for the provision of protection activities and legal assistance for people suffering from gender-based violence, along with the provision of educational opportunities, and food assistance, to improvement people's nutritional conditions.⁵⁸¹

On 21 April 2020, Japan signed a grant agreement with UNICEF of USD2 million to research the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on women and children, along with providing essential services to those in the Pacific region.⁵⁸²

⁵⁷⁴ The Mekong-Japan Initiative for SDGs toward 2030, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 4 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000535957.pdf>

⁵⁷⁵ Japan gives Egypt \$US 83,708 grant to support women's empowerment, Egypt Independent (Cairo), 21 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://egyptindependent.com/japan-gives-egypt-us-83708-grant-to-support-womens-empowerment/>.

⁵⁷⁶ Japan gives Egypt \$US 83,708 grant to support women's empowerment, Egypt Independent (Cairo), 21 February 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://egyptindependent.com/japan-gives-egypt-us-83708-grant-to-support-womens-empowerment/>.

⁵⁷⁷ Japan Extends Grand Aid of USD 2.3 Million for Supporting Women and Girls Withstand Crises, Recovery from the Impact of Crises and Increase their Resilience in Nigeria and Cameroon, UN Women (New York City) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.ng.emb-japan.go.jp/files/100018832.pdf>.

⁵⁷⁸ Emergency grant aid to displaced people in neighbouring countries of Venezuela, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002764.html.

⁵⁷⁹ Emergency grant aid to displaced people in neighbouring countries of Venezuela, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002764.html.

⁵⁸⁰ Emergency grant aid to displaced people in neighbouring countries of Venezuela, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002764.html.

⁵⁸¹ Emergency grant aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html.

⁵⁸² Japan supports UNICEF to reach more than one million children in COVID-19 response, UNICEF (Suva) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/japan-supports-unicef-reach-more-one-million-children-covid-19-response>.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support interested countries in implementing laws that promote gender equality by committing to collaborate with African Union to reduce gender gap and combat gender-based violence, by providing grant aid to a United Nations project aiming to improve economic empowerment of women in Sri Lanka and microfinancing women enterprises in Asia to collaborate with Mekong countries to eradicate human trafficking. It has also demonstrated its dedication through grant donations to Nigeria and Cameroon to support women and girls in crisis situations, to countries in the Sahel region to help combat gender-based violence amongst refugees and internally displaced peoples, and to countries in the Pacific region, to provide essential services and research the impact of COVID-19 on women and children.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1 .

Analyst: Sanjna Ullal

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 22 September 2019, the United Kingdom announced an additional aid of GBP 87 million to sustain its operations in Cox Bazar for Rohingya refugees. Part of this amount will fund reproductive services, protection for victims, and basic living and healthcare needs for Rohingya women and girls.⁵⁸³

On 24 September 2019, the UK announced an education commitment of GBP 515 million for women and girls at the United Nations. The aim is to increase education in areas of warzones and conflict areas to further social and economic empowerment of women.⁵⁸⁴ The UK also announced additional GBP 5 billion that will be used move toward education investment in Africa and Asia.⁵⁸⁵

On 8 October 2019, the British ambassador to Turkmenistan signed a Memorandum of Understanding to encourage and abet gender equality, sensitivity and empowerment in the Turkmen security sector as a part of an Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe project.⁵⁸⁶ The aim is to promote gender main-streaming, particularly in male-dominated sectors, and provide gender sensitivity training to security officials.⁵⁸⁷

On 12 December 2019, the UK embassy in Cairo announced its moral and financial support of the first Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security in Egypt to prevent the effects of conflict and

⁵⁸³ UK announces extra £87 million funding for Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh, British High Commission (Dhaka) 22 September 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-extra-87-million-funding-for-rohingya-crisis-in-bangladesh>

⁵⁸⁴ PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Prime Minister Office (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 26 December, 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>

⁵⁸⁵ PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Prime Minister Office (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 26 December, 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>

⁵⁸⁶ British Embassy Ashgabat supports women's empowerment and gender sensitivity, British Embassy (Ashgabat) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-embassy-ashgabat-supports-womens-empowerment-and-gender-sensitivity>

⁵⁸⁷ British Embassy Ashgabat supports women's empowerment and gender sensitivity, British Embassy (Ashgabat) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-embassy-ashgabat-supports-womens-empowerment-and-gender-sensitivity>

injustice on women and girls.⁵⁸⁸ It also aims to support the involvement of women in peace processes to ensure peace and security in the region.⁵⁸⁹

On 19 January 2020, UK reaffirmed its commitment to bring peace to Libya at the Berlin Conference on Libya.⁵⁹⁰ The involved countries called on all parties in Libya to hold individuals accountable for violations of international law, including those who commit sexual and gender-based violence.⁵⁹¹ These areas include “the indiscriminate use of force against civilians, attacks on densely populated residential areas, extrajudicial killings, kidnappings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, torture and ill-treatment, human trafficking, and violence against or the abuse of migrants and refugees.”⁵⁹² Involved countries also called on Libya to encourage effective and meaningful participation of women in activities relating to Libya’s democratic transition, conflict resolution and peacebuilding and to support efforts of Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General Ghassam Salamé to improve female participation in the political process and public institutions.

On 16 January 2020, UK announced an aid package of GBP3.5 million aiming to empower women entrepreneurs and business leaders in Africa.⁵⁹³ This aid package will aim to assist female entrepreneurs in acquiring investments through specialist business training, creating up to 3,000 jobs and reducing workplace inequality; create investment and development partnerships; and enable working alongside the governments of Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya to create gender-inclusive trade policies.⁵⁹⁴

On 4 March 2020, the UK ambassador to Egypt Sir Geoffrey Adams announced a roundtable meeting with the Arab Women’s Enterprise Fund, aiming to decrease barriers for women empowerment, education and employment in the Arab world and North Africa.⁵⁹⁵ The enterprise funded by the UK government and aims to boost financial independence in the home and workplace.⁵⁹⁶

United Kingdom has demonstrated its dedication to support interested countries in implementing laws that promote gender equality by funding reproductive and protective services for female

⁵⁸⁸ UK supports Egypt in developing 1st action plan on women, peace, security, Ahram (Cairo) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/357664/Egypt/Politics-/UK-supports-Egypt-in-developing-st-action-plan-on-.aspx>

⁵⁸⁹ UK supports Egypt in developing 1st action plan on women, peace, security, Ahram (Cairo) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/357664/Egypt/Politics-/UK-supports-Egypt-in-developing-st-action-plan-on-.aspx>

⁵⁹⁰ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundestkanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁹¹ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundestkanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁹² The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundestkanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁵⁹³ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department of International Development (London), January 16, 2020. Access Date: April 26, 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>.

⁵⁹⁴ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department of International Development (London), January 16, 2020. Access Date: April 26, 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>.

⁵⁹⁵ British embassy launches its annual campaign to support gender equality. British Embassy (Cairo) 4 March 2020. Access Date: April 26, 2020. <https://www.dailynewssegypt.com/2020/03/04/british-embassy-launches-its-annual-campaign-to-support-gender-equality/>.

⁵⁹⁶ British embassy launches its annual campaign to support gender equality. British Embassy (Cairo) 4 March 2020. Access Date: April 26, 2020. <https://www.dailynewssegypt.com/2020/03/04/british-embassy-launches-its-annual-campaign-to-support-gender-equality/>.

Rohingya refugees, signing a memorandum of understanding with Turkmenistan to encourage gender equality by providing gender sensitivity training to security officials and by announcing moral and financial support for the first Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security in Egypt.

Thus, United Kingdom receives a score of +1 .

Analyst: Jaivika Kataria

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 29 October 2019, all states of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), of which the United States is a member, adopted Resolution 2492 which promotes a women, peace and security agenda.⁵⁹⁷ The UNSC urges members to facilitate full and equal participation of women at every stage of peacebuilding processes, to address threats and violence against women and to increase number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping operations.⁵⁹⁸

On 18 November 2019, USAID Administrator Mark Green and Advisor to Ivanka Trump announced that additional USD50 million funding will be directed toward Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP).⁵⁹⁹ W-GDP aims to advance women's economic empowerment in developing countries with the goal of reaching 50 million women by 2025 through collaboration with local organizations.⁶⁰⁰

On 2 December 2019, USAID and Aga Khan Foundation announced USD37.5 million in funding for project known as "Local Impact."⁶⁰¹ Funds from this project will help Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan "expand opportunity and overall quality of life" for women and girls specifically.⁶⁰²

On 19 January 2020, United States reaffirmed its commitment to bring peace to Libya at the Berlin Conference on Libya.⁶⁰³ The involved countries called on all parties in Libya to hold individuals accountable for violations of international law, including those who commit sexual and gender-based

⁵⁹⁷ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>

⁵⁹⁸ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2492 (2019), Relief Web (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-urges-recommitment-women-peace-security-agenda-unanimously-adopting>

⁵⁹⁹ USAID Administrator Mark Green and Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump announce Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative Fund's increase to \$100 million in first year and launch of new partnerships, USAID (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 4 January 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-18-2019-administrator-green-advisor-trump-w-gdp-funding-increase>

⁶⁰⁰ USAID Administrator Mark Green and Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump announce Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative Fund's increase to \$100 million in first year and launch of new partnerships, USAID (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 4 January 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-18-2019-administrator-green-advisor-trump-w-gdp-funding-increase>.

⁶⁰¹ USAID and The Aga Khan Foundation work to increase the impact of local organizations in Central Asia, USAID (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 4 January 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-2-2019-usaid-and-aga-khan-foundation-work-increase-impact-local-organizations>.

⁶⁰² USAID and The Aga Khan Foundation work to increase the impact of local organizations in Central Asia, USAID (Washington D.C.) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 4 January 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/dec-2-2019-usaid-and-aga-khan-foundation-work-increase-impact-local-organizations>.

⁶⁰³ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

violence.⁶⁰⁴ These areas include “the indiscriminate use of force against civilians, attacks on densely populated residential areas, extrajudicial killings, kidnappings, enforced disappearances, sexual and gender-based violence, torture and ill-treatment, human trafficking, and violence against or the abuse of migrants and refugees.”⁶⁰⁵ Involved countries also called on Libya to encourage effective and meaningful participation of women in activities relating to Libya’s democratic transition, conflict resolution and peacebuilding and to support efforts of United Nations Secretary General Salamé to improve female participation in the political process and public institutions.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to support interested countries in implementing laws that promote gender equality by collaborating with UNSC members, Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan to encourage gender equality by supporting women economic empowerment in developing countries and women participation in civil services. The United States has not complied with its commitment to help interested countries develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Shaina Sharma

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to stand ready to help interested countries implement laws toward equality and develop legal monitoring mechanisms on gender equality.

On 2 September 2019, EU Programmes Officer Mathe Tau signed a financing agreement called “EU Support to Civil Society,” which provided a grant to the Lesotho chapter of Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA).⁶⁰⁶ WLSA will use this grant toward a project called ‘Socio-Economic Empowerment through Gender-Responsive Policies, Legislations and Action’ to contribute to the development of gender-sensitive policies and laws, increased knowledge about gender-based violence, and toward women’s economic empowerment.⁶⁰⁷ WLSA will collaborate with Lesotho National Council of Women, the Women’s Law Clinic, the Migrants Workers Association of Lesotho and the Lesotho Youth Federation for this 48-month project.⁶⁰⁸

On 8 October 2019, the EU released an action plan for supporting gender equality in Libya. The action plan reflected the ways in which the EU is working in Libya to prevent and combat violence

⁶⁰⁴ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁶⁰⁵ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions (Germany) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/bkin-de/suche/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713868>.

⁶⁰⁶ The EU supports the fight for gender justice in Lesotho European External Action Service (Brussels) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67216/eu-supports-fight-gender-justice-lesotho_en.

⁶⁰⁷ The EU supports the fight for gender justice in Lesotho European External Action Service (Brussels) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67216/eu-supports-fight-gender-justice-lesotho_en.

⁶⁰⁸ The EU supports the fight for gender justice in Lesotho European External Action Service (Brussels) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67216/eu-supports-fight-gender-justice-lesotho_en

against women and girls, promote women's economic and social rights, and strengthen their ability to participate in society.⁶⁰⁹

On 14 October 2019, the EU Delegation to Egypt and the Embassy of Sweden in Cairo launched the Gender Champion initiative to support Egypt in empowering its women to participate more in public life and support female leadership.⁶¹⁰ The EU also stated its intent to help combat female genital mutilation in collaboration with the National Council for Women and United Nations.

On 9 and 10 December 2019, the European Union and Zambia launched the 'Natwampane' Programme. The European Development Fund allocated a budget of EUR25 million to prevent sexual and gender-based violence, while simultaneously improving access to services for survivors within the Zambian's Northern Province and Luapula Province.⁶¹¹ This will be achieved through sexual education for 235,000 children; sensitization of 335,000 children; engagement of 1,600 faith leaders, 1,800 civic leaders, 1,530 marriage counsellors; and 392 radio programs to reach 200,000 youth.⁶¹²

On 12 February 2020, the EU called for a vote on a resolution that called on United Nations members to implement an EU strategy to end female genital mutilations across the world.⁶¹³

On 5 March 2020, the European Union released its Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, within which it reaffirmed its commitment to ending violence against women and girls, promoting women's empowerment, and ensuring the fulfillment of their rights – human, political, or civil.⁶¹⁴ As part of this plan, it has pledged to promote gender equality through its trade policy by gathering gender-disaggregated data to ensure that the gender impact of trade agreements is considered.⁶¹⁵ It plans on using its External Investment Plan to promote women's entrepreneurship and labour market participation, both through the 2020 EU Strategy with Africa, and the Women's Financial Inclusion Facility.⁶¹⁶

⁶⁰⁹ European Union support to gender equality in Libya European External Action Service (Brussels) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/eu_support_for_gender_equality_final_-_web.pdf

⁶¹⁰ EU Gender Champions working with Egypt to support women empowerment (Brussels) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/68873/eu-gender-champions-working-egypt-support-women-empowerment_en

⁶¹¹ Launch of the Natwampane Programme "together to STOP sexual and gender-based violence" European External Action Service (Brussels) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72468/launch-natwampane-programme-%E2%80%9Ctogether-stop-sexual-and-gender-based-violence%E2%80%9D_en

⁶¹² Launch of the Natwampane Programme "together to STOP sexual and gender-based violence" European External Action Service (Brussels) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72468/launch-natwampane-programme-%E2%80%9Ctogether-stop-sexual-and-gender-based-violence%E2%80%9D_en

⁶¹³ Coming up: EU-Vietnam trade deal, artificial intelligence and EU-UK cooperation, European Parliament (Brussels) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/eu-affairs/20200131STO71520/coming-up-eu-vietnam-trade-deal-artificial-intelligence-and-eu-uk-cooperation>

⁶¹⁴ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A152%3AFIN>

⁶¹⁵ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A152%3AFIN>

⁶¹⁶ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2020%3A152%3AFIN>

On 5 March 2020, the European Union initiated the Spotlight Initiative, in partnership with the United Nations, to end violence against women and girls.⁶¹⁷ To this end, the European Union has invested USD550 million to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in 26 countries⁶¹⁸ by 2030.⁶¹⁹ It focuses on reforming the procedural laws that govern legal proceedings, enhancing victim rights policy frameworks, improving the capacity for nations to plan, fund and deliver programmes that prevent, and responding to violence against women and girls, while expanding existing programs that work toward the same ends.⁶²⁰

On 6 March 2020, the European Union's executive announced that the European Commission will introduce laws that combat gender equality that include "binding measures on pay transparency," which aim to encourage member states to implement these laws to bridge the gender wage gap.⁶²¹

On 15 March 2020, Delegation of EU to Nigeria and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) advocated for equal opportunity for all genders to bridge the gender inequality gap in Nigeria.⁶²² Ambassador of EU to Nigeria and ECOWAS noted that EU is working with Nigerian institutions to improve gender equality and will continue to support opening of a national register against sexual offenders and sexual assault referral centres throughout the country on a call.⁶²³

European Union has demonstrated its dedication to implement laws that promote gender equality by providing grants to WLSA working to develop gender-sensitive policies, developing an action plan to collaborate with Libya to prevent and combat violence against women and promote women's economic and social rights, launching the Gender Champion Initiative and funding Natwampane' Programme in collaboration with Zambia to improve access to services for survivors of violence in Zambia's Norther Province and Luapula Province. It has also demonstrated its interest through its renewal of its Gender Equality strategy, which reaffirms its commitment to helping women realize their rights, and its joint creation of the Spotlight Initiative, which aims to end violence against women and girls in 26 countries globally.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sanjna Ullal

⁶¹⁷ European Union, the Government of Timor-Leste and UN launch Spotlight Initiative to end violence against women and girls (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/75540/european-union-government-timor-leste-and-un-launch-spotlight-initiative-end-violence-against_fi

⁶¹⁸ Empowering women and girls (Brussels) Access Date: 27 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/topics/empowering-women-and-girls_en.

⁶¹⁹ European Union, the Government of Timor-Leste and UN launch Spotlight Initiative to end violence against women and girls (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/75540/european-union-government-timor-leste-and-un-launch-spotlight-initiative-end-violence-against_fi.

⁶²⁰ Spotlight Initiative to End Violence Against Women and Girls Launched in Grenada. 6 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/75690/spotlight-initiative-end-violence-against-women-and-girls-launched-grenada_fi.

⁶²¹ EU Executive seeks to crack down on gender pay gap, Premium Times (Brussels) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://nypost.com/2020/03/06/eu-executive-seeks-to-crack-down-on-gender-pay-gap/>.

⁶²² EU advocates gender equality in Nigeria, Premium Times (Brussels) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/more-news/382030-eu-advocates-gender-equality-in-nigeria.html>.

⁶²³ EU advocates gender equality in Nigeria, Premium Times (Brussels) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/more-news/382030-eu-advocates-gender-equality-in-nigeria.html>.

5. Gender: Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa

“We support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).”

Biarritz Declaration for a G7 and Africa Partnership

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy	-1		
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average	+0.13 (56%)		

Background

There is a higher percentage of women entrepreneurs in Africa than in any other part of the world, one in four women in Africa starts or manages a business.⁶²⁴ Over 40 per cent of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are run by women.⁶²⁵ Women entrepreneurs’ investment and contribution to their family and community, up to 90 per cent of their income, far outweighs the 40 per cent male entrepreneurs invest.⁶²⁶ It is more difficult for women to obtain loans and funding; financial institutions do not have the capacity to assist women adequately and there are often legal and regulatory frameworks which prevent women from being involved in the private sector.⁶²⁷

In 2016, the African Development Bank (AfDB) launched the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) at their annual meeting.⁶²⁸ AFAWA provides “available, accessible and affordable financial services to women in business through selected financial institutions.”⁶²⁹ The purpose of these services is to change the nature of trade in Africa, increase credit of up to USD1

⁶²⁴ Why AFAWA? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/why-afawa>

⁶²⁵ G7 Summit: President Macron and G7 leaders provide Bank’s Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative with \$251 million, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/08/26/g7-summit-president-macron-and-g7-leaders-provide-banks-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa-afawa-initiative-with-251-million/>

⁶²⁶ 7 Summit: President Macron and G7 leaders provide Bank’s Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative with \$251 million, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/08/26/g7-summit-president-macron-and-g7-leaders-provide-banks-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa-afawa-initiative-with-251-million/>

⁶²⁷ Why AFAWA? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/why-afawa>

⁶²⁸ AfDB and IFC agree to promote investments that benefit women in Africa, ReliefWeb (New York City) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/afdb-and-ifc-agree-promote-investments-benefit-women-africa>

⁶²⁹ AfDB and IFC agree to promote investments that benefit women in Africa, ReliefWeb (New York City) 23 May 2017. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/afdb-and-ifc-agree-promote-investments-benefit-women-africa>

billion per year for five years after its commencement in support of women entrepreneurs, and, most significantly, close the USD42 billion financing gap between men and women entrepreneurs.⁶³⁰

In 2018, the AfDB committed over USD50 million in lines of credit to women through Fidelity Bank, Kenya Commercial Bank and other financial institutions.⁶³¹ Furthermore, AfDB made an anchor investment of USD12.5 million in Alitheia IDF Managers (AIM).⁶³² AIM is a private equity fund managed by women, first of its kind, that invests in “high-growth women-owned and -led SMEs in Africa.”⁶³³ The goal of AIM is to raise USD100 million, focusing on ten countries in Southern and Western Africa.⁶³⁴

In 2018, AFAWA contributed technical assistance to several banks and worked with Entrepreneurium Foundation to train 1000 women entrepreneurs across Africa in financial planning and business model development.⁶³⁵ AFAWA works with central banks and government entities across Africa to develop policy dialogue.⁶³⁶ As well, AFAWA is developing a digital platform, 50 Million African Women Speak, with the goal of connecting women entrepreneurs from around Africa.⁶³⁷

In April 2018, the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi) contributed their first round of funding. We-Fi is a “collaborative partnership among 14 governments, eight multilateral development banks, and other public and private sector stakeholders, hosted by the World Bank Group.”⁶³⁸ A minimum of 58 per cent of the first round of funding is allocated for women-owned SMEs in low-income countries and fragile and conflict-affected situations. Of that funding, 43 per cent is meant for country and regional projects in Sub-Saharan Africa.⁶³⁹

In May 2019, We-Fi allocated their second round of funding, including to the AfDB, for programs to benefit 70,000 women-led businesses, mobilize nearly one billion dollars of additional public and

⁶³⁰ AFAWA could be a real game changer for trade in Africa, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/08/28/afawa-could-be-a-real-game-changer-for-trade-in-africa-business/>

⁶³¹ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³² What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³³ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³⁴ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³⁵ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³⁶ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³⁷ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶³⁸ Who We Are, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://we-fi.org/who-we-are/>

⁶³⁹ Programs Funded by We-Fi, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://we-fi.org/programs/>

private sector resources, and boost women's entrepreneurship.⁶⁴⁰ 70 per cent of this funding will go toward women entrepreneurs in low-income countries and fragile and conflict-affected countries.⁶⁴¹

On 13 May 2019, We-Fi announced USD62 million for AFAWA to support 40,000 SMEs in 21 African states.⁶⁴² AFAWA's programs will contribute to "innovative and tailored financial instruments including a women-focused first loss risk-sharing facility, specialized capacity-building training, and targeted initiatives to dramatically transform the business-enabling environment for women entrepreneurs."⁶⁴³

On 25 August 2019, the G7 announced a USD251 million funding package for AFAWA in support of women entrepreneurs.⁶⁴⁴

Commitment Features

At Biarritz, G7 leaders committed to "support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi)." This commitment was made in order to reform "the social, legal and regulatory barriers to women's full and free economic participation and empowerment."⁶⁴⁵ The goal of the AFAWA initiative is "to facilitate up to USD3 billion of loans through existing African commercial banks and microfinance institutions over 5 years for over 50,000 women businesses."⁶⁴⁶ These loans should create jobs, structural change and long-lasting economic growth.⁶⁴⁷ G7 leaders also welcomed We-Fi's funding contribution of USD62 million to AFAWA, which promotes policy objectives for AFAWA which are in line with the G7's objectives in this area.⁶⁴⁸

This commitment focuses on "support," which is "the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity."⁶⁴⁹ In this case, the commitment focuses on G7 members contributing to AFAWA and doing so through We-Fi.⁶⁵⁰

⁶⁴⁰ Programs Funded by We-Fi, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://we-fi.org/programs/>

⁶⁴¹ Programs Funded by We-Fi, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://we-fi.org/programs/>

⁶⁴² Nearly \$62 million is headed to Africa to support women in business, Africa Times 14 May 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://africatimes.com/2019/05/14/nearly-62-million-is-headed-to-africa-to-support-women-in-business/>

⁶⁴³ Programs Funded by We-Fi, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://we-fi.org/programs/>

⁶⁴⁴ G7 Summit: President Macron and G7 leaders provide Bank's Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative with \$251 million, Africanews (Pointe-Noire) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.africanews.com/2019/08/26/g7-summit-president-macron-and-g7-leaders-provide-banks-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa-afawa-initiative-with-251-million/>

⁶⁴⁵ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & African Partnership, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-declaration-africa-partnership.html>

⁶⁴⁶ Promoting Women's Entrepreneurship in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/promoting-womens-entrepreneurship.html>

⁶⁴⁷ Promoting Women's Entrepreneurship in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/promoting-womens-entrepreneurship.html>

⁶⁴⁸ Promoting Women's Entrepreneurship in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/promoting-womens-entrepreneurship.html>

⁶⁴⁹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 September 2016. Access Date: 10 October 2019. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1K4GvxGEMGP_ZDyQgx5LF9meXpnKaRpW_e_QeF2J0WX0/edit#heading=h.30j0

⁶⁵⁰ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

The AFAWA initiative is based on three pillars: AFAWA finance, AFAWA technical assistance, and AFAWA enabling environment.⁶⁵¹

AFAWA finance uses the AfDB's financial instruments to transform the banking and financial landscape in Africa to create incentives for lending to women, through two mechanisms.⁶⁵²

1. A USD300 million risk-sharing instrument with the goal of creating USD3 billion in credit for businesses and enterprises run by women. The purpose of this is to initiate structural change by building on the existing network of commercial banks and microfinance institutions.⁶⁵³
2. A rating system which evaluates “financial institutions based on the share and quality of their lending to women, and their socio-economic impact,” rewarding the financial institutions with preferential financing terms from the AfDB based on their rank.⁶⁵⁴

AFAWA technical assistance offers advisory services to financial institutions with the goal of effectively implementing women's product portfolios.⁶⁵⁵ Furthermore, the technical assistance is meant to strengthen “the capacity of women entrepreneurs through training to enhance business productivity and growth.”⁶⁵⁶

AFAWA enabling environment “engages with African governments and other key stakeholders to support legal, policy and regulatory reforms and strike down the structural barriers impeding women in business.”⁶⁵⁷

For a G7 member to achieve full compliance, they must support all three pillars of the AFAWA initiative, including through the We-Fi. A G7 member must provide aid for AFAWA finance, AFAWA technical assistance and AFAWA enabling environment. Aid can be in the form of, but not limited to, financial or political support, providing technical and professional advisers, sharing best practices and knowledge with AFAWA, African governments or key stakeholders, or working with other governments or key stakeholders to implement these pillars.

Partial compliance would be if a G7 member supports two pillars, including or not including the We-Fi, or the G7 member supports one pillar, including through We-Fi. Anything less than this counts for non-compliance.

⁶⁵¹ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.

<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵² What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.

<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵³ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.

<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵⁴ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.

<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵⁵ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.

<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵⁶ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.

<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

⁶⁵⁷ What does AFAWA do? African Development Bank Group (Tunis). Access Date: 10 October 2019.

<https://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/afawa-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa/what-does-afawa-do>

Additionally, this report considers the strength of the action in each of the pillars. For example, if the G7 member supported all three pillars but in one pillar only made a verbal declaration or reiteration of support, or something equivalent, this will lower the members' score from a +1 to a 0 for a work in progress.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does not support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative or the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).
0	G7 member supports two pillars of the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative, including or not including the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi) OR supports one pillar including through We-Fi.
+1	G7 member fully supports the three pillars of the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative, including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

Compliance Director: Sonja Dobson
Lead Analyst: Anahid Najafizadeh

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

As of 30 September 2019, the latest We-Fi Financial Report prepared by the World Bank Group Trustee highlights Canada's total financial contributions to the We-Fi Trust Fund at CAD15.55 million since its inception.⁶⁵⁸

On 12 November 2019, the Development Finance Institute Canada (FinDev) announced an investment of CAD7.5 million to Alitheia IDF (AIF), a fund supporting women-owned and led businesses, to boost women's economic empowerment and access to finance in Sub-Saharan Africa.⁶⁵⁹ The AIF is a joint venture of women-owned and led funds between Alitheia Capital in Nigeria and IDF Capital in South Africa. As the first fund of its kind in Africa, it uses a gender-lens investing approach to support high-growth African small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that help improve women's access to finance and foster their economic empowerment.⁶⁶⁰ The capital invested by FinDev Canada will be used to finance locally-owned, high-growth SMEs that address unmet demand for essential goods and services and operate in priority sectors where women entrepreneurs are dominant both as producers and consumers.⁶⁶¹

⁶⁵⁸ Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative Financial Report. The World Bank Group (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

<https://fiftrustee.worldbank.org/content/dam/fif/funds/wefi/TrusteeReports/We-Fi-Trustee-Report---09-30-2019.pdf>.

⁶⁵⁹ FinDev Canada invests in gender-lens fund to bolster women-owned SMEs in Africa, FinDev Canada (Montréal) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-invests-gender-lens-fund-bolster-women-owned-smes-africa>.

⁶⁶⁰ FinDev Canada invests in gender-lens fund to bolster women-owned SMEs in Africa, Cision PR Newswire Association LLC (Chicago) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/findev-canada-invests-in-gender-lens-fund-to-bolster-women-owned-smes-in-africa-300956608.html>.

⁶⁶¹ FinDev Canada invests in gender-lens fund to bolster women-owned SMEs in Africa, FinDev Canada (Montréal) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.findevcanada.ca/en/news/findev-canada-invests-gender-lens-fund-bolster-women-owned-smes-africa>.

On 27 November 2019, FinDev Canada in partnership with the development finance institutions CDC Group United Kingdom, Proparco France, Overseas Private Investment Corporation United States, and the Mastercard Foundation unveiled their joint initiative Invest2Impact at the Global Gender Summit 2019.⁶⁶² The initiative empowers East African women business leaders through providing business development services, access to funding, and network opportunities.⁶⁶³ 100 African women entrepreneurs were selected as inaugural winners through the entrepreneurship competition securing a collective total of USD85,000 in investment.⁶⁶⁴

On 13 December 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau released ministerial mandate letters outlining the policy objectives that each minister will work to accomplish.⁶⁶⁵ The Ministers of Foreign Affairs, International Development, and for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development will continue gender equality work abroad and furthering global feminist initiatives with the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council.⁶⁶⁶ The Minister of International Development is also tasked with implementing the Feminist International Assistance Policy, which is geared toward creating opportunities for women on the ground in developing countries.⁶⁶⁷

On 14 January 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs published Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy. Global Affairs Canada (GAC) henceforth pledged to contribute 15 per cent of its bilateral international development assistance to improving gender equality and the quality of life for women and girls.⁶⁶⁸ GAC will also work with women in developing countries to access more opportunities and encourage greater financial inclusion.⁶⁶⁹ There is a focus on equal access for women to capital, markets, digital technology and business development, as well as technical support and vocational training.⁶⁷⁰ Canada has already begun work in Senegal with a women's advocacy

⁶⁶² Rwandan firms win big at inaugural women entrepreneurship challenge, The New Times (Kigali) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/rwandan-firms-win-big-inaugural-women-entrepreneurship-challenge>.

⁶⁶³ The Power of 100: 2019 Winners, Invest2Impact (Montréal) 29 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://invest2impact.africa/>.

⁶⁶⁴ 31 Kenyan women entrepreneurs win Invest2Impact awards in Rwanda, Citizen Digital 29 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://citizentv.co.ke/business/31-kenyan-women-entrepreneurs-win-2x-invest2impact-awards-in-rwanda-305805/>

⁶⁶⁵ Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development Mandate Letter, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/mandate-letters/minister-women-and-gender-equality-and-rural-economic-development-mandate-letter>.

⁶⁶⁶ Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development Mandate Letter, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/mandate-letters/minister-women-and-gender-equality-and-rural-economic-development-mandate-letter>.

⁶⁶⁷ Minister for International Development Mandate Letter, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 13 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/mandate-letters/minister-international-development-mandate-letter>.

⁶⁶⁸ Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng#5.3.

⁶⁶⁹ Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng#5.3.

⁶⁷⁰ Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng#5.3.

organization, to help women gain access to more opportunities through training in financial management and harvesting and processing techniques.⁶⁷¹

Canada has partially complied with its commitment by taking action to support AFAWA's technical and financial pillars through partnerships and investments with FinDev and Invest2Impact to help decrease the funding gap and opportunities for women entrepreneurs in Africa. As well, Canada has financially contributed to We-Fi. The Canadian government has also publicly reaffirmed its mandate to continue assistance and create opportunities for women in developing countries. However, Canada has yet to take concrete action on AFAWA's remaining pillars of working with African governments to enable a conducive business environment for women entrepreneurs.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Cecilia Pang

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

On 28 November 2019, the Agence Française du Développement (AfD) and the African Guarantee Fund for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (AGF) signed a sub-participation agreement of USD30 million.⁶⁷² The agreement will improve access to credit for (SMEs), cover losses through a risk-sharing mechanism for SMEs, and guarantee USD60 million to financial institutions which provide loans to approximately 1800 SMEs.⁶⁷³ The sub-participation seeks to support “women’s access to finance” specifically through AFAWA, with a “special emphasis” placed on the AFAWA initiative.⁶⁷⁴

On 9 December 2019, AfD announced a EUR15 million seed fund to assist African start-ups in 45 African countries.⁶⁷⁵ This initiative is in response to the lack access to bank loans for SMEs and start-

⁶⁷¹ Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Policy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_developpement-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng#5.3.

⁶⁷² French Development Agency supports African SMEs via a counter-guarantee of USD 30 Million to the African Guarantee Fund, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/french-development-agency-supports-african-smes-via-a-counter-guarantee-of-usd-30-million-to-the-african-guarantee-fund/>.

⁶⁷³ French Development Agency supports African SMEs via a counter-guarantee of USD 30 Million to the African Guarantee Fund, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/french-development-agency-supports-african-smes-via-a-counter-guarantee-of-usd-30-million-to-the-african-guarantee-fund/>.

⁶⁷⁴ French Development Agency supports African SMEs via a counter-guarantee of USD 30 Million to the African Guarantee Fund, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/french-development-agency-supports-african-smes-via-a-counter-guarantee-of-usd-30-million-to-the-african-guarantee-fund/>.

⁶⁷⁵ AFD Group: Driver for African Start Ups, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2020. https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups?origin=/en/actualites?field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=1318&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=3.

ups. Furthermore, the seed fund is part of Emerging Valley, “a platform for emerging innovations and partnerships between Europe and Africa.”⁶⁷⁶

On 3 April 2020, the AfDB received USD7 billion through the Gender Equality Trust Fund (GETF).⁶⁷⁷ Among the anchor investors in the GETF is the Government of France.⁶⁷⁸ The GETF works with its partner, the AGF, to support access to financing for women-run SMEs in Africa.⁶⁷⁹

France has partially complied with its commitment to AFAWA through the technical pillar, by signing an agreement with AGF to support financial institutions, and through the finance pillar, by announcing a seed fund for start-ups. However, France has not contributed to We-Fi or to the remaining pillar of working with African governments to enable a conducive business environment for women entrepreneurs.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Maryanna Sierra C. Diab

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative, including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

On 20 November 2019, iMOVE, an initiative of the Ministry of Education and Research, and the German African Business Association held the first German African Forum on Vocational Training and Education.⁶⁸⁰ The Forum focused on vocational education and training, with an emphasis on the role of women. Ministers from Egypt, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, South Sudan, Togo, Chad and Uganda attended the Forum and proclaimed their interest in escalating cooperation with Germany in the education and training sector.⁶⁸¹

⁶⁷⁶ AFD Group: Driver for African Start Ups, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 22 April 2020. https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups?origin=/en/actualites?field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=1318&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=3.

⁶⁷⁷ AfDB to mobilise \$7bn for women-focused businesses through GETF, Vanguard (Lagos) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/afdb-to-mobilise-7bn-for-women-focused-businesses-through-getf/>.

⁶⁷⁸ AfDB to mobilise \$7bn for women-focused businesses through GETF, Vanguard (Lagos) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/afdb-to-mobilise-7bn-for-women-focused-businesses-through-getf/>.

⁶⁷⁹ AfDB to mobilise \$7bn for women-focused businesses through GETF, Vanguard (Lagos) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/afdb-to-mobilise-7bn-for-women-focused-businesses-through-getf/>.

⁶⁸⁰ German partners urgently needed: iMOVE and the African Association organized the 1st German-African Forum on Vocational Training and Education, iMOVE (Bonn) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.imove-germany.de/en/event-reports/German-partners-urgently-needed.htm>.

⁶⁸¹ German partners urgently needed: iMOVE and the African Association organized the 1st German-African Forum on Vocational Training and Education, iMOVE (Bonn) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.imove-germany.de/cps/rde/xchg/imove_projekt_international/hs.xsl/events.htm?rdeLocaleAttr=en&content-url=/cps/rde/xchg/imove_projekt_international/hs.xsl/German-partners-urgently-needed.htm.

On 9 January 2020, KfW Development Bank contributed EUR25 million to the African Guarantee Fund for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (AGF).⁶⁸² AGF stated the intention for the capital is to create more guarantees and technical assistance to financial institutions.⁶⁸³

On 28 January 2020, the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development signed an agreement with the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malawi on co-financing the project 'Promoting Agricultural Technical Vocational Education and Training for Women (ATVET4W)'.⁶⁸⁴ The project is implemented by the African Union Development Agency with support from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, the German development agency.⁶⁸⁵ ATVET4W's approach is to increase women's skills, knowledge, income, decision making power and agency and "questions established norms and gender stereotypes to dismantle existing structural inequalities for women in Malawi's agricultural sector."⁶⁸⁶

On 17 February 2020, We-Fi published their annual report. The report stated that as of 31 December 2019, Germany had contributed EUR45.53 million to the initiative with a pledge to contribute a further EUR11.23 million.⁶⁸⁷ We-Fi contributes 45 per cent of their funding to Africa through AFAWA to improve women SMEs access to funding, contribute technical assistance to financial institutions, and better the policy and enabling environment for women.⁶⁸⁸

Germany fully complied with its commitment to AFAWA including through We-Fi. Germany has supported the technical pillar and financial pillars through the German African Forum on Vocational Training and Education and contributing to the AGF. The enabling pillar was fulfilled by Germany's co-financing of and support for ATVET4W. Finally, Germany has contributed to We-Fi.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jieyi Tang

Italy: -1

Italy has failed to comply with its commitment to support actions and cooperation with regards to the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA), including investment in the Women

⁶⁸² AGF receives EUR 25 million capital increased from KfW Development Bank, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/african-guarantee-fund-receives-eur-25-million-capital-increase-from-kfw-development-bank/>.

⁶⁸³ AGF receives EUR 25 million capital increased from KfW Development Bank, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/african-guarantee-fund-receives-eur-25-million-capital-increase-from-kfw-development-bank/>.

⁶⁸⁴ African Union Project on Malawian Women's Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany, United Nations Africa Renewal (New York) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁶⁸⁵ African Union Project on Malawian Women's Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany, United Nations Africa Renewal (New York) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁶⁸⁶ African Union Project on Malawian Women's Empowerment in Agriculture: Cooperation with Norway and Germany, United Nations Africa Renewal (New York) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/african-union-project-malawian-women%E2%80%99s-empowerment-agriculture-cooperation-norway-and-germany>.

⁶⁸⁷ 2019 Annual Report, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington, D.C.) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://we-fi.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/We-Fi-Annua-Report-2019.pdf>.

⁶⁸⁸ 2019 Annual Report, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington, D.C.) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://we-fi.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/We-Fi-Annua-Report-2019.pdf>.

Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi), micro-financing and providing support in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable.

Italy has not taken any action or made any collaborative commitments to promote AFAWA in developing countries through means such as micro-financing, loans, and support toward women in those regions.

Thus, Italy receives a score of -1.⁶⁸⁹

Analyst: Maryanna Sierra C. Diab

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

From 28-30 August 2019, the Government of Japan, the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, and the African Union Commission co-hosted the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7).⁶⁹⁰ The Government of Japan declared that it will “welcome efforts to support women entrepreneurship through financial and technical assistance.”⁶⁹¹ In addition, Japan reaffirmed its commitment to make financial contributions to AFAWA through We-Fi, as well as through the Private Sector Investment Finance of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).⁶⁹² The Japanese government also indicated it would support capacity building through technical cooperation, including contribution to the African Development Bank trust fund.⁶⁹³ They expect this will help train 140,000 people, including women and youth, and expand their opportunities.⁶⁹⁴

On 28 August 2019, JICA, with the City of Yokohama and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, co-hosted an official side event for TICAD7 titled “Unleashing the Power of Women and Girls in Africa.”⁶⁹⁵ This

⁶⁸⁹ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites:

<https://africanguaranteefund.com>; <https://www.globalcitizen.org>; <https://www.africanews.com>; <https://www.afd.fr>; <https://www.icrw.org>; <https://atlanticonline.com>; <http://northafricapost.com>; <https://taarifa.rw>; <https://africanguaranteefund.com>; <http://www.mef.gov.it/en/index.html>; <https://theexchange.africa>; <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/speech-delivered-by-president-akinwumi-a-adesina-joint-interactive-session-with-the-minister-of-finance-of-italy-giovanni-tria-at-the-ministry-of-finance-rome-italy-6th-december-2018-18808>; <https://www.cnbcafrica.com/news>; <https://ghananewsagency.or>; <https://www.esteri.it/mae/en>.

⁶⁹⁰ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/index.html>.

⁶⁹¹ Yokohama Declaration 2019 from the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf.

⁶⁹² Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 from TICAD7, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

⁶⁹³ Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 from TICAD7, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

⁶⁹⁴ Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 from TICAD7, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

⁶⁹⁵ Unleashing the Power of Women and Girls in Africa - Social Business and Social Entrepreneurship to Achieve Transformative Change, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) Access Date: 9 December 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/c8h0vm0000f5zxol-att/20190912_01_11.pdf

symposium focused on the social issues affecting women and discussed the potential of social business and entrepreneurship to tackle gender barriers.⁶⁹⁶

In August 2019, JICA and the European Investment Bank co-invested in a women-focused microfinance fund in Sub-Saharan Africa, aiming to improve economic conditions for women entrepreneurs and their families.⁶⁹⁷

On 14 February 2020, JICA signed a Limited Partnership Agreement to finance Women's World Banking Capital Partners II. This fund aims to support institutions who deliver financial services to women in developing countries through investment and providing technical assistance.⁶⁹⁸ Approximately 40 per cent of the funds are being allocated to financial institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa.⁶⁹⁹

On 5 March 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan announced details of its annual World Assembly for Women.⁷⁰⁰ Leading figures from all over the world will attend to discuss and advocate for women-related issues worldwide, including women's empowerment.⁷⁰¹

Japan partially complied with its commitment to AFAWA by supporting the finance and technical pillars through investing in programs to support women entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa, and the enabling pillar through conferences aimed at discussing how to overcome barriers to women in business. However, Japan has not taken concrete actions to support AFAWA through We-Fi.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Rose Zhang

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women (AFAWA) initiative including the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

On 24 September 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced GBP515 million in aid for education.⁷⁰² UK funding will ensure more girls can fulfill their potential by teaching basic literacy and numeracy, getting children living in conflict zones into schools, and mobilizing an additional

⁶⁹⁶ Unleashing the Power of Women and Girls in Africa - Social Business and Social Entrepreneurship to Achieve Transformative Change, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) Access Date: 9 December 2019.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/c8h0vm0000f5zxol-att/20190912_01_11.pdf.

⁶⁹⁷ EIB expands its partnership with Japan's JICA, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/news/eib-expands-partnership-with-japan>.

⁶⁹⁸ JICA Signs Limited Partnership Agreement to Support Women's World Banking in Expanding Women's Access to Financial Services and Contributing to Empowerment of Women in Developing Countries, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 29 March 2020.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200219_10_en.html.

⁶⁹⁹ JICA Signs Limited Partnership Agreement to Support Women's World Banking in Expanding Women's Access to Financial Services and Contributing to Empowerment of Women in Developing Countries, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 29 March 2020.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200219_10_en.html.

⁷⁰⁰ World Assembly for Women: 6th WAW!, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 29 March 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page22e_000940.html.

⁷⁰¹ World Assembly for Women: 6th WAW!, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 29 March 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page22e_000940.html.

⁷⁰² Press Release: PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Department for International Development (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>.

USD5 billion of investment for education in Africa and Asia, with a focus on marginalized children.⁷⁰³

On 27 September 2019, the Department for International Development (DFID) announced a new UK aid package that will help mobilize GBP500 million in private sector investment and create 50,000 jobs across sub-Saharan Africa.⁷⁰⁴ The package will support financial start-ups and entrepreneurs and boost economic growth across the region; as a result, 12.5 million people, half of them women and girls, will have better access to financial services.⁷⁰⁵

On 14 October 2019, London hosted the Financial Times Africa Summit in which the emphasis of discussion was on youth, women, entrepreneurs, scientists, artists, and innovation.⁷⁰⁶ Minister for Africa, Andrew Stephenson, addressed the United Kingdom's commitment to economic partnerships with African countries, businesses, society, and the United Kingdom's plan of "accelerating long term sustainable, direct investment across Africa."⁷⁰⁷

On 27 November 2019, the Renewable Energy Performance Platform (REPP) expressed interest in the financing of renewable energy projects run by women in Africa.⁷⁰⁸ REPP, funded by the UK government, is aiming to channel sources of funding to help create equal opportunities in Africa's rapidly expanding renewable energy sector.⁷⁰⁹

From 4-5 December 2019, the British Council and Ashoka Africa held the Impact!Africa Social Entrepreneurship Summit in Nairobi, Kenya.⁷¹⁰ The summit brought together social entrepreneurs from the public and private sectors to share experiences and exchange ideas on the best way to finance social enterprises.⁷¹¹ Participants engaged in keynote addresses and panel discussions, while sharing in innovation labs and capacity building sessions, all from social entrepreneurs and policymakers and educational institutions working across the African continent.⁷¹²

On 16 January 2020, the DFID announced an increase in support of GBP3.5 million for female entrepreneurs in Africa to access global markets through the International Trade Centre's SheTrades

⁷⁰³ Press Release: PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Department for International Development (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>.

⁷⁰⁴ Press Release: UK aid to boost access to finance for sub-Saharan Africa, Department for International Development (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date 11 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-boost-access-to-finance-for-sub-saharan-africa>.

⁷⁰⁵ UK aid is vital, but our ultimate goal is to help countries support themselves, Prospect Magazine (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. <https://www.prospectmagazine.co.uk/world/prospect-aid-report-alok-sharma>.

⁷⁰⁶ Ramaphosa in London for Financial Times Africa Summit (London) 13 October 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. <https://www.iol.co.za/news/politics/ramaphosa-in-london-for-financial-times-africa-summit-34828714s>.

⁷⁰⁷ Press Release: FT Africa Summit 2019: Minister for Africa's speech, Department for International Development (London) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/speech-by-andrew-stephenson-minister-for-africa-to-ft-africa-summit-october-2019>.

⁷⁰⁸ AFRICA: REPP will finance renewable energy projects run by women, Afrik 21 (Paris) 27 November 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.afrik21.africa/en/africa-repp-will-finance-renewable-energy-projects-run-by-women/>.

⁷⁰⁹ Big break for women-led renewable energy projects in Africa, ESI Africa (Africa) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.esi-africa.com/women-in-energy/big-break-for-women-led-renewable-energy-projects-in-africa/>.

⁷¹⁰ Impact!Africa Social Entrepreneurship Summit, Ashoka (Arlington) Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.ashoka.org/en/event/impactafrica-social-entrepreneurship-summit>.

⁷¹¹ Kenya: 300 Social Entrepreneurs in Nairobi Summit for Impact!Africa Summit, AllAfrica (Nairobi) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201912050675.html>.

⁷¹² Event: Impact!Africa 2019 (Nairobi) Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://vc4a.com/ashoka/impact-africa-2019/>.

programme.^{713,714} SheTrades was launched in 2018 to improve involvement of women-owned businesses in international trade through training and mentoring.⁷¹⁵ The new contribution will further support female entrepreneurs through specialised “business training, creating up to 3000 more jobs and helping to reduce inequality in the workplace.”⁷¹⁶

On 17 January 2020, the DFID announced GBP320 million over the next five years to support 3.9 million small businesses across 45 countries in Africa to the UK Financial Sector Deepening (FSD) Platform.⁷¹⁷ This Platform will also strengthen financial links across African countries, to support female entrepreneurs’ access to financing.⁷¹⁸

On 20 January 2020, International Development Minister Alok Sharma spoke at the closing of the UK-Africa Investment Summit.⁷¹⁹ He reiterated the UK’s focus on supporting women and girls in Africa through “training, boosting skills, and more job opportunities.”⁷²⁰

On 20 January 2020, the DFID committed GBP17.4 million of the GBP320 million for the FSD Programmes to FSD Kenya,⁷²¹ FSD Zambia will receive GBP21.95 million of the fund and funding will also be directed to Ethiopia, Ghana, and Sierra Leone.⁷²² Chair of the FSD Network Council and CEO of FSD Zambia Betty Wilkinson stated “we will use these resources responsibly to deepen

⁷¹³ United Kingdom announces additional £3.5m support to ITC’s SheTrades Commonwealth project, International Trade Centre (London) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <http://www.intracen.org/United-Kingdom-announces-additional-35m-support-to-ITCs-SheTrades-Commonwealth-project/>.

⁷¹⁴ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department for International Development (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>.

⁷¹⁵ United Kingdom announces additional £3.5m support to ITC’s SheTrades Commonwealth project, International Trade Centre (London) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <http://www.intracen.org/United-Kingdom-announces-additional-35m-support-to-ITCs-SheTrades-Commonwealth-project/>.

⁷¹⁶ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department for International Development (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>.

⁷¹⁷ UK Government supporting City of London to mobilise billions of pounds of investment to transform Africa, Department for International Development (London) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-supporting-city-of-london-to-mobilise-billions-of-pounds-of-investment-to-transform-africa>.

⁷¹⁸ UK Government supporting City of London to mobilise billions of pounds of investment to transform Africa, Department for International Development (London) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-supporting-city-of-london-to-mobilise-billions-of-pounds-of-investment-to-transform-africa>.

⁷¹⁹ Alok Sharma’s closing speech at UK-Africa Investment Summit, Government of the UK (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/alok-sharmas-closing-speech-at-uk-africa-investment-summit>.

⁷²⁰ Alok Sharma’s closing speech at UK-Africa Investment Summit, Government of the UK (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/alok-sharmas-closing-speech-at-uk-africa-investment-summit>.

⁷²¹ FSD Kenya welcomes £17.14m commitment from UK Aid to initiate new phase of financial sector development, fsd Kenya (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://fsdkenya.org/news/fsd-kenya-welcomes-17-14m-commitment-from-uk-aid-to-initiate-new-phase-of-financial-sector-development/>.

⁷²² FSD Zambia welcomes £21.95m 5-year commitment from UK Aid to initiate new phase of financial sector development, fsd Zambia (Lusaka) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.fsdzambia.org/news-item/fsd-zambia-welcomes-21-95m-5-year-commitment-from-uk-aid-to-initiate-new-phase-of-financial-sector-development/>.

financial inclusion, make money work to increase incomes and reduce poverty, and enable sustainable futures for the women, men, and children of our country.”⁷²³

On 21 January 2020, DFID committed GBP15 million of the GBP320 million for FSD Programmes to FSD Uganda to increase access to financial services and support technical assistance and capacity building by working with development agencies, key stakeholders, and improving the financial sector.⁷²⁴

On 17 February 2020, We-Fi published their annual report. The report stated that as of 31 December 2019, the UK had contributed GBP4.79 million to the initiative with a pledge to contribute a further GBP4.89 million.⁷²⁵ We-Fi contributes 45 per cent of their funding to Africa through AFAWA to improve women SMEs access to funding, contribute technical assistance to financial institutions, and better the policy and enabling environment for women.⁷²⁶

On 3 April 2020, AfDB announced the approval of a new Gender Equality Trust Fund (GETF) to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment across the continent.⁷²⁷ Anchor investors in the GETF include the Government of the United Kingdom and together they have invested up to USD2 billion in credit as well as another USD5 billion for women-led SMEs in Africa.⁷²⁸

The United Kingdom partially complied with its commitment to AFAWA by supporting the finance and technical pillars through investing in programs to support women entrepreneurs in Africa, and the enabling pillar through partnerships with African governments and other stakeholders. Furthermore, the United Kingdom has contributed to We-Fi.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sebastian Vecerina

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

During the week of 29 August 2019, the United States Embassy in Pretoria launched the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) in South Africa.⁷²⁹ This program will support women

⁷²³ FSD Zambia welcomes £21.95m 5-year commitment from UK Aid to initiate new phase of financial sector development, Lusaka Times (Lusaka) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.lusakatimes.com/2020/01/21/fsd-zambia-welcomes-21-95-m-5-year-commitment-from-uk-aid-to-initiate-new-phase-of-financial-sector-development/#>.

⁷²⁴ Financial Sector Deepening Uganda (FSDU) welcomes £15m commitment from UK aid to initiate new phase of financial sector development, FSD Uganda (London) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://fsduganda.or.ug/fsd-uganda-welcomes-15m-commitment-from-uk-aid/>.

⁷²⁵ 2019 Annual Report, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington, D.C.) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://we-fi.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/We-Fi-Annual-Report-2019.pdf>.

⁷²⁶ 2019 Annual Report, Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (Washington, D.C.) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://we-fi.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/We-Fi-Annual-Report-2019.pdf>.

⁷²⁷ AfDB approves a trust fund to improve women’s economic empowerment in Africa, Ventures (Africa) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <http://venturesafrica.com/afdb-approves-a-trust-fund-to-improve-womens-economic-empowerment-in-africa/>.

⁷²⁸ AfDB to mobilise \$7bn for women-focused businesses through GETF, Vanguard (Lagos) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/afdb-to-mobilise-7bn-for-women-focused-businesses-through-getf/>.

⁷²⁹ U.S. Empowering South Africa’s Businesswomen, U.S. Embassy & Consulates in South Africa (Pretoria) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://za.usembassy.gov/empowering-south-africas-businesswomen/>.

entrepreneurs in “fulfilling their economic potential” by providing them with online education in business and finance, networking opportunities, and access to mentorship.⁷³⁰ This initiative was developed to support the White House’s Women’s Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, which aims to promote an “enabling environment that reduces barriers and facilitates women’s participation in the economy.”⁷³¹ Nine other African countries are participating in the inaugural AWE cohort: Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.⁷³²

On 6 September 2019, the United States Embassy launched the AWE in Zimbabwe, which will be implemented through the development organization Act in Africa.⁷³³ This initiative will provide 100 participants between the ages of 18 and 35 with personalized business mentorship, professional knowledge, and tools and networks to build successful businesses over 6 months.⁷³⁴

On 16 September 2019, the United States Consulate General launched the AWE in Nigeria.⁷³⁵ This initiative will provide 100 participants, chosen from more than 6000 applications, with business management lessons, networking opportunities and practical skills during a weeklong workshop facilitated by leading local business leaders.⁷³⁶

On 23 September 2019, the United States Embassy in Kigali launched the AWE in Rwanda by putting out a call for applications to the program.⁷³⁷ The US Embassy is leading the program, in partnership with Igire Rwanda Organization and Noble Women, to teach women how to develop a business plan, raise capital and network.⁷³⁸

As of 27 September 2019, the United States African Development Foundation (USADF) and the Government of Niger State announced a USD10 million co-funding agreement.⁷³⁹ This is a five-year

⁷³⁰ U.S. Partnership With the African Union, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-partnership-with-the-african-union/>.

⁷³¹ AWE Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://eca.state.gov/awe>.

⁷³² U.S. Consulate Launches Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Nigeria (Lagos) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://ng.usembassy.gov/u-s-consulate-launches-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷³³ U.S. Embassy Launches Academy of Women Entrepreneurs Program in Zimbabwe, U.S Embassy in Zimbabwe (Harare) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://zw.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-launches-academy-of-women-entrepreneurs-program-in-zimbabwe/>.

⁷³⁴ U.S. Embassy Launches Academy of Women Entrepreneurs Program in Zimbabwe, U.S Embassy in Zimbabwe (Harare) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://zw.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-launches-academy-of-women-entrepreneurs-program-in-zimbabwe/>.

⁷³⁵ U.S Consulate Launches Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Nigeria (Lagos) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://ng.usembassy.gov/u-s-consulate-launches-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷³⁶ U.S Consulate Launches Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Nigeria (Lagos) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://ng.usembassy.gov/u-s-consulate-launches-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷³⁷ U.S. Embassy Launches Application for Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Embassy in Rwanda (Kigali) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://rw.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-launches-application-for-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷³⁸ U.S. Embassy Launches Application for Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Embassy in Rwanda (Kigali) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://rw.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-launches-application-for-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷³⁹ USADF and the Government of Niger State (Nigeria) Announce \$10 Million Co-Funding Agreement During UNGA, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/2019/9/27/usadf-and-government-of-niger-state-nigeria-announce-co-funding-agreement>.

commitment, with each side contributing USD1 million annually, and will provide technical assistance to support farmer cooperatives, producer associations, and small and medium-sized enterprises.⁷⁴⁰ There will be an emphasis placed on youth and women.⁷⁴¹

On 3 October 2019, the United States' Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) contributed USD200 million to the Union Bank of Nigeria to support women-driven businesses in the country.⁷⁴² This contribution is part of OPIC's 2X Women's initiative which plans to mobilize USD1 billion for women-driven businesses.⁷⁴³

On 22 October 2019, the United Nations General Assembly held the 18th meeting of its 74th session to discuss the New Partnership for Africa's Development, as well as international support for the continent.⁷⁴⁴ Courtney Nemroff, the representative for the United States, emphasized that the United States is focused on providing technical assistance and investing directly in women-owned businesses in Africa.⁷⁴⁵

On 12 November 2019, the United States International Development Finance Corporation and the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) signed a memorandum of understanding strengthening their collaboration to support development in Africa.⁷⁴⁶ They aim to invest a total of USD2 billion and mobilize an additional USD3 billion from the private sector, while prioritizing investments that empower women in Africa.⁷⁴⁷

On 14 December 2019, the USADF and the Government of Senegal announced a USD20 million partnership.⁷⁴⁸ This will be a five-year commitment, with each party contributing up to USD2 million

⁷⁴⁰ USADF and the Government of Niger State (Nigeria) Announce \$10 Million Co-Funding Agreement During UNGA, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/2019/9/27/usadf-and-government-of-niger-state-nigeria-announce-co-funding-agreement>.

⁷⁴¹ USADF and the Government of Niger State (Nigeria) Announce \$10 Million Co-Funding Agreement During UNGA, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/2019/9/27/usadf-and-government-of-niger-state-nigeria-announce-co-funding-agreement>.

⁷⁴² Union Bank of Nigeria gets \$200 mn to fund SMEs, entrepreneurs, International Finance (London) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://internationalfinance.com/union-bank-nigeria-gets-200-mn-fund-smes-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷⁴³ Union Bank of Nigeria gets \$200 mn to fund SMEs, entrepreneurs, International Finance (London) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://internationalfinance.com/union-bank-nigeria-gets-200-mn-fund-smes-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷⁴⁴ Despite Gains in Reducing Poverty, Fuelling Growth, Africa Still Needs International Funding, Training to Overcome Development Challenges, Speakers Tell General Assembly, United Nations (New York City) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ga12205.doc.htm>.

⁷⁴⁵ Despite Gains in Reducing Poverty, Fuelling Growth, Africa Still Needs International Funding, Training to Overcome Development Challenges, Speakers Tell General Assembly, United Nations (New York City) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ga12205.doc.htm>.

⁷⁴⁶ DFC and African Development Bank Partner to Support Development in Africa, U.S. Embassy in Senegal (Dakar) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://sn.usembassy.gov/dfc-and-african-development-bank-partner-to-support-development-in-africa/>.

⁷⁴⁷ DFC and African Development Bank Partner to Support Development in Africa, U.S. Embassy in Senegal (Dakar) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://sn.usembassy.gov/dfc-and-african-development-bank-partner-to-support-development-in-africa/>.

⁷⁴⁸ USADF and The Government of Senegal Announce \$20 Million Co-Funding Blended Finance Partnership, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases>.

annually.⁷⁴⁹ It will provide technical assistance to youth and women entrepreneurs in Senegal, as well as SMEs, by providing low interest loans through banks and microfinance institutions.⁷⁵⁰

On 20 February 2020, Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump announced a partnership between the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and the USADF, which aims to support the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP) through funding the AWE.⁷⁵¹ The USADF will provide up to USD10 million in grants to African AWE graduates over the next five years.⁷⁵²

On 12 March 2020, the US International Development Finance Corporation approved USD881 million in funding for global development projects, including those which are "owned by, led by, or empower women across the developing world."⁷⁵³

The United States partially complied with its commitment to AFAWA including through We-Fi. The United States has demonstrated its efforts in supporting the AFAWA initiative through various forms of investment and funding, as well as through implementing programs supporting women entrepreneurs in Africa such as the AWE. It has thus supported all three AFAWA pillars: finance, technical assistance, and enabling environment. However, the United States has not made sufficient efforts to support AFAWA through We-Fi.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Rose Zhang

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to support the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative including through the Women Entrepreneurs-Finance Initiative (We-Fi).

On 12 November 2019, the European Investment Bank (EIB) announced a EUR1 billion lending program called SheInvest to help women entrepreneurs on the continent.⁷⁵⁴ The program, which aims to support women in Africa in gaining access to finance, will be informed by the criteria set in

⁷⁴⁹ USADF and The Government of Senegal Announce \$20 Million Co-Funding Blended Finance Partnership, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases>.

⁷⁵⁰ USADF and The Government of Senegal Announce \$20 Million Co-Funding Blended Finance Partnership, United States African Development Foundation (Washington D.C.) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases>.

⁷⁵¹ White House, State Department, and U.S. African Development Foundation Announce Funding for the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S Department of State (Washington D.C.) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/white-house-state-department-and-u-s-african-development-foundation-announce-funding-for-the-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷⁵² White House, State Department, and U.S. African Development Foundation Announce Funding for the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S Department of State (Washington D.C.) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/white-house-state-department-and-u-s-african-development-foundation-announce-funding-for-the-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>.

⁷⁵³ DFC Approves Nearly \$900 Million for Global Development Projects, U.S International Development Finance Corporation (Washington D.C.) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.dfc.gov/media/press-releases/dfc-approves-nearly-900-million-global-development-projects>.

⁷⁵⁴ SheInvest-new initiative to mobilise EUR1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>.

the 2X Challenge, an EIB-endorsed initiative promoting gender equality in the financial sector.^{755,756} Investment mobilized through the SheInvest program will be allocated toward sustainable infrastructure and climate financing, with a specific focus on how these factors affect women.⁷⁵⁷ SheInvest will target gender responsive projects in recognition of women's role in combating climate change and the ways in which women are disproportionately impacted by the climate emergency.⁷⁵⁸

On 29 November 2019, the European Union and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) announced the signing of a EUR8.8 million Contribution Agreement, which strives to increase private sector participation in sustainable regional and global value chains through improved investment and business climate for the COMESA region.⁷⁵⁹ The funds will be used to implement the Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Program, focusing on agro-processing, horticulture, and leather products.⁷⁶⁰

On 5 December 2019, the EIB proposed its participation in the Alitheia Women Fund for Africa by financing approximately USD20 million to the closed-end private equity fund.⁷⁶¹ The Fund has a target size of USD75 million and invests in women-owned or -led small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Sub-Saharan Africa as well as businesses that provide goods and services to women in Africa.⁷⁶²

On 27 February 2020, the European Commission and the African Union Commission met for the 10th Commission to Commission meeting to discuss future cooperation in many areas, including training and development for women.⁷⁶³ The proposals discussed stemmed from commitments made at the 5th African Union-European Union Summit in Abidjan. Progress was acknowledged on commitments made on sustainable investment and job creation.⁷⁶⁴

⁷⁵⁵ SheInvest programme to support women's economic empowerment, Government Europa via Pan European Networks Ltd. (Congleton) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.governmenteuropa.eu/sheinvest-programme-to-support-women/95424/>.

⁷⁵⁶ Africa Investment Forum 2019: Billion dollar boost for African female entrepreneurs, African Development Bank (Tunis) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2019-billion-dollar-boost-african-female-entrepreneurs-32626>.

⁷⁵⁷ Africa Investment Forum 2019: Billion dollar boost for African female entrepreneurs, Ecofin Agency (Geneva) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.ecofinagency.com/public-management/1211-40655-africa-investment-forum-2019-billion-dollar-boost-for-african-female-entrepreneurs>.

⁷⁵⁸ EIB to raise €1bn to invest in digital solutions, financial products for girls, women, VentureBurn (Cape Town) 14 November 2019. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <https://ventureburn.com/2019/11/eib-sheinvest-initiative-women/>.

⁷⁵⁹ COMESA-EU Sign €8.8M to Support Private Sector Competitiveness, COMESA (Lusaka) 29 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.comesa.int/comesa-eu-sign-e8-8m-to-support-private-sector-competitiveness/>.

⁷⁶⁰ EU and COMESA Sign 8.8M Euros Deal to Support Private Sector, East African Business Week (Kampala) 4 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.busiweek.com/eu-and-comesa-sign-8-8m-euros-deal-to-support-private-sector/>.

⁷⁶¹ Alitheia IDF Women Fund for Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20180684>.

⁷⁶² Alitheia IDF Women Fund for Africa, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20180684>.

⁷⁶³ EU paves the way for a stronger, more ambitious partnership with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_373.

⁷⁶⁴ EU paves the way for a stronger, more ambitious partnership with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_373.

On 29 February 2020, the European Union announced EUR100 million to support Sudan's democratic transition.⁷⁶⁵ This will be partially achieved through the EU's assistance to Sudanese authorities and partners to improve education, training and women's economic empowerment.⁷⁶⁶

On 9 March 2020, the European Commission and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy announced the EU's new strategy with Africa, discussed at the 27 February 10th Commission to Commission meeting.⁷⁶⁷ The proposals include improving "learning, knowledge and skills, research and innovation capacities, particularly for women."⁷⁶⁸

On 10 April 2020, the European Union and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development announced a EUR1 billion solidarity package to support women-owned SMEs in Morocco who are existing clients due to COVID-19.⁷⁶⁹ Assistance is in the form of "among other measures, short-term capital, refinancing, trade finance and restructuring support."⁷⁷⁰

The European Union partially complied with its commitment to AFAWA by fulfilling the technical and finance pillars through empowering women in the African economy directly through launching financial initiatives such as SheInvest and indirectly, through COMESA, by implementing the RECOMP program or providing financial support amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. The European Union has fulfilled the enabling pillar by working with the African Union and Sudan to empower women. However, the European Union has not taken any actions to specifically support We-Fi.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Cecilia Pang

⁷⁶⁵ European Union announces EUR100 million to support the democratic transition in Sudan, European Commission (Brussels) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_352.

⁷⁶⁶ European Union announces EUR100 million to support the democratic transition in Sudan, European Commission (Brussels) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_352.

⁷⁶⁷ EU paves the way for a stronger, more ambitious partnership with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_373.

⁷⁶⁸ EU paves the way for a stronger, more ambitious partnership with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 18 March 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_373.

⁷⁶⁹ Coronavirus: Moroccan Women-Led SMEs Get EBRD-EU Support, The North Africa Post (Morocco), 10 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <http://northafricapost.com/39892-coronavirus-moroccan-women-led-smes-get-ebrd-eu-support.html>.

⁷⁷⁰ Coronavirus: Moroccan Women-Led SMEs Get EBRD-EU Support, The North Africa Post (Morocco), 10 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <http://northafricapost.com/39892-coronavirus-moroccan-women-led-smes-get-ebrd-eu-support.html>.

6. Gender: Women's Entrepreneurship in Africa

"We will continue to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment."

Annex I: Promoting Women's Entrepreneurship in Africa

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average	+0.63 (81%)		

Background

For the first time in G7/G8 history at the 2008 Tokyo Summit, G8 leaders agreed to promote gender equality and women's empowerment as a principle in their development cooperation through mainstreaming and specific actions.⁷⁷¹ They promised to improve women's security through protection and empowerment of women and their communities.⁷⁷²

At the 2015 Schloss-Elmau Summit, for the second time G7 leaders agreed to take steps toward empowering women in regard to women's health, economic empowerment and climate protection.⁷⁷³ Leaders affirmed to contribute to women's entrepreneurship as a key driver for innovation, growth, and jobs for women across G7 members.⁷⁷⁴ This is the first time G7 leaders chose and vowed to address the specific needs of women and promised to promote their access to finance, markets, skills, leadership opportunities and networks.⁷⁷⁵ G7 members asked the Organisation for Economic and Co-operation and Development (OECD) to monitor progress on promoting women's entrepreneurship as it would work to promote gender equality as well as the full participation of empowering all women and girls.⁷⁷⁶ Additionally, G7 leaders condemned all forms of sexual violence in conflict and are committed to enhancing the role of women in international peace and security.⁷⁷⁷

⁷⁷¹ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2008. Access Date: 14 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

⁷⁷² G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 July 2008. Access Date: 14 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

⁷⁷³ G7 Leaders' Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁷⁴ G7 Leaders' Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁷⁵ G7 Leaders' Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁷⁶ G7 Leaders' Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁷⁷ G7 Leaders' Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

Members declared that in order to offer inclusive sustainable solutions to peace and stability women must be included to establish effective governance.⁷⁷⁸

Also at the 2015 Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 leaders recognised that being equipped with relevant skills for decent work, especially through technical and vocational education and training (TVET) via formal and non-formal learning, is key to the economic empowerment of women and girls, including those who face multiple sources of discrimination (e.g. women and girls with disabilities), and to improving their employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.⁷⁷⁹ G7 leaders committed to increasing the number of women and girls technically and vocationally educated and trained in developing countries through G7 measures by one third (compared to “business as usual”) by 2030.⁷⁸⁰ G7 leaders promised to work to increase career training and education for women and girls within G7 members.⁷⁸¹ Members promised to take steps to foster access to quality jobs for women and to reduce the gender gap in workforce participation within countries by 25 per cent by 2025, taking into account national circumstances including by improving the framework conditions to enable women and men to balance family life and employment, including access to parental leave and childcare. Moreover, members recognize that the private sector also has a vital role in creating an environment in which women can more meaningfully participate in the economy.⁷⁸² G7 leaders vowed to support the UN Women’s Empowerment Principles and call on companies worldwide to integrate them into their activities.⁷⁸³ This initiative was the first time G7 leaders promised to coordinate their efforts through a new G7 working group on women.⁷⁸⁴

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 members committed to taking concrete actions, internationally and in their own countries and reaffirmed their commitment to achieve gender equality and human rights for women and girls, and to enable women and girls to realize their full potential to 1) actively engage in society and to take control of their own destiny; 2) contribute to and benefit from sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and quality of life at home, in the community, and in all spheres of society; and 3) fully and effectively participate in all phases of the peacebuilding continuum, from conflict prevention to resolution and ultimately reconciliation.⁷⁸⁵ G7 leaders also remained committed to preventing and responding to all forms of gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls as they are pervasive barriers in realizing their full potentials.⁷⁸⁶ This was the first time that members actively encouraged the active role of women in careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and strived to remove gender bias in careers, through promoting institutional change and creating legal and policy environments

⁷⁷⁸ G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁷⁹ G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁸⁰ G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁸¹ G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁸² G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁸³ G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁸⁴ G7 Leaders’ Declaration Schloss-Elmau Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 08 June 2015. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷⁸⁵ G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

⁷⁸⁶ G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

which effectively advance gender equality, and thereby increase the number of female students in STEM fields, and broaden the participation of women in research, engineering and entrepreneurial careers.⁷⁸⁷

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders also committed to addressing barriers to equal access for all women and men to quality technical, vocational and tertiary education.⁷⁸⁸ Members committed to take into account women's diverse needs and to encourage a more equal division of unpaid care and domestic work between women and men, in order to facilitate women's access to education and training, and thereby, to increase female labor force participation rates.⁷⁸⁹ G7 leaders committed to enhance education, training and programs to support women to assume leadership positions in the public and private sector, and to increase the number of female leaders at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, academic and public life.⁷⁹⁰

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders adopted the Roadmap.⁷⁹¹ In line with the principles endorsed in the Taormina Declaration, the Roadmap focuses on the structural policies falling within our central governments' jurisdiction that are likely to have the greatest impact in delivering gender equality through enabling women's labor force participation, entrepreneurship, economic empowerment and thus their full and equal participation in society.⁷⁹² Members agreed to increasing women's participation and promoting equal opportunities and fair selection processes for leadership at all levels of decision-making.⁷⁹³ This includes recommendations that G7 members take action to increase the representation of women in all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life by 2022.⁷⁹⁴ In addition, they agreed to encourage the private sector to value women's active role in private companies by developing positive actions, such as leadership trainings and gender equality labels/certifications, and promoting role models.⁷⁹⁵ Furthermore, leaders also vowed to strengthen the foundation of women's access to decent and quality job, promote participation by girls and women in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medicine (STEMM), and eliminate violence against women and girl throughout their lives.⁷⁹⁶

⁷⁸⁷ G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

⁷⁸⁸ G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

⁷⁸⁹ G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

⁷⁹⁰ G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

⁷⁹¹ G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

⁷⁹² G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

⁷⁹³ G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

⁷⁹⁴ G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

⁷⁹⁵ G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

⁷⁹⁶ G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/gender.html>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders recognized that gender equality is fundamental for the fulfillment of human rights and is a social and economic imperative.⁷⁹⁷ Leaders declared to remove the barriers that keep their citizens, including women and marginalized individuals, from participating fully in the global economy.⁷⁹⁸ Members promised to reinforce their commitment to eradicate poverty, advance gender equality, foster income equality, ensure better access to financial resources and create decent work and quality of life for all.⁷⁹⁹ Further, members support efforts to promote and protect women's and adolescents' health and well-being through evidence-based healthcare and health information.⁸⁰⁰ Similarly, members vowed to expand market-driven training and education, particularly for girls and women in the STEM fields.⁸⁰¹ G7 leaders recognized the need to remove barriers to women's leadership and equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of the labour market, including by eliminating violence, discrimination and harassment within and beyond the workplace.⁸⁰² Members committed to explore innovative new approaches to apprenticeship and vocational learning, as well as opportunities to engage employers and improve access to workplace training.⁸⁰³

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders promised to work to remove barriers to women's participation and decision-making in social, economic and political spheres as well as increase the opportunities for all to participate equally in all aspects of the labour market.⁸⁰⁴ Leaders vowed that their path forward will promote women's full economic participation through working to reduce the gender wage gap, supporting women business leaders and entrepreneurs and recognizing the value of unpaid care work.⁸⁰⁵ Through the Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls, and Women in Developing Countries, G7 members affirmed their commitment to increase opportunities for at least 12 years of safe and quality education for all and to dismantle the barriers to girls' and women's quality education, particularly in emergencies and in conflict-affected and fragile states.⁸⁰⁶ We recognize that marginalized girls, such as those with a disability, face additional barriers in attaining access to education.⁸⁰⁷ In addition, through the endorsement of the Charlevoix Commitment to End Sexual and Gender-Based violence, Abuse and Harassment in Digital Contexts they affirm to strive for a future where individuals' human rights are equally protected both offline

⁷⁹⁷ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁷⁹⁸ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁷⁹⁹ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸⁰⁰ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸⁰¹ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸⁰² The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸⁰³ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸⁰⁴ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸⁰⁵ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸⁰⁶ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸⁰⁷ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

and online; and where everyone has equal opportunity to participate in political, social, economic and cultural endeavours.⁸⁰⁸

Commitment Features

The G7 committed “to continue to support women’s entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic participation and empowerment.”

The core of this commitment is to support women’s entrepreneurship in Africa. This means the G7 member must aim to support and create programs or a project to promote and advance a women’s economic empowerment and remove legal, social, and regulatory barriers. “Support” is understood to mean “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”⁸⁰⁹

“Entrepreneurship” is the activity of setting up a business or businesses, taking on a financial risk in the hope of a profit.”⁸¹⁰ This must be aimed at women, such as giving equal access to financial capital, a social barrier.⁸¹¹

To achieve this, the G7 committed to support African countries’ efforts to remove legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic participation and empowerment. In this commitment “removal” means to eliminate or get rid of any barrier that may be “legal” deriving from authority or established by law, “social” deriving from human society, and “regulatory” under the control of law or constituted authority that may discriminate against women’s full and free economic empowerment.⁸¹²

“Promoting women’s economic empowerment” implies tangible efforts by a G7 member to increase women’s labour market participation and employment opportunities, improve labour conditions and reduce the gender pay gap.⁸¹³ Examples of women’s economic empowerment include, but are not limited to, creating employment opportunities, encouraging skills development, encouraging property ownership, and increasing access to economic and educational resources and financial services. Women’s empowerment is actively promoted through the removal of barriers in women’s education, training and professional development.

To achieve full compliance, the G7 member must to support women’s entrepreneurship in Africa by doing the following three: 1) Supporting African countries to remove legal barriers; 2) Supporting African countries to remove social barriers; and 3) Supporting African countries to remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic empowerment.

For a score of partial compliance, the G7 member has only strongly supported one or two of the three criteria or somewhat supports all three criteria: 1) supporting African countries to remove legal barriers; 2) supporting African countries to remove social barriers; and 3) supporting African

⁸⁰⁸ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸⁰⁹ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸¹⁰ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸¹¹ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸¹² The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁸¹³ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 09 May June 2018. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

countries to remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic empowerment.

For a score of non-compliance, the G7 member has done none of the aforementioned criteria.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member has failed to take action to support African countries to remove legal barriers, support African countries to remove social barriers or support African countries to remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic empowerment.
0	G7 member has strongly supported only one or two or somewhat supported all of the following three criteria: supporting African countries to remove legal barriers, supporting African countries to remove social barriers, and supporting African countries to remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic empowerment.
+1	G7 member has taken action to support African countries to remove legal barriers, support African countries to remove social barriers and support African countries to remove regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic empowerment.

*Compliance Director: Joanna Ilunga-Kapinga
Lead Analyst: Emma Dary*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to women's entrepreneurship in Africa by supporting the removal of legal, social, and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

On 20 September 2019, Canada committed CAD4 million to the Rights to Inclusive Education and Retention of Girls in School in Côte d'Ivoire until 30 September 2021.⁸¹⁴ The components of the project include training leaders of women's and youth organizations, improving access to sexual health and reproductive health services, and improving preventative responses to gender-based violence.⁸¹⁵ The initiative aims to reduce barriers for more than 700,000 girls between the ages of 10 to 19 in order to support equitable access to education.⁸¹⁶

On 29 October 2019, the Government of Canada made a national statement at the United Nations General Assembly on the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda during the Open Debate at the UN Security Council.⁸¹⁷ The three areas of focus in implementing the agenda

⁸¹⁴ Rights to Inclusive Education and Retention of Girls in School in Côte d'Ivoire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007019001>

⁸¹⁵ Rights to Inclusive Education and Retention of Girls in School in Côte d'Ivoire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007019001>

⁸¹⁶ Rights to Inclusive Education and Retention of Girls in School in Côte d'Ivoire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007019001>

⁸¹⁷ Canada National Statement - Women, Peace and Security Open Debate UN Security Council, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng

include; innovative partnerships, new approaches to funding, and focusing on inclusion.⁸¹⁸ With regards to funding, Canada has doubled its commitment to the Women Peace and Humanitarian Fund, launched the Equality Fund, and made a three year, CAD650 million commitment to close gaps in supporting sexual and reproductive health and rights.⁸¹⁹

On 29 October 2019, the Government of Canada pledged CAD3,730,020 to the project for Enhancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Women and Adolescents in Ethiopia.⁸²⁰ The project activities include providing reproductive health training, medical equipment, identifying gaps in medical coverage and providing advocacy using local women's organizations.⁸²¹ As of 14 November 2019 Canada, has disbursed CAD976,370.⁸²²

On 16 November 2019, the Government of Canada pledged CAD10 million toward equitable access to inclusive education in crisis-affected regions of Cameroon.⁸²³ The project works in partnership with UNICEF and seeks to “improve schooling for children and adolescents aged 4 to 15 years, including those living with a disability, with a special focus on girls” and targets areas affected by humanitarian crises.⁸²⁴

On 18 November 2019, the Government of Canada pledged CAD1,905,250 toward The Simameni Project in partnership with the Canadian Teachers' Federation and Uganda National Teachers' Union.⁸²⁵ This project seeks to “improve access, retention, and educational opportunities for secondary-aged girls in schools from the Western and Teso regions in Uganda” by tackling two key drivers of poverty in the region; lack of access to education and gender inequality.⁸²⁶

⁸¹⁸ Canada National Statement - Women, Peace and Security Open Debate UN Security Council, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng

⁸¹⁹ Canada National Statement - Women, Peace and Security Open Debate UN Security Council, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng

⁸²⁰ Project profile — Enhancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Women and Adolescents in Ethiopia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006317001>

⁸²¹ Project profile — Enhancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Women and Adolescents in Ethiopia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006317001>

⁸²² Project profile — Enhancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Women and Adolescents in Ethiopia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006317001>

⁸²³ Project profile — Equitable Access to Inclusive Education in Crisis-Affected Regions of Cameroon, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 November 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007015001>

⁸²⁴ Project profile — Equitable Access to Inclusive Education in Crisis-Affected Regions of Cameroon, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 16 November 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007015001>

⁸²⁵ Project profile — Simameni: Stand Together for Girls' Secondary Education in Uganda, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P005992001>

⁸²⁶ Project profile — Simameni: Stand Together for Girls' Secondary Education in Uganda, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P005992001>

On November 22–23 2019, François-Philippe Champagne, Canada’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, participated in the G20 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in Nagoya, Japan.⁸²⁷ The ministers discussed issues such as ensuring sustainable economic growth of Africa, assisting African-led progress on peace and security, and addressing the root causes of the outstanding challenges in Africa.⁸²⁸

On 5 December 2019, the Government of Canada in partnership with the Government of the United Kingdom announced a CAD15 million contribution over three years toward girls’ education in South Sudan.⁸²⁹ Part of the second phase of Girls Education in South Sudan (GESS2), the project aims to increase access to education for girls in South Sudan by improving enrolment and retention, improving quality of education, and addressing key barriers to education with a particular emphasis on the prevention of sexual and gender based violence and child marriage.⁸³⁰

On 19 December 2019, the Government of Canada announced a CAD5 million contribution over three years in support of UNICEF Canada’s UNdaunted Initiative to educate girls with disabilities in Somalia.⁸³¹ This project works to improve learning outcomes for girls, including those with disabilities, by increasing equal access to education.⁸³²

On 20 December 2019, the Government of Canada announced a CAD1.2 million contribution over three years to support the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Global Education Monitoring Report.⁸³³ The project aims to “contribute to inclusive and equitable quality education and to promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, as outlined in the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4)” through funding the Global Education Monitoring Report which monitors progress toward international education targets.⁸³⁴

On 20 January 2020, the Government of Canada announced a contribution of CAD8.5 million over three years in support of community-based education in South Sudan.⁸³⁵ This project aims to improve access to education and learning opportunities for children, especially girls, through the

⁸²⁷ Foreign Affairs Minister to attend G20 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/foreign-affairs-minister-to-attend-g20-foreign-ministers-meeting.html>

⁸²⁸ Foreign Affairs Minister to attend G20 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/foreign-affairs-minister-to-attend-g20-foreign-ministers-meeting.html>

⁸²⁹ Project profile — Girls’ Education in South Sudan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006982001>

⁸³⁰ Project profile — Girls’ Education in South Sudan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006982001>

⁸³¹ Project profile — UNdaunted: Educating Girls with Disabilities in Somalia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007688001>

⁸³² Project profile — UNdaunted: Educating Girls with Disabilities in Somalia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 December 2019 Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007688001>

⁸³³ Project profile — Support to the UNESCO Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004898001>

⁸³⁴ Project profile — Support to the UNESCO Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/D004898001>

⁸³⁵ Project profile — Community Based Education in South Sudan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007329001>

establishment of 300 community schools in rural communities, providing training to women teachers and providing training to parents on homestead gardening and backyard poultry rearing.⁸³⁶

On 20 January 2020, the Government of Canada announced a contribution of CAD20,303,941 over three and a half years in conjunction with Plan International Canada, World Vision Canada and Save the Children Canada toward Improving Adolescent Girls' Inclusive Education (IMAGINE) in Mali.⁸³⁷ The project aims to "improve the realization of rights to inclusive, quality and gender-sensitive education for 90,000 conflict-affected girls and adolescent girls in 11 communities in the Segou and Mopti regions of Mali."⁸³⁸

On 23 January 2020, Minister Champagne concluded a visit to Mali to focus on the bilateral relationship between the countries.⁸³⁹ Champagne announced CAD78.9 millions of funding across eight projects, of which CAD10 million will go toward a partnership with CowaterSogema International toward promoting girls' education.⁸⁴⁰ The project aims to improve the school performance of more than 16,000 adolescent girls, improve access and retention of adolescent girls in targeted schools in the Segou region and strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Education to reduce barriers to education and promote quality, gender-sensitive education.⁸⁴¹

On 24 January 2020, Minister Champagne concluded a visit to Morocco in which he met with Prime Minister of Morocco Saad Eddine El Othmani to discuss the countries' shared priorities, chief amongst them being gender equality.⁸⁴² During this visit, Minister Champagne announced two projects totalling more than CAD13.9 million over five years toward women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship and sustainable economic development in the region.⁸⁴³ The development of forestry cooperatives and empowerment of women in the Middle Atlas will support the integration of women in economic activities related to growing rosemary and cedar while the funding toward empowering women through sustainable entrepreneurship aims to create profitable and sustainable economic enterprises with opportunities for women in the labour market.⁸⁴⁴

On 2 February 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued a statement marking the beginning of the 30th annual International Development week.⁸⁴⁵ This statement reaffirms Canada's commitment to

⁸³⁶ Project profile — Community Based Education in South Sudan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007329001>

⁸³⁷ Project profile — Improving Adolescent Girls' Inclusive Education (IMAGINE) in Mali, 20 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006790001>

⁸³⁸ Project profile — Improving Adolescent Girls' Inclusive Education (IMAGINE) in Mali, 20 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006790001>

⁸³⁹ Minister Champagne concludes visit to Mali, continues on to Morocco, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/minister-champagne-concludes-visit-to-mali-continues-on-to-morocco.html>

⁸⁴⁰ Canadian supported projects in Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canadian-supported-projects-in-mali.html>

⁸⁴¹ Canadian supported projects in Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canadian-supported-projects-in-mali.html>

⁸⁴² Minister Champagne Concludes Successful Visit to Morocco, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/minister-champagne-concludes-successful-visit-to-morocco.html>

⁸⁴³ Canada Supported Projects in Morocco, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canadian-supported-projects-in-morocco.html>

⁸⁴⁴ Canada Supported Projects in Morocco, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canadian-supported-projects-in-morocco.html>

⁸⁴⁵ Statement by the Prime Minister on International Development Week, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 2 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2020/02/02/statement-prime-minister-international-development-week>

the goals set out in the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including prioritizing the empowerment of women and girls through Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy by funding projects to increase access to education in "crisis and conflict situations."⁸⁴⁶ Global Affairs Canada describes Canada's feminist vision in relation to its bilateral international development assistance initiatives which includes economic empowerment in areas of Africa, particularly for women.⁸⁴⁷

On 5 February 2020, Antoine Chevrier, Ambassador of Canada to the African Union, participated in the fourth High-Level Dialogue on Gender Equality and Education in Africa at the African Union headquarters in Ethiopia.⁸⁴⁸ The objects of the dialogue were to; "tak[e] specific measures to protect girls and boys in education systems in conflict and post-conflict situations; advocate for all member states to implement the safe school Declaration to protect and secure teaching and learning environments to ease access for children and especially girls in armed conflict and post-conflict zones; [and to] create a platform for sharing and learning on existing reporting mechanisms among stakeholders for protecting education for girls and women in Africa."⁸⁴⁹

On 8 February 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau met with the Chairperson of the AU Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat, on the margins of the 33rd African Union Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.⁸⁵⁰ Prime Minister Trudeau pledged Canada's continued support for the African Union's work to promote gender equality and women's empowerment, focusing on the importance of economic growth and supporting Africa's dynamic women entrepreneurs.⁸⁵¹

On 8 February 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau met with the President of Ethiopia Zewde Sahle-Work in Addis Abababa.⁸⁵² The leaders discussed ways to "continue advancing gender equality and women's empowerment, building upon their successful collaboration at Women Deliver hosted by Canada in 2019," exchanging views on regional peace and security, and continuing their work in advancing the Women, Peace and Security agenda.⁸⁵³

⁸⁴⁶ Statement by the Prime Minister on International Development Week, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 2 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2020/02/02/statement-prime-minister-international-development-week>

⁸⁴⁷ Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng

⁸⁴⁸ 4th High-Level Dialogue on Gender Equality and Education in Africa, African Union (Addis Ababa) 5 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://au.int/en/newsevents/20200205/4th-high-level-dialogue-gender-equality-and-education-africa>

⁸⁴⁹ 4th High-Level Dialogue on Gender Equality and Education in Africa, African Union (Addis Ababa) 5 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://au.int/en/newsevents/20200205/4th-high-level-dialogue-gender-equality-and-education-africa>

⁸⁵⁰ Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with African Union Commission Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat, Office of the Prime Minister (Addis Ababa) 8 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2020/02/08/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-african-union-commission-chairperson>

⁸⁵¹ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Addis Ababa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

⁸⁵² Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with President of Ethiopia Zewde Sahle-Work, Office of the Prime Minister (Addis Ababa) 8 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2020/02/08/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-ethiopia-zewde-sahle-work>

⁸⁵³ Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with President of Ethiopia Zewde Sahle-Work, Office of the Prime Minister (Addis Ababa) 8 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2020/02/08/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-ethiopia-zewde-sahle-work>

On 10 February 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau concluded his visit to Ethiopia by making several regional pledges toward advancing gender equality in the African Union.⁸⁵⁴ Pledges include; CAD355.2 million over three years toward the African Development Fund, holding high-level consultations with the AU Commission to explore ongoing work on gender equality, investing CAD4.8 million toward ACUMEN and provide leadership training to youth leaders and support women-led businesses, and contributing CAD15 million to TradeMark East Africa to address barriers to economic opportunities for 150,000 women cross-border traders in East Africa.⁸⁵⁵ Canada also pledged a CAD10 million contribution to support the AU Commission to increase gender equality and women's empowerment in sectors including economic development and CAD8.3 million toward the United Nations Development Programme toward women's economic empowerment and gender equality.⁸⁵⁶

On 10 February 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau made several pledges toward regional support for women in Ethiopia.⁸⁵⁷ Canada will invest CAD20 million in Ethiopia's Land Management Program through the Resilient Landscapes and Livelihoods for Women initiative managed by the World Bank, contribute CAD20 million to Marie Stopes International to help 350,000 adolescent girls have increased access to family services, CAD10 million in funding to UNICEF to help provide 1.7 million women and girls with improved health services, and lastly the two contributions of CAD8.5 million toward RENEW and CAD12.9 million to Digital Opportunity Trust, helping the growth of entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized businesses in Ethiopia, with a focus on those owned by young people and women.⁸⁵⁸

On 13 February 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau concluded a trip to Senegal in which he pledged support for removal of barriers that discriminate against Senegalese women's economic empowerment.⁸⁵⁹ Among these, Justin Trudeau announced funding of CAD10 million to the World Bank to provide better educational opportunities for adolescent girls, CAD18 million to College and Institutes Canada to provide support for "income-generating activities for vulnerable and marginalized women" of which 200,000 people will be mobilized to support "women becoming leaders and active citizens in their communities" and CAD4.8 million to the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) to examine the link between gender-based violence and broader gender inequalities.⁸⁶⁰

⁸⁵⁴ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Addis Ababa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

⁸⁵⁵ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Addis Ababa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

⁸⁵⁶ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Addis Ababa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

⁸⁵⁷ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Addis Ababa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

⁸⁵⁸ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Addis Ababa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

⁸⁵⁹ Prime Minister concludes productive visit to Senegal, Office of the Prime Minister (Dakar) 13 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/02/13/prime-minister-concludes-productive-visit-senegal>

⁸⁶⁰ Canada working with partners in Senegal to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Dakar) 13 February 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

On 13 February 2020, the Government of Canada pledged CAD6,661,368 across three and a half years toward Burundian Refugee Girls' Right to Education in partnership with Right to Play.⁸⁶¹ The project aims to "implement a gender-responsive and conflict-sensitive education program for girls affected by the Burundian refugee crisis in Burundi and Tanzania" through the reduction of barriers to education.⁸⁶²

On 27 February 2020, the Government of Canada pledged CAD9,427,412 across three years in support of the transition, retention, and training for Young Women and Girls in Zimbabwe in partnership with CARE Canada.⁸⁶³ The project "targets socio-economic barriers that are worsened by the lingering crisis in Zimbabwe, prohibiting girls' sustained engagement in secondary education and/or training, and their successful transition into adulthood."⁸⁶⁴

On 28 February 2020, the Government of Canada pledged CAD7.5 million across three years toward the Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds project in South Sudan.⁸⁶⁵ The project, a partnership with the Canadian Red Cross, aims to increase equal opportunities for school-age girls and young women, including those with disabilities, to attend school in Gogrial West, South Sudan.⁸⁶⁶ This project works to contribute to Canada's G7 Charlevoix Declaration on "Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries."⁸⁶⁷

On 12 March 2020, Minister Champagne, alongside the Foreign Affairs Committee, participated in the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development to speak about the Canadian Government's foreign policy mandate and priorities.⁸⁶⁸ Minister Champagne discussed his campaigning for Canada's seat on the UN Security Council and his recent trip with Prime Minister Trudeau to the African Union, which focused on bilateral relations and economic security, particularly for women, reiterating Canada's stance toward gender in the region by stating "think about the power of these women in Africa if we push for gender equality."⁸⁶⁹

⁸⁶¹ Project profile — My Education, My Future: Supporting Burundian Refugee Girls' Right to Education, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007232001>

⁸⁶² Project profile — My Education, My Future: Supporting Burundian Refugee Girls' Right to Education, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 13 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007232001>

⁸⁶³ Project profile — Supporting Transition, Retention, and Training for Young Women and Girls, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007216001>

⁸⁶⁴ Project profile — Supporting Transition, Retention, and Training for Young Women and Girls, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007216001>

⁸⁶⁵ Project profile — Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds - South Sudan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006959001>

⁸⁶⁶ Project profile — Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds - South Sudan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006959001>

⁸⁶⁷ Project profile — Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds - South Sudan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006959001>

⁸⁶⁸ House of Commons Canada: Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development, House of Commons Canada (Ottawa) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/43-1/FAAE/meeting-2/evidence>

⁸⁶⁹ House of Commons Canada: Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development, House of Commons Canada (Ottawa) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/43-1/FAAE/meeting-2/evidence>

On 30 March 2020, IDRC, which is funded by the Government of Canada, awarded CAD34.2 million to projects aiming to strengthen national education systems in more than 40 low and middle-income countries across Global Partnership for Education members through the Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX).⁸⁷⁰ Implemented by IDRC, KIX seeks to strengthen national education systems and accelerate educational progress in the Global South, it is the “largest fund solely dedicated to meet global public good gaps in education.”⁸⁷¹

Canada has demonstrated full compliance with its support for the removal of social, legal, and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women through issuing bilateral meetings, summit diplomacy, and both pledging and disbursing funds to local governmental, non-governmental, and international organizations which focus on region-specific solutions to gender equality in Africa. This includes supporting African women’s access to education and supporting community-based learning for women.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexandra Miller

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to support women’s entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic participation and empowerment.

On 23 September 2019, France announced its plan to co-host the next UN Women’s Generation Equality forum alongside Mexico in July 2020.⁸⁷² As one of the “Core Group” members, France will share ultimate decision-making power over initiatives to encourage urgent action and accountability for global gender inequality.⁸⁷³

On 8 November 2019, Agence Française de Développement (AfD), an agency of the governmental Committee for International Cooperation and Development, awarded Cameroonian company KmerPad with a prize and funding package for its solidarity-based entrepreneurship.⁸⁷⁴ Started by Cameroonian women, the company produces sanitary pads with the goal of removing barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free involvement in education and work due to social taboos that discourage hygienic menstruation practices.⁸⁷⁵

⁸⁷⁰ KIX funding announced for research to scale education innovations, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/news/kix-funding-announced-research-scale-education-innovations>

⁸⁷¹ Grants awarded to scale proven innovations and strengthen education systems through the GPE Knowledge and Innovation Exchange, Global Partnerships for Education (Washington) 30 March 2020. Access Date 12 April 2020. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news/grants-awarded-scale-proven-innovations-and-strengthen-education-systems-through-gpe-knowledge>

⁸⁷² Generation Equality Forum, UN Women (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 5 November 2019. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/get-involved/beijing-plus-25/generation-equality-forum>

⁸⁷³ Generation Equality Forum, UN Women (New York) 23 September 2019. Access date: 5 November 2019. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/get-involved/beijing-plus-25/generation-equality-forum>

⁸⁷⁴ Lifting the Menstruation Taboo in Cameroon, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 8 November 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.afd.fr/en/lifting-menstruation-taboo-cameroon?origin=/en/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=187&field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=All&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=4

⁸⁷⁵ Lifting the Menstruation Taboo in Cameroon, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 8 November 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.afd.fr/en/lifting-menstruation-taboo-cameroon?origin=/en/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=187&field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=All&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=4

On 12 November 2019, French Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight against Discrimination Marlene Schiappa hosted international ministers and UN Women executives at a Paris Peace Forum exhibit showcasing the success of women's entrepreneurship projects supported by the French government including "African Girls Can Code" from Ethiopia and "Buy From Digital Platform for Smallholder Farms" from Mali.⁸⁷⁶

On 19 November 2019, the Consulate General of France in Johannesburg unveiled its "Challenge for 1000" initiative, in which 1000 African entrepreneurs will be selected to showcase innovative solutions to urban problems at the Africa-France summit in June 2020.⁸⁷⁷ The Consulate General included in the announcement a commitment to ensure gender parity to support women entrepreneurs and decrease barriers to their participation.⁸⁷⁸

On 28 November 2019, AfD announced it will contribute EUR3 million toward the creation of treatment centres for female victims of sexual and gender-based violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic.⁸⁷⁹ The centers will provide physical, psychological, legal and economic support to victims with the goal of helping to rebuild their lives and reduce barriers that may prevent them from achieving empowerment.⁸⁸⁰

On 31 January 2020, the French Ministry for European and Foreign Affairs announced its action coalition themes for the Generation Equality Forum it will co-chair with Mexico in May 2020.⁸⁸¹ Working with UN Women to identify areas of importance, they selected 'economic justice and rights' and 'technology and innovation for gender equality' as top priorities.⁸⁸² The Forum will be informed by multi-regional consultations including African countries.⁸⁸³ France will lead an action coalition and collaborate with various partners to address critical issues of gender inequality.⁸⁸⁴

⁸⁷⁶ UN Women Deputy Executive Director Anita Bhatia attends Paris Peace Forum, UN Women (New York) 14 November 2019. Access date: 15 December 2019. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/11/news-coverage-ded-bhatia-attends-paris-peace-forum>

⁸⁷⁷ African entrepreneurs take part in Challenge of 1,000 at the Africa-France 2020 Summit, Consulat général de France à Johannesburg (Johannesburg) 11 November 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019.

<https://johannesburg.consulfrance.org/Africans-entrepreneurs-take-part-in-Challenge-of-1-000-at-the-Africa-France>

⁸⁷⁸ African entrepreneurs take part in Challenge of 1,000 at the Africa-France 2020 Summit, Consulat général de France à Johannesburg (Johannesburg) 11 November 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019.

<https://johannesburg.consulfrance.org/Africans-entrepreneurs-take-part-in-Challenge-of-1-000-at-the-Africa-France>

⁸⁷⁹ Stopping Violence Against Women in Central Africa, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 02 December 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/stopping-violence-against-women-centralafrica?origin=/en/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=187&field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=All&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=1

⁸⁸⁰ Stopping Violence Against Women in Central Africa, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 02 December 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/stopping-violence-against-women-centralafrica?origin=/en/actualites?field_region_country_target_id=187&field_date_value=&field_date_value_1=&field_type_target_id=All&field_theme_target_id=All&items_per_page=5&page=1

⁸⁸¹ Generation Equality Forum, France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/generation-equality-forum/>

⁸⁸² Generation Equality Forum, France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/generation-equality-forum/>

⁸⁸³ Generation Equality Forum, UN Women (New York) Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/get-involved/beijing-plus-25/generation-equality-forum>

⁸⁸⁴ Generation Equality Forum, France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/generation-equality-forum/>

On 13-14 February 2020, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs Director of Sustainable Development Philippe Lacoste visited the African Development Bank headquarters to negotiate the allocation of USD3 billion in funding for women's economic empowerment in Africa by the G7.⁸⁸⁵ The funds will be directed to the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa initiative to further the breaking down of legal and regulatory barriers that restrict women's access to credit, as well as providing technical support to financial institutions to facilitate women's entrepreneurship.⁸⁸⁶

On 3 April 2020, the African Development Bank Group announced a new Gender Equality Trust Fund, jointly funded by the governments of France, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.⁸⁸⁷ The first transaction is estimated to unlock USD 2 billion in credit for women-empowered businesses across the continent of Africa. It will be directed toward removing legal and regulatory barriers to women's full and free economic empowerment by improving access to credit and other financial services for entrepreneurial projects.⁸⁸⁸

France has fully complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa. By showcasing and supporting women's entrepreneurship projects in Ethiopia, Mali, and Cameroon, France is removing social barriers that impede women's entrepreneurship. The Consulate General's commitment to ensure gender parity is another action that supports the removal of social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment. The joint funding of the Gender Equality Trust fund and funding of centers that provide economic and legal support to female victims of sexual and gender-based violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic, work to remove legal and regulatory barriers to women's full economic empowerment.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kathryn Mullins

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

On 30 August 2019, the government-backed development bank Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) announced its provision of USD458 million in support for female-owned businesses in

⁸⁸⁵ AFAWA Initiative - French Delegation Follows Through Its Commitment With Working Visit to African Development Bank Headquarters, African Development Bank (Abidjan). 12 February 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/afawa-initiative-french-delegation-follows-through-its-commitment-working-visit-african-development-bank-headquarters-34291>

⁸⁸⁶ AFAWA Initiative - French Delegation Follows Through Its Commitment With Working Visit to African Development Bank Headquarters, African Development Bank (Abidjan) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 22 February 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/afawa-initiative-french-delegation-follows-through-its-commitment-working-visit-african-development-bank-headquarters-34291>

⁸⁸⁷ African Development Bank Group approves Gender Equality Trust Fund and Risk-Sharing Mechanism to improve women's economic empowerment in Africa, African Development Bank (Abidjan) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-group-approves-gender-equality-trust-fund-and-risk-sharing-mechanism-improve-womens-economic-empowerment-africa-35077>

⁸⁸⁸ African Development Bank Group approves Gender Equality Trust Fund and Risk-Sharing Mechanism to improve women's economic empowerment in Africa, African Development Bank (Abidjan) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-group-approves-gender-equality-trust-fund-and-risk-sharing-mechanism-improve-womens-economic-empowerment-africa-35077>

developing countries.⁸⁸⁹ The funding was raised in contribution with development banks from other G7 nations in the “2X Challenge,” an initiative to raise US\$3 billion for women entrepreneurs and employees in the developing world by 2020.⁸⁹⁰

On 1-28 October 2019, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) contributed to the funding of several “African Code Week” initiatives.⁸⁹¹ Over 1.5 million youth in 37 African nations participated in the week-long events which aimed to improve the digital literacy of girls in particular, reducing the ‘digital divide’ which creates social and regulatory barriers to women’s participation in the economy.⁸⁹²

On 23 October 2019, German Chancellor Angela Merkel pledged EUR30 million for the promotion of women’s digital literacy to the African Development Bank.⁸⁹³ The Chancellor announced the funding during a speech awarding the 2019 German-Africa Prize to Kenyan information technologist Juliana Rotich, emphasizing the importance of digital skills for African women to achieve full economic participation and empowerment.⁸⁹⁴

On 25 October 2019, the German Federal Foreign Office helped launch a start-up project called Maisha Business Women in Europe.⁸⁹⁵ The project, will offer women refugees from African countries opportunities to develop their entrepreneurial skills and help them participate in the economies of their home countries upon their return.⁸⁹⁶

On 13 November 2019, the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), an agency of BMZ, renewed its support for a joint fund with the Algerian Environment Ministry to encourage women in rural areas to establish cooperative businesses for the sale of sustainably harvested plant

⁸⁸⁹ 2X Challenge: USD 2.5 billion mobilised for women’s economic empowerment, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Frankfurt) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 23 October 2019. https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_539264-2.html

⁸⁹⁰ 2X Challenge: USD 2.5 billion mobilised for women’s economic empowerment, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Frankfurt) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 23 October 2019. https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_539264-2.html

⁸⁹¹ Germany promotes education in development cooperation worldwide, Deutschland.de (Frankfurt) 11 November 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/politics/education-and-development-cooperation-projects-from-germany>

⁸⁹² Germany promotes education in development cooperation worldwide, Deutschland.de (Frankfurt) 11 November 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/politics/education-and-development-cooperation-projects-from-germany>

⁸⁹³ German Africa Prize 2019, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/afrika-preis-2019-1685170>

⁸⁹⁴ German Africa Prize 2019, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/afrika-preis-2019-1685170>

⁸⁹⁵ Project to support African women entrepreneurs in Europe launches, The African Courier (Berlin) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.theafricancourier.de/business/business-support-project-for-african-women-in-europe-launches/>

⁸⁹⁶ Project to support African women entrepreneurs in Europe launches, The African Courier (Berlin) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.theafricancourier.de/business/business-support-project-for-african-women-in-europe-launches/>

products.⁸⁹⁷ GIZ will finance oil presses and other production tools that help Algerian women manage their own entrepreneurial projects.⁸⁹⁸

On 17 December 2019, KFW launched its Gender Smart Opportunity Assessment program to support financial institutions in developing countries in providing opportunities suited to the needs of women.⁸⁹⁹ They aim to help women gain better access to credit for entrepreneurial projects and increase the number of employment opportunities available to women, leading to more full and free economic participation.⁹⁰⁰

On 22 January 2020, the development finance institution Deutsche Investitions-und Entwicklungsgesellschaft (DEG), a subsidiary of KFW, announced its donation of EUR10,000 for charitable organizations AIM and Tatort Strassen der Welte.V., which fund schooling and vocational training for girls affected by female genital mutilation in Sierra Leone and Kenya, attempting to minimize social barriers to their empowerment.⁹⁰¹

On 4 March 2020, the German Federal Foreign Office released a report outlining its goals for gender equality initiatives in developing countries in 2020.⁹⁰² These include projects to remove social barriers to networking between women for the purpose of entrepreneurship, as well as the removal of barriers to senior positions for women in higher education and research.⁹⁰³

Germany has continued to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa, including by supporting the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment. This includes supporting female-owned businesses in African countries, funding projects that aim to reduce the 'digital divide', pledging support to initiatives that aimed at the removal of regulatory barriers preventing women from attaining senior positions, and supporting financial institutions to help women gain access to credit for entrepreneurial projects.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Kathryn Mullins

⁸⁹⁷ Algeria: Natural cosmetics sourced from protected areas and produced by women, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (Bonn) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.giz.de/en/mediacenter/80797.html>

⁸⁹⁸ Algeria: Natural cosmetics sourced from protected areas and produced by women, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (Bonn) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.giz.de/en/mediacenter/80797.html>

⁸⁹⁹ DEG advisory service: empowering female entrepreneurs in developing countries, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Frankfurt) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_557568-2.html

⁹⁰⁰ DEG advisory service: empowering female entrepreneurs in developing countries, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Frankfurt) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_557568-2.html

⁹⁰¹ DEG donates to three charitable organisations, DEG Press Office (Cologne) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 25 February 2020. https://www.deginvest.de/Newsroom/News/News-Details_562752-2.html

⁹⁰² Gender equality in German foreign policy and in the Federal Foreign Office, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2314180/31e4d4f4035a37b3cfaf86f3b536e487/geschlechtergerechtigkeit-data.pdf>

⁹⁰³ Gender equality in German foreign policy and in the Federal Foreign Office, Auswärtiges Amt (Berlin) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2314180/31e4d4f4035a37b3cfaf86f3b536e487/geschlechtergerechtigkeit-data.pdf>

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa by supporting African countries to remove social barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic empowerment.

On 26 August 2019, Italy provided UNICEF Eritrea with a grant of EUR1 million to enhance existing community-based child protection programs.⁹⁰⁴ As part of this program, adolescent girls from disadvantaged families receive cash incentives to enable the girls to remain in school and pursue secondary education.⁹⁰⁵

On 25 November 2019, Italy reaffirmed its support for the removal of all forms of discrimination and violence against women and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation subscribed to UN Women's campaign on gender violence called #OrangetheWorld.⁹⁰⁶

On 9 December 2019, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation allocated EUR642,000 from the Africa Fund to the United Nations Capital Development Fund to promote inclusive credit services for refugees in the Tigray, Somaliland and Addis Ababa areas of Ethiopia.⁹⁰⁷ This project aims to enable economic self-sufficiency of refugees, especially refugee women and Ethiopians willingly returning to the country.⁹⁰⁸

On 6 March 2020, Italian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Hon. Emanuela Claudia Del Re inaugurated a new block at the Mayo Girls Basic School in Al Yarmouk's Block 7 in Mayo, Khartoum State, and signed a new agreement with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to further commit EUR1.3 million for peace and social stability projects in Khartoum State and South Darfur.⁹⁰⁹ The focus of this agreement is on job and community infrastructure creation such as women's vocational training for leatherwork and commodity product creation, and peacebuilding.⁹¹⁰ The new school block and vocational training were jointly funded by Italy, the UNDP, and the Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission as part of

⁹⁰⁴ Italy Grants €1 Million to UNICEF Eritrea, TesfaNews (Asmara) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <https://www.tesfanews.net/italy-grants-one-million-euro-unicef-eritrea/>

⁹⁰⁵ Italy Grants €1 Million to UNICEF Eritrea, TesfaNews (Asmara). 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 November 2019. <https://www.tesfanews.net/italy-grants-one-million-euro-unicef-eritrea/>

⁹⁰⁶ Violence against women: Italy joins #OrangetheWorld, #Generationequality campaigns, OnuItalia (New York). 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.onuitalia.com/violence-against-women-italy-joins-orangetheWorld-generationequality-campaigns/>

⁹⁰⁷ The Foreign Ministry provides two new allocations for refugees in Niger and Ethiopia, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/due-nuovi-contributi-maeci-per-rifugiati-in-niger-e-etioopia_0.html

⁹⁰⁸ The Foreign Ministry provides two new allocations for refugees in Niger and Ethiopia, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/due-nuovi-contributi-maeci-per-rifugiati-in-niger-e-etioopia_0.html

⁹⁰⁹ Italian Deputy Minister Foreign Affairs Commits €1.3m to further Peacebuilding Efforts; Inaugurates Girls School Block in Mayo, United Nations Development Programme (Khartoum) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. <https://www.sd.undp.org/content/sudan/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/italian-deputy-minister-foreign-affairs-inaugurates-girls-school.html>

⁹¹⁰ Italian Deputy Minister Foreign Affairs Commits €1.3m to further Peacebuilding Efforts; Inaugurates Girls School Block in Mayo, United Nations Development Programme (Khartoum) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. <https://www.sd.undp.org/content/sudan/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/italian-deputy-minister-foreign-affairs-inaugurates-girls-school.html>

Italy's support for UNDP's Community Security and Stabilization Programme (C2SP) aiming to support people most at risk in entering a conflict, including women.⁹¹¹

Italy has taken some actions to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa through the removal of social barriers to women's full and free economic empowerment. This includes providing funding for initiatives that promote the economic self-sufficiency of African women and girls. However, Italy has not demonstrated support for the removal of legal or regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Brandon Yih

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to continue to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa and to support the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers for women's empowerment.

On 28 August 2019, the Japanese government hosted the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7), and issued the Yokohama Declaration and the Yokohama Plan of Actions, which aimed at promoting focus areas including African women empowerment through financial contribution to the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) and the Private Sector Investment Finance of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).⁹¹² These measures aim to empower African women entrepreneurs through increased financial access and supports.⁹¹³

On 28 August 2019, JICA hosted a symposium that focused on the roles and potential of social business and entrepreneurship to address gender barriers in Africa. During the conference, Dr. Yumiko Tanaka, Senior Gender Advisor of JICA, called for the promotion and collaborations to promote African women's access to greater economic and political power and thus to combat gender inequalities.⁹¹⁴

On 29 August 2019, the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe announced that Japan will introduce assistance policy for human resource development in Africa at the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region.⁹¹⁵ This initiative would allow youth and

⁹¹¹ Italian Deputy Minister Foreign Affairs Commits €1.3m to further Peacebuilding Efforts; Inaugurates Girls School Block in Mayo, United Nations Development Programme (Khartoum) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. <https://www.sd.undp.org/content/sudan/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/italian-deputy-minister-foreign-affairs-inaugurates-girls-school.html>

⁹¹² TICAD7, the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, opening in Yokohama: Advancing Africa's development through People, Technology and Innovation, JICA (Tokyo) 28 August 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. https://jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/2019082_01.html

⁹¹³ Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 & Actions for Implementation of the Yokohama Declaration 2019, MOFA (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf

⁹¹⁴ Unleashing the power of Women and Girls in Africa – Social Business and Social Entrepreneurship to Achieve Transformation Change, JICA (Tokyo) 28 August 2019. Access date: 22 December. 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/c8h0vm0000f5zxol-att/20190912_01_11.pdf

⁹¹⁵ Prime Minister Abe and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Kono attended the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region, MOFA (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/page4e_001075.html

women to acquire skills to make a living by themselves and to play an increasing role in economic activities.⁹¹⁶

On 24 September 2019, Prime Minister Abe attended the UN General Assembly and announced that Japan pledged to provide enriched education to a minimum of nine million children and women in Sub-Saharan African nations in the next three years, which would help to “promote inclusive quality education for all girls and women.”⁹¹⁷

On 30 September 2019, Japan’s Government Pension Investment Fund (GPIF) signed an agreement with the African Development Bank (AfDB) to channel investment toward inclusive and sustainable growth in Africa.⁹¹⁸ The collaboration would provide investment opportunities to GPIF to fund projects in Africa leading to increase women’s employment opportunities in Africa.⁹¹⁹

On 23 November 2019, Japan’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, Toshimitsu Motegi, held a Presidency Press Conference for the G20 Aichi-Nagoya Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, in which he confirmed that Japan and other G20 members will continue to support women’s empowerment in Africa as part of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.⁹²⁰

On 5 December 2019, JICA signed an agreement with the Government of the Republic of Kenya to provide a Japanese official development assistance of JPY47.8 billion to the Mombasa Gate Bridge construction Project.⁹²¹ This project not only aimed to facilitate efficient transportation in East Africa, but also provided roadside trading facilities and vocational training to African women entrepreneurs in the region, which removed social barriers that discriminate women’s economic participation.⁹²²

Japan has fully complied in all three commitment areas by supporting African countries in women’s entrepreneurship through their removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women’s full and free economic empowerment. Japan’s introduction of an assistance policy for human resource development in Africa and its collaboration with the AfDB to fund women’s employment opportunities in Africa has fulfilled its commitment.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mary Qiu

⁹¹⁶ Prime Minister Abe and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Kono attended the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region, MOFA (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/page4e_001075.html

⁹¹⁷ At UN debate, Japan vows to back global push for inclusive quality education for all girls and women, UN News (New York) 24 September 2019. Access date: 22 December 2018. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2019/09/1047382>

⁹¹⁸ African Development Bank, Government Pension Investment Fund, partner for green, social and sustainability bond markets, African Development Bank (Abidjan) 11 October 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-government-pension-investment-fund-partner-green-social-and-sustainability-bond-markets-31954>

⁹¹⁹ African Development Bank, Government Pension Investment Fund, partner for green, social and sustainability bond markets, African Development Bank (Abidjan) 11 October 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-government-pension-investment-fund-partner-green-social-and-sustainability-bond-markets-31954>

⁹²⁰ Presidency Conference for the G20 Foreign ministers’ Meeting by Foreign Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu, MOFA (Tokyo) 23 November 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/ecm/ec/page25e_000367.html

⁹²¹ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with the Republic of Kenya: Contributing to the stimulation of regional economic activities by the construction of a bridge at Mombasa, a gateway to East Africa, JICA (Tokyo) 11 December 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20191211_41_en.html

⁹²² Feasibility Study in the Mombasa Gate Bridge Construction Project, Mombasa County, JICA (Tokyo) March 2019. Access date: 22 December 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/social_environmental/id/africa/kenya/c8h0vm00009praz8-att/c8h0vm0000eu3o4t.pdf

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa by removing legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

On 28 August 2019, International Development Minister Alok Sharma announced the establishment of a new Commission to mobilize private sector investments following his first visit to Ethiopia.⁹²³ The Commission will be composed of UK and international business experts and aims to facilitate financial investment for infrastructure projects in developing countries.⁹²⁴ While in Ethiopia, Minister Sharma met with women who have taken part in entrepreneurial training programs and guidance initiatives supported by aid from the UK and the company Unilever.⁹²⁵

On 24 September 2019, UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced GBP515 million to provide education for approximately 12 million children in developing countries.⁹²⁶ This funding builds on the GBP90 million the Prime Minister committed at the 2019 G7 Biarritz Summit.⁹²⁷ The new spending commitment will focus on teaching literacy and numeracy to children in African and Asian countries.⁹²⁸

On 27 September 2019, International Development Minister Alok Sharma announced a new UK aid package which will help mobilize GBP500 million in private sector investment, support entrepreneurs in countries across sub-Saharan Africa and provide improved access to financial services.⁹²⁹ To achieve this, the UK has committed GBP90 million to Financial Sector Deepening Africa, a non-profit organization that works in 28 countries to help people access financial services, such as banking.⁹³⁰

On 5 November 2019, the United Kingdom's Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's International Tech Hub Network opened applications for its new "Africa-UK: Female Tech

⁹²³ International Development Secretary to boost infrastructure in the poorest countries with UK aid, Department for International Development (London) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-development-secretary-to-boost-infrastructure-in-the-poorest-countries-with-uk-aid>

⁹²⁴ International Development Secretary to boost infrastructure in the poorest countries with UK aid, Department for International Development (London) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-development-secretary-to-boost-infrastructure-in-the-poorest-countries-with-uk-aid>

⁹²⁵ International Development Secretary to boost infrastructure in the poorest countries with UK aid, Department for International Development (London) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-development-secretary-to-boost-infrastructure-in-the-poorest-countries-with-uk-aid>

⁹²⁶ PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and Department for International Development (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>

⁹²⁷ PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and Department for International Development (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>

⁹²⁸ PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street and Department for International Development (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>

⁹²⁹ UK aid to boost access to finance for sub-Saharan Africa, Department for International Development (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-boost-access-to-finance-for-sub-saharan-africa>

⁹³⁰ UK aid to boost access to finance for sub-Saharan Africa, Department for International Development (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-boost-access-to-finance-for-sub-saharan-africa>

Founders 2020” program.⁹³¹ The program will invite 15 women entrepreneurs from Nigeria, Kenya, and South Africa to partake in workshops and events on business strategies in London from 20-22 January 2020.⁹³² The goal of the program is to foster inclusive economic growth by giving women entrepreneurs the tools to surmount the gender divide.⁹³³

On 5 December 2019, the United Kingdom and Canada announced a contribution over three years toward girls’ education in South Sudan.⁹³⁴ This was part of the second phase of Girls Education in South Sudan, a project which aims to increase access to education for girls education by addressing key barriers to education.⁹³⁵

On 13 January 2020, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport released the names of the 15 finalists for the International Tech Hub Network’s Africa-UK: Female Tech Founders program.⁹³⁶ The finalists are women entrepreneurs in the technology sector hailing from Kenya, South Africa, and Nigeria.⁹³⁷

On 16 January 2020, the UK pledged GBP3.5 million to the International Trade Centre’s SheTrades program.⁹³⁸ The UK’s funding will assist women entrepreneurs in Nigeria, Ghana, and Kenya in the growth of their businesses by connecting them to trade and investment opportunities and business partnerships.⁹³⁹ Women entrepreneurs will also have access to specialized training and mentorship.⁹⁴⁰

⁹³¹ Applications open for Africa-UK Female Tech Founders 2020, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2019/11/applications-open-for-africa-uk-female-tech-founders-2020/>

⁹³² Applications open for Africa-UK Female Tech Founders 2020, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2019/11/applications-open-for-africa-uk-female-tech-founders-2020/>

⁹³³ Applications open for Africa-UK Female Tech Founders 2020, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2019/11/applications-open-for-africa-uk-female-tech-founders-2020/>

⁹³⁴ Project profile — Girls' Education in South Sudan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006982001>

⁹³⁵ Project profile — Girls' Education in South Sudan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P006982001>

⁹³⁶ Finalists announced for the International Tech Hub Network’s Female Tech Founders and TeXchange programmes, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2020/01/finalists-announced-for-the-international-tech-hub-networks-female-tech-founders-and-texchange-programmes/>

⁹³⁷ Finalists announced for the International Tech Hub Network’s Female Tech Founders and TeXchange programmes, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2020/01/finalists-announced-for-the-international-tech-hub-networks-female-tech-founders-and-texchange-programmes/>

⁹³⁸ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, and The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>

⁹³⁹ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, and The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>

⁹⁴⁰ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, and The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>

As a result of this aid, the UK projects that approximately 3,000 jobs will be created in African businesses led by women.⁹⁴¹

On 16 January 2020, the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and Department for International Trade (DIT) partnered with the organization Lionesses of Africa to host Start-up Night Africa.⁹⁴² The event provided 11 African women entrepreneurs with the opportunity to pitch their businesses to UK-based investors and gain funding and partnerships.⁹⁴³ The event also featured a panel of three women entrepreneurs with established African businesses who discussed their experiences and shared advice.⁹⁴⁴

On 20 January 2020, DFID and DIT initiated several programs to meet the demand for investment in Africa, including three programs that will help empower African women.⁹⁴⁵ DFID's new Digital Access program will use GBP45 million to help marginalized populations in Africa, particularly women, improve their digital and technological skills and access the internet.⁹⁴⁶ DFID also announced the establishment of a GBP2 million program which will fund the education of women in developing countries in order to help them obtain jobs.⁹⁴⁷ In addition, DFID will provide the Work and Opportunities for Women program with GBP6.1 million.⁹⁴⁸ This money will increase economic opportunities for women and thereby assist approximately 100,000 women until 2024.⁹⁴⁹

⁹⁴¹ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, and The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>

⁹⁴² Women entrepreneurs pitch innovation for Africa to UK investors, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, and The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP (London) 18 January 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/women-entrepreneurs-pitch-innovation-for-africa-to-uk-investors>

⁹⁴³ Women entrepreneurs pitch innovation for Africa to UK investors, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, and The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP (London) 18 January 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/women-entrepreneurs-pitch-innovation-for-africa-to-uk-investors>

⁹⁴⁴ Women entrepreneurs pitch innovation for Africa to UK investors, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, and The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP (London) 18 January 2020. Access Date: 28 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/women-entrepreneurs-pitch-innovation-for-africa-to-uk-investors>

⁹⁴⁵ UK aims to be Africa's partner of choice for trade and investment, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, and The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment>

⁹⁴⁶ UK aims to be Africa's partner of choice for trade and investment, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, and The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment>

⁹⁴⁷ UK aims to be Africa's partner of choice for trade and investment, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, and The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment>

⁹⁴⁸ UK aims to be Africa's partner of choice for trade and investment, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, and The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment>

⁹⁴⁹ UK aims to be Africa's partner of choice for trade and investment, Department for International Development, Department for International Trade, The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, and The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment>

On 20 January 2020, Prime Minister Johnson hosted the UK-Africa Investment Summit in London.⁹⁵⁰ During the conference, the UK strengthened its relationships with African countries and pledged to support their economic empowerment through investment, trade, and funding.⁹⁵¹ The UK also outlined specific commitments toward the empowerment of women in Africa.⁹⁵² This included previously announced aid packages, such as the GBP6.1 million for the Work and Opportunities for Women program and the GBP3.5 million for the SheTrades program, and new funding of GBP2 million to assist initiatives in Mozambique that support the economic empowerment of women.⁹⁵³

On 20 January 2020, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's International Tech Hub Network commenced its three-day Africa-UK: Female Tech Founders program in London.⁹⁵⁴ The 15 women entrepreneurs selected for the program participated in workshops, masterclasses, and networking events, where they connected with investors, stakeholders, entrepreneurs, and government officials in the UK.⁹⁵⁵ They also attended the UK-Africa Investment Summit on 20 January 2020.⁹⁵⁶

On 3 April 2020, the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) authorized the establishment of a new Gender Equality Trust Fund in which the United Kingdom is a key investor, along with France and the Netherlands.⁹⁵⁷ The fund will last for ten years and primarily help expand the AfDB's Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa program, which seeks to redress the financing gap

⁹⁵⁰ UK Government Statement on UK-Africa Investment Summit, Department for International Development, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street, Department for International Trade, The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP, and The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-government-statement-on-the-uk-africa-investment-summit>

⁹⁵¹ UK Government Statement on UK-Africa Investment Summit, Department for International Development, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street, Department for International Trade, The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP, and The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-government-statement-on-the-uk-africa-investment-summit>

⁹⁵² UK Government Statement on UK-Africa Investment Summit, Department for International Development, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street, Department for International Trade, The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP, and The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-government-statement-on-the-uk-africa-investment-summit>

⁹⁵³ UK Government Statement on UK-Africa Investment Summit, Department for International Development, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street, Department for International Trade, The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP, and The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-government-statement-on-the-uk-africa-investment-summit>

⁹⁵⁴ Celebrating a successful Africa-UK: Female Tech Founders programme, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2020/01/celebrating-a-successful-africa-uk-female-tech-founders-programme/>

⁹⁵⁵ Celebrating a successful Africa-UK: Female Tech Founders programme, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2020/01/celebrating-a-successful-africa-uk-female-tech-founders-programme/>

⁹⁵⁶ Celebrating a successful Africa-UK: Female Tech Founders programme, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Blog (London) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://dcmsblog.uk/2020/01/celebrating-a-successful-africa-uk-female-tech-founders-programme/>

⁹⁵⁷ African Development Bank Group approves Gender Equality Trust Fund and Risk-Sharing Mechanism to improve women's economic empowerment in Africa, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-group-approves-gender-equality-trust-fund-and-risk-sharing-mechanism-improve-womens-economic-empowerment-africa-35077>

African women experience.⁹⁵⁸ In doing so, the Fund hopes to empower women and work toward gender equality in Africa.⁹⁵⁹

The United Kingdom has demonstrated full compliance with its support for the removal of social, legal, and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women by funding projects to address women's barriers to education and job training, projects that assist women entrepreneurs by connecting them to trade and investment opportunities. The UK has also supported projects such as the Digital Access Program and the AfDB's Affirmative Fiancé Action for Women in Africa program which help African women overcome social, legal, and regulatory barriers to their full economic empowerment.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Annie Ding

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment toward women's empowerment in Africa.

On 12 November 2019, the United States Chief Executive Officer of the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), Adam Boehler, joined the President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Akinwumi Adesina, in signing a memorandum of understanding to support further development in African countries.⁹⁶⁰ Some of the priority sectors the partners will focus on include financial services and investments that empower women in the region.⁹⁶¹ The DFC and the AfDB aim to invest USD 5 billion in regional development projects.⁹⁶²

On 18 November 2019, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) announced that the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative Fund (W-GDP) would increase its funding to USD100 million.⁹⁶³ In February 2019, U.S. President Donald Trump established the W-GDP Initiative to increase women's economic participation in developing nations

⁹⁵⁸ African Development Bank Group approves Gender Equality Trust Fund and Risk-Sharing Mechanism to improve women's economic empowerment in Africa, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-group-approves-gender-equality-trust-fund-and-risk-sharing-mechanism-improve-womens-economic-empowerment-africa-35077>

⁹⁵⁹ African Development Bank Group approves Gender Equality Trust Fund and Risk-Sharing Mechanism to improve women's economic empowerment in Africa, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-bank-group-approves-gender-equality-trust-fund-and-risk-sharing-mechanism-improve-womens-economic-empowerment-africa-35077>

⁹⁶⁰ DFC and African Development Bank Partner to Support Development in Africa, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (United States) November 12 2019. Access Date: April 8 2020. <https://www.dfc.gov/media/press-releases/dfc-and-african-development-bank-partner-support-development-africa>

⁹⁶¹ DFC and African Development Bank Partner to Support Development in Africa, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (United States) November 12 2019. Access Date: April 8 2020. <https://www.dfc.gov/media/press-releases/dfc-and-african-development-bank-partner-support-development-africa>

⁹⁶² DFC and African Development Bank Partner to Support Development in Africa, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (United States) November 12 2019. Access Date: April 8 2020. <https://www.dfc.gov/media/press-releases/dfc-and-african-development-bank-partner-support-development-africa>

⁹⁶³ What is USAID's W-GDP Initiative Fund that recently increases its Funding to \$100 million for New Partnerships?, FundsforNGOs Grants and resources for Sustainability (United States) Access Date: 8 December. 2019. <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/featured/what-is-usaids-w-gdp-initiative-fund-that-recently-increased-its-funding-to-100-million-for-new-partnerships/>

throughout Africa.⁹⁶⁴ The initiative seeks to strengthen laws and regulations that promote women's participation in the economy and to provide women entrepreneurs with education, training and support.⁹⁶⁵ With the new funding, the initiative seeks to reach 50 million women in 22 developing countries by 2025.⁹⁶⁶

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to support women's empowerment in Africa through its support of the removal of social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic empowerment. Only meeting two out of three criteria points, the United States failed to support African countries in their removal of legal barriers against women's entrepreneurship in Africa.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Danielle Maragh

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship in Africa through the removal of legal, social and regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment.

On 12 November 2019, the European Investment Bank announced a new initiative called SheInvest.⁹⁶⁷ The initiative aims to mobilize EUR1 billion of investment and increase women's economic participation in countries across the African continent.⁹⁶⁸ SheInvest plans to organize efforts to invest in projects that increase the capacity of women to participate in the economy and it will provide monitoring to women entrepreneurs so they can better access finance.⁹⁶⁹ It will also focus on investment in digital solutions and financial products to help women reach important business services.⁹⁷⁰

⁹⁶⁴ What is USAID's W-GDP Initiative Fund that recently increases its Funding to \$100 million for New Partnerships?, FundsforNGOs Grants and resources for Sustainability (United States) Access Date: 8 December. 2019. <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/featured/what-is-usaids-w-gdp-initiative-fund-that-recently-increased-its-funding-to-100-million-for-new-partnerships/>

⁹⁶⁵ Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative, The White House (Washington, D.C.) Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wgdp/>

⁹⁶⁶ What is USAID's W-GDP Initiative Fund that recently increases its Funding to \$100 million for New Partnerships?, FundsforNGOs Grants and resources for Sustainability (United States) Access Date: 8 December. 2019. <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/featured/what-is-usaids-w-gdp-initiative-fund-that-recently-increased-its-funding-to-100-million-for-new-partnerships/>

⁹⁶⁷ SheInvest - new initiative to mobilise EUR 1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Johannesburg and Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>

⁹⁶⁸ Africa Investment Forum 2019: Billion dollar boost for African female entrepreneurs, African Development Bank Group (Johannesburg and Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2019-billion-dollar-boost-african-female-entrepreneurs-32626>

⁹⁶⁹ SheInvest - new initiative to mobilise EUR 1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Johannesburg and Luxembourg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>

⁹⁷⁰ SheInvest - new initiative to mobilise EUR 1 billion for women across Africa, European Investment Bank (Johannesburg) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-306-sheinvest-new-initiative-to-mobilise-eur-1-billion-for-women-across-africa>

On 19 December, 2019, the European Investment Bank issued a loan of more than EUR10 million for the Women's World Banking Capital Partners II Fund.⁹⁷¹ This fund aims to reduce regulatory barriers that discriminate against women's full and free economic participation and empowerment by increasing financial inclusion in emerging markets in Sub-Saharan Africa and reducing the gender gap.⁹⁷² The fund aims to allow women who have been financially excluded or underserved the opportunity to access a broad range of financial services which will help them grow their businesses.⁹⁷³

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to support women's entrepreneurship and economic participation in Africa by launching the SheInvest initiative and financing the Women's World Banking Capital Partners II Fund. These initiatives have helped the EU take action in fulfilling their promise to help remove social and regulatory barriers to women's entrepreneurship in Africa. However, the EU has failed to address the legal barriers to women's entrepreneurship in Africa.

Thus, the EU receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Nivaal Rehman

⁹⁷¹ Womens World Banking Capital Partners II Fund, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 19 December 2019. Access Date: Monday April 7 2020. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/loans/all/20180557>

⁹⁷² Womens World Banking Capital Partners II Fund, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 19 December 2019. Access Date: Monday April 7 2020. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/loans/all/20180557>

⁹⁷³ Womens World Banking Capital Partners II Fund, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 19 December 2019. Access Date: Monday April 7 2020. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/loans/all/20180557>

7. Gender: STEM Education

“[We] ... endeavor to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).”

Declaration on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy	-1		
Japan	-1		
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average	+0.13 (56%)		

Background

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, for the first time ever the G8 leaders agreed to the Education for Innovation Societies in the 21st Century that promoted the innovation of education to keep with the success of 21st century rapid development of human innovation.⁹⁷⁴ The leaders assessed science and technology at the forefront of global innovation.⁹⁷⁵ G8 leaders committed to increase exchanges in science and technology, and promote higher standards in mathematics, science and technology.⁹⁷⁶

The 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, marked the first time in ten years since the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit that the G7 endorsed the G7 Guiding Principles for Building the Capacity of Women and Girls.⁹⁷⁷ The G7 committed to create a society where all women and girls are empowered and actively engaged for sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth.⁹⁷⁸ For the first time in ten years, G7 members committed to achieving economic equality through capacity-building such as education and training as well as promoting active role of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).⁹⁷⁹

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 committed to the Next Production Revolution (NPR).⁹⁸⁰ The NPR endorsed by the G7 was designed to help people across all sectors and regions to reap the

⁹⁷⁴ Education for Innovation Societies in the 21st Century, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/education.html>.

⁹⁷⁵ Education for Innovation Societies in the 21st Century, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/education.html>.

⁹⁷⁶ Education for Innovation Societies in the 21st Century, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/education.html>.

⁹⁷⁷ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

⁹⁷⁸ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

⁹⁷⁹ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

⁹⁸⁰ G7 Taormina Leaders Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

benefits of innovation and digitalization and enhance women's opportunities to pursue STEM careers.⁹⁸¹

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 committed to prepare women for jobs of the future, through educational opportunities and work environmental protections.⁹⁸² Through this commitment, the G7 vowed to ensure that all workers have access to the skills and education necessary to adapt and prosper in the new world of work brought by innovation through emerging technologies.⁹⁸³ The G7 committed to expand market-driven training and education, particularly for girls and women in STEM programs.⁹⁸⁴

At the 2018 Biarritz Summit, the G7 agreed to tackle inequality in developing countries through gender-responsive education and quality technical and vocational education and training.⁹⁸⁵ The G7 reinforced the notion that equal access to quality education is vital to achieve the empowerment and equal opportunity of girls and women. In addition, the G7 affirmed support for eliminating gender inequality and discrimination, and countering gender biases and stereotypes and to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equality and access of girls and women to quality education in STEM.⁹⁸⁶

Commitment Features

The G7 members are committed to “endeavor to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity, and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).”⁹⁸⁷

The first part of this commitment reflects the G7's collective commitment to work together with developing countries to endeavor to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion. “Endeavor” means an effort to do something, especially something new or difficult.⁹⁸⁸ “Inclusion” should be interpreted to mean the action or state of including women or girls in all places and remove any barriers that create undue effort and separation.⁹⁸⁹ For this commitment, “Promote” entails supporting or renewing old efforts or creating new efforts in the area of women's economic development.⁹⁹⁰ In this case, the efforts do not have to be brand new initiatives.⁹⁹¹

⁹⁸¹ G7 Taormina Leaders Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

⁹⁸² The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

⁹⁸³ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

⁹⁸⁴ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communique, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 4 November 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

⁹⁸⁵ Declaration on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>.

⁹⁸⁶ Declaration on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>.

⁹⁸⁷ Declaration on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 4 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>.

⁹⁸⁸ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

⁹⁸⁹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

⁹⁹⁰ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

The second part of this commitment is dedicated to promoting equity. “Equity” should be interpreted to mean fair and just as indicated by law and “girls” includes any female person ages 15 and younger.⁹⁹² Meanwhile, women include female persons aged 15 and older. In the context of this commitment, “access to quality education” entails creating or enhancing opportunities for women to receive education as well as training in order to best equip them with the necessary skills, or update existing skillsets, for succeeding in the labour market.⁹⁹³ It is particularly important that such efforts are of “quality education” in that they adequately and sufficiently address women’s needs in this regard.⁹⁹⁴ Examples, are not limited to, encouraging skills development, increasing access to economic and educational resources for women and girls.⁹⁹⁵

To achieve full compliance, the G7 member must take action with developing countries to promote inclusion to quality education, equity for quality education, access to quality education for girls and women, and access to STEM.

To achieve partial compliance, the G7 member must take action with developing countries to promote inclusion to quality education and equity to quality education. The G7 member may also be awarded partial compliance for taking action with developing countries to promote access to quality education for girls and women, including access to STEM.

For a score of non-compliance, the G7 member has met none of the aforementioned criteria.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member has NOT taken any action with developing countries to promote inclusion to quality education, equity for quality education, access to quality education for girls and women, or access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).
0	G7 member has taken some action with developing countries to promote inclusion to quality education and equity to quality education. The G7 member may also be awarded partial compliance for taking action with developing countries to promote access to quality education for girls and women, and access to STEM.
+1	G7 member has taken all actions with developing countries to promote inclusion to quality education, equity for quality education, access to quality education for girls and women, and access to STEM.

*Compliance Director: Joanna Ilunga- Kapinga
Lead Analyst: Apanuba Mahmood*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to endeavour to work with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity and access to quality education for girls and women, including access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

⁹⁹¹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

⁹⁹² Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

⁹⁹³ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

⁹⁹⁴ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

⁹⁹⁵ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

On 26 August 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced Canada's plan to partner with the African Development Bank and invest CAD12.5 million in the African Guarantee Fund.⁹⁹⁶ This initiative is a part of the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa to "improve access to finance for women entrepreneurs in Africa."⁹⁹⁷

On 26 August 2019, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that Canada would invest CAD9.5 million in Mozambique as a part of the Empowering Adolescent Girls to Learn and Earn (EAGLE) project.⁹⁹⁸ This project aims to expand the "literacy, numeracy, and skills development"⁹⁹⁹ of 3,000 adolescent girls who have been out of school.¹⁰⁰⁰

On 26 August 2019, Prime Minister Trudeau announced Canada's plan to invest CAD7 million in Niger to improve girls' right to education, which would "directly benefit up to 100,000 school-aged girls."¹⁰⁰¹

On 26 August 2019, Prime Minister Trudeau announced a CAD30 million investment to establish the School Feeding Platform project, which aims to address the "barriers to education faced by girls and adolescent girls"¹⁰⁰² such as by increasing attendance at the "primary and secondary school levels"¹⁰⁰³ and improving "learning conditions in displacement settings."¹⁰⁰⁴

On 9 December 2019, Canada, along with Italy and Sweden, co-led the International Clean Energy Education Empowerment (C3E) Initiative's Women in Energy event, to "advocate for the recruitment, retention, and advancement of women in the energy sector."¹⁰⁰⁵ The C3E Initiative is a Collaboration Programme of the International Energy Agency and the Clean Energy Ministerial, and was first established in 2010.¹⁰⁰⁶ The Initiative acknowledges that it is "impossible to address the future of energy without highlighting the importance of engaging the talents of the entire energy

⁹⁹⁶ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019.

<https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

⁹⁹⁷ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019.

<https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

⁹⁹⁸ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019.

<https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

⁹⁹⁹ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019.

<https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

¹⁰⁰⁰ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019.

<https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

¹⁰⁰¹ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019.

<https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

¹⁰⁰² Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019.

<https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

¹⁰⁰³ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019.

<https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

¹⁰⁰⁴ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019.

<https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

¹⁰⁰⁵ IEA Ministerial C3E Side Event 2019, Office of International Affairs of U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/ia/articles/iea-ministerial-c3e-side-event-2019-0>.

¹⁰⁰⁶ IEA Ministerial C3E Side Event 2019, Office of International Affairs of U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/ia/articles/iea-ministerial-c3e-side-event-2019-0>.

workforce,”¹⁰⁰⁷ which includes women, who have been “historically left behind in the energy sector.”¹⁰⁰⁸

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity, and access to quality education for girls and women, including access to STEM. By increasing its funding commitments to help African nations increase available infrastructure for primary and secondary education for girls, Canada has demonstrated its endeavours to work collaboratively to work on region-specific solutions to increase equity for women and girls. This is in addition to collaboratively pledging to support women in careers in STEM related fields like the energy sector.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mingyang (Charles) Deng

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

On 26 August 2019, President Emmanuel Macron and the G7 leaders approved USD251 million in funding to the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative, supporting women entrepreneurs in Africa.¹⁰⁰⁹ AFAWA provides women with financing and training needed to succeed as entrepreneurs in Africa.¹⁰¹⁰

In November 2019, France organized meetings with key stakeholders of the “Priority to Equality” Initiative to discuss and finalize the implementation details in helping the eight developing countries, Mauritania, Niger, Burkina, Mali, Chad, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Mozambique strengthen gender equality in their education systems.¹⁰¹¹ France announced to invest EUR2.5 million in the initiative as of 20 September 2019.¹⁰¹² Implementation will begin in early 2020.¹⁰¹³

¹⁰⁰⁷ IEA Ministerial C3E Side Event 2019, Office of International Affairs of U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/ia/articles/iea-ministerial-c3e-side-event-2019-0>.

¹⁰⁰⁸ IEA Ministerial C3E Side Event 2019, Office of International Affairs of U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/ia/articles/iea-ministerial-c3e-side-event-2019-0>.

¹⁰⁰⁹ G7 Summit: President Macron and G7 Leaders Provide Bank’s Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) Initiative with \$251 Million, Ghanaian News Canada (Toronto) 2 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <http://ghanaiannews.ca/g7-summit-president-macron-and-g7-leaders-provide-banks-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa-afawa-initiative-with-251-million/>.

¹⁰¹⁰ G7 Summit: President Macron and G7 Leaders Provide Bank’s Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) Initiative with \$251 Million, Ghanaian News Canada (Toronto) 2 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <http://ghanaiannews.ca/g7-summit-president-macron-and-g7-leaders-provide-banks-affirmative-finance-action-for-women-in-africa-afawa-initiative-with-251-million/>.

¹⁰¹¹ Initiative priorité à l’égalité, Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris). Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangetere-de-la-france/la-france-et-les-nations-unies/l-alliance-pour-le-multilateralisme/initiative-priorite-a-l-egalite/>.

¹⁰¹² Initiative priorité à l’égalité, Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris). Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangetere-de-la-france/la-france-et-les-nations-unies/l-alliance-pour-le-multilateralisme/initiative-priorite-a-l-egalite/>.

¹⁰¹³ Initiative priorité à l’égalité, Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris). Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangetere-de-la-france/la-france-et-les-nations-unies/l-alliance-pour-le-multilateralisme/initiative-priorite-a-l-egalite/>.

On 21 November 2019, the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Industry, and the Union of Professors of Sciences and Technology for Industry hosted the national Engineering Sciences for Women day, to educate young women about the Science and Technology field and encourage participation of girls in STEM.¹⁰¹⁴ There were 18,000 students from 25 countries, including France, who participated in the event.¹⁰¹⁵

On 18-20 December 2019, the Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian visited Mexico to meet with his counterparts to discuss the promotion of joint values, including fighting against inequality.¹⁰¹⁶ Minister Le Drian met with the Franco-Mexican Strategic Council, which brings together French and Mexican stakeholders from the public and private sector responsible for proposing initiatives such as education and vocational training.¹⁰¹⁷

On 3 January 2020, the French Embassy in Ireland announced a partnership with Teen Turn, a charity promoting STEM careers and equality of opportunity.¹⁰¹⁸ The purpose of this partnership is to promote female participation in the STEM field in Ireland.¹⁰¹⁹

On 10 February 2020, the Ministry of Labour signed an Inclusive Temporary Agency Development Pact with the Inclusion in Employment and Luc de Gardelle and the Federation of Integration Companies.¹⁰²⁰ The Pact focuses on providing integrated career options and services to men and women for temporary work integration companies, decentralizing employment administration, and combining quantitative and qualitative development of job training.¹⁰²¹

France has fully complied with its commitment to endeavour to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity, and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to STEM. By increasing funding commitments to collaborative initiatives aimed at fostering gender equality in education in many developing countries, France has effectively helped to increase equity and access to equality education for women and girls. In addition, by creating partnerships within both public and private sector actors, France has demonstrated its commitment to promoting STEM access and equality of opportunity for women and girls.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jijun (Amber) Meng

¹⁰¹⁴ Sciences de l'ingénieur au féminin, UPTSI (Paris) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.upsti.fr/nos-evenements/sciences-de-l-ingenieur-au-feminin>.

¹⁰¹⁵ Sciences de l'ingénieur au féminin, UPTSI (Paris) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.upsti.fr/nos-evenements/sciences-de-l-ingenieur-au-feminin>.

¹⁰¹⁶ Déplacement de Jean-Yves Le Drian (18-20 décembre 2019), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/dossiers-pays/mexique/evenements/article/deplacement-de-jean-yves-le-drian-18-20-12-19>.

¹⁰¹⁷ Déplacement de Jean-Yves Le Drian (18-20 décembre 2019), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris). 18 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/dossiers-pays/mexique/evenements/article/deplacement-de-jean-yves-le-drian-18-20-12-19>.

¹⁰¹⁸ Teen Turn: Promoting STEM careers and equality of opportunity, France in Ireland (Dublin). 3 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://ie.ambafrance.org/Promoting-STEM-careers-and-equality-of-opportunity#Project-Squad>.

¹⁰¹⁹ Teen Turn: Promoting STEM careers and equality of opportunity, France in Ireland (Dublin). 3 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://ie.ambafrance.org/Promoting-STEM-careers-and-equality-of-opportunity#Project-Squad>.

¹⁰²⁰ Signature d'un Pacte pour le développement de l'interim inclusif, Ministère du Travail (Paris). 10 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/signature-d-un-pacte-pour-le-developpement-de-l-interim-inclusif>.

¹⁰²¹ Signature d'un Pacte pour le développement de l'interim inclusif, Ministère du Travail (Paris). 10 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/signature-d-un-pacte-pour-le-developpement-de-l-interim-inclusif>

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity and access of girls and women to quality education, as well as access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

On 18 September 2019, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, through their Programme Advocating Women Scientists in STEM initiative, called for proposals for international collaborative research projects in STEM bringing together research institutions in Germany and Africa.¹⁰²²

On 21 September 2019, EQUALS Global Partnership held a meeting in New York announcing their partnership's plans for 2020.¹⁰²³ EQUALS is a global partnership network of corporate leaders, governments, non-profit organizations, communities and individuals supported by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) with the goal of bridging the digital gender divide.¹⁰²⁴ The partnership selected projects to include, such as the Access Coalition's new plan to identify countries to increase women's online access and digital inclusion.¹⁰²⁵ SheTrades Invests, another project which equips women in the tech sector to meet investors' needs and secure investment.¹⁰²⁶ Fairness AI works to detect and combat biases in artificial intelligence such as ageism and sexism.¹⁰²⁷ EQUALS Digital Skills Fund 2.0: The Skills Coalition will facilitate digital skills training for 10,000 women and girls.¹⁰²⁸ The Digital Ambassador Program will increase Rwandan digital literacy and their access to online systems and services.¹⁰²⁹

On 16 October 2019, BMZ announced their support for the SAP Africa Code Week for the fourth time in 12 African countries with the goal of promoting digital literacy and encouraging young people to gain job-relevant digital skills, specifically targeting young women and girls.¹⁰³⁰ Female role models

¹⁰²² Programme Advocating Women Scientists in STEM (PAWS), PRE-LEAP-RE (Gif-sur-Yvette). 18 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <http://www.leap-re.eu/2019/09/18/programme-advocating-women-scientists-in-stem-paws/>.

¹⁰²³ Press Release: EQUALS Annual Partners Meeting, EQUALS Global Partnership (Geneva). 21 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.equals.org/single-post/2019/09/21/Press-Release-EQUALS-Annual-Partners-Meeting>.

¹⁰²⁴ EQUALS Partnership Meeting, New York, eskills4girls (Bonn). 21 September 2019. Access Date : 19 December 2019. <https://www.eskills4girls.org/discover/activities/>.

¹⁰²⁵ Press Release: EQUALS Annual Partners Meeting, EQUALS Global Partnership (Geneva). 21 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.equals.org/single-post/2019/09/21/Press-Release-EQUALS-Annual-Partners-Meeting>.

¹⁰²⁶ Press Release: EQUALS Annual Partners Meeting, EQUALS Global Partnership (Geneva). 21 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.equals.org/single-post/2019/09/21/Press-Release-EQUALS-Annual-Partners-Meeting>.

¹⁰²⁷ Press Release: EQUALS Annual Partners Meeting, EQUALS Global Partnership (Geneva). 21 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.equals.org/single-post/2019/09/21/Press-Release-EQUALS-Annual-Partners-Meeting>.

¹⁰²⁸ Press Release: EQUALS Annual Partners Meeting, EQUALS Global Partnership (Geneva). 21 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.equals.org/single-post/2019/09/21/Press-Release-EQUALS-Annual-Partners-Meeting>.

¹⁰²⁹ Press Release: EQUALS Annual Partners Meeting, EQUALS Global Partnership (Geneva). 21 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.equals.org/single-post/2019/09/21/Press-Release-EQUALS-Annual-Partners-Meeting>.

¹⁰³⁰ SAP Africa Code Week 2019, eskills4girls (Bonn). 16 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.eskills4girls.org/discover/activities/>.

from the #eSkills4Girls network will conduct the workshops and reach approximately 11,000 young women and girls.¹⁰³¹

On 23 October 2019, GIZ members from Cameroon and Mozambique, tech leader Nnenna Nwakanma from the Web Foundation, and the BMZ hosted an #eSkills4Girls pre-conference workshop in Abidjan.¹⁰³² The interactive workshop design based on a country-specific problem allows participants to develop ideas which strengthen digital skill building for girls and women, as well as to discuss potential project implementation ideas.¹⁰³³

On 31 October 2019, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research issued guidance for promoting regional clusters and improving framework structures for STEM education for adolescents, with particular attention to be paid to the promotion of girls and young women and young people between the ages of 10 and 16.¹⁰³⁴

On 18 November 2019, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research launched a new funding competition to strengthen STEM education offers for young people between the ages of 10 and 16 years old nationwide.¹⁰³⁵

On 25 March 2020, the national Girls' Day initiative presented a wide range of professions and activities related to tech, science, and IT for girls ten years old and up through digital platforms.¹⁰³⁶ It is funded by the Federal Ministry for Education and Research, and the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, as well as through collaboration with participating companies.¹⁰³⁷

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to endeavour to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity, and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to STEM. By leading initiatives to promote equity in access to STEM specific knowledge and education for women and girls in developing nations as well as within its own country, Germany has demonstrated its efforts to increase equality and access for women and girls in these fields.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Hoore Jannat

Italy: -1

Italy has failed to comply with its commitment to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity, and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

¹⁰³¹ SAP Africa Code Week 2019, eskills4girls (Bonn). 16 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.eskills4girls.org/discover/activities/>.

¹⁰³² eLearning Africa Workshop on #eSkills4Girls, eskills4girls (Bonn). 23 October 2019. Access Date : 19 December 2019. <https://www.eskills4girls.org/discover/activities/>.

¹⁰³³ eLearning Africa Workshop on #eSkills4Girls, eskills4girls (Bonn). 23 October 2019. Access Date : 19 December 2019. <https://www.eskills4girls.org/discover/activities/>.

¹⁰³⁴ "Richtlinie zur Förderung regionaler Cluster für die MINT-Bildung von Jugendlichen (MINT-Bildung für Jugendliche)," 31 October 2019. Access Date: 12 June 2020. <https://www.bmbf.de/foerderungen/bekanntmachung-2701.html>.

¹⁰³⁵ "MINT education for young people" competition starts (Bielefeld). 18 November 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.girls-day.de/aktuelles/girls-day/wettbewerb-mint-bildung-fuer-jugendliche>.

¹⁰³⁶ Girls'Day digital 2020 (Bielefeld). 25 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.girls-day.de/aktuelles/girls-day/girls-day-digital>.

¹⁰³⁷ Girls'Day digital 2020 (Bielefeld). 25 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.girls-day.de/aktuelles/girls-day/girls-day-digital>.

On 9 December 2019, Italy, along with Canada and Sweden, co-led the International Clean Energy Education Empowerment (C3E) Initiative's Women in Energy event, to "advocate for the recruitment, retention, and advancement of women in the energy sector."¹⁰³⁸ The Initiative acknowledges that it is "impossible to address the future of energy without highlighting the importance of engaging the talents of the entire energy workforce,"¹⁰³⁹ which includes women, who have been "historically left behind in the energy sector."¹⁰⁴⁰

Although Italy has jointly made initiatives with Canada and Sweden to promote opportunities for women, Italy has not taken any actions or made any collaborative commitments to support developing countries in promoting inclusion, equity and access to education, including access to STEM education, for girls and women.

Thus, Italy receives a score of -1.¹⁰⁴¹

Analyst: Mingyang (Charles) Deng

Japan: -1

Japan has failed to comply with its commitment to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity, and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Japan has not taken any actions or made any collaborative commitments to support developing countries in promoting inclusion, equity and access to education, including access to STEM education, for girls and women.

Thus, Japan receives a score of -1.¹⁰⁴²

Analyst: Devon Brenner

¹⁰³⁸ IEA Ministerial C3E Side Event 2019, Office of International Affairs of U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/ia/articles/iea-ministerial-c3e-side-event-2019-0>.

¹⁰³⁹ IEA Ministerial C3E Side Event 2019, Office of International Affairs of U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/ia/articles/iea-ministerial-c3e-side-event-2019-0>.

¹⁰⁴⁰ IEA Ministerial C3E Side Event 2019, Office of International Affairs of U.S. Department of Energy (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.energy.gov/ia/articles/iea-ministerial-c3e-side-event-2019-0>.

¹⁰⁴¹ Non-compliance was determined after reviewing the following websites: <https://www.bbc.com>, <https://www.nytimes.com>, <https://governo.it>, <https://en.camera.it/>, <https://www.esteri.it/mae/en>, <https://www.un.org>, <https://www.unesco.org/>, <https://www.unep.org/>, <http://www.oecd.org/>, <https://www.oecd.org/italy/governmentofitalyusefullinks.htm>, <https://www.cnel.it/Chi-Siamo/English-version>, <https://www.aljazeera.com/>, <https://www.reuters.com/>, <https://www.ap.org/en-us/>, <https://www.thelocal.it/>, and www.ansa.it.

¹⁰⁴² Non-compliance was determined after reviewing the following websites: <https://www.mofa.go.jp/>, <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/>, <https://www.nytimes.com/>, <https://asia.nikkei.com/>, <https://www.bbc.com/news>, <https://www.huffpost.com/>, <https://japan.kantei.go.jp/>, <https://www.japan.go.jp/>, <https://www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/index-e.html>, <https://www.mofa.go.jp>, <https://www.ipa.go.jp/>, <http://www.yomiuri.com.hp/index-e.htm>, <https://www.un.org/>, <https://www.unesco.org/>, <https://www.unep.org/>, <https://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/Documents.center/forstats.html>, <https://www.politicalresources.net/>, <https://www.polisci.com/almanac/almanac.htm>.

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to endeavor to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

On 25 August 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced that the UK would contribute GBP90 million to Education Cannot Wait, a global fund for education in emergency and conflict areas.¹⁰⁴³ The additional funding is estimated to help 600,000 children get an education.¹⁰⁴⁴ The funding was reconfirmed on 25 September 2019 at the “Leave No One Behind: Accelerating the SDGs [Sustainable Development Goals] Through Quality Education” event held at UNICEF during the annual UN General Assembly.¹⁰⁴⁵ The funds will help the organization assist children deprived of education due to humanitarian crises such as “armed conflicts, forced displacements, natural disasters, and protracted crises.”¹⁰⁴⁶ The Fund and its partners seek to “mobilize US\$1.8 billion by 2021 to reach 9 million children and youth.”¹⁰⁴⁷

On 25 August 2019, International Development Minister Alok Sharma announced a funding increase of GBP30 million for the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa programme.¹⁰⁴⁸ This increase in funding is a part of the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative of the Department for International Development (DFID), and is intended to incentivize African banks to lend to women by reducing lending costs and providing business training to female entrepreneurs.¹⁰⁴⁹

On 24 September 2019, Minister of State for the Commonwealth, the United Nations and South Asia Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon spoke at the United Nations General Assembly SDG summit, and announced an additional GBP515 million in funding for children’s education projects.¹⁰⁵⁰ GBP215 million will go toward a new education quality programme in Africa which focuses on marginalised girls.¹⁰⁵¹ The remaining GBP300 million will be invested in the International Finance Facility for

¹⁰⁴³ Press Release: PM offers education lifeline to 600,000 children living in conflict, Department for International Development (London) 25 August 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-offers-education-lifeline-to-600000-children-living-in-conflict>.

¹⁰⁴⁴ Press Release: PM offers education lifeline to 600,000 children living in conflict, Department for International Development (London) 25 August 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-offers-education-lifeline-to-600000-children-living-in-conflict>.

¹⁰⁴⁵ World Leaders Pledge a Record US\$216 million to Education Cannot Wait during United Nations General Assembly, Education Cannot Wait (New York) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019 <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/unga-2019-pledges/>.

¹⁰⁴⁶ World Leaders Pledge a Record US\$216 million to Education Cannot Wait during United Nations General Assembly, Education Cannot Wait (New York) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019 <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/unga-2019-pledges/>.

¹⁰⁴⁷ World Leaders Pledge a Record US\$216 million to Education Cannot Wait during United Nations General Assembly, Education Cannot Wait (New York) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019 <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/unga-2019-pledges/>.

¹⁰⁴⁸ Press Release: UK aid to break down barriers for female entrepreneurs in Africa, Department for International Development (London) 25 August 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-break-down-barriers-for-female-entrepreneurs-in-africa>.

¹⁰⁴⁹ Press Release: UK aid to break down barriers for female entrepreneurs in Africa, Department for International Development (London) 25 August 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-break-down-barriers-for-female-entrepreneurs-in-africa>.

¹⁰⁵⁰ Speech: Delivering Sustainable Development Goals at home and abroad matters to us all: Lord Ahmad's statement, Minister Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon at the United Nations General Assembly Sustainable Development Goals summit (New York City) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/delivering-on-all-the-sdgs-both-home-and-abroad-matters-to-us-all>.

¹⁰⁵¹ Accelerated Action Description: A £515m package for education, Partnerships for SDGs Online Platform (New York City) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnership/?p=33981>.

Education, a new financing facility that will work with donors to mobilise an additional USD5 billion of financial support to education projects in lower-and middle-income countries.¹⁰⁵²

On 7 October 2019, as part of its ongoing UK Aid Match program, the DFID announced that it would match all donations made to Street Child's Mind the Gap! initiative before January 4, up to GBP2 million.¹⁰⁵³ Street Child is a British charity that aims to create educational opportunity for the most vulnerable children in Africa and Asia, focusing in particular on the empowerment of girls.¹⁰⁵⁴

On 11 October 2019, the British Embassy in Caracas announced that the UK would be funding the She Plays Safe project as part of the #LeaveNoGirlBehind campaign.¹⁰⁵⁵ The #LeaveNoGirlBehind campaign advocates for 12 years of quality education for girls, and aims to empower and educate girls worldwide to "find, respect and embrace their voices, talents and unique potential."¹⁰⁵⁶ The new funding will go toward the operation of football and rugby clinics for female Venezuelan athletes from low-income communities.¹⁰⁵⁷ In addition to athletics, the clinics focus on promoting effective communication skills, career planning, and female leadership and empowerment.¹⁰⁵⁸

On 11 October 2019, Minister for the Middle East Andrew Murrison announced that the UK would provide GBP2 million to the No Lost Generation initiative.¹⁰⁵⁹ The No Lost Generation initiative supports the delivery of non-formal education and protection for vulnerable out of school refugee children, focusing on at risk girls and boys.¹⁰⁶⁰ This additional funding is expected to benefit 7,000 Syrian and Lebanese children by improving access to quality education, and also through the creation of jobs.¹⁰⁶¹

On 21 October 2019, Minister Sharma at the World Bank Annual Meeting said that more funding from the UK to the World Bank's concessional loan facility for the world's least-developed countries would be contingent on a more focused anti-poverty approach.¹⁰⁶² Among other anti-poverty

¹⁰⁵² Accelerated Action Description: A £515m package for education, Partnerships for SDGs Online Platform (New York City) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019.

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnership/?p=33981>.

¹⁰⁵³ Tweet, Department for International Development (London) 7 October 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019.

https://twitter.com/DFID_UK/status/1181208258587090944.

¹⁰⁵⁴ Street Child Calls on British Public to 'Mind The Gap', Street Child (London) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.street-child.co.uk/mind-the-gap>.

¹⁰⁵⁵ She Plays Safe: a #LeaveNoGirlBehind project in Venezuela, British Embassy Caracas (Caracas) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/she-plays-safe-a-leavenogirlbehind-project-in-venezuela>.

¹⁰⁵⁶ About Us, Leave No Girl Behind International (International). Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.leavenogirlbehind.org/about-us/>.

¹⁰⁵⁷ She Plays Safe: a #LeaveNoGirlBehind project in Venezuela, British Embassy Caracas (Caracas) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/she-plays-safe-a-leavenogirlbehind-project-in-venezuela>.

¹⁰⁵⁸ She Plays Safe: a #LeaveNoGirlBehind project in Venezuela, British Embassy Caracas (Caracas) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/she-plays-safe-a-leavenogirlbehind-project-in-venezuela>.

¹⁰⁵⁹ Press Release: UK aid to provide education and jobs to thousands of Syrian refugees, Department for International Development (London) 12 October 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-provide-education-and-jobs-to-thousands-of-syrian-refugees>

¹⁰⁶⁰ Lebanon No Lost Generation Initiative (NLGI), Department for International Development (London) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-GOV-1-300059>.

¹⁰⁶¹ Press Release: UK aid to provide education and jobs to thousands of Syrian refugees, Department for International Development (London) 12 October 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-provide-education-and-jobs-to-thousands-of-syrian-refugees>.

¹⁰⁶² Alok Sharma at the World Bank Annual Meetings, DFID Media Team (London) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://dfidnews.blog.gov.uk/2019/10/21/alok-sharma-at-the-world-bank-annual-meetings/>.

initiatives, he emphasized improving the rights of women and girls, action to ensure girls can go to school, and stronger laws against gender-based violence.¹⁰⁶³

On 15 January 2020, the Government of Tanzania signed a new Global Partnership for Education (GPE) grant of USD112 million which will be directed toward improving the quality of pre-primary, primary and non-formal education, and will be focused in particular on helping girls and children from disadvantaged backgrounds.¹⁰⁶⁴ The GPE is a multi-stakeholder partnership comprised of governments, international organizations, civil society organizations, foundations and the private sector.¹⁰⁶⁵ The UK is presently the largest donor to the Global Partnership for Education.¹⁰⁶⁶

On 16 January 2020, Minister Sharma announced that the UK would be increasing funding for the SheTrades programme by GBP3.5 million, and that the additional funding will go to, among other things, specialized business education for women entrepreneurs in Africa.¹⁰⁶⁷ SheTrades is an initiative of the International Trade Centre that aims to connect women entrepreneurs around the world and provide a unique information-sharing network.¹⁰⁶⁸

On 7 February 2020, the British Embassy in Caracas invited organizations to become project implementers of the 2020-2021 Official Development Assistance programme.¹⁰⁶⁹ The official development assistance programme is the main channel through which the British Embassy finances projects in Venezuela.¹⁰⁷⁰ The Embassy's cooperation objectives for the upcoming year's programme include promoting gender equality, female empowerment; and increasing access to education.¹⁰⁷¹

On 14 February 2020, the British Embassy to Guatemala, together with the Organization for the Development of the Indigenous Maya, concluded a project which aimed to reduce child marriage and adolescent pregnancy in Guatemala through improved access to quality education for girls and women.¹⁰⁷²

¹⁰⁶³ Alok Sharma at the World Bank Annual Meetings, DFID Media Team (London) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://dfidnews.blog.gov.uk/2019/10/21/alok-sharma-at-the-world-bank-annual-meetings/>.

¹⁰⁶⁴ Press Release: Global Partnership for Education boosts support for Tanzania to US\$112 million, Global Partnership for Education (Washington D.C.) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020.

<https://www.globalpartnership.org/news/global-partnership-education-boosts-support-tanzania-us112-million>.

¹⁰⁶⁵ Donor Profile: United Kingdom, Global Partnership for Education (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 11 April 2020.

<https://www.globalpartnership.org/who-we-are/about-gpe/donor-united-kingdom>.

¹⁰⁶⁶ Donor Profile: United Kingdom, Global Partnership for Education (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 11 April 2020.

<https://www.globalpartnership.org/who-we-are/about-gpe/donor-united-kingdom>.

¹⁰⁶⁷ Press Release: UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department for International Development (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>.

¹⁰⁶⁸ Frequently Asked Questions, She Trades Commonwealth (Geneva). Access Date: 11 April 2020.

<https://shetradescommonwealth.converve.io/FAQs.html>,

¹⁰⁶⁹ Press Release: British Embassy Caracas launches 2020-2021 Official Development Assistance programme, British Embassy Caracas (Caracas) 8 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/official-development-assistance-programme-2020-2021-expressions-of-interest>

¹⁰⁷⁰ Press Release: British Embassy Caracas launches 2020-2021 Official Development Assistance programme, British Embassy Caracas (Caracas) 8 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/official-development-assistance-programme-2020-2021-expressions-of-interest>

¹⁰⁷¹ Press Release: British Embassy Caracas launches 2020-2021 Official Development Assistance programme, British Embassy Caracas (Caracas) 8 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/official-development-assistance-programme-2020-2021-expressions-of-interest>

¹⁰⁷² Press Release: British Embassy improves equality for girls and women in Sololá, British Embassy Guatemala City (Guatemala City) 14 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-embassy-improves-equality-for-girls-and-women-in-solola>

On 25 February 2020, at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, the UK launched a report by the Research for Equitable Access and Learning Centre at the University of Cambridge on the role of global political leadership for achieving 12 years of quality education for all girls.¹⁰⁷³ The report outlines recommendations on how political leadership can be leveraged to achieve 12 years of quality education for all girls around the world.¹⁰⁷⁴

On 3 March 2020, Secretary of State for International Development Anne-Marie Trevelyan announced an additional GBP89 million in funding toward the UK's humanitarian assistance in Syria in light of escalating violence in the region.¹⁰⁷⁵ Among other things, this additional funding will be directed toward emergency access to education facilities where children and their families can be protected and supported.¹⁰⁷⁶

On 5 March 2020, Prime Minister Johnson appointed Baroness Liz Sugg as the Special Envoy for Girls' Education.¹⁰⁷⁷ Special Envoy for Girls' Education is a new role which, according to Prime Minister Johnson, will help accelerate progress toward getting more girls in the world's poorest countries into schools and benefitting from quality education.¹⁰⁷⁸

On 1 April 2020, GPE announced that it would be immediately donating USD250 million for the educational needs of the world's most vulnerable children, focusing in particular on girls, facing disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁰⁷⁹ The Global Partnership for Education is a multi-stakeholder partnership composed of governments, international organizations, civil society organizations, foundations and the private sector.¹⁰⁸⁰ The UK is presently the largest donor to the GPE.¹⁰⁸¹

On 4 April 2020, Education Cannot Wait, a global fund for education during emergencies, announced a series of grants totalling USD23 million that will go toward providing essential

¹⁰⁷³ Press Release: New Report: Transformative Political Leadership for Girls' Education, United Nations Girls' Education Initiative (Geneva) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://ln gb.ungei.org/new-report-transformative-political-leadership-for-girls-education>

¹⁰⁷⁴ Press Release: New Report: Transformative Political Leadership for Girls' Education, United Nations Girls' Education Initiative (Geneva) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://ln gb.ungei.org/new-report-transformative-political-leadership-for-girls-education>

¹⁰⁷⁵ Press Release: UK aid protects victims of violence as Syrian regime increases attacks in Idlib, Department for International Development (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-protects-victims-of-violence-as-syrian-regime-increases-attacks-in-idlib>

¹⁰⁷⁶ Press Release: UK aid protects victims of violence as Syrian regime increases attacks in Idlib, Department for International Development (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-protects-victims-of-violence-as-syrian-regime-increases-attacks-in-idlib>

¹⁰⁷⁷ Press Release: PM appoints new Special Envoy for Girls' Education ahead of International Women's Day, Prime Minister's Office (London) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-appoints-new-special-envoy-for-girls-education-ahead-of-international-womens-day>

¹⁰⁷⁸ Press Release: PM appoints new Special Envoy for Girls' Education ahead of International Women's Day, Prime Minister's Office (London) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-appoints-new-special-envoy-for-girls-education-ahead-of-international-womens-day>

¹⁰⁷⁹ News Release: Global Partnership for Education announces US\$250 million for developing countries battling COVID-19, Global Partnership for Education (Washington D.C.) 1 April 2020. Access Date 11 April 2020. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/news/global-partnership-education-announces-us250-million-developing-countries-battling-covid-19>

¹⁰⁸⁰ Donor Profile: United Kingdom, Global Partnership for Education (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/who-we-are/about-gpe/donor-united-kingdom>

¹⁰⁸¹ Donor Profile: United Kingdom, Global Partnership for Education (Washington D.C.). Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.globalpartnership.org/who-we-are/about-gpe/donor-united-kingdom>

education services to vulnerable girls and boys facing the COVID-19 pandemic in significantly affected countries.¹⁰⁸² The UK is presently Education Cannot Wait's largest donor.¹⁰⁸³

On 13 April 2020, as part of the UK's the broader GBP200 million COVID-19 response, DFID announced an additional GBP5 million in funding to Education Cannot Wait.¹⁰⁸⁴ The additional funding is expected to address critical education needs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing on the needs of girls in particular.¹⁰⁸⁵

Although the UK has continued to increase its funding commitments toward promoting inclusion and access to quality education for women and girls, including making effort to addressing critical and emergency education needs in the face of the COVID-19 crisis, the UK has not taken any action or collaborative commitments with developing countries to demonstrate its endeavours to promote access to STEM for women and girls.

Thus, the UK receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Tenzing Gaphel Kongtsa

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with the commitment to work with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity and access to quality education for girls and women, including access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

On 20 November 2019, the White House released a press statement announcing the doubling of funding for the Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative Fund (W-GDP) from an initial USD50 million in fiscal year 2018 to USD100 million in fiscal year 2019.¹⁰⁸⁶ In the same month the USA, under the W-GDP initiative, partnered with the global SERVIR network to close the gap between higher education, employment and advancement of women in STEM.¹⁰⁸⁷ A second round of the W-GDP Women Connect Challenge was launched in the same month as well with USD2 million in funding to close the gender digital divide in developing countries.¹⁰⁸⁸ President Donald Trump further highlighted the commitment of the US government to empowering women in the developing world through education by stating "W-GDP is the first-ever whole of government approach to women's economic empowerment. Today's new announcements reflect how W-GDP is

¹⁰⁸² Press Release: Education Cannot Wait Releases US\$23 Million in 24 Hours in Emergency Grants to The COVID-19 Humanitarian Response (New York City) 4 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/covid-fer-2/>

¹⁰⁸³ Press Release: Education Cannot Wait Releases US\$23 Million in 24 Hours in Emergency Grants to The COVID-19 Humanitarian Response (New York City) 4 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/covid-fer-2/>

¹⁰⁸⁴ Press Release: United Kingdom Announces £5 Million In Additional Funding For Education Cannot Wait's Education in Emergency Response To COVID-19 (New York City) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/uk-covid19/>

¹⁰⁸⁵ Press Release: United Kingdom Announces £5 Million In Additional Funding For Education Cannot Wait's Education in Emergency Response To COVID-19 (New York City) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/uk-covid19/>

¹⁰⁸⁶ Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative Fund Increases to \$100 Million in its First Year and Launches New Partnerships, USAID 20 November 2019. Access date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/w-gdp/fact-sheet/nov-2019-womens-global-development-and-prosperity-w-gdp-initiative-fund-increases-100-million>

¹⁰⁸⁷ Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Annual Report 2019-2020, White House 12 February 2020. Access date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/WGDP-2019-Annual-Report-02102020.pdf>

¹⁰⁸⁸ Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Annual Report 2019-2020, White House 12 February 2020. Access date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/WGDP-2019-Annual-Report-02102020.pdf>

prioritizing partnering with the private sector and driving collaboration for major impact! Together we will reach our goal of empowering 50 million women by 2025.”¹⁰⁸⁹

On 25 September 2019, the United States pledged USD13 million to the charity Education Cannot Wait in an attempt to expand access to inclusive quality education for girls and boys caught up in the world’s worst humanitarian crisis.¹⁰⁹⁰

On 28 October 2019, Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick and Senator Joaquin Castro introduced the Global Child Thrive Act.¹⁰⁹¹ Senator Castro reaffirmed the US’s commitment to early childhood education in the developing world reflected in his statement “Our bill directs relevant federal departments and agencies to incorporate early childhood development into their work and builds on existing interagency collaboration.”¹⁰⁹²

The United States has demonstrated its willingness to make effort to promoting inclusion and access to quality education for women and girls by reaffirming and increasing its funding commitments to help address inequalities in education and access to primary education for girls and women. However, the United States has not taken any action or collaborative commitments with developing countries to promote access to STEM specifically.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Paras Kapoor

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to endeavour to work together with developing countries to promote inclusion, equity, and access of girls and women to quality education, including access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

On 11 September 2019, the EU released the 2018 Annual Implementation Report of The Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations 2016-2020 (GAP II).¹⁰⁹³ GAP II stresses the need for the full realization of women’s and girls’ full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.¹⁰⁹⁴ The report monitors progress achieved by means of a comprehensive set of actions taken by the European Commission, the European External Action Services, EU Delegations and EU Member States, while underlining

¹⁰⁸⁹ Ivanka Trump announces \$50M for women's global development fund, FOX Business 18 November 2019. Access date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.foxbusiness.com/money/ivanka-trump-w-gdp-developing-countries>

¹⁰⁹⁰ World Leaders Pledge a Record US\$216 million to Education Cannot Wait during United Nations General Assembly, Education Cannot Wait 25 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/unga-2019-pledges/>

¹⁰⁹¹ World Leaders Pledge a Record US\$216 million to Education Cannot Wait during United Nations General Assembly, Education Cannot Wait 25 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/unga-2019-pledges/>

¹⁰⁹² Fitzpatrick, Castro Statement on Global Child Thrive Act Markup, Brian Fitzpatrick’s website 19th December 2019. Access date: 20th December 2019. <https://fitzpatrick.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/fitzpatrick-castro-statement-global-child-thrive-act-markup>

¹⁰⁹³ EU Gender Action Plan II Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations 2016-2020, International Cooperation and Development - European Commission (Brussels) 11 September 2019. . Access date: 3 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/eu-gender-action-plan-ii-gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment-transforming-lives-girls-and-women_en.

¹⁰⁹⁴ EU Gender Action Plan 2016-2020, Capacity4dev (Brussels) 31 July 2017. Date accessed December 18, 2019. <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/public-gender/minisite/eu-gender-action-plan-2016-2020>.

the remaining challenges still to be addressed to meet the GAP II's objectives and ways to move forward for the year of 2019.¹⁰⁹⁵

On 4 October 2019, the EU issued a statement delivered by First Secretary, European Union Delegation to the United Nations Julien Bourtembourg, at the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly Third Committee Item 26: Advancement of Women.¹⁰⁹⁶ The statement was a way to “demonstrate achievements and accountability, and also identify gaps that remain.”¹⁰⁹⁷ The European Union stated that no single country is on track to achieve gender equality by 2030. They also stated their future goal to expand gender equality to the international community.¹⁰⁹⁸

On 10 November 2019, the EU provided school infrastructure support to the Somaliland Ministry of Education and Science at a ceremony held in Mandheera, Sahil region.¹⁰⁹⁹ This consisted of 10 new schools, 65 new classrooms, 30 renovated classrooms and school furniture. About 10.000 children (50 per cent girls) in Somaliland will have access to expanded quality education through improved learning environment.¹¹⁰⁰

On 5 March 2020, the EU presented the Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025.¹¹⁰¹ This document delivers on policy objectives and actions to make significant progress by 2025 toward a gender-equal Europe.¹¹⁰² The key objectives are ending gender-based violence; challenging gender stereotypes; closing gender gaps in the labour market; achieving equal participation across different sectors of the economy; addressing the gender pay and pension gaps; closing the gender care gap and achieving gender balance in decision-making and in politics.¹¹⁰³ Within this document is the Digital Education Action Plan and the Updated Skills Agenda for Europe, which will help address inequality in STEM graduates amidst the rapid transformation and digitization of the economy and the labour market.¹¹⁰⁴

¹⁰⁹⁵ 2018 Annual Implementation Report of GAP II, Capacity4dev (Brussels) 21 November 2019. Date accessed: December 18, 2019. <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/public-gender/documents/2018-annual-implementation-report-gap-ii>.

¹⁰⁹⁶ EU Statement – United Nations 3rd Committee: Advancement of Women, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations (New York) 4 October 2019. Date Accessed December 18, 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/68416/eu-statement—united-nations-3rd-committee-advancement-women_en.

¹⁰⁹⁷ EU Statement – United Nations 3rd Committee: Advancement of Women, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations (New York) 4 October 2019. Date Accessed December 18, 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/68416/eu-statement—united-nations-3rd-committee-advancement-women_en.

¹⁰⁹⁸ EU Statement – United Nations 3rd Committee: Advancement of Women, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations (New York) 4 October 2019. Date Accessed December 18, 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/68416/eu-statement—united-nations-3rd-committee-advancement-women_en.

¹⁰⁹⁹ School Infrastructure Boost, the European Union Hands over New Schools and Classrooms in Somaliland, European Union External Action (Mogadishu) 10 November 2019. Date accessed December 19, 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/70190/school-infrastructure-boost-european-union-hands-over-new-schools-and-classrooms-somaliland_en.

¹¹⁰⁰ School Infrastructure Boost, the European Union Hands over New Schools and Classrooms in Somaliland, European Union External Action (Mogadishu) 10 November 2019. Date accessed December 19, 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/70190/school-infrastructure-boost-european-union-hands-over-new-schools-and-classrooms-somaliland_en.

¹¹⁰¹ “Gender Equality Strategy.” European Commission - European Commission, March 6, 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality/gender-equality-strategy_en.

¹¹⁰² “Gender Equality Strategy.” European Commission - European Commission, March 6, 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality/gender-equality-strategy_en.

¹¹⁰³ “Gender Equality Strategy.” European Commission - European Commission, March 6, 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality/gender-equality-strategy_en.

¹¹⁰⁴ A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, Accessed April 12, 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0152&from=EN>.

This will be accomplished through horizontal segregation, stereotyping and gender gaps in education and training.¹¹⁰⁵

The European Union has continued to increase its funding commitments toward promoting inclusion, access, and equity to quality education for women and girls. By providing infrastructure in developing countries, the UK has helped increase access to quality education for women and girls, however, the European Union has not taken any action or collaborative commitments with developing nations to promote access to STEM specifically.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Eisha Khan

¹¹⁰⁵ A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, Accessed April 12, 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0152&from=EN>.

8. Regional Security: Iran

“[We share an objective] to foster peace and stability in the region.”

G7 Biarritz Leaders' Declaration

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.75 (88%)		

Background

The case of Iran's nuclear ambitions has become a preeminent security issue for the global community. While Iran has consistently insisted its nuclear Programme is peaceful, suspicions led the United Nations Security Council, European Union, and United States to impose wide ranging sanctions in 2010. However, in 2015, Iran reached a deal with the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Russia, France, and China that would limit Iran's enrichment of uranium and allow international inspections in return for sanctions relief. In May 2018, President Donald Trump pulled the United States out of the deal and reinstated sanctions. In return, Iran stopped abiding by their commitments and as of 1 July 2019, the International Energy Agency confirmed Iran exceeded the 300kg (660lb) limit on its stockpile of enriched uranium.¹¹⁰⁶ Iran has also been accused of building up a network of non-state alliances that have partaken in violent conflicts throughout Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen.¹¹⁰⁷

The G7 has for decades focused on Iran as both a potential nuclear and security threat, in turn taking various steps to promote peace and stability throughout the region. At the 2003 Evian Summit, then G8 members recognized the growing danger of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and highlighted the need for both individual and collective action to tackle the challenge.¹¹⁰⁸ At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 members were united in their determination to “see the proliferation implications of Iran's advanced nuclear program resolved” in compliance with its obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.¹¹⁰⁹ Then in 2007, G8 leaders reiterated their commitment to resolving “the proliferation concerns posed by Iran's nuclear programme.”¹¹¹⁰

¹¹⁰⁶ Iran nuclear crisis in 300 words, BBC (London) 5 September 2019. Access Date: 8 November 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-48201138>.

¹¹⁰⁷ Iran's network of influence in Mid-East 'growing', BBC (London) 7 November 2019. Access Date: 8 November 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-50324912>.

¹¹⁰⁸ Non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction: A G8 Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 8 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/wmd_declaration_en.html.

¹¹⁰⁹ All G7/8 Commitments, 1975 -2012, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) Access Date: 13 October 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/G8_commitments-to-2012.pdf.

¹¹¹⁰ Heiligendamm Statement on Non-Proliferation, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-nonprolif.pdf>.

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders took a more expansive focus on security policy as they “call[ed] on Iran to play a more constructive role in supporting regional security, in particular in Syria, and to reject all acts of terrorism and terrorist groups.”¹¹¹¹

On 2 April 2015, Iran and the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council – the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and China – and the European Union agreed to the Joint Comprehensive Plan for Action, also known as the Iran Nuclear Deal. Iran promised to make drastic cuts to its nuclear programme in return for the lifting of sanctions.¹¹¹²

At the 2015 G7 Elmau Summit, leaders welcomed the agreement and offered continuous support for ensuring Iran’s nuclear ambitions are exclusively peaceful in nature and that Iran does not acquire nuclear weapons. Additionally, leaders urged Iran to respect the human rights of its citizens and to contribute constructively to regional stability.”¹¹¹³

In 2016, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the “full and effective implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).” Additionally, they called on Iran to “play a constructive role in its region and thus contribute to the efforts to achieve political solutions, reconciliation and peace, and cooperate to prevent and counter the spread of terrorism and violent extremism” and “comply with its international human rights obligations.”¹¹¹⁴

However, on 8 May 2019, U.S. President Donald Trump announced that the United States would withdraw from the Iran Nuclear Deal and re-impose sanctions on Iran.¹¹¹⁵

Meanwhile, at the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders committed to “permanently ensuring that Iran’s nuclear program remains peaceful, in line with its international obligations and commitments to never seek, develop or acquire a nuclear weapon.” Furthermore, leaders condemned “all financial support of terrorism including terrorist groups sponsored by Iran” and called “upon Iran to play a constructive role by contributing to efforts to counter terrorism and achieve political solutions, reconciliation and peace in the region.”¹¹¹⁶

Commitment Features

At Biarritz, G7 members highlighted their shared objective to foster peace and stability in the region. Based on historical precedent in relation to Iran, G7 actions toward promoting peace and security in the region have involved the issue areas of nuclear weapons, terrorism, and human rights. “Foster” in this case refers to promoting “the growth or development of.”¹¹¹⁷ The region in this case refers to Iran, its neighboring countries, and countries throughout the area, such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Syria.

¹¹¹¹ Brussels Declaration, G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2015. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

¹¹¹² Iran nuclear deal: negotiators announce 'framework' agreement, The Guardian (Washington D.C.) 3 April 2015. Access Date: 14 October 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/apr/02/iran-nuclear-deal-negotiators-announce-framework-agreement>.

¹¹¹³ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date 14 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

¹¹¹⁴ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration Ise-Shima, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 14 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#iran>.

¹¹¹⁵ Iran nuclear deal: Trump pulls US out in break with Europe allies, BBC (London) 9 May 2018. Access Date: 14 October 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-44045957>.

¹¹¹⁶ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

¹¹¹⁷ Foster, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) Access Date: 14 October 2019. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/foster>.

In terms of these three issue areas, there are many possible actions that can be taken in order to promote peace and security. In terms of terrorism, members can utilize several different mechanisms, such as military force, financial instruments, or political pressure, such as targeted economic sanctions, in order to promote peace and security. In terms of nuclear weapons, members can make efforts toward developing joint comprehensive frameworks, such as JCPOA, in order to promote the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. Finally, in terms of human rights, members can take actions to reduce conditions, such as poverty and inequality, that lead to the growth of conflict levels. All of these actions must involve the aforementioned region, with specific regards to Iran and its neighbours.

Therefore, in order to achieve full compliance, members must make efforts to ending the proliferation of nuclear weapons, combatting terrorism, and promoting human rights. For partial compliance, members must only focus on one or two of these issues. For non-compliance, members must not make any efforts to promoting denuclearization, human rights, and fighting terrorism.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member has NOT made efforts to promote peace and stability throughout the region by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.
0	G7 member has made efforts to promote peace and stability throughout the region in one issue areas by combatting terrorism OR promoting human rights.
+1	G7 member has made efforts to promote peace and stability throughout the region by combatting terrorism AND promoting human rights.

*Compliance Director: David Manocchio
Lead Analyst: Collin Xia*

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 8 November 2019, the Government of Canada called upon Iran to end its human rights abuses as part of the United Nations Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review process.¹¹¹⁸ Canada recommended that Iran revise its Penal Code to reduce the use of the death penalty and end torture in prisons.¹¹¹⁹ Canada expressed its concern over Iran's legal and political discrimination against "women, ethnic and recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, and LGBTI persons."¹¹²⁰

On 26 November 2019, Global Affairs Canada released a statement condemning the violent crackdown on protests and restrictions on communications in Iran.¹¹²¹ The statement condemned

¹¹¹⁸ UPR recommendations for Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 8 November 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/human_rights-droits_homme/upr-epu/iran.aspx?lang=eng.

¹¹¹⁹ UPR recommendations for Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 8 November 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/human_rights-droits_homme/upr-epu/iran.aspx?lang=eng.

¹¹²⁰ UPR recommendations for Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 8 November 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/human_rights-droits_homme/upr-epu/iran.aspx?lang=eng.

¹¹²¹ Statement regarding protests in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/canada-concerned-by-violent-crackdown-on-iranian-protestors.html>.

“threats made by Iranian officials and the deliberate use of excessive force by Iranian security forces.”¹¹²² The Canadian government called on the “Iranian authorities to lift all restrictions on the Internet and mobile services and to ensure that all those arrested have access to fair legal process and procedures.”¹¹²³ Canada expressed its support for Iranians exercising their rights to freedom of expression and assembly.¹¹²⁴

On 28 November 2019, Global Affairs Canada released a statement condemning the escalating violence in Iraq, and reiterated their support for stability, prosperity, security, and the protection of their “human and democratic rights – including the right to protest and freedom of expression.”¹¹²⁵

On 18 December 2019, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution drafted by Canada calling on Iran to stop its human rights abuses, including the detainment of peaceful protestors.¹¹²⁶ The resolution also condemns Iran’s detainment of dual nationals and its violations against ethnic, linguistic, and other minorities and their defenders.¹¹²⁷

On 3 January 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Philippe Champagne commented on the US killing of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani in Iraq.¹¹²⁸ Minister Champagne urged all sides to “exercise restraint and pursue de-escalation” to ensure the stability of Iraq.¹¹²⁹ Minister Champagne remarked that the Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps’ (IRGC) Quds Force, led by Qasem Soleimani has “had a destabilizing effect in the region.”¹¹³⁰

On 25 March 2020, Canada participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference to discuss COVID-19 pandemic, persecution of Rohingya people by Myanmar, and included broader discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.¹¹³¹

¹¹²² Statement regarding protests in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/canada-concerned-by-violent-crackdown-on-iranian-protestors.html>.

¹¹²³ Statement regarding protests in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/canada-concerned-by-violent-crackdown-on-iranian-protestors.html>.

¹¹²⁴ Statement regarding protests in Iran, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/canada-concerned-by-violent-crackdown-on-iranian-protestors.html>.

¹¹²⁵ Canada condemns escalating violence in Iraq, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 5 January 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/canada-condemns-escalating-violence-in-iraq.html>.

¹¹²⁶ UN Adopts Resolution Condemning Iran’s Human Rights Violations, Radio Farda (Prague) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://en.radiofarda.com/a/un-adopts-resolution-condemning-iran-human-rights-violations/30333824.html>.

¹¹²⁷ UN Adopts Resolution Condemning Iran’s Human Rights Violations, Radio Farda (Prague) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://en.radiofarda.com/a/un-adopts-resolution-condemning-iran-human-rights-violations/30333824.html>.

¹¹²⁸ Statement from Minister Champagne following the airstrike carried out by the U.S. on Iranian commander Qasem Soleimani in Iraq, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/statement-from-minister-champagne.html>.

¹¹²⁹ Statement from Minister Champagne following the airstrike carried out by the U.S. on Iranian commander Qasem Soleimani in Iraq, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/statement-from-minister-champagne.html>.

¹¹³⁰ Statement from Minister Champagne following the airstrike carried out by the U.S. on Iranian commander Qasem Soleimani in Iraq, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/statement-from-minister-champagne.html>.

¹¹³¹ Readout: Minister Champagne Participates in G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/200325-champagne.html>.

On 2 April 2020, Canada participated in a virtual meeting of Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which discussed NATO's ongoing commitment to training Iraqi security forces and stabilizing the country.¹¹³² NATO reasserted their commitment to protecting Iraqi sovereignty against Daesh.¹¹³³

On 28 April 2020, the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC), Canada's financial intelligence unit released an advisory reiterating the risks of doing business with individuals and entities connected to Iran.¹¹³⁴ FINTRAC is complying with the Financial Action Task Force's assessment that Iran has failed to adequately criminalize terrorist financing and freeze terrorist assets in line with relevant United Nations resolutions.¹¹³⁵

Through its condemnation of Iranian human rights abuses and its efforts in the United Nations, Canada has demonstrated its commitment to upholding international human rights. However, no specific anti-terrorist commitments for the region has been announced for the current compliance period.

Thus, Canada has received a score of 0.

Analyst: Matthew Remedios

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability throughout Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 1 October 2018, France amended its Monetary and Financial code to include Article D561-51 to "ensure better coordination of the state services and supervisory authorities concerned with the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing" to reduce the capital of terrorist groups in the region.¹¹³⁶

On 28 March 2019, the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted a French resolution on terrorist financing.¹¹³⁷ Resolution 2462 requires that all states "ensure that their laws and regulations make it possible to penalize, as serious criminal offences, the provision or collection of funds, resources and services intended to be used for the benefit of terrorist organizations or

¹¹³² Solidarity of the Alliance members in times of crisis: virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/-/2331226>.

¹¹³³ Solidarity of the Alliance members in times of crisis: virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/-/2331226>.

¹¹³⁴ April 28, 2020 – FINTRAC Advisory: Financial transactions related to countries identified by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca/new-neuf/avs/2020-04-28-eng>.

¹¹³⁵ April 28, 2020 – FINTRAC Advisory: Financial transactions related to countries identified by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca/new-neuf/avs/2020-04-28-eng>.

¹¹³⁶ Code monétaire et financier- Article D561-51, LegiFrance (Paris) 18 April 2018. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichCodeArticle.do?idArticle=LEGIARTI000036824932&cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006072026&dateTexte=20181001>.

¹¹³⁷ Security Council Unanimously Adopts Resolution Calling upon Member States to Combat, Criminalize Financing of Terrorists, Their Activities, United Nations (New York) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13754.doc.htm>.

individual terrorists.”¹¹³⁸ Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian stressed that “the international community must tackle evil at the root and isolate terrorists by drying up their source of financing.”¹¹³⁹

On 31 August 2019, French President Emmanuel Macron had a telephone call with the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Hassan Rohani.¹¹⁴⁰ Macron discussed taking measures to restore peace and security in the region by urging Iran to end fighting and open negotiations in Yemen.¹¹⁴¹ President Macron also insisted Iran exercise restraint in Lebanon to preserve its stability during times of increased tensions.¹¹⁴²

On 23 September 2019, France, the United Kingdom, and Germany released a joint statement condemning Iran sponsored attacks on Saudi Arabian oil facilities on 14 September 2019.¹¹⁴³ The Iran backed Houthi movement claimed responsibility for this attack as part of the ongoing Yemeni civil war.¹¹⁴⁴ France condemned Iran’s terrorist sponsorship and reiterated French commitment to de-escalation of tensions in the region through resumption of negotiations between the United States and Iran.¹¹⁴⁵

On 9 October 2019, France issued new travel advisory for French nationals against travelling to Iran.¹¹⁴⁶ France cited “the arbitrary arrest and detention practices of the Iranian security and intelligence services especially with regard to the contacts of foreign nationals with the population.”¹¹⁴⁷ This action follows Iran’s arrest of French researcher Roland Marchal and his

¹¹³⁸ Security Council Unanimously Adopts Resolution Calling upon Member States to Combat, Criminalize Financing of Terrorists, Their Activities, United Nations (New York) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13754.doc.htm>.

¹¹³⁹ Security Council Unanimously Adopts Resolution Calling upon Member States to Combat, Criminalize Financing of Terrorists, Their Activities, United Nations (New York) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13754.doc.htm>.

¹¹⁴⁰ Entretien téléphonique entre M. le Président de la République et M. Hassan Rohani, Président de la République islamique d’Iran, La France en Iran (Tehran) 2 September 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://ir.ambafrance.org/Entretien-telephonique-entre-M-le-President-de-la-Republique-et-M-Hassan-Rohani>.

¹¹⁴¹ Entretien téléphonique entre M. le Président de la République et M. Hassan Rohani, Président de la République islamique d’Iran, La France en Iran (Tehran) 2 September 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://ir.ambafrance.org/Entretien-telephonique-entre-M-le-President-de-la-Republique-et-M-Hassan-Rohani>.

¹¹⁴² Entretien téléphonique entre M. le Président de la République et M. Hassan Rohani, Président de la République islamique d’Iran, La France en Iran (Tehran) 2 September 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://ir.ambafrance.org/Entretien-telephonique-entre-M-le-President-de-la-Republique-et-M-Hassan-Rohani>.

¹¹⁴³ France committed to maritime security in the Gulf, France in the United Kingdom (Paris) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/France-committed-to-maritime-security-in-the-Gulf>.

¹¹⁴⁴ France committed to maritime security in the Gulf, France in the United Kingdom (Paris) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/France-committed-to-maritime-security-in-the-Gulf>.

¹¹⁴⁵ France committed to maritime security in the Gulf, France in the United Kingdom (Paris) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/France-committed-to-maritime-security-in-the-Gulf>.

¹¹⁴⁶ France demands Iran release two of its citizens held since June, Reuters (Paris) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-iran-france/france-demands-iran-release-two-of-its-citizens-held-since-june-idUSKBN1WU2XZ>.

¹¹⁴⁷ France demands Iran release two of its citizens held since June, Reuters (Paris) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-iran-france/france-demands-iran-release-two-of-its-citizens-held-since-june-idUSKBN1WU2XZ>.

colleague Franco-Iranian Fariba Adelkhah¹¹⁴⁸ France demands their immediate release and seeks to prevent further arbitrary arrests of its nationals by Iranian authorities.¹¹⁴⁹

On 18 November 2019, a Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs Spokesperson stated that France was “closely monitoring the demonstrations currently taking place in several cities in Iran,” and reaffirmed its commitment to the freedom of expression and right to protest.¹¹⁵⁰

On 19 November 2019, French troops aided the sixth Iraqi Infantry Division in the rehabilitation of infrastructure in Iraq following damage caused by Daesh.¹¹⁵¹ The participation in Iraq’s restructuring constitutes a long-term effort to ensure stability in the region, preventing terrorist activities in the future.¹¹⁵²

On 20 November 2019, the Government of France expressed “its deep concern over reports of the deaths of many demonstrators in recent days” and called for Iran to respect international human rights.¹¹⁵³ French foreign ministry spokeswoman Agnes von der Muhll called on Iran to respect its international human rights obligations.¹¹⁵⁴

On 3 December 2019, France condemned “the violence and disproportionate use of force used against the demonstrators” in Iran.¹¹⁵⁵ France urged Iran to comply with “its international human rights obligations, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.”¹¹⁵⁶ France reiterated its commitment to de-escalating tensions in the region and ensuring Iran respects the rights of Iranians to peaceful protest, freedom of expression and free access to communication.¹¹⁵⁷

¹¹⁴⁸ France demands Iran release two of its citizens held since June, Reuters (Paris) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-iran-france/france-demands-iran-release-two-of-its-citizens-held-since-june-idUSKBN1WU2XZ>.

¹¹⁴⁹ France demands Iran release two of its citizens held since June, Reuters (Paris) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-iran-france/france-demands-iran-release-two-of-its-citizens-held-since-june-idUSKBN1WU2XZ>.

¹¹⁵⁰ France is closely monitoring demonstrations in Iran, says Ministry, France in the United Kingdom (Paris) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/France-is-closely-monitoring-demonstrations-in-iran-says-Ministry>.

¹¹⁵¹ Chammal: La Task Force Monsabert soutient de la 6e division irakienne, Ministère des Armées (Paris) 29 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/operations/chammal/breves/chammal-la-task-force-monsabert-en-soutien-de-la-6e-division-irakienne>.

¹¹⁵² Terrorism: France’s International Action, France Diplomatie (Paris) 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/terrorism-france-s-international-action/>.

¹¹⁵³ France says concerned by reports of many deaths in Iran protests, Reuters (Paris) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-gasoline-protests-france/france-says-concerned-by-reports-of-many-deaths-in-iran-protests-idUSKBN1XU1Y8>.

¹¹⁵⁴ France says concerned by reports of many deaths in Iran protests, Reuters (Paris) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-gasoline-protests-france/france-says-concerned-by-reports-of-many-deaths-in-iran-protests-idUSKBN1XU1Y8>.

¹¹⁵⁵ France condemns disproportionate force against protesters in Iran, France in the United Kingdom (Paris) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/France-condemns-disproportionate-force-against-protesters-in-iran>.

¹¹⁵⁶ France condemns disproportionate force against protesters in Iran, France in the United Kingdom (Paris) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/France-condemns-disproportionate-force-against-protesters-in-iran>.

¹¹⁵⁷ France condemns disproportionate force against protesters in Iran, France in the United Kingdom (Paris) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/France-condemns-disproportionate-force-against-protesters-in-iran>.

On 10 December 2019, President Macron called for the release of Fariba Adelkhah and Roland Marchal imprisoned by Iran.¹¹⁵⁸ Macron stated that “their imprisonment is intolerable.”¹¹⁵⁹ They must be freed without delay.”¹¹⁶⁰

On 27 December 2019, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs summoned the Iranian Ambassador to reiterate France’s demand for the release of Fariba Adelkhah and Roland Marchal.¹¹⁶¹ France has deemed their imprisonment as “unacceptable” and affirmed their continued efforts to obtain their release.¹¹⁶²

On 3 January 2020, President Macron called on Iran to refrain from any provocation following the US killing of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani.¹¹⁶³ President Macron further stated that he held talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin to review the situation in Iraq and agreed to stay in contact to avoid further escalation.¹¹⁶⁴

On 6 January 2020, France, Germany, and the United Kingdom released a joint statement condemning Iran’s involvement in the attacks on Iraqi coalition holdings.¹¹⁶⁵ The statement called for Iran “to refrain from further violent action.”¹¹⁶⁶ All three countries reiterated their commitment to stabilizing Iraq and protecting Iraqi sovereignty from Daesh and Iranian backed terrorist organizations.¹¹⁶⁷

On 7 January 2020, President Macron had a phone conversation with the President Rohani of Iran.¹¹⁶⁸ President Macron expressed France’s deep concern over increased tensions in the region

¹¹⁵⁸ Macron calls for immediate release of French nationals held in Iran, Reuters (Paris) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-iran-france/macron-calls-for-immediate-release-of-french-nationals-held-in-iran-idUSKBN1YE2JZ>.

¹¹⁵⁹ Macron calls for immediate release of French nationals held in Iran, Reuters (Paris) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-iran-france/macron-calls-for-immediate-release-of-french-nationals-held-in-iran-idUSKBN1YE2JZ>.

¹¹⁶⁰ Macron calls for immediate release of French nationals held in Iran, Reuters (Paris) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-iran-france/macron-calls-for-immediate-release-of-french-nationals-held-in-iran-idUSKBN1YE2JZ>.

¹¹⁶¹ Situation of Fariba Adelkhah and Roland Marchal – Summoning of Iranian ambassador (27 December 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 27 December 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iran/news/article/situation-of-fariba-adelkhah-and-roland-marchal-summoning-of-iranian-ambassador>.

¹¹⁶² Situation of Fariba Adelkhah and Roland Marchal – Summoning of Iranian ambassador (27 December 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 27 December 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iran/news/article/situation-of-fariba-adelkhah-and-roland-marchal-summoning-of-iranian-ambassador>.

¹¹⁶³ France calls on Iran to refrain from provocation after U.S. air strike, Reuters (Paris) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 4 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iraq-security-blast-france-refrain/france-calls-on-iran-to-refrain-from-provocation-after-u-s-air-strike-idUSKBN1Z21LT>.

¹¹⁶⁴ Iran’s top general Soleimani killed in US strike, CNN (Atlanta) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. https://www.cnn.com/middleeast/live-news/baghdad-airport-strike-live-intl-hnk/h_f6fd9bad0ccadf3bfc9f81246460223a.

¹¹⁶⁵ Joint statement from President Macron, Chancellor Merkel and Prime Minister Johnson on the situation in Iraq, GOV.UK (London) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-president-macron-chancellor-merkel-and-prime-minister-johnson-on-the-situation-in-iraq>.

¹¹⁶⁶ Joint statement from President Macron, Chancellor Merkel and Prime Minister Johnson on the situation in Iraq, GOV.UK (London) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-president-macron-chancellor-merkel-and-prime-minister-johnson-on-the-situation-in-iraq>.

¹¹⁶⁷ Joint statement from President Macron, Chancellor Merkel and Prime Minister Johnson on the situation in Iraq, GOV.UK (London) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-president-macron-chancellor-merkel-and-prime-minister-johnson-on-the-situation-in-iraq>.

¹¹⁶⁸ Conversation between Emmanuel Macron President of the French Republic and Hassan Rouhani President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, France Diplomatie (Paris) 7 January 2020. Access Date: 13 March 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iran/news/article/iran-conversation-between-emmanuel-macron-president-of-the-french-republic-and>.

following the US killing of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani.¹¹⁶⁹ France called on Iran “to refrain from any measure likely to exacerbate the ongoing escalation of tensions” and to release Fariba Adelkhah and Roland Marchal.¹¹⁷⁰

On 16 January 2020, France announced that the Charles de Gaulle aircraft carrier would be deployed from January to April “to support French military operations in the Middle East.”¹¹⁷¹ President Macron reaffirmed that French forces would remain in the fight against Daesh.¹¹⁷²

On 31 January 2020, France announced its continued participation of Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq.¹¹⁷³ The purpose of Operation Inherent Resolve is to work with international organizations “to improve essential services, infrastructure and the development of the local economy.”¹¹⁷⁴ Air Brigade General Stéphane Dupont stressed that “civil-military actions are an integral part of operational planning” in order to achieve long-term stability in the region and a durable defeat of Daesh.¹¹⁷⁵

On 9 February 2020, France condemned an Iranian space launch “which employs ballistic missile technologies.”¹¹⁷⁶ France stressed that “the development of the Iranian ballistic missile program undermines regional stability and affects European security” and that Iran needs to abide by its international obligations.¹¹⁷⁷

On 15 March 2020, France, along with the United Kingdom, Germany, and the United States, issued a joint statement on the ninth anniversary of the Syria uprising.¹¹⁷⁸ The statement condemns violations in international humanitarian law and continued violence by “the reckless military offensive by Assad, Russia, and Iran in Idlib” and asserts that they will demand accountability for the atrocities committed by the Assad regime.¹¹⁷⁹

¹¹⁶⁹ Conversation between Emmanuel Macron President of the French Republic and Hassan Rouhani President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, France Diplomatie (Paris) 7 January 2020. Access Date: 13 March 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iran/news/article/iran-conversation-between-emmanuel-macron-president-of-the-french-republic-and>.

¹¹⁷⁰ Conversation between Emmanuel Macron President of the French Republic and Hassan Rouhani President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, France Diplomatie (Paris) 7 January 2020. Access Date: 13 March 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iran/news/article/iran-conversation-between-emmanuel-macron-president-of-the-french-republic-and>.

¹¹⁷¹ France to deploy Charles de Gaulle aircraft carrier to support Middle East Operations, Middle East Monitor (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20200116-france-to-deploy-charles-de-gaulle-aircraft-carrier-to-support-middle-east-operations/>.

¹¹⁷² France Deploys Only Aircraft Carrier to Anti-IS Mission In Middle East, Radio Free Europe (Prague) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.rferl.org/a/france-deploys-carrier-middle-east-islamic-state/30382245.html>.

¹¹⁷³ Chammal: Au Cœur de la Coalition les actions civilo-militaire, Ministère des Armées (Paris) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/chammal/breves/chammal-au-coeur-de-la-coalition-les-actions-civilo-militaire>.

¹¹⁷⁴ Chammal: Au Cœur de la Coalition les actions civilo-militaire, Ministère des Armées (Paris) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/chammal/breves/chammal-au-coeur-de-la-coalition-les-actions-civilo-militaire>.

¹¹⁷⁵ Chammal: Au Cœur de la Coalition les actions civilo-militaire, Ministère des Armées (Paris) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/chammal/breves/chammal-au-coeur-de-la-coalition-les-actions-civilo-militaire>.

¹¹⁷⁶ Iran – Space/ballistic launch, France Diplomatie (Paris) 9 February 2020. Access Date: 13 March 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iran/news/article/iran-space-ballistic-launch-09-feb-20>.

¹¹⁷⁷ Iran – Space/ballistic launch, France Diplomatie (Paris) 9 February 2020. Access Date: 13 March 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iran/news/article/iran-space-ballistic-launch-09-feb-20>.

¹¹⁷⁸ Ninth anniversary of the Syrian Uprising: joint statement, GOV.UK(London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-on-the-ninth-anniversary-of-the-syrian-uprising>.

¹¹⁷⁹ Ninth anniversary of the Syrian Uprising: joint statement, GOV.UK(London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-on-the-ninth-anniversary-of-the-syrian-uprising>.

On 21 March 2020, President Macron announced the release of Roland Marchal from Iran.¹¹⁸⁰ France exchanged Jalal Ruhollahnejad, an Iranian engineer detained by the French authorities to secure Marchal's release.¹¹⁸¹ President Macron implored Iranian authorities to immediately release Fariba Adelkhah, who is subject to human rights violations in Iran.¹¹⁸²

On 25 March 2020, France participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting by videoconference to discuss COVID-19 pandemic, persecution of Rohingya people by Myanmar, and included broader discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.¹¹⁸³

On 2 April 2020, France participated in a virtual meeting of Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which discussed NATO's ongoing commitment to training Iraqi security forces and stabilizing the country.¹¹⁸⁴ NATO reasserted their commitment to protecting Iraqi sovereignty against Daesh.¹¹⁸⁵

On 6 April 2020, President Macron had a phone conversation with President Rouhani of Iran.¹¹⁸⁶ President Macron reiterated that French national, Fariba Adelkhah, must be released without delay as her imprisonment is a violation of human rights.¹¹⁸⁷

On 27 April 2020, France condemned the execution of two minors in Iran, Shayan Saeedpour and Majid Esmailzadeh.¹¹⁸⁸ France asserts that these executions are against the international convention on the rights of the child, to which Iran is subscribed to.¹¹⁸⁹ France reiterated its opposition to the death penalty and its commitment to the universal abolishment of the "unjust, inhumane" practice.¹¹⁹⁰

¹¹⁸⁰ Iran Released French Academic in Prisoner Swap, The New York Times (New York) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/21/world/middleeast/prisoner-swap-france-iran.html>.

¹¹⁸¹ Libération de M. Roland Marchal, Élysée Palace (Paris) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2020/03/21/liberation-de-m-roland-marchal>.

¹¹⁸² Libération de M. Roland Marchal, Élysée Palace (Paris) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2020/03/21/liberation-de-m-roland-marchal>.

¹¹⁸³ Readout: Minister Champagne Participates in G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/200325-champagne.html>.

¹¹⁸⁴ Solidarity of the Alliance members in times of crisis: virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/-/2331226>.

¹¹⁸⁵ Solidarity of the Alliance members in times of crisis: virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/-/2331226>.

¹¹⁸⁶ Entretien téléphonique entre le Président de la République & M. Hassan Rohani Président de la République islamique d'Iran, Élysée Palace (Paris) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2020/04/07/entretien-telephonique-entre-le-president-de-la-republique-m-hassan-rohani-president-de-la-republique-islamique-diran>.

¹¹⁸⁷ Entretien téléphonique entre le Président de la République & M. Hassan Rohani Président de la République islamique d'Iran, Élysée Palace (Paris) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2020/04/07/entretien-telephonique-entre-le-president-de-la-republique-m-hassan-rohani-president-de-la-republique-islamique-diran>.

¹¹⁸⁸ Exécution de mineurs, Ambassade de France à Téhéran (Paris) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://ir.ambafrance.org/Execution-de-mineurs>.

¹¹⁸⁹ Exécution de mineurs, Ambassade de France à Téhéran (Paris) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://ir.ambafrance.org/Execution-de-mineurs>.

¹¹⁹⁰ Exécution de mineurs, Ambassade de France à Téhéran (Paris) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://ir.ambafrance.org/Execution-de-mineurs>.

On 16 May 2020, the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian condemned the sentencing of Fariba Adelkhah to five years' imprisonment in Iran.¹¹⁹¹ Le Drian claimed the sentencing is political in nature and urges Iranian authorities to release Adelkhah.¹¹⁹²

France has demonstrated efforts to combat terrorism in the region through its diplomatic and military efforts. It continues to monitor and condemn Iranian human rights violations as well as urge the Government of Iran to uphold its international human rights obligations.

Thus, France has received a score of +1.

Analysts: Aiman Akmal and Collin Xia

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 13 September 2019, German Finance Minister Olaf Scholz issued a joint statement with French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire “reaffirm[ing] their willingness to tackle the challenges raised by cryptocurrency and so-called stable coin projects: financial security, investor protection, prevention of money laundering and terrorism financing, data protection and financial and monetary sovereignty” and announced the creation of a G7 working group to assess these challenges.¹¹⁹³ The working group issued their report on 17 October 2019.¹¹⁹⁴

On 23 September 2019, German Chancellor Angela Merkel issued a joint statement with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and French President Emmanuel Macron blaming Iran for Houthi rebel drone attacks on Saudi Aramco oil facilities on 14 September 2019, stating, “we are committed to continuing our diplomatic efforts to create conditions and facilitate dialogue with all relevant partners interested in de-escalation of tensions in the Middle East, in the interest of preserving international peace and security, building upon our joint declaration on 14 July 2019 and G7 conclusions adopted in Biarritz.”¹¹⁹⁵ We urge Iran to engage in such a dialogue and refrain from further provocation and escalation.”¹¹⁹⁶

¹¹⁹¹ Situation of Fariba Adelkhah – Statement by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs (16 May 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 May 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020.

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/our-ministers/jean-yves-le-drian/statements/article/situation-of-fariba-adelkhah-statement-by-m-jean-yves-le-drian-minister-for>.

¹¹⁹² Situation of Fariba Adelkhah – Statement by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs (16 May 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 16 May 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020.

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/our-ministers/jean-yves-le-drian/statements/article/situation-of-fariba-adelkhah-statement-by-m-jean-yves-le-drian-minister-for>.

¹¹⁹³ Joint Statement on Libra, Bundesministerium der Finanzen (Helsinki) 13 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://g8fip1kplyr33r3krz5b97d1-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Joint-statement-on-Libra-final.pdf>.

¹¹⁹⁴ Investigating the Impact of Global Stablecoins, G7 Working Group on Stablecoins (Washington D.C.) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.bis.org/cpmi/publ/d187.pdf>.

¹¹⁹⁵ Iran Bears Responsibility for Saudi Arabia Attacks, Say Leaders, French Embassy in London (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/Iran-bears-responsibility-for-Saudi-Arabia-attacks-say-leaders>.

¹¹⁹⁶ Iran Bears Responsibility for Saudi Arabia Attacks, Say Leaders, French Embassy in London (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/Iran-bears-responsibility-for-Saudi-Arabia-attacks-say-leaders>.

On 27 September 2019, German Interior Minister Horst Seehofer reaffirmed German commitment to German-Afghan police training project, stating, “on the path to achieving permanent peace, security and stable governance, the Afghan government depends on our continued support.”¹¹⁹⁷

On 24 October 2019, at a meeting for Defence Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), German Defence Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer proposed the creation of an internationally controlled safe zone in Northeast Syria in order to stabilize the region.¹¹⁹⁸

On 12 November 2019, German Ambassador to Yemen Carola Muller-Holtkemper expressed support for the Riyadh agreement.¹¹⁹⁹ The agreement seeks to end a power struggle in southern Yemen, stating, “Germany is closely following up developments in Yemen and it will work with the government and the international community to reach full peace in Yemen.”¹²⁰⁰

On 18 November 2019, Ulrike Demmer, spokesperson for Chancellor Merkel, called on Iran to respect protests among Iranian citizens over hikes in gas prices, stating, “We urge the government in Tehran to respect freedom of assembly and expression.”¹²⁰¹

On 19 December 2019, the Bundestag (German Parliament) urged the European Union to recognize the political arm of Iran-backed group Hezbollah as a terrorist group.¹²⁰² Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz praised the resolution as an important step to combating Iranian terrorist activities in the region.¹²⁰³

On 6 January 2020, Germany, France and the United Kingdom released a joint statement condemning Iran’s involvement in the attacks on Iraqi coalition holdings.¹²⁰⁴ The statement called for Iran “to refrain from further violent action.”¹²⁰⁵ All three countries reiterated their commitment to stabilizing Iraq and protecting Iraqi sovereignty from Daesh and Iranian backed terrorist organizations.¹²⁰⁶

¹¹⁹⁷ Federal Government Reaffirms Commitment to Police Training Project in Afghanistan, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community (Kabul) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019.

<https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2019/09/police-training-project-afghanistan.html>.

¹¹⁹⁸ German Defense Minister Sets Out Syria Plan to NATO; Turkey, U.S. Supportive, Al Jazeera (Brussels) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-syria-security-pentagon-nato/german-defense-minister-sets-out-syria-plan-to-nato-turkey-us-supportive-idUSKBN1X30SA>.

¹¹⁹⁹ U.S., Germany Back Yemen Govt. in Implementing Riyadh Agreement, Asharq Al-Awsat (Riyadh) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1989446/us-germany-back-yemen-govt-implementing-riyadh-agreement>.

¹²⁰⁰ U.S., Germany Back Yemen Govt. in Implementing Riyadh Agreement, Asharq Al-Awsat (Riyadh) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1989446/us-germany-back-yemen-govt-implementing-riyadh-agreement>.

¹²⁰¹ Germany Urges Iran to Respect ‘Legitimate’ Protests, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-urges-iran-to-respect-legitimate-protests/a-51295901>.

¹²⁰² German Parliament Calls for Full Ban of Hezbollah Activities, Associated Press (Berlin) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://apnews.com/45c48fdda55ce0d18d2cc03149e08297>.

¹²⁰³ German Parliament Calls for Full Ban of Hezbollah Activities, Associated Press (Berlin) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://apnews.com/45c48fdda55ce0d18d2cc03149e08297>.

¹²⁰⁴ Joint statement from President Macron, Chancellor Merkel and Prime Minister Johnson on the situation in Iraq, GOV.UK (London) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-president-macron-chancellor-merkel-and-prime-minister-johnson-on-the-situation-in-iraq>.

¹²⁰⁵ Joint statement from President Macron, Chancellor Merkel and Prime Minister Johnson on the situation in Iraq, GOV.UK (London) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-president-macron-chancellor-merkel-and-prime-minister-johnson-on-the-situation-in-iraq>.

¹²⁰⁶ Joint statement from President Macron, Chancellor Merkel and Prime Minister Johnson on the situation in Iraq, GOV.UK (London) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-president-macron-chancellor-merkel-and-prime-minister-johnson-on-the-situation-in-iraq>.

On 8 January 2020, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas condemned Iranian attacks on Iraqi military bases hosting coalition troops.¹²⁰⁷ Minister Maas urged Iran refrain from any action that could lead to further escalation.¹²⁰⁸ Minister Mass stated that Germany is in contact with all sides to de-escalate tensions and prevent further violence.¹²⁰⁹

On 31 January 2020, Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid at the Federal Foreign Office Bärbel Kofler issued a statement condemning Iranian religious discrimination against unrecognized religious groups.¹²¹⁰ Commissioner Kofler commented on Iran's discriminatory ID system which excludes unrecognized religious minorities such as Baha'is from accessing basic public services.¹²¹¹ Commissioner Kofler reaffirmed Germany's commitment to campaigning for religious freedom in Iran.¹²¹²

On 27 February 2020, Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid at the Federal Foreign Office Bärbel Kofler issued a statement condemning the execution of three protestors that participated in anti-government protests in November 2019.¹²¹³ Commissioner Kofler calls for the "human rights violations committed during the November 2019 demonstrations to be examined."¹²¹⁴ Commissioner Kofler asserts the right of Iranians to protest freely, access humane detention conditions, and to fair trials under the rule of law.¹²¹⁵

On 15 March 2020, Germany, along with France, the United Kingdom, and the United States, issued a joint statement on the ninth anniversary of the Syria uprising.¹²¹⁶ The statement condemns violations in international humanitarian law and continued violence by "the reckless military offensive by Assad, Russia, and Iran in Idlib" and asserts that they will demand accountability for the atrocities committed by the Assad regime.¹²¹⁷

¹²⁰⁷ Foreign Minister Maas on the Iranian missile attack on Iraqi military bases, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-missile-attack/2291176>.

¹²⁰⁸ Foreign Minister Maas on the Iranian missile attack on Iraqi military bases, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-missile-attack/2291176>.

¹²⁰⁹ Foreign Minister Maas on the Iranian missile attack on Iraqi military bases, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-missile-attack/2291176>.

¹²¹⁰ Statement by Human rights Commissioner Kofler on discrimination against Baha'is and other unrecognised religious groups in Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-bahai/2302334>.

¹²¹¹ Statement by Human rights Commissioner Kofler on discrimination against Baha'is and other unrecognised religious groups in Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-bahai/2302334>.

¹²¹² Statement by Human rights Commissioner Kofler on discrimination against Baha'is and other unrecognised religious groups in Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-bahai/2302334>.

¹²¹³ Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on death penalty for three protestors in Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 27 February 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-iran/2312196>.

¹²¹⁴ Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on death penalty for three protestors in Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 27 February 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-iran/2312196>.

¹²¹⁵ Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on death penalty for three protestors in Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 27 February 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-iran/2312196>.

¹²¹⁶ Ninth anniversary of the Syrian Uprising: joint statement, GOV.UK(London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-on-the-ninth-anniversary-of-the-syrian-uprising>.

¹²¹⁷ Ninth anniversary of the Syrian Uprising: joint statement, GOV.UK(London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-on-the-ninth-anniversary-of-the-syrian-uprising>.

On 25 March 2020, Germany participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting by videoconference to discuss COVID-19 pandemic, persecution of Rohingya people by Myanmar, and included broader discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.¹²¹⁸

On 2 April 2020, Germany participated in a virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting which discussed NATO's ongoing commitment to training Iraqi security forces and stabilizing the country.¹²¹⁹ NATO reasserted their commitment to protecting Iraqi sovereignty against Daesh.¹²²⁰

On 20 April 2020, Germany's Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Assistance Bärbel Kofler issued a statement condemning the execution of Iranian Shayan Saeedpour.¹²²¹ Kofler stated that the execution would be a violation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.¹²²² The German government reasserted its opposition to the death penalty under all circumstances.¹²²³

On 30 April 2020, Germany announced that it has designated the Lebanese militant and political group Hezbollah a terror organization.¹²²⁴ Germany has banned all of its activities in the country and ordered raids on sites linked to the group.¹²²⁵ Germany joins the US and Israel in their efforts to challenge the Iran-backed group's international activities.¹²²⁶

Germany is in full compliance with its G7 commitment to promote peace and stability throughout the region. Germany has committed to combatting terrorism and promoting human rights by issuing several condemnations and engaging in both bilateral and multilateral efforts to promote peace and stability in the region including police training and the establishment of safe zones.

Thus, Germany has received a score of +1.

Analysts: Rachel Zack and Collin Xia

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 30 October 2019, the Italian Civil Aviation Authority announced a ban on flights by Iran's Mahan Air following a meeting between the Italian Foreign Minister and the United States Secretary

¹²¹⁸ Readout: Minister Champagne Participates in G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/200325-champagne.html>.

¹²¹⁹ Solidarity of the Alliance members in times of crisis: virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/-/2331226>.

¹²²⁰ Solidarity of the Alliance members in times of crisis: virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/-/2331226>.

¹²²¹ Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on an imminent execution in Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 20 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-iran-execution/2334032>.

¹²²² Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on an imminent execution in Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 20 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-iran-execution/2334032>.

¹²²³ Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on an imminent execution in Iran, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 20 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-iran-execution/2334032>.

¹²²⁴ Germany bans Lebanese militant group Hezbollah and raids mosques and homes, CNN (Atlanta) 30 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/30/europe/germany-bans-hezbollah-grm-intl/index.html>.

¹²²⁵ Germany bans Lebanese militant group Hezbollah and raids mosques and homes, CNN (Atlanta) 30 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/30/europe/germany-bans-hezbollah-grm-intl/index.html>.

¹²²⁶ Germany bans Lebanese militant group Hezbollah and raids mosques and homes, CNN (Atlanta) 30 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/30/europe/germany-bans-hezbollah-grm-intl/index.html>.

of State.¹²²⁷ The United States has accused the airline of supporting terrorism by transporting military equipment and personnel to war zones in the region.¹²²⁸

On 25 November 2019, the Embassy of Italy in Iran released a statement from the Italian Ministry of Affairs calling for the end of violence against women.¹²²⁹ The statement reaffirms Italy's commitment to the fight against all forms of discrimination and violence against women.¹²³⁰ The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is pursuing both diplomatic and development cooperation.¹²³¹

On 8 January 2020, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation released a statement condemning the Iranian attack on two Iraqi bases hosting coalition soldiers.¹²³² Italy affirmed its commitment to fostering peaceful dialogue in the Gulf region.¹²³³

On 27 January 2020, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Luigi Di Maio spoke with Foreign Minister of Iran Javad Zarif about the need to de-escalate tensions following weeks of regional conflict.¹²³⁴ Minister Di Maio expressed that de-escalation in the region required all parties to commitment to dialogue and political negotiation.¹²³⁵

On 25 March 2020, Italy participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting by videoconference to discuss COVID-19 pandemic, persecution of Rohingya people by Myanmar, and included broader discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.¹²³⁶

On 2 April 2020, Italy participated in a virtual meeting of Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which discussed NATO's ongoing commitment to training Iraqi

¹²²⁷ Italy to ban flights by Iran's Mahan Air from mid-December, Reuters (Dubai) 2 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-iran-sanctions-italy/italy-to-ban-flights-by-irans-mahan-air-from-mid-december-idUSKBN1XC0FV>.

¹²²⁸ Italy to ban flights by Iran's Mahan Air from mid-December, Reuters (Dubai) 2 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-iran-sanctions-italy/italy-to-ban-flights-by-irans-mahan-air-from-mid-december-idUSKBN1XC0FV>.

¹²²⁹ November 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Ambasciata d'Italia Teheran (Tehran) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. https://ambteheran.esteri.it/ambasciata_teheran/it/ambasciata/news/news/2019/11/november-25-international-day-for.html.

¹²³⁰ November 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Ambasciata d'Italia Teheran (Tehran) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. https://ambteheran.esteri.it/ambasciata_teheran/it/ambasciata/news/news/2019/11/november-25-international-day-for.html.

¹²³¹ November 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Ambasciata d'Italia Teheran (Tehran) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 30 November 2019. https://ambteheran.esteri.it/ambasciata_teheran/it/ambasciata/news/news/2019/11/november-25-international-day-for.html.

¹²³² Latest developments in Iraq: attacks on US bases by Iran, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 8 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/ultimi-sviluppi-in-iraq-attacchi-a-basi-usa-da-parte-dell-iran.html.

¹²³³ Latest developments in Iraq: attacks on US bases by Iran, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 8 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/ultimi-sviluppi-in-iraq-attacchi-a-basi-usa-da-parte-dell-iran.html.

¹²³⁴ Minister Di Maio holds talks with the Iranian Foreign Minister, Javad Zarif, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 27 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/01/colloquio-del-ministro-di-maio-con-il-ministro-degli-esteri-iraniano-javad-zarif.html.

¹²³⁵ Minister Di Maio holds talks with the Iranian Foreign Minister, Javad Zarif, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 27 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/01/colloquio-del-ministro-di-maio-con-il-ministro-degli-esteri-iraniano-javad-zarif.html.

¹²³⁶ Readout: Minister Champagne Participates in G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/200325-champagne.html>.

security forces and stabilizing the country.¹²³⁷ NATO reasserted their commitment to protecting Iraqi sovereignty against Daesh.¹²³⁸

Through its anti-terrorist measures and its condemnation of Iranian human rights violations and military actions, Italy has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in the region.

Thus, Italy has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Matthew Remedios

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its Iran commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran.

On 30 August 2019, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stated his desire to promote peace and stability in the Middle East, stating, “peace and stability in the Middle East directly links to Japan’s national interest ... I would like to work tenaciously and play the best possible role to ease tensions in the Middle East.”¹²³⁹

On 5 September 2019, Japan launched talks with the Arab League and the United Nations Development Program with the goal of promoting sustainable development in crisis- and war-torn parts of the region.¹²⁴⁰ Japanese Ambassador to Cairo Masaaki Nuki “expressed delight for launching the platform as a significant contributor to building peace and stability so that the region could flourish.”¹²⁴¹

On 15 September 2019, the Japanese Foreign Ministry issued a statement condemning the 14 September 2019 Houthi rebel drone attacks on Saudi Aramco oil facilities, saying it would engage to ensure peace and stability in the Middle East.¹²⁴²

On 16 September 2019, Japanese Foreign Affairs Minister Toshimitsu Motegi and United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo agreed to cooperate on a number of foreign policy issues including peace and stability in the Middle East, discussing “the need for all nations to ensure safe transit for all through the Strait of Hormuz.”¹²⁴³

¹²³⁷ Solidarity of the Alliance members in times of crisis: virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/-/2331226>.

¹²³⁸ Solidarity of the Alliance members in times of crisis: virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/-/2331226>.

¹²³⁹ Japan PM: Aiming to Do Everything Possible to Ease Mideast Tension, Reuters (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-japan-iran/japan-pm-aiming-to-do-everything-possible-to-ease-middle-east-tension-idUSKCN1VK0IY>.

¹²⁴⁰ Arab League Launches Dialogue with Japan, UNDP, Asharq Al-Awsat (Cairo) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1889906/arab-league-launches-dialogue-japan-undp>.

¹²⁴¹ Arab League Launches Dialogue with Japan, UNDP, Asharq Al-Awsat (Cairo) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1889906/arab-league-launches-dialogue-japan-undp>.

¹²⁴² Saudi Oil Shock Unites China, Japan and Other Asian Rivals Worried about War, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/09/17/asia-pacific/saudi-oil-shock-unites-china-japan-asian-rivals-worried-war/#.Xe9JPuhKJIU>.

¹²⁴³ Japan and U.S. Top Envoys Vow to Cooperate on North Korea and Middle East, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/09/17/national/politics-diplomacy/japan-us-envoys-north-korea-middle-east/#.Xe9JQehKJIU>.

On 18 September 2019, Japanese Defense Minister Taro Kono said Japan had not seen intelligence pointing to Iranian involvement in the 14 September Houthi rebel drone attacks.¹²⁴⁴ Japan also restated that they could not participate in any military retaliation because of constitutional restraints and would instead pursue a diplomatic solution to the current crisis.¹²⁴⁵

On 23 September 2019, Japanese Foreign Affairs Minister Toshimitsu Motegi met with his Iranian counterpart and, in light of Houthi attacks on Saudi oil facilities, the two “candidly exchanged their views, toward relieving tensions and stabilizing the situation in the Middle East.”¹²⁴⁶ Minister Motegi also expressed concern over Iran’s successive suspension of commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and strongly urged Iran to refrain from taking measures that would undermine the JCPOA.¹²⁴⁷

On 24 September 2019, Prime Minister Abe met with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and “asked Iran to play a constructive role toward regional peace and stability and expressed Japan’s intention to fulfill a role in easing tensions and stabilizing the situation.”¹²⁴⁸ The two leaders exchanged views candidly toward easing tensions and stabilizing the situation in the Middle East.”¹²⁴⁹

On 25 September 2019, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told United States President Donald Trump on the sidelines of United Nations meetings, “it is difficult to think” Houthi rebels carried out the attacks on Saudi oil facilities without help.¹²⁵⁰ However, he did not officially link Iran with the attacks.¹²⁵¹

On 24 October 2019, Prime Minister Abe made a courtesy call with Vice President for Legal Affairs for Iran Laya Joneydi to reaffirm his commitment to peace and stability in the region.¹²⁵² Prime Minister Abe stated that Japan will continue to make persistent diplomatic efforts.¹²⁵³

¹²⁴⁴ Japanese Defense Minister: Not Aware of Any Iran Involvement in Saudi Attacks, Al Jazeera (Tokyo) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-aramco-attacks-japan/japan-defense-minister-not-aware-of-any-iran-involvement-in-saudi-attacks-idUSKBN1W30KV>.

¹²⁴⁵ Japanese Defense Minister: Not Aware of Any Iran Involvement in Saudi Attacks, Al Jazeera (Tokyo) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-aramco-attacks-japan/japan-defense-minister-not-aware-of-any-iran-involvement-in-saudi-attacks-idUSKBN1W30KV>.

¹²⁴⁶ Japan-Iran Foreign Ministers Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page6e_000214.html.

¹²⁴⁷ Japan-Iran Foreign Ministers Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page6e_000214.html.

¹²⁴⁸ Japan-Iran Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page3e_001109.html.

¹²⁴⁹ Japan-Iran Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page3e_001109.html.

¹²⁵⁰ Abe Shifts Stance on Saudi Oil Attacks as He and Trump Affirm Cooperation on Middle East, The Japan Times (New York) 26 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/09/26/national/politics-diplomacy/abe-shifts-stance-saudi-oil-attack-trump-affirm-cooperation-middle-east/#.XfANuehKJIU>.

¹²⁵¹ Abe Shifts Stance on Saudi Oil Attacks as He and Trump Affirm Cooperation on Middle East, The Japan Times (New York) 26 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/09/26/national/politics-diplomacy/abe-shifts-stance-saudi-oil-attack-trump-affirm-cooperation-middle-east/#.XfANuehKJIU>.

¹²⁵² Courtesy Call on Prime Minister Shinzo Abe by Joneydi of Vice-President for Legal Affairs of Iran, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page4e_001144.html.

¹²⁵³ Courtesy Call on Prime Minister Shinzo Abe by Joneydi of Vice-President for Legal Affairs of Iran, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/page4e_001144.html.

On 22 November 2019, Japanese Ambassador to the United Nations Koro Bessho voted in favor of United Nations Resolution A/74/L.13 (“The Situation in Afghanistan”), aimed at promoting peace, stability, and development in Afghanistan.¹²⁵⁴

On 20 December 2019, Prime Minister Abe hosted Iranian President Rouhani and stated he “strongly expect[s]” Iran will “play a constructive role for peace and security in the region.”¹²⁵⁵ Additionally, Prime Minister Abe urged Iran to honour the JCPOA and expressed concerns about rising tensions in the region.¹²⁵⁶

On 12 January 2020, Prime Minister Abe visited Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Oman, where he explained the purpose of dispatching the Self-Defense forces to Saudi Arabia and the UAE.¹²⁵⁷ He expressed support for Iran’s proposed Hormuz Peace Endeavor, which hopes to reduce tensions in the region between Iran and Saudi Arabia and the UAE.¹²⁵⁸ Prime Minister Abe affirmed his commitment to regional stability following the killing of General Qassem Soleimani, commander of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps’ Quds Force.¹²⁵⁹

On 15 February 2020, Minister Motegi met with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif.¹²⁶⁰ Japan reaffirmed its commitment to peace and stability in the Middle East and urged Iran “exercise self-restraint” and influence all relevant parties refrain from heightening tensions in the region.¹²⁶¹

On 25 March 2020, Minister Motegi attended a videoconference with other G7 foreign ministers where they reaffirmed their commitment to peace and stability in Afghanistan, Iran, Libya, and Syria.¹²⁶²

On 2 April 2020, Japanese Press Secretary Masato Ohtaka released a press statement condemning an attack on Saudi Arabia by Yemen as reported by Saudi Arabia on 29 March 2020. Press Secretary Ohtaka reaffirmed Japan’s commitment to peace and stability in the Middle East.¹²⁶³ Press Secretary

¹²⁵⁴ The Situation in Afghanistan, United Nations (New York) 22 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://undocs.org/en/A/74/L.13>.

¹²⁵⁵ Iran’s Rouhani Visits Japan Amid Nuclear Deal Impasse, Al Jazeera (Tokyo) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/12/iran-rouhani-visits-japan-nuclear-deal-impasse-191220153826601.html>.

¹²⁵⁶ Iran’s Rouhani Visits Japan Amid Nuclear Deal Impasse, Al Jazeera (Tokyo) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/12/iran-rouhani-visits-japan-nuclear-deal-impasse-191220153826601.html>.

¹²⁵⁷ The US-Iran Crisis and Japan’s Response, The Diplomat (Tokyo) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://thediplomat.com/2020/01/the-u-s-iran-crisis-and-japans-response/>.

¹²⁵⁸ The US-Iran Crisis and Japan’s Response, The Diplomat (Tokyo) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://thediplomat.com/2020/01/the-u-s-iran-crisis-and-japans-response/>.

¹²⁵⁹ The US-Iran Crisis and Japan’s Response, The Diplomat (Tokyo) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://thediplomat.com/2020/01/the-u-s-iran-crisis-and-japans-response/>.

¹²⁶⁰ Japan-Iran Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 15 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/pagee3_000001_00003.html.

¹²⁶¹ Japan-Iran Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 15 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me2/ir/pagee3_000001_00003.html.

¹²⁶² G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press6e_000215.html.

¹²⁶³ The Attack on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002788.html.

Ohtaka called for all legitimate government and anti-government forces to come to an early political solution in Yemen.¹²⁶⁴

Japan has affirmed its commitment to peace and stability in the Middle East through diplomatic efforts but has not held Iran accountable for its destabilizing efforts in the region nor demanded Iran respect the human rights of its citizens. Japan has also failed to demonstrate specific anti-terrorism commitments. Therefore, Japan has met some, but not all, of its G7 commitments to uphold peace and stability in the region.

Thus, Japan has received a score of 0.

Analyst: Rachel Zack

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 23 September 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson released a statement with the heads of state of France and Germany, condemning the Iranian attacks on oil facilities on Saudi territory in Abqaiq and Khurais.¹²⁶⁵ The statement reiterates the United Kingdom's commitment to create conditions and facilitate dialogue to condemn state sponsored attacks and de-escalate tension in the Middle East.¹²⁶⁶

On 25 September 2019, the UK Minister of State for the Commonwealth, United Nations and South Asia Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon, raised concern over Iran's human rights record at a United Nations General Assembly 2019 event.¹²⁶⁷ The minister opened the event by saying Iran's recent behaviour moves in the wrong direction in terms of international cooperation, human rights and its commitments to the nuclear deal.¹²⁶⁸ Lord Ahmad urged the international community to hold Iran accountable.¹²⁶⁹

On 25 September 2019, the First Secretary of State and Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Dominic Raab spoke in the House of Commons about Iran's violation of international law.¹²⁷⁰ Raab expressed concern over Iran support for the Houthi rebels in Yemen and Iran's "arbitrary detention of dual-nationals."¹²⁷¹

¹²⁶⁴ The Attack on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002788.html.

¹²⁶⁵ Joint statement by the heads of state and government of France, Germany and the United Kingdom, GOV.UK (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 21 November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-by-the-heads-of-state-and-government-of-france-germany-and-the-united-kingdom>.

¹²⁶⁶ Joint statement by the heads of state and government of France, Germany and the United Kingdom, GOV.UK (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 21 November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-by-the-heads-of-state-and-government-of-france-germany-and-the-united-kingdom>.

¹²⁶⁷ UK shines light on Iran's human rights violations, GOV.UK (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 21 November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-shines-spotlight-on-irans-human-rights-violations>.

¹²⁶⁸ UK shines light on Iran's human rights violations, GOV.UK (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 21 November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-shines-spotlight-on-irans-human-rights-violations>.

¹²⁶⁹ UK shines light on Iran's human rights violations, GOV.UK (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 21 November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-shines-spotlight-on-irans-human-rights-violations>.

¹²⁷⁰ Iran's violations of international law: Foreign Secretary's statement, GOV.UK (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretary-statement-on-iran>.

¹²⁷¹ Iran's violations of international law: Foreign Secretary's statement, GOV.UK (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/foreign-secretary-statement-on-iran>.

On 7 November 2019, the UK supported International Maritime Security Construct was formally inaugurated to “supplement longstanding multilateral Gulf naval operations that have targeted smuggling, piracy, the movement of terrorists and weaponry, and other potential threats in the Gulf.”¹²⁷²

On 8 November 2019, UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva Miriam Shearman expressed concern of Iran’s discrimination against religious minorities, particularly the Baha’i and Christians as well as Iran’s “arbitrary detention of citizens and dual nationals arrested on unclear charges.”¹²⁷³ Shearman recommends Iran demonstrate that “all detainees in prison are neither tortured nor subject to cruel or inhumane treatment or punishment” and granted due process.¹²⁷⁴

On 3 January 2020, Secretary Raab responded to US airstrike on Iranian military commander, Qasem Soleimani, in Iraq.¹²⁷⁵ In the statement, the foreign secretary stated that the UK has always recognized the aggressive threat posed by the Iranian Quds force led by Soleimani. The statement urged all parties to de-escalate the situation.¹²⁷⁶

On 6 January 2020, the United Kingdom, Germany, and France released a joint statement condemning Iran’s involvement in the attacks on Iraqi coalition holdings.¹²⁷⁷ The statement called for Iran “to refrain from further violent action.”¹²⁷⁸

On 8 January 2020, Secretary Raab called for de-escalation following an Iranian attack on Iraqi military bases hosting coalition forces.¹²⁷⁹ Secretary Raab urged Iran to not repeat attacks that benefit terrorist organizations in the region.¹²⁸⁰

On 11 January 2020, Secretary Raab condemned the brief detention of the British Ambassador to Iran Rob Macaire without grounds as “flagrant violation of international law.”¹²⁸¹ The statement calls for Iran to take steps to deescalate tensions and engage in diplomatic paths forward.¹²⁸²

¹²⁷² U.S.-Iran Tensions and Implications for U.S. Policy, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019 <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R45795.pdf>.

¹²⁷³ 34th Universal Periodic Review: UK statement on Islamic Republic of Iran, GOV.UK (Geneva) 8 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/34th-universal-periodic-review-uk-statement-on-islamic-republic-of-iran>.

¹²⁷⁴ 34th Universal Periodic Review: UK statement on Islamic Republic of Iran, GOV.UK (Geneva) 8 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/34th-universal-periodic-review-uk-statement-on-islamic-republic-of-iran>.

¹²⁷⁵ Iran: UK responds to US airstrike on military commander in Iraq, GOV.UK (London) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 4 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/iran-uk-responds-to-us-airstrike-on-military-commander-in-iraq>.

¹²⁷⁶ Iran: UK responds to US airstrike on military commander in Iraq, GOV.UK (London) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 4 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/iran-uk-responds-to-us-airstrike-on-military-commander-in-iraq>.

¹²⁷⁷ Joint statement from President Macron, Chancellor Merkel and Prime Minister Johnson on the situation in Iraq, GOV.UK (London) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-president-macron-chancellor-merkel-and-prime-minister-johnson-on-the-situation-in-iraq>.

¹²⁷⁸ Joint statement from President Macron, Chancellor Merkel and Prime Minister Johnson on the situation in Iraq, GOV.UK (London) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-president-macron-chancellor-merkel-and-prime-minister-johnson-on-the-situation-in-iraq>.

¹²⁷⁹ Attack on Iraqi military bases: Foreign Secretary’s statement, GOV.UK (London) 8 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-statement-on-attack-on-iraqi-military-bases>.

¹²⁸⁰ Attack on Iraqi military bases: Foreign Secretary’s statement, GOV.UK (London) 8 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-statement-on-attack-on-iraqi-military-bases>.

¹²⁸¹ Arrest of Ambassador to Iran: Foreign Secretary Statement, GOV.UK (London) 11 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/arrest-of-ambassador-to-iran-foreign-secretary-statement>.

¹²⁸² Arrest of Ambassador to Iran: Foreign Secretary Statement, GOV.UK (London) 11 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/arrest-of-ambassador-to-iran-foreign-secretary-statement>.

On 13 January 2020, the Minister of the Middle East Andrew Murrison summoned Iran Ambassador Hamid Baeidinejad to the Foreign Office.¹²⁸³ Minister Murrison demanded an apology and seek full assurance that the temporary detention of the British Ambassador to Iran Rob Macaire will not happen again.¹²⁸⁴

On 13 January 2020, Secretary Raab addressed the House of Commons about the government's response to the security situation in Iran, urging diplomacy and peace with the Iranian authorities.¹²⁸⁵

On 25 February 2020, Lord Ahmad addressed 43rd Session of the UN Human Rights Council condemning Iranian authorities' crackdown on protesters in November 2019.¹²⁸⁶ He urged Iranian authorities to release those detained and to respect freedom of expression, religion, or belief.¹²⁸⁷

On 12 March 2020, the UK made a statement welcoming the adoption of the Universal Periodic Review by the Islamic Republic of Iran at the 43rd session of the Human Rights Council.¹²⁸⁸ The UK welcomed the temporary release of detainees following the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak and reasserted its pledge to help Iran combat the outbreak.¹²⁸⁹ The UK encouraged Iran to engage fully with the international community on their accepted recommendations and implement them fully.¹²⁹⁰ The UK made the following recommendations: "demonstrate detainees are not tortured or subject to cruel or inhumane treatment or punishment; allow an impartial trial process, so defendants and lawyers have access to charges and evidence; and investigate sexual exploitation of children and develop a protection plan." While Iran did not support any of UK's three recommendations, the UK stated its willingness to discuss these recommendations with Iran.¹²⁹¹

On 15 March 2020, the United Kingdom, along with France, Germany and the United States, issued a joint statement on the ninth anniversary of the Syria uprising.¹²⁹² The statement calls out violations in international humanitarian law and continued violence by "the reckless military offensive by Assad,

¹²⁸³ Iran: Foreign Secretary's Common statement, 13 January 2020, GOV.UK (London) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/iran-foreign-secretarys-commons-statement-13-january-2020>.

¹²⁸⁴ Iran: Foreign Secretary's Common statement, 13 January 2020, GOV.UK (London) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/iran-foreign-secretarys-commons-statement-13-january-2020>.

¹²⁸⁵ Iran: Foreign Secretary's Common statement, 13 January 2020, GOV.UK (London) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/iran-foreign-secretarys-commons-statement-13-january-2020>.

¹²⁸⁶ Lord Ahmad addresses 43rd Session of the UN Human Rights Council, GOV.UK (London) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/lord-ahmad-addresses-43rd-session-of-the-un-human-rights-council>.

¹²⁸⁷ Lord Ahmad addresses 43rd Session of the UN Human Rights Council, GOV.UK (London) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/lord-ahmad-addresses-43rd-session-of-the-un-human-rights-council>.

¹²⁸⁸ UN Human Rights Council 43: Universal Periodic Review Adoption of Iran, GOV.UK(Geneva) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/un-human-rights-council-43-universal-periodic-review-adoption-of-iran>.

¹²⁸⁹ UN Human Rights Council 43: Universal Periodic Review Adoption of Iran, GOV.UK(Geneva) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/un-human-rights-council-43-universal-periodic-review-adoption-of-iran>.

¹²⁹⁰ UN Human Rights Council 43: Universal Periodic Review Adoption of Iran, GOV.UK(Geneva) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/un-human-rights-council-43-universal-periodic-review-adoption-of-iran>.

¹²⁹¹ UN Human Rights Council 43: Universal Periodic Review Adoption of Iran, GOV.UK(Geneva) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/un-human-rights-council-43-universal-periodic-review-adoption-of-iran>.

¹²⁹² Ninth anniversary of the Syrian Uprising: joint statement, GOV.UK(London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-on-the-ninth-anniversary-of-the-syrian-uprising>.

Russia, and Iran in Idlib” and states that they will demand accountability for the atrocities committed by the Assad regime.¹²⁹³

On 17 March 2020, Secretary Raab made a statement, following the temporary release of British-Iranian dual national Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, urging Iran to release all UK dual nationals arbitrarily detained in Iran, and enable them to return to their families in the UK.¹²⁹⁴

On 25 March 2020, the UK participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference which included discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.¹²⁹⁵

On 2 April 2020, the UK participated in a virtual meeting of Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which discussed NATO’s ongoing commitment to training Iraqi security forces, fostering political progress, and stabilizing the country.¹²⁹⁶

On 9 April 2020, the UK updated its list of financial sanctions targets in the UK for human rights violations in Iran. There are 82 individuals and one entity on the list, and they are subject to asset freeze.¹²⁹⁷

The UK has fully complied with its commitment to combat terrorism and promote human rights in Iran and throughout the region by condemning Iranian human rights violations and Iranian military operations in the region.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Chen Ou Yang

United States: +1

The United States of America has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 8 April 2019, the Trump administration designated the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a foreign terrorist organization.¹²⁹⁸ The designation states that the IRGC supports terrorist groups through “financial and other material support, training, technology transfer, advanced conventional weapons, guidance, or direction.”¹²⁹⁹

On 4 September 2019, the State Department Special Representative for Iran and Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State Brian Hook stated the United States would “offer up to 15 million to any

¹²⁹³ Ninth anniversary of the Syrian Uprising: joint statement, GOV.UK(London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-on-the-ninth-anniversary-of-the-syrian-uprising>.

¹²⁹⁴ Temporary release of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe: Foreign Secretary statement, GOV.UK (London) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/temporary-release-of-nazanin-zaghari-ratcliffe-foreign-secretary-statement>.

¹²⁹⁵ Readout: Minister Champagne Participates in G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/200325-champagne.html>.

¹²⁹⁶ Solidarity of the Alliance members in times of crisis: virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/-/2331226>.

¹²⁹⁷ Consolidated list of financial sanctions targets in the UK, GOV.UK(London) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878954/iran__human_rights_.pdf.

¹²⁹⁸ U.S.-Iran Tensions and Implications for U.S. Policy, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019 <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R45795.pdf>.

¹²⁹⁹ U.S.-Iran Tensions and Implications for U.S. Policy, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019 <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R45795.pdf>.

person who helps the United States disrupt the financial operations of the IRGC and its Quds Force – the IRGC unit that assists Iran-linked forces and factions in the region.”¹³⁰⁰

On 10 September 2019, the Trump administration amended Executive Order 13324 to authorize the barring of foreign banks that have supported international terrorism from accessing the US financial system.¹³⁰¹ US sanctions focus largely on trying to persuade Iran to agree to limits to its nuclear program.¹³⁰²

On 18 September 2019, Secretary of State Michael Pompeo met with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to discuss the 14 September attack on the Saudi oil facilities and discuss policies to counter Iranian aggression in the region.¹³⁰³

On 20 September 2019, the Trump administration established additional sanctions on Iran’s Central Bank and an Iranian sovereign fund, the National Development Fund of Iran.¹³⁰⁴ The sanctions were imposed by designating Iran’s Central Bank as a terrorism supporting entity under Executive Order 13224.¹³⁰⁵ Also sanctioned was an Iranian sovereign wealth fund, the National Development Fund of Iran.¹³⁰⁶

On 25 October 2019, the US Treasury Department’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network barred the “U.S. financial system from any transactions with Iranian banks or foreign banks acting on behalf of Iranian banks.”¹³⁰⁷ This was based on a determination that Iran’s financial system, including the central bank, constitutes a threat to governments or financial institutions that do business with Iran’s banks¹³⁰⁸

On 30 October 2019, Secretary Pompeo expressed support for the Financial Action Task Force’s “re-imposition of additional countermeasures on Iran for its failure to uphold international anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism standards.”¹³⁰⁹ Secretary Pompeo stated

¹³⁰⁰ U.S.-Iran Tensions and Implications for U.S. Policy, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019 <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R45795.pdf>.

¹³⁰¹ Iran Sanctions, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/RS/RS20871>.

¹³⁰² Iran Sanctions, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/RS/RS20871>.

¹³⁰³ Pompeo to discuss efforts versus Iran with Saudi crown prince, Reuters (Dubai) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-saudi-aramco-usa-pompeo/pompeo-to-discuss-efforts-versus-iran-with-saudi-crown-prince-idUSKBN1W31AG>.

¹³⁰⁴ U.S.-Iran Tensions and Implications for U.S. Policy, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019 <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R45795.pdf>.

¹³⁰⁵ U.S.-Iran Tensions and Implications for U.S. Policy, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019 <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R45795.pdf>.

¹³⁰⁶ U.S.-Iran Tensions and Implications for U.S. Policy, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019 <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R45795.pdf>.

¹³⁰⁷ Iran Sanctions, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/RS/RS20871>.

¹³⁰⁸ Iran Sanctions, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/RS/RS20871>.

¹³⁰⁹ U.S. Welcomes FATF Measures To Protect International Financial System From Iranian Threats, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-welcomes-fatf-measures-to-protect-international-financial-system-from-iranian-threats/>.

that Iran has deliberately ensured there is no transparency in its economy so it can continue to export terrorism.¹³¹⁰

On 4 November 2019, the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control sanctioned Iran's Armed Forces General Staff and nine individuals who were involved with Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei's oppression of Iranian people and export of terrorism.¹³¹¹ Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin indicated that "this action further constricts the Supreme Leader's ability to execute his agenda of terror and oppression."¹³¹²

On 7 November 2019, the US led International Maritime Security Construct was formally inaugurated to "supplement longstanding multilateral Gulf naval operations that have targeted smuggling, piracy, the movement of terrorists and weaponry, and other potential threats in the Gulf."¹³¹³

On 18 November 2019, Ambassador at Large and Coordinator for Counterterrorism Nathan A. Sales called for other countries to join the US in its efforts to exert "maximum economic and diplomatic pressure to force Iran to abandon terrorism as a basic tool of statecraft."¹³¹⁴

On 22 November 2019, Secretary Pompeo announced sanctions against Iran's Minister of Information and Communications Technology Mohammad Javad Azari Jahromi for helping shutdown internet access for Iranians.¹³¹⁵

On 5 December 2019, the Special Representative for Iran and Senior Advisor to the Secretary Brian Hook condemned Iran's imprisonment of protestors and political opposition as well as the "inhumane" treatment of prisoners in Iranian prisons.¹³¹⁶

On 6 December 2019, the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned three leaders of Iran-backed militias in Iraq.¹³¹⁷ The OFAC states that these

¹³¹⁰ U.S. Welcomes FATF Measures To Protect International Financial System From Iranian Threats, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/u-s-welcomes-fatf-measures-to-protect-international-financial-system-from-iranian-threats/>.

¹³¹¹ Press Releases: Treasury Designates Supreme Leader of Iran's Inner Circle Responsible for Advancing Regime's Domestic and Foreign Oppression, U.S. Department of The Treasury (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 3 December 2019 <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm824>.

¹³¹² Press Releases: Treasury Designates Supreme Leader of Iran's Inner Circle Responsible for Advancing Regime's Domestic and Foreign Oppression, U.S. Department of The Treasury (Washington D.C.) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 3 December 2019. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm824>.

¹³¹³ U.S.-Iran Tensions and Implications for U.S. Policy, Congressional Research Service (Washington D.C.) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R45795.pdf>.

¹³¹⁴ Press Briefing with Nathan A. Sales, Ambassador at Large and Coordinator for Counterterrorism, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/briefing-with-nathan-a-sales-ambassador-at-large-and-coordinator-for-counterterrorism/>.

¹³¹⁵ The United States Holds Iranian Officials Accountable for Crackdown on Protestors, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 22 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/the-united-states-holds-iranian-officials-accountable-for-crackdown-on-protestors/>.

¹³¹⁶ Special Representative for Iran and Senior Advisor to the Secretary Brian Hook, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/special-representative-for-iran-and-senior-advisor-to-the-secretary-brian-hook-3/>.

¹³¹⁷ Treasury Sanctions Iran-Backed Militia Leaders Who Killed Innocent Demonstrators in Iraq, U.S. Department of The Treasury (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm847>.

militias “opened fire on peaceful protests, killing dozens of innocent civilians.”¹³¹⁸ Secretary Mnuchin affirmed US commitment to holding perpetrators of human rights abuse accountable.¹³¹⁹

On 9 December 2019, the US House of Representatives introduced H. RES. 752 to condemn restrictions on Iranian freedom of expression and Iranian authorities’ crackdown of legitimate protests.¹³²⁰ These restrictions included the continuing closures of media outlets, arrests of journalists, and the censorship of expression in online forums such as blogs and websites.¹³²¹

On 11 December 2019, the United States sanctioned eight entities that helped smuggle weapons from Iran to Yemen.¹³²² The designations aimed to serve as a warning that doing business with these entities risked contributing to Iran’s proliferation-sensitive programs, including its nuclear and missile programs.¹³²³

On 19 December 2019, Secretary Pompeo mentioned new actions that are being made in support of the Iranian people.¹³²⁴ Pompeo stated that Iran has been re-designated as a Country of Particular Concern under the International Religious Freedom Act and the US Department of the Treasury will sanction two Iranian judges: Mohammad Moghisseh, and Abolghassem Salavati for being “responsible for or complicit in the abuse, detention, or killing of peaceful protesters, or for inhibiting their rights to freedom of expression or assembly.”¹³²⁵

On 19 December 2019, Secretary Pompeo condemned Iranian human rights violations in his speech.¹³²⁶ Pompeo urged the Government of Iran to uphold commitments under the Iranian Constitution and international human rights law.¹³²⁷

On 19 December 2019, the Ambassador At Large For International Religious Freedom Office of International Religious Freedom Samuel D. Brownback called for Iran to stop the practice of

¹³¹⁸ Treasury Sanctions Iran-Backed Militia Leaders Who Killed Innocent Demonstrators in Iraq, U.S. Treasury (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm847>.

¹³¹⁹ Treasury Sanctions Iran-Backed Militia Leaders Who Killed Innocent Demonstrators in Iraq, U.S. Treasury (Washington D.C.) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm847>.

¹³²⁰ H.Res.752 - Supporting the rights of the people of Iran to free expression, condemning the Iranian regime for its crackdown on legitimate protests, and for other purposes, Congress.gov (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/752/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22iran%22%5D%7D&r=12&s=4>.

¹³²¹ H.Res.752 - Supporting the rights of the people of Iran to free expression, condemning the Iranian regime for its crackdown on legitimate protests, and for other purposes, Congress.gov (Washington D.C.) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/752/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22iran%22%5D%7D&r=12&s=4>.

¹³²² United States Designates Key Iranian Shipping and Aviation Entities, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-designates-key-iranian-shipping-and-aviation-entities/>.

¹³²³ United States Designates Key Iranian Shipping and Aviation Entities, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/united-states-designates-key-iranian-shipping-and-aviation-entities/>.

¹³²⁴ Human Rights and the Iranian Regime, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/human-rights-and-the-iranian-regime/>.

¹³²⁵ Human Rights and the Iranian Regime, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/human-rights-and-the-iranian-regime/>.

¹³²⁶ Human Rights and the Iranian Regime, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/human-rights-and-the-iranian-regime/>.

¹³²⁷ Human Rights and the Iranian Regime, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/human-rights-and-the-iranian-regime/>.

arresting leading Christian figures during Christmas and to uphold religious freedom enshrined in the Iranian Constitution.¹³²⁸

On 2 January 2020, the United States carried out an airstrike in Iraq that killed Iranian IRGC's Quds Force commander Qassem Soleimani.¹³²⁹ Iranian leadership and several affiliated violent extremist organizations publicly expressed their intent to retaliate against the US.¹³³⁰

On 10 January 2020, the OFAC targeted Iranian destabilization efforts in the region by designating eight senior Iranian officials and the Iranian metals sector for advancing the regime's destabilization efforts.¹³³¹

On 10 January 2020, the Trump administration issued Executive Order 13902 that targets additional sources of revenue used by the Iranian regime to support its nuclear program, missile development, and terrorism.¹³³² It authorized the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of State to impose sanctions against individuals sponsoring global terrorism.¹³³³

On 18 January 2020, the Department of State designated IRGC Brigadier General Shahvarpour for his involvement in human rights violations against Iranians who protested against the Iranian regime.¹³³⁴ This designation makes Brigadier General Shahvarpour ineligible for entry into the United States.¹³³⁵

On 23 January 2020, the OFAC took further actions against petrochemical and petroleum companies who are major sources of revenue for the Iranian regime and its destabilizing efforts throughout the Middle East.¹³³⁶ Secretary Mnuchin stated that petrochemical and metal sectors fund and enable Iran's persistent use of violence and global terrorism.¹³³⁷

¹³²⁸ Human Rights and Religious Freedom in Iran, US Department of State (Washington D.C.) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.state.gov/human-rights-and-religious-freedom-in-iran/>.

¹³²⁹ Summary of Terrorism Threat to The U.S. Homeland, National Terrorism Advisory System (Washington D.C.) 4 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/ntas/alerts/20_0104_ntas_bulletin.pdf.

¹³³⁰ Summary of Terrorism Threat to The U.S. Homeland, National Terrorism Advisory System (Washington D.C.) 4 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/ntas/alerts/20_0104_ntas_bulletin.pdf.

¹³³¹ Treasury Targets Iran's Billion Dollar Metals Industry and Senior Regime Officials, U.S. Department of The Treasury (Washington D.C.) 10 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm870>.

¹³³² Treasury Targets Iran's Billion Dollar Metals Industry and Senior Regime Officials, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 10 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm870>.

¹³³³ Treasury Targets Iran's Billion Dollar Metals Industry and Senior Regime Officials, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 10 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm870>.

¹³³⁴ Designation of IRGC Commander Shahvarpour for Gross Human Rights Violations During Protests, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 18 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://www.state.gov/designation-of-irgc-commander-shahvarpour-for-gross-human-rights-violations-during-protests/>.

¹³³⁵ Designation of IRGC Commander Shahvarpour for Gross Human Rights Violations During Protests, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 18 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://www.state.gov/designation-of-irgc-commander-shahvarpour-for-gross-human-rights-violations-during-protests/>.

¹³³⁶ Treasury Targets International Network Supporting Iran's Petrochemical and Petroleum Industries, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm885>.

¹³³⁷ Treasury Targets International Network Supporting Iran's Petrochemical and Petroleum Industries, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Washington D.C.) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm885>.

On 27 January 2020, Secretary Pompeo condemned large-scale assaults on the people of Idlib and western Aleppo provinces in Syria by combined forces of Russia, the Iranian regime, Hizballah, and the Assad regime.¹³³⁸

On 21 February 2020, Assistant Secretary for Terrorist Financing Marshall Billingslea applauded the Financial Action Task Force's condemnation of Iran's failure to implement basic controls to counter illicit finance.¹³³⁹ Assistant Secretary Billingslea urged other countries to help prevent Iran from using the international financial system for illicit purposes."¹³⁴⁰

On 26 February 2020, Secretary Pompeo designated Iran-backed militia in Iraq Ahmad al-Hamidawi as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist.¹³⁴¹

On 10 March 2020, Secretary Pompeo reported that the COVID-19 has spread to Iranian prisons and commented on the human rights violation of the prison conditions.¹³⁴² Pompeo stated that "any nation considering to provide Iran with humanitarian assistance should seek reciprocal humanitarian gesture by the regime: release all wrongly detained foreign nationals."¹³⁴³

On 12 March 2020, the United States struck an Iraqi militia group with ties to Iran.¹³⁴⁴ The US targeted Kataib Hezbollah that is believed to have been a part of the attack against Iraqi military bases hosting coalition forces.¹³⁴⁵

On 15 March 2020, the United States, along with France, the United Kingdom, and Germany, issued a joint statement on the ninth anniversary of the Syria uprising.¹³⁴⁶ The statement condemns violations in international humanitarian law and continued violence by "the reckless military offensive by Assad, Russia, and Iran in Idlib" and asserts that they will demand accountability for the atrocities committed by the Assad regime.¹³⁴⁷

On 18 March 2020, the US Department of State imposed sanctions, pursuant to Executive Order 13846 on seven entities engaged in "the purchase, acquisition, sale, transport, or marketing of

¹³³⁸ Attacks on the People of Idlib, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 27 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/attacks-on-the-people-of-idlib/>.

¹³³⁹ Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Calls for Countermeasures on Iran, Evaluates U.S. AML Framework, Releases Digital Identity Guidance, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Paris) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 1 March 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm913>.

¹³⁴⁰ Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Calls for Countermeasures on Iran, Evaluates U.S. AML Framework, Releases Digital Identity Guidance, U.S. Department of the Treasury (Paris) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 1 March 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm913>.

¹³⁴¹ This Week in Iran Policy, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/this-week-in-iran-policy-4/>.

¹³⁴² This Week in Iran Policy, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 13 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.state.gov/this-week-in-iran-policy-5/>.

¹³⁴³ This Week in Iran Policy, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 13 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.state.gov/this-week-in-iran-policy-5/>.

¹³⁴⁴ U.S. Carries Out Retaliatory Strikes on Iranian-Backed Militia in Iraq, The New York Times (New York) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/12/world/middleeast/military-iran-iraq.html>.

¹³⁴⁵ U.S. Carries Out Retaliatory Strikes on Iranian-Backed Militia in Iraq, The New York Times (New York) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/12/world/middleeast/military-iran-iraq.html>.

¹³⁴⁶ Ninth anniversary of the Syrian Uprising: joint statement, GOV.UK(London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-on-the-ninth-anniversary-of-the-syrian-uprising>.

¹³⁴⁷ Ninth anniversary of the Syrian Uprising: joint statement, GOV.UK(London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-on-the-ninth-anniversary-of-the-syrian-uprising>.

petrochemical products from Iran.”¹³⁴⁸ The sanctions are an effort to hinder Iranian capacity to conduct destabilizing activities in the region.¹³⁴⁹

On 25 March 2020, the United States participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference which included discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.¹³⁵⁰

On 26 March 2020, Department of State Spokesperson Morgan Ortagus announced 20 new designations for individuals and entities who have been known to provide financial support and lethal aid to the IRGC’s Quds Force.¹³⁵¹ Secretary of State Pompeo remarked that with new designations and sanctions the US continues to “hold the regime accountable for the malign activity through actions like banning Mahan Air and designating all of Hizballah and other Iran-backed terror groups as terrorist organizations.”¹³⁵²

On 2 April 2020, President Trump remarked that the US sanctions have not been interfering with Iran’s access to medical aid.¹³⁵³ He affirmed that sanctions are intended to prevent funding of terrorism and not limit access to proper healthcare. Humanitarian channels have been established to ensure the Iranian people are able to cope with the growing health crisis.¹³⁵⁴

On 2 April 2020, the United States participated in a virtual meeting of Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which discussed NATO’s ongoing commitment to training Iraqi security forces and stabilizing the country.¹³⁵⁵

On 1 May 2020, the OFAC designated dual Iranian and Iraqi national Amir Dianat, an associate of senior officials of the IRGC’s Quds Force.¹³⁵⁶ The OFAC claims Dianat supports the IRGC’s terrorist activities through generating revenue and smuggling weapons.¹³⁵⁷ The OFAC reasserted its efforts to combat the IRGC’s destabilizing activities through designations of individuals involved in Iran’s terrorist network.¹³⁵⁸

On 20 May 2020, OFAC sanctioned Iran’s Interior Minister, seven senior officials of Iran’s Law Enforcement Forces and a provincial commander of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps for

¹³⁴⁸ This Week in Iran Policy, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/this-week-in-iran-policy-6/>.

¹³⁴⁹ This Week in Iran Policy, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/this-week-in-iran-policy-6/>.

¹³⁵⁰ Readout: Minister Champagne Participates in G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/200325-champagne.html>.

¹³⁵¹ This Week in Iran Policy, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 30 March 2020. <https://www.state.gov/this-week-in-iran-policy-7/>.

¹³⁵² This Week in Iran Policy, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 30 March 2020. <https://www.state.gov/this-week-in-iran-policy-7/>.

¹³⁵³ Iran’s Sanctions Relief Scam, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 6 April 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/irans-sanctions-relief-scam/>.

¹³⁵⁴ Iran’s Sanctions Relief Scam, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 6 April 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/irans-sanctions-relief-scam/>.

¹³⁵⁵ Solidarity of the Alliance members in times of crisis: virtual NATO Foreign Ministers Meeting, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/internationale-organisationen/uebersicht-node-nato/-/2331226>.

¹³⁵⁶ Treasury Designates IRGC-Qods Force Front Company and Owner, U.S. Treasury (Washington D.C.) 1 May 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm995>.

¹³⁵⁷ Treasury Designates IRGC-Qods Force Front Company and Owner, U.S. Treasury (Washington D.C.) 1 May 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm995>.

¹³⁵⁸ Treasury Designates IRGC-Qods Force Front Company and Owner, U.S. Treasury (Washington D.C.) 1 May 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm995>.

their roles in human rights abuses against Iranians.¹³⁵⁹ Treasury Secretary Mnuchin states that Iranian authorities have violently suppressed dissent of the Iranian people, through physical and psychological abuse.¹³⁶⁰ These sanctions are taken pursuant to Executive Order 13553 of September 28, 2010, which imposes sanctions on individuals who are responsible for human rights abuses.¹³⁶¹

Through its consistent efforts of combatting terrorism by imposing sanctions, deploying military support, and coalition-building, the United States remains committed to holding Iran accountable for its human rights abuses and sponsorship of terrorism.

Thus, the United States of America has received a score of +1.

Analysts: Shreyashi Saba and Collin Xia

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promote peace and stability in Iran by combatting terrorism and promoting human rights.

On 19 September 2019, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on the violent crackdown on the recent protests in Iran.¹³⁶² The European Parliament calls on Iranian authorities to release imprisoned women's rights defenders, human rights defenders, and EU-Iranian dual nationals.¹³⁶³

On 21 November 2019, the European Commission allocated an additional EUR40 million in emergency assistance for the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, as well as Afghan refugees in neighbouring Pakistan and Iran.¹³⁶⁴ This brings total EU humanitarian aid for the Afghan crisis to EUR77 million in 2019, EUR61 million in Afghanistan, EUR9 million in Pakistan, and EUR7 million in Iran.

On 21 November 2019, a European Union External Action spokesperson addressed Iranian protests and urged Iranian authorities to “exercise maximum restraint in handling the protests” and ensure access to the internet.¹³⁶⁵

On 8 December 2019, High Representative Josep Borrell Fontelles condemned Iran's “widespread and disproportionate use of force against nonviolent protestors.”¹³⁶⁶ He urged Iran to provide due

¹³⁵⁹ Treasury Sanctions Iran's Interior Minister and Senior Law Enforcement Officials in Connection with Serious Human Rights Abuses, U.S. Treasury (Washington D.C.) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm1015>.

¹³⁶⁰ Treasury Sanctions Iran's Interior Minister and Senior Law Enforcement Officials in Connection with Serious Human Rights Abuses, U.S. Treasury (Washington D.C.) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm1015>.

¹³⁶¹ Treasury Sanctions Iran's Interior Minister and Senior Law Enforcement Officials in Connection with Serious Human Rights Abuses, U.S. Treasury (Washington D.C.) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm1015>.

¹³⁶² Human Rights: breaches in Iran, Turkey and Myanmar, European Parliament (Brussels) 19 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20190912IPR60935/human-rights-breaches-in-iran-turkey-and-myanmar>.

¹³⁶³ Human Rights: breaches in Iran, Turkey and Myanmar, European Parliament (Brussels) 19 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20190912IPR60935/human-rights-breaches-in-iran-turkey-and-myanmar>.

¹³⁶⁴ EU reinforces humanitarian support with €40 million as crisis in Afghanistan worsens, European Commission (Brussels) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 2 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/eu-reinforces-humanitarian-support-40-million-crisis-afghanistan-worsens_en.

¹³⁶⁵ Statement by the Spokesperson on the developments in Iran, European External Action Service (Brussels) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/70754/statement-spokesperson-developments-iran_en.

process for all detainees, release all non-violent protestors and respect “fundamental rights such as freedom of expression and assembly.”¹³⁶⁷

On 11 December 2019, the Council of Europe appointed Christoph Buik as its new head of mission for the European Union Advisory Mission in Iraq (EUAM Iraq).¹³⁶⁸ EUAM Iraq is based in Bagdad and contributes to the implementation at strategic level of a comprehensive strategy countering terrorism and organized crime.¹³⁶⁹ It has specific references to border management, financial crime, money laundering and the trafficking of cultural heritage. Mr. Buik assumed his duties on 1 January 2020.¹³⁷⁰

On 18 December 2019, High Representative Borrell addressed the violent crackdown on recent protests in Iran at the European Parliament plenary debate.¹³⁷¹ He urged concrete actions as part of EU diplomacy with Iran and urged that the Iranian authorities to comply with their “international obligations, including both the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.”¹³⁷²

On 19 December 2019, members of the European Parliament voted to denounce “disproportionate use of force by Iranian security forces against non-violent protesters,” demand the immediately release of Nasrin Sotoudeh, and condemn Iran’s decision to shut down internet access as a violation of freedom of speech.¹³⁷³

On 9 January 2020, the President of the European Council Charles Michel expressed his condolences for the PS752 crash.¹³⁷⁴ In a call with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, President Michel stated that

¹³⁶⁶ Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the EU on the recent protests in Iran, European Council (Brussels) 8 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/12/08/declaration-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-eu-on-the-recent-protests-in-iran/>.

¹³⁶⁷ Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the EU on the recent protests in Iran, European Council (Brussels) 8 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/12/08/declaration-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-eu-on-the-recent-protests-in-iran/>.

¹³⁶⁸ EUAM Iraq: New head of mission appointed, European Council (Brussels) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/12/11/euam-iraq-new-head-of-mission-appointed/>.

¹³⁶⁹ EUAM Iraq: New head of mission appointed, European Council (Brussels) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/12/11/euam-iraq-new-head-of-mission-appointed/>.

¹³⁷⁰ EUAM Iraq: New head of mission appointed, European Council (Brussels) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/12/11/euam-iraq-new-head-of-mission-appointed/>.

¹³⁷¹ Violent crackdown on the recent protests in Iran: remarks of High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the European Parliament plenary debate, European External Action Service (Strasbourg) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72371/violent-crackdown-recent-protests-iran-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell_en.

¹³⁷² Violent crackdown on the recent protests in Iran: remarks of High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the European Parliament plenary debate, European External Action Service (Strasbourg) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72371/violent-crackdown-recent-protests-iran-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell_en.

¹³⁷³ MEPs condemn violent crackdown on the recent protests in Iran, European Parliament (Brussels) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20191217IPR69210/meps-condemn-violent-crackdown-on-the-recent-protests-in-iran>.

¹³⁷⁴ The European Council President calls upon Iran to avoid posing irreversible action, European Council (Brussels) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/01/09/the-european-council-president-called-upon-the-iranian-president-to-avoid-posing-irreversible-acts/>.

the EU encourages the active diffusion of tension.¹³⁷⁵ Furthermore, he emphasized the European Union's stabilizing role in the region as well as the EU's commitment to Middle Eastern regional stability.¹³⁷⁶

On 10 January 2020, High Representative Borrell was tasked with intensifying diplomatic efforts with all parties to contribute to de-escalation in the Middle East following crash of plane PS752. He seeks to support political dialogue and promote a regional solution by the Foreign Affairs Council.¹³⁷⁷

On 14 January 2020, the EU and Iraq held their first Political Dialogue under their Partnership and Cooperation agreement.¹³⁷⁸ The two delegations were headed by the European External Action Service Secretary General Helga Maria Schmid and Iraqi Deputy Foreign minister Abdel Karim Hashem Mostafa.¹³⁷⁹ The meeting focused on bilateral relations, the situation in Iraq and in the wider Middle East region.¹³⁸⁰ Both parties emphasized the need for cooperation to defuse tension and to avoid further escalation.¹³⁸¹

On 16 January 2020, President Michel called the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin to discuss the regional risks posed by Libya and in the Middle East.¹³⁸² President Michel emphasized the importance of reaching out to and cooperating with all international partners to de-escalate the situation in Iran and Iraq.¹³⁸³

¹³⁷⁵ The European Council President calls upon Iran to avoid posing irreversible action, European Council (Brussels) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/01/09/the-european-council-president-called-upon-the-iranian-president-to-avoid-posing-irreversible-acts/>.

¹³⁷⁶ The European Council President calls upon Iran to avoid posing irreversible action, European Council (Brussels) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/01/09/the-european-council-president-called-upon-the-iranian-president-to-avoid-posing-irreversible-acts/>.

¹³⁷⁷ Libya/Iraq/Iran: Press remarks by High Representative Josep Borrell after the extraordinary Foreign Affairs Council, European External Action Service (Brussels) 10 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72910/libyairaqiran-press-remarks-high-representative-josep-borrell-after-extraordinary-foreign_en.

¹³⁷⁸ First Political Dialogue under the EU-Iraq Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, European External Action Service (Brussels) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73058/first-political-dialogue-under-eu-iraq-partnership-and-cooperation-agreement_en.

¹³⁷⁹ First Political Dialogue under the EU-Iraq Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, European External Action Service (Brussels) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73058/first-political-dialogue-under-eu-iraq-partnership-and-cooperation-agreement_en.

¹³⁸⁰ First Political Dialogue under the EU-Iraq Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, European External Action Service (Brussels) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73058/first-political-dialogue-under-eu-iraq-partnership-and-cooperation-agreement_en.

¹³⁸¹ First Political Dialogue under the EU-Iraq Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, European External Action Service (Brussels) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73058/first-political-dialogue-under-eu-iraq-partnership-and-cooperation-agreement_en.

¹³⁸² Readout of the telephone conversation between President Charles Michel and Russian President Vladimir Putin, European Council (Brussels) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/01/16/readout-of-the-telephone-conversation-between-president-charles-michel-and-russian-president-vladimir-putin/>.

¹³⁸³ Readout of the telephone conversation between President Charles Michel and Russian President Vladimir Putin, European Council (Brussels) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/01/16/readout-of-the-telephone-conversation-between-president-charles-michel-and-russian-president-vladimir-putin/>.

On 3 and 4 February 2020, High Representative Borrell visited Iran.¹³⁸⁴ He met with President Rouhani of Iran, the President of the Parliament Ali Larijani and Foreign Affairs Minister Javad Zarif. In his press conference statement, High Representative Borrell restated the EU commitment to regional security and stability.¹³⁸⁵ He further emphasized the creation of mutual understand and the building of trust between the EU and its Iranian counterparts.¹³⁸⁶

On 21 February 2020, the EU called all actors to cease hostilities immediately following the renew military offense in Idlib by the Syrian regime and its backers.¹³⁸⁷ The EU called the action unacceptable and urged all parties to the conflict to fully respect their obligation under international humanitarian law and international human rights law and to allow unimpeded and direct humanitarian access to all those in need.¹³⁸⁸ Furthermore, the EU stated its commitment to strengthening its humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable civilian population in the Idlib area.¹³⁸⁹

On 6 March 2020, High Representative Borrell announced that the EU would convene a fourth Brussels Conference on “Support the Future of Syria and Region” on 29 and 30 June 2020.¹³⁹⁰ He stated that the EU’s immediate concern is to work toward a lasting ceasefire, to engage with all relevant actors for a comprehensive political solution and to address the humanitarian needs of the Syrian people.¹³⁹¹

On 25 March 2020, High Representative Borrell participated in a G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting by videoconference which included discussions focused on G7 commitments in Iran and Syria.¹³⁹²

¹³⁸⁴ Iran: Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the press conference during his visit, European External Action Service (Brussels) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73972/iran-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-press-conference-during-his-visit_en.

¹³⁸⁵ Iran: Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the press conference during his visit, European External Action Service (Brussels) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73972/iran-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-press-conference-during-his-visit_en.

¹³⁸⁶ Iran: Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the press conference during his visit, European External Action Service (Brussels) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/73972/iran-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-press-conference-during-his-visit_en.

¹³⁸⁷ Declaration of the European Council on the situation in Idlib, European Council (Brussels) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/02/21/declaration-of-the-european-council-on-the-situation-in-idlib/>.

¹³⁸⁸ Declaration of the European Council on the situation in Idlib, European Council (Brussels) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/02/21/declaration-of-the-european-council-on-the-situation-in-idlib/>.

¹³⁸⁹ Declaration of the European Council on the situation in Idlib, European Council (Brussels) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/02/21/declaration-of-the-european-council-on-the-situation-in-idlib/>.

¹³⁹⁰ Syria: IV Brussels Conference on Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region, European External Action Service (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/75709/syria-iv-brussels-conference-supporting-future-syria-and-region_en.

¹³⁹¹ Syria: IV Brussels Conference on Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region, European External Action Service (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/75709/syria-iv-brussels-conference-supporting-future-syria-and-region_en.

¹³⁹² Readout: Minister Champagne Participates in G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/200325-champagne.html>.

On 7 April 2020, the Council of the European Union implemented targeted financial sanctions for the human rights situation in Iran.¹³⁹³ The targeted individuals were responsible for violent crackdowns on protesters, rights abuses, and cyber attacks amongst various other reasons.¹³⁹⁴

On 7 April 2020, the Council of the European Union extended its human rights sanctions against Iran until 13 April 2021.¹³⁹⁵ The Council's measures continue an asset freeze and travel ban on 82 people and ban the export of equipment that may be used for internal repression in Iran.¹³⁹⁶

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to combat terrorism and promote human rights in Iran and throughout the region. The European Union has committed funds to aid humanitarian crisis and promote human rights. In addition, the European Union has increased efforts to promote diplomatic dialogue, cooperation, and conflict resolution throughout the region.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Chen Ou Yang and Collin Xia

¹³⁹³ Regulations: council implementing regulation (EU) 2020/510 of 7 April 2020 implementing Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran, Official Journal of the European Union (Luxembourg) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32020R0510&from=EN>.

¹³⁹⁴ Regulations: council implementing regulation (EU) 2020/510 of 7 April 2020 implementing Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran, Official Journal of the European Union (Luxembourg) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32020R0510&from=EN>.

¹³⁹⁵ Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/510 of 7 April 2020 implementing Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran, EUR-Lex (Brussels) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2020.113.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2020:113:TOC.

¹³⁹⁶ Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/510 of 7 April 2020 implementing Regulation (EU) No 359/2011 concerning restrictive measures directed against certain persons, entities and bodies in view of the situation in Iran, EUR-Lex (Brussels) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 2 June 2020. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2020.113.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2020:113:TOC.

9. Regional Security: G5 Sahel Security and Development

“We [support the efforts of countries in the region, notably those in the G5, in coming together to address these security and development challenges and] remain committed to working with them to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.”

Sahel Partnership Action Plan

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.75 (88%)		

Background

In February 2014, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger set up the Group of Five for the Sahel (G5 Sahel) to foster close cooperation on development and security in the Sahel region.¹³⁹⁷ The Sahel countries face challenges such as extreme poverty, conflict, and terrorism and organized crimes such as human trafficking.

In June 2014, the G5 Sahel started the Priority Investment Program (PIP), a USD14.8 billion regional investment program aiming to deal with security and development problems.^{1398,1399} The first phase of the program is set to be from 2019 to 2021, where 40 priority projects were selected to be implemented by member states to improve defence and security, governance, resilience and human development, and infrastructure.¹⁴⁰⁰ The G5 Sahel leaders then launched the Cross-Border Joint Force (FC-G5S) in 2017 in Bamako to fight security threats.¹⁴⁰¹ The Joint Force has since carried out several operations.

G7 members have worked with the Sahel region previously. In July 2017, during the Franco-German Council of Ministers, France, Germany, and the European Union, along with the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme, launched the Sahel

¹³⁹⁷ Sahel G5 Meeting Brings Together Governments and Donors to Accelerate Regional Development, The World Bank (Niamey) 14 July 2014. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2014/07/14/sahel-g5-meeting-brings-together-governments-and-donors-to-accelerate-regional-development>.

¹³⁹⁸ Priority Investment Program (PIP/G5 Sahel) First Phase 2019-2021, G5 Permanent Secretariat, October 2018. Access Date: 9 October 2019. https://www.g5sahel.org/images/DOCPIP/PIP_G5S_EN_VF.pdf.

¹³⁹⁹ Sahel G5 Meeting Brings Together Governments and Donors to Accelerate Regional Development, The World Bank (Niamey) 14 July 2014. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2014/07/14/sahel-g5-meeting-brings-together-governments-and-donors-to-accelerate-regional-development>.

¹⁴⁰⁰ Priority Investment Program (PIP/G5 Sahel) First Phase 2019-2021, G5 Permanent Secretariat, October 2018. Access Date: 9 October 2019. https://www.g5sahel.org/images/DOCPIP/PIP_G5S_EN_VF.pdf.

¹⁴⁰¹ G5 Sahel Joint Force and the Sahel Alliance, France Diplomat February 2019. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/crises-and-conflicts/g5-sahel-joint-force-and-the-sahel-alliance/>.

Alliance.¹⁴⁰² The Sahel Alliance is an international cooperation platform that allows donor countries and multilateral organizations to better coordinate international assistance for the Sahel countries. Their actions are guided by principles and priority fields.¹⁴⁰³

More countries have since joined the Alliance. Of the G7 members, France, Germany, the European Union, Italy and the United Kingdom are currently members of the Sahel Alliance.¹⁴⁰⁴ The United States is an observer to the Alliance.¹⁴⁰⁵ In June 2019, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau confirmed to French President Emmanuel Macron that Canada would seek observer status with the Sahel Alliance.¹⁴⁰⁶ Japan also carries the observer status.¹⁴⁰⁷

The G7 first referenced Africa in 1980 and commitments toward Africa have risen through the years.¹⁴⁰⁸ During the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, the then-G8 leaders signed the G8 Africa Action Plan as a response to the African States initiative New Partnership for African's Development (NEPAD).¹⁴⁰⁹ The Plan considered the promotion of peace and security as one of the priorities.¹⁴¹⁰ Implementation Reports by Africa Personal Representatives on the Plan have since been discussed at G7/8 Summits.^{1411,1412,1413,1414,1415} The L'Aquila Summit in 2009 also held a G8-Africa session in which the importance of a credible system of regional system, through the African Peace and Security Architecture and the proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons, was highlighted.¹⁴¹⁶ The G8 Leaders then produced the G8/Africa Joint Declaration: Shared Values, Shared

¹⁴⁰² The Sahel Alliance Officially Announces the Implementation of Over 500 Projects for a Total Amount of EUR 6bn to be Disbursed Between 2018 and 2022, The World Bank (Brussels) 23 February 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/02/23/the-sahel-alliance-officially-announces-the-implementation-of-over-500-projects-for-a-total-amount-of-eur-6bn-to-be-disbursed-between-2018-and-2022>.

¹⁴⁰³ The Sahel Alliance, Alliance Sahel (Paris). Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance/>.

¹⁴⁰⁴ The Sahel Alliance, Alliance Sahel (Paris). Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance/>.

¹⁴⁰⁵ G5 Sahel Joint Force and the Sahel Alliance, France Diplomat February 2019. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/crises-and-conflicts/g5-sahel-joint-force-and-the-sahel-alliance/>.

¹⁴⁰⁶ Prime Minister Justin Trudeau Meets with President Emmanuel Macron of France, Prime Minister of Canada (Paris) 7 June 2019. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2019/06/07/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-emmanuel-macron-france>.

¹⁴⁰⁷ Statement by H.E. Mr. Kono Taro, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan at the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Yokohama) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511296.pdf>.

¹⁴⁰⁸ G7 Performance on Africa, The Global Governance Project (London) 12 August 2019. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <http://www.globalgovernanceproject.org/2019/08/12/g7-performance-on-africa/>.

¹⁴⁰⁹ G7/8 Summits 2002 Kananaskis Summit Documents: G8 Africa Action Plan. G8 Summit (Kananaskis) 27 June 2002. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/africaplan.html>.

¹⁴¹⁰ G8 Africa Action Plan (Kananaskis) 27 June 2002. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/afraction-e.pdf>.

¹⁴¹¹ Implementation Report by Africa Personal Representatives to Leaders on the G8 Africa Action Plan (Evian) 1 June 2003. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/>.

¹⁴¹² Gleneagles Summit Official Documents (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/index.html>.

¹⁴¹³ St. Petersburg Summit Official Documents (St. Petersburg) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/index.html>.

¹⁴¹⁴ Heiligendamm Summit Official Documents (Heiligendamm) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/index.html>.

¹⁴¹⁵ Hokkaido Toyako Summit Official Documents (Hokkaido Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/index.html>.

¹⁴¹⁶ Chair Summary of the G8-Africa session at the G8 L'Aquila Summit (L'Aquila) 10 July 2009. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-summary-africa.pdf>.

Responsibilities during the 2011 Deauville Summit. The document focuses on three topics: security and governance; economic development and environment; and mutual accountability.¹⁴¹⁷

On 25 September 2018, during the United Nations General Assembly, President of the French Republic Emmanuel Macron expressed that “the time when a club of rich countries could alone define the world’s balances is long gone.”¹⁴¹⁸ Hence, the French G7 Presidency changed the group format by including partner countries to take part in their working meetings.¹⁴¹⁹ Burkina Faso, which holds the Presidency of the G5 Sahel, was invited along with four other African partners (Senegal, Rwanda, South Africa, and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission) to the Biarritz Summit.¹⁴²⁰ There, the G7 Sahel Action Plan was declared and again reaffirmed in the Biarritz Declaration for a G7 and Africa Partnership to promote peace and security in Africa.¹⁴²¹

Commitment Features

The G7 commitment is to “work with [those in the G5] to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.” Thus, it is understood that actions need to be between the G7 member and at least one country in the G5 Sahel region (i.e. Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger) to be counted for compliance.

“Improve and better coordinate” signals that actions do not necessarily need to be started by the G7 member. Instead, they can simply be actions that build on new or existing efforts by the G5 Sahel member states. These can be through “advancing the progress of or making useful additions” to the G5 Sahel’s defence and internal security.¹⁴²² Alternative actions include “bringing different [regional security efforts] into a harmonious or efficient relationship.”¹⁴²³

Actions need to be related to the security of the G5 Sahel region, where defence refers to “military measures of resources for protecting a country” and internal security refers to the act of keeping peace within the borders of a sovereign state, which is the responsibility of the police force.¹⁴²⁴

It is noteworthy that the text of the commitment, “including,” implies that support for structural reforms of the G5 Sahel’s security apparatus should be prioritized and not excluded. Structural reforms are measures that change the way the economy operates e.g. in the labour, product and service markets.¹⁴²⁵ In the context of regional security, examples can include transformation of institutions’ methods of control and establishment of good governance through electing

¹⁴¹⁷ G8/Africa Joint Declaration: Shared Values, Shared Responsibilities. G8 Summit (Deauville) 27 May 2011. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-africa-en.html>.

¹⁴¹⁸ G7 Leaders’ Summit (24-26.08.19, Biarritz), France Diplomat. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/g7-leaders-summit-24-26-08-19-biarritz/>.

¹⁴¹⁹ G7 Leaders’ Summit (24-26.08.19, Biarritz), France Diplomat. Access Date: 7 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/g7-leaders-summit-24-26-08-19-biarritz/>.

¹⁴²⁰ G7 Leaders’ Summit, France Diplomat. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/french-g7-presidency/g7-leaders-summit-24-26-08-19-biarritz/>.

¹⁴²¹ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership, G7 France (Biarritz) 25 August 2019. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/admin/upload/default/0001/05/2b23c8767bc581f1a204029870f8f400cd2546ae.pdf>.

¹⁴²² Improve, Merriam Webster Dictionary. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/improve>.

¹⁴²³ Coordinate, Oxford Dictionary. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/coordinate>.

¹⁴²⁴ Defence, Oxford Dictionary. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/defence>.

¹⁴²⁵ Structural Reforms for Economic Growth, European Commission. Access Date: 8 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/growth-and-investment/structural-reforms/structural-reforms-economic-growth_en.

representatives. Transparency of institutions, especially with regards to their budget, as well as post-conflict recovery are also examples of structural reforms.¹⁴²⁶

For full compliance, member needs to provide tangible support to at least one G5 Sahel country on their defence and to at least one G5 Sahel country on internal security. Tangible support can be through funding or implementing new initiatives. The G7 member will get a score of partial compliance if efforts in either or both areas are just verbal declaration of support. No actions toward either of the areas will yield a score of -1.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does not work with any of the G5 to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance either their defence or internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.
0	G7 member provides tangible support to some of the G5 to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence OR internal security capabilities, AND only verbal declaration of support in the other area.
+1	G7 member provides tangible support to at least one G5 Sahel country's defence AND to at least one G5 Sahel country's internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

Compliance Director: Tacye Hong

Lead Analyst: Foti Vito

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to work with the G5 Sahel to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 28 August 2019, the Commander of Operation PRESENCE – Mali, Colonel Travis Morehen told reporters that a small team of Canadian Forces personnel will redeploy to Mali for approximately one week in September 2019 to train an incoming Romanian contingent on mission-specific abilities.¹⁴²⁷ The Department of National Defence has confirmed that this deployment was carried out, and included providing four C-17 intra-theatre airlift flights to assist with the deployment of Romanian personnel and equipment.¹⁴²⁸ The Ministry of National Defence announced that Canadian soldiers deployed to assist the Romanian forces will end their mission no later than January 2020.¹⁴²⁹ This action provides tangible support to Mali's defence.

¹⁴²⁶ Andrzej Karkoszka, "The Concept of Security Sector Reform," UN. Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/ruleoflaw/files/Karkoszka.pdf>.

¹⁴²⁷ Canada to send team back to Mali to help Romania minimize gap in evacuation, The Canadian Press (Ottawa) 28 August 2019. Access date: 12 October 2019. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-mali-romania-1.5263048>.

¹⁴²⁸ Canadian Armed Forces conclude peacekeeping mission in Mali, Department of National Defence (Ottawa) 31 August 2019. Access date: 12 October 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2019/08/canadian-armed-forces-conclude-peacekeeping-mission-in-mali.html>.

¹⁴²⁹ Operation PRESENCE, Department of National Defence (Ottawa) 2019. Access date: 12 October 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/op-presence.html>.

On 30 August 2019, Global Affairs Canada committed CAD2.77 million to support the implementation of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali.¹⁴³⁰ A statement by the department states that the funding will make “the tools for its implementation – Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration, a joint protection force and local police – more participatory, inclusive, and gender and conflict sensitive.”¹⁴³¹ The program aims to meet the needs of local populations in northern regions of Mali.¹⁴³² This action provides tangible support to Mali’s defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 30 August 2019, Global Affairs Canada committed CAD1.59 million to support the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission in Mali, increasing its capacity regarding units responsible for investigations and reparations for victims, its ability to hold public hearings, and a national communications campaign.¹⁴³³ The Canadian government expects the funding to better equip the Commission “to investigate and shed light on human rights violations committed during conflicts and other episodes of armed violence, including sexual violence and other violations against women and girls.”¹⁴³⁴ The program supports the implementation of the Algiers Peace Agreement and compliments Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission of the United Nations in Mali (MINUSMA).¹⁴³⁵ This action provides tangible support for structural reforms of Mali’s security apparatus.

On 23 January 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Phillippe Champagne concluded a visit to Mali, announcing “the deployment of 2 police trainers to the Alioune Blondin Beye Peacekeeping School in Bamako, Mali.”¹⁴³⁶ This action provides tangible support to Mali’s internal security capabilities.

On 21 February 2020, Global Affairs Canada provided an additional CAD1.8 million to the MINUSMA Trust Fund.¹⁴³⁷ The fund provides “support to Malian institutions in areas including rule of law and security institutions, mine action, promotion of national dialogue, regional cooperation, security sector reform, human rights, and the initial Demobilization Disarmament and Reintegration

¹⁴³⁰ Project profile — For a More Inclusive Peace Process in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 30 August 2019. Access date: 19 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007720001>.

¹⁴³¹ Project profile — For a More Inclusive Peace Process in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 30 August 2019. Access date: 19 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007720001>.

¹⁴³² Project profile — For a More Inclusive Peace Process in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 30 August 2019. Access date: 19 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007720001>.

¹⁴³³ Project profile — Supporting the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission for the Stabilization of Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 30 August 2019. Access date: 19 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007718001>.

¹⁴³⁴ Project profile — Supporting the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission for the Stabilization of Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 30 August 2019. Access date: 19 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007718001>.

¹⁴³⁵ Project profile — Supporting the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission for the Stabilization of Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 30 August 2019. Access date: 19 December 2019. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P007718001>.

¹⁴³⁶ Minister Champagne concludes visit to Mali, continues on to Morocco, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/minister-champagne-concludes-visit-to-mali-continues-on-to-morocco.html>.

¹⁴³⁷ Project profile — Support to MINUSMA Trust Fund – Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 February 2020. Access date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P002431002>.

(DDR) of former combatants.”¹⁴³⁸ This action provides tangible support to Mali’s internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 11 March 2020, Global Affairs Canada contributed CAD162,485 to “Conflict Prevention and Mitigation in Sahel Border Regions,” in partnership with the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue.¹⁴³⁹ The project intends to “help stabilize the conflict situation between communities and armed groups in the border areas of Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger.”¹⁴⁴⁰ The project also supports conflict mediation with non-jihadist armed groups and self-defence groups in Burkina Faso and Niger that have close ties with the armed groups in Mali’s border areas.”¹⁴⁴¹ This action provides tangible support to Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger’s defence and internal security capabilities.

On 14 March 2020, Minister Champagne, after confirming the safe discovery of a Canadian hostage in Mali, stated that “The government of Canada will continue to engage Mali and Burkina Faso at the highest levels, and will work with international partners to pursue those responsible for this crime and bring them to justice.”¹⁴⁴² This action provides tangible support for Mali and Burkina Faso’s internal security capabilities.

On 31 March 2020, Global Affairs Canada contributed CAD331,765 to “Arms and Ammunition Management for More Stability in the Sahel Region,” in partnership with the Mines Advisory Group.¹⁴⁴³ The Government of Canada states that the project will improve security in the Sahel through “close cooperation with local authorities in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger to develop and strengthen their capacity to safely manage, store and monitor weapons and ammunition.”¹⁴⁴⁴ This action provides tangible support to Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger’s internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

Canada has provided tangible support to the G5 Sahel to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Justin O’Brien

¹⁴³⁸ Project profile — Support to MINUSMA Trust Fund – Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 February 2020. Access date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P002431002>.

¹⁴³⁹ Project profile — Conflict Prevention and Mitigation in Sahel Border Regions, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 11 March 2020. Access date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P005169001>.

¹⁴⁴⁰ Project profile — Conflict Prevention and Mitigation in Sahel Border Regions, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 11 March 2020. Access date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P005169001>.

¹⁴⁴¹ Project profile — Conflict Prevention and Mitigation in Sahel Border Regions, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 11 March 2020. Access date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P005169001>.

¹⁴⁴² Statement by Minister of Foreign Affairs on Édith Blais, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 March 2020. Access date: 01 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/statement-by-minister-of-foreign-affairs-on-edith-blais.html>.

¹⁴⁴³ Project profile — Arms and Ammunition Management for More Stability in the Sahel Region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 31 March 2020. Access date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/p005184001>.

¹⁴⁴⁴ Project profile — Arms and Ammunition Management for More Stability in the Sahel Region, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 31 March 2020. Access date: 12 April 2020. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/p005184001>.

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to work with the G5 Sahel to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 3 October 2019, France asked a series of European partners to dispatch special forces to various nations in the Sahel region of Africa, including Mali, with the goal of assisting local forces who are increasingly being targeted in deadly jihadist attacks.¹⁴⁴⁵ The additional units would assist in the training of local forces, while also allowing those deployed as part of France's Operation Barkhane to focus their intent on preventing attacks and pursuing insurgent targets.¹⁴⁴⁶ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's internal security capabilities.

On 16 October 2019, French and German representatives reaffirmed their shared determination to work together for peace and stability in the Sahel.¹⁴⁴⁷ Representatives from the two countries reaffirmed their full commitment to securing, stabilizing, and developing the Sahel Region and vowed to work in close coordination with the European Union in the launch and implementation of the Partnership for Security and Stability in the Sahel.¹⁴⁴⁸ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 1 November 2019, France and its G5 Sahel partners commenced a 17-day military operation involving 1,400 troops.¹⁴⁴⁹ The campaign concentrated on the Bouliekessi area of Mali and the Déou area of Burkina Faso.¹⁴⁵⁰ Carried out simultaneously in both locations with the help of partners forces, the mission attempted to hinder the ongoing terrorist activity in the area and disturb the operations of existing armed groups.¹⁴⁵¹ The campaign, titled Bourgou IV, led to the seizure of ammunition stores, 100 telephones, 64 vehicles, and more.¹⁴⁵² This action provides tangible support to Mali and Burkina Faso's defence.

¹⁴⁴⁵ France Seeks International Support for Sahel Military Coalition, The Defence Post (Washington.) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/10/03/france-international-coalition-sahel-special-operations/>.

¹⁴⁴⁶ France Seeks International Support for Sahel Military Coalition, The Defence Post (Washington.) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/10/03/france-international-coalition-sahel-special-operations/>.

¹⁴⁴⁷ Deutsch-Französische Erklärung von Toulouse, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 16 October 2019. Date Accessed: 15 December 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2258030/8250e92c55a8fc2c6d25b00fd8c57214/erklaerung-data.pdf>.

¹⁴⁴⁸ Deutsch-Französische Erklärung von Toulouse, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 16 October 2019. Date Accessed: 15 December 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2258030/8250e92c55a8fc2c6d25b00fd8c57214/erklaerung-data.pdf>.

¹⁴⁴⁹ France and Sahel partner forces conduct 'unprecedented' operation in Burkina Faso and Mali, The Defence Post (Washington) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/18/joint-operation-burkina-faso-mali-barkhane-bourgou-iv-sahel/>.

¹⁴⁵⁰ France and Sahel partner forces conduct 'unprecedented' operation in Burkina Faso and Mali, The Defence Post (Washington) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/18/joint-operation-burkina-faso-mali-barkhane-bourgou-iv-sahel/>.

¹⁴⁵¹ BARKHANE: Operation BOURGOU IV in the Gourma, Ministry of Armed Forces (Paris) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/operations/actualites2/barkhane-operation-bourgou-iv-dans-le-gourma>.

¹⁴⁵² BARKHANE: Operation BOURGOU IV in the Gourma, Ministry of Armed Forces (Paris) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/operations/actualites2/barkhane-operation-bourgou-iv-dans-le-gourma>.

On 4 November 2019, Minister of Defence Florence Parly announced her country's intention to deploy ground troops to Burkina Faso's "three borders" area in a matter of days.¹⁴⁵³ The same day, Minister Parly remarked that the launching of operation Bourgou 4, under the larger Barkhane campaign (France's military offensive in Africa's Sahel region), will be paired with the contribution of two local Burkinabe units.¹⁴⁵⁴ This action provides tangible support to Burkina Faso's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 12 December 2019, President Emmanuel Macron and Niger's President Mahamadou Issoufou jointly agreed to postpone a scheduled meeting between the leaders of the G5 Sahel members and their French counterpart set for late December.¹⁴⁵⁵ The meeting is now planned for early 2020.¹⁴⁵⁶ Aimed at addressing France's continued military presence in the region and the ongoing battle being waged against jihadist organizations prevalent in the area, the two leaders opted to postpone the event following an attack on a remote armed forces outpost in Niger.¹⁴⁵⁷ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 19 December 2019, Minister Parly announced that American-built Reaper drones, equipped with laser-guided missiles, will see use as part of France's Barkhane mission in the G5 member states of Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali.¹⁴⁵⁸ While the drones have been used by French forces in the region since 2014 to provide surveillance support to missions, they will only now be permitted to strike targets.¹⁴⁵⁹ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 21 December 2019, President Macron announced the killing of 33 militants in Mali by French forces operating in the country.¹⁴⁶⁰ The declaration comes weeks after 13 French troops died in a helicopter crash in the country; the largest single day loss for the French military since the 1980s.¹⁴⁶¹ Thousands of French troops have been deployed in the country since 2013.¹⁴⁶² This action provides tangible support to Mali's internal security capabilities.

¹⁴⁵³ France Announces Troop Deployment to Burkina Faso, Al Jazeera (Doha) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/11/france-announces-troop-deployment-burkina-faso-191106133819577.html>.

¹⁴⁵⁴ France Announces Troop Deployment to Burkina Faso, Al Jazeera (Doha) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/11/france-announces-troop-deployment-burkina-faso-191106133819577.html>.

¹⁴⁵⁵ France postpones G5 Sahel meeting after deadly Niger attack, France24 (Paris) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20191212-france-postpones-g5-sahel-meeting-after-deadly-niger-attack>.

¹⁴⁵⁶ France postpones G5 Sahel meeting after deadly Niger attack, France24 (Paris) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20191212-france-postpones-g5-sahel-meeting-after-deadly-niger-attack>.

¹⁴⁵⁷ France postpones G5 Sahel meeting after deadly Niger attack, France24 (Paris) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20191212-france-postpones-g5-sahel-meeting-after-deadly-niger-attack>.

¹⁴⁵⁸ France deploys armed drones in the Sahel region, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/france-deploys-armed-drones-in-the-sahel-region/a-51744023>.

¹⁴⁵⁹ France deploys armed drones in the Sahel region, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/france-deploys-armed-drones-in-the-sahel-region/a-51744023>.

¹⁴⁶⁰ Mali conflict: Macron says 33 'terrorists' killed by French troops, British Broadcasting Company (London) 21 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-50879429>.

¹⁴⁶¹ Mali conflict: Macron says 33 'terrorists' killed by French troops, British Broadcasting Company (London) 21 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-50879429>.

¹⁴⁶² Mali conflict: Macron says 33 'terrorists' killed by French troops, British Broadcasting Company (London) 21 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-50879429>.

On 13 January 2020, President Macron hosted his counterparts from the G5 Sahel members in Pau, France, to examine the ongoing situation in the Sahel region.¹⁴⁶³ With the United Nations Secretary-General in attendance, the G5 Sahel heads of state called on the international community to increase its collective presence in the region with the hope of preventing terrorist threats from spreading across borders, safeguarding civilians, and protecting the sovereignty of the G5 Sahel states, with the end goal being the restoration of stability in the region – a necessary starting point for further development.¹⁴⁶⁴ President Macron also announced plans to dispatch an additional 220 soldiers to aid with Operation Barkhane.¹⁴⁶⁵ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 2 February 2020, Minister Parly announced that an additional 600 soldiers would be deployed to the Sahel region to aid in the ongoing fight against Islamist militants in the region.¹⁴⁶⁶ Parly added that the reinforcement would allow for the increase of pressure against the Islamic State group in the Grand Sahara (ISIS-GS).¹⁴⁶⁷ In addition to the French presence, a contingent of 13,000 UN peacekeepers, referred to as MINUSMA, are present on the ground in Mali.¹⁴⁶⁸ Prior to Minister Parly's announcement, France had an existing 4,500 troops stationed in the Europe-sized region as part of ongoing Operation Barkhane.¹⁴⁶⁹ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 8 February 2020, the military announced that joint operations between Malian and French forces had killed 30 extremists in Africa's Sahel region in recent days.¹⁴⁷⁰ The news comes in the wake of a recent statement announcing the addition of 600 soldiers to aid with Operation Barkhane, increasing

¹⁴⁶³ G5 Sahel – Pau Summit – Statement by the Heads of State (13 Jan, 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/news/news-about-defence-and-security/article/g5-sahel-pau-summit-statement-by-the-heads-of-state-13-jan-2020>.

¹⁴⁶⁴ G5 Sahel – Pau Summit – Statement by the Heads of State (13 Jan, 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/news/news-about-defence-and-security/article/g5-sahel-pau-summit-statement-by-the-heads-of-state-13-jan-2020>.

¹⁴⁶⁵ G5 Sahel – Pau Summit – Statement by the Heads of State (13 Jan, 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/news/news-about-defence-and-security/article/g5-sahel-pau-summit-statement-by-the-heads-of-state-13-jan-2020>.

¹⁴⁶⁶ France to send 600 more troops to Africa's Sahel, France24 (Paris) 24 February 2020. Date Accessed: 13 April 2020. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200202-france-sahel-africa-parly-troops-army-soldiers-defence-minister-florence-mali-burkina-faso-niger>.

¹⁴⁶⁷ France to send 600 more troops to Africa's Sahel, France24 (Paris) 24 February 2020. Date Accessed: 13 April 2020. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200202-france-sahel-africa-parly-troops-army-soldiers-defence-minister-florence-mali-burkina-faso-niger>.

¹⁴⁶⁸ France to send 600 more troops to Africa's Sahel, France24 (Paris) 24 February 2020. Date Accessed: 13 April 2020. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200202-france-sahel-africa-parly-troops-army-soldiers-defence-minister-florence-mali-burkina-faso-niger>.

¹⁴⁶⁹ France to send 600 more troops to Africa's Sahel, France24 (Paris) 24 February 2020. Date Accessed: 13 April 2020. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200202-france-sahel-africa-parly-troops-army-soldiers-defence-minister-florence-mali-burkina-faso-niger>.

¹⁴⁷⁰ French airstrikes, commandos kill 30 extremists in Sahel, ABC News (New York) 8 February 2020. Date Accessed: 14 April 2020. <https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/french-airstrikes-commandos-kill-30-extremists-sahel-68844791>.

the total number of troops to 5,100.¹⁴⁷¹ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's internal security capabilities.

On 27 March 2020, France, along with 13 other European allies, announced the establishment of a new task force, named Takuba (meaning "Sabre" in Tuareg).¹⁴⁷² The group will assist with ongoing efforts by regional forces to resist armed groups in the Sahel region, adding to the existing presence of Operation Barkhane and the regional G5 Sahel Joint Force.¹⁴⁷³ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 7 April 2020, Permanent Representative of France to the UN Nicolas de Rivière delivered an address to the UN Security Council highlighting the results of the recent Pau Summit and the overall state of affairs in the G5 Sahel region.¹⁴⁷⁴ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

France has provided tangible support to the G5 Sahel to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: William Lloyd

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to work the G5 Sahel to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 24 September 2019, Minister of Foreign Affairs Heiko Maas outlined Germany's goals at the forthcoming meeting of the United Nations General Assembly with respect to the country's commitments to the Sahel region.¹⁴⁷⁵ Minister Maas stated that Germany regards security, disarmament, the protection of international humanitarian law, and crisis prevention in the Sahel region as crucial topics that must be addressed by the international community.¹⁴⁷⁶ Minister Maas stated that Germany will continue to work toward peaceful cooperation and de-escalation in Sahel.¹⁴⁷⁷ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

¹⁴⁷¹ French airstrikes, commandos kill 30 extremists in Sahel, ABC News (New York) 8 February 2020. Date Accessed: 14 April 2020. <https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/french-airstrikes-commandos-kill-30-extremists-sahel-68844791>.

¹⁴⁷² France and allies establish new task force in Sahel, Al Jazeera (Doha) 28 March 2020. Date Accessed: 14 April 2020. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/france-allies-establish-task-force-sahel-200328075257444.html>.

¹⁴⁷³ France and allies establish new task force in Sahel, Al Jazeera (Doha) 28 March 2020. Date Accessed: 14 April 2020. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/france-allies-establish-task-force-sahel-200328075257444.html>.

¹⁴⁷⁴ Official speeches and statements – April 7, 2020, Embassy of France in Washington, D.C. (Washington) 7 April 2020. Date Accessed: 16 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9701>.

¹⁴⁷⁵ Statement by Foreign Minister Maas prior to his departure for New York, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 24 September 2019. Date Accessed: 15 December 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-general-assembly/2249318>.

¹⁴⁷⁶ Statement by Foreign Minister Maas prior to his departure for New York, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 24 September 2019. Date Accessed: 15 December 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-general-assembly/2249318>.

¹⁴⁷⁷ Statement by Foreign Minister Maas prior to his departure for New York, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 24 September 2019. Date Accessed: 15 December 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-general-assembly/2249318>.

On 7 October 2019, Minister of Defence Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer met with the Prime Minister of Niger Brigi Rafini to discuss the special challenges that the country faces with respect to cross-border terrorism and illegal migration.¹⁴⁷⁸ Minister Kramp-Karrenbauer stated that German missions in the region aim to prioritize the military issues facing the country as well as the civil ones, such as the education of girls.¹⁴⁷⁹ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 9 October 2019, Minister of Defence Kramp-Karrenbauer visited German soldiers of the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission of the United Nations in Mali (MINUSMA) and re-affirmed the Bundeswehr's contribution to education, medical care, and protection in Mali in preservation of the fragile peace agreement reached in the country.¹⁴⁸⁰ This action provides verbal support to the Mali's internal security capabilities.

On 16 October 2019, German and French representatives reaffirmed their shared determination to work together for peace and stability in the Sahel.¹⁴⁸¹ Representatives from the two countries reaffirmed their full commitment to securing, stabilizing, and developing the Sahel Region and vowed to work in close coordination with the European Union in the launch and implementation of the Partnership for Security and Stability in the Sahel.¹⁴⁸² This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 20 November 2019, Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations Juergen Schulz stressed that all partners of the Sahel Alliance must do more to stabilize the situation during a meeting of the United Nations Security Council.¹⁴⁸³ Deputy Permanent Representative Schulz invited other Council members to participate in the security partnership recently launched by Germany and France.¹⁴⁸⁴ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 26 November 2019, Minister of Foreign Affairs Heiko Maas stated that more will be expected of Germany in addressing the ongoing conflicts in the Sahel region.¹⁴⁸⁵ Minister Maas suggested that

¹⁴⁷⁸ Ministerin: Einsatzreise nach Niger und Mali, Bundesministerium der Verteidigung (Bonn) 7 October 2019. Date Accessed: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/verteidigungsministerin-einsatzreise-niger-mali-122720>.

¹⁴⁷⁹ Ministerin: Einsatzreise nach Niger und Mali, Bundesministerium der Verteidigung (Bonn) 7 October 2019. Date Accessed: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/verteidigungsministerin-einsatzreise-niger-mali-122720>.

¹⁴⁸⁰ MINUSMA: Truppenbesuch der Ministerin bei UN-Mission in Mali, Bundesministerium der Verteidigung (Bonn) 9 October 2019. Date Accessed: 15 December 2019. <https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/verteidigungsministerin-truppenbesuch-minusma-mali-131688>.

¹⁴⁸¹ Deutsch-Französische Erklärung von Toulouse, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 16 October 2019. Date Accessed: 15 December 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2258030/8250e92c55a8fc2c6d25b00fd8c57214/erklaerung-data.pdf>.

¹⁴⁸² Deutsch-Französische Erklärung von Toulouse, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 16 October 2019. Date Accessed: 15 December 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2258030/8250e92c55a8fc2c6d25b00fd8c57214/erklaerung-data.pdf>.

¹⁴⁸³ Amid Increased Terrorist Activity in Sahel Region, Speakers Tell Security Council Greater Commitment Needed for Joint Force, United Nations (New York) 20 November 2019. Date Accessed: 15 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14027.doc.htm>.

¹⁴⁸⁴ Amid Increased Terrorist Activity in Sahel Region, Speakers Tell Security Council Greater Commitment Needed for Joint Force, United Nations (New York) 20 November 2019. Date Accessed: 15 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14027.doc.htm>.

¹⁴⁸⁵ Speech by Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the Körber-Stiftung Berlin Foreign Policy Forum, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 26 November 2019. Date Accessed: 16 December 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-berlin-policy-forum/2282522>.

German military engagement in the Sahel region would increase in the foreseeable future, but also noted that military crisis management was not enough.¹⁴⁸⁶ Minister Maas stated that Germany must also work toward “political answers to profound changes to the international system.”¹⁴⁸⁷ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel’s defence and internal security capabilities.

On 12 December 2019, the Government of Germany announced the allocation of EUR66 million to its equipment assistance program for foreign armed forces for the period of 2021-2024.¹⁴⁸⁸ The program focuses on providing the skills and materials necessary for peacekeeping to “selected African countries” with a particular priority on assistance for Burkina Faso.¹⁴⁸⁹ The program will include the allocation of particular military equipment as well as training and advising foreign armed forces in the use of equipment.¹⁴⁹⁰ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel’s defence.

On 26 February 2020, Minister Maas declared at the fifty-sixth Munich Security Conference that Europe must do more to promote the “security and stability of our neighbourhood” from Ukraine to the Sahel.¹⁴⁹¹ Minister Maas identified the Sahel region as “a new haven for international terrorism” and affirmed that “nowhere else are Germany and Europe more committed - both in military and civilian terms.”¹⁴⁹² He announced that Germany was “prepared to become more involved” in the Sahel region.¹⁴⁹³ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel’s defence and internal security capabilities.

It is noted that Germany supports the efforts of G5 countries and Senegal to cope with immediate shocks through helping them enhance their social protection systems. This support is done through the World Bank’s Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program. Evidence cannot, however, be found for this initiative from August 2019 onwards and thus has not been included here for compliance scoring.

Germany has provided the G5 Sahel with tangible support to enhance their defense and verbal support to enhance both their defence and internal security capabilities but has failed to provide tangible support for internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

¹⁴⁸⁶ Speech by Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the Körber-Stiftung Berlin Foreign Policy Forum, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 26 November 2019. Date Accessed: 16 December 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-berlin-policy-forum/2282522>.

¹⁴⁸⁷ Speech by Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the Körber-Stiftung Berlin Foreign Policy Forum, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 26 November 2019. Date Accessed: 16 December 2019. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-berlin-policy-forum/2282522>.

¹⁴⁸⁸ Projekte stehen: Ausstattungshilfe für ausländische Streitkräfte, Bundesministerium der Verteidigung (Bonn) 12 December 2019. Date Accessed: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/projekte-stehen-ausstattungshilfe-auslaendische-streitkraefte-163000>.

¹⁴⁸⁹ Projekte stehen: Ausstattungshilfe für ausländische Streitkräfte, Bundesministerium der Verteidigung (Bonn) 12 December 2019. Date Accessed: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/projekte-stehen-ausstattungshilfe-auslaendische-streitkraefte-163000>.

¹⁴⁹⁰ Projekte stehen: Ausstattungshilfe für ausländische Streitkräfte, Bundesministerium der Verteidigung (Bonn) 12 December 2019. Date Accessed: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bmvg.de/de/aktuelles/projekte-stehen-ausstattungshilfe-auslaendische-streitkraefte-163000>.

¹⁴⁹¹ Speech by Foreign Minister Heiko Mass at the 56th Munich Security Conference, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 14 February 2020. Date Accessed: 15 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-munich-security-conference/2308256>.

¹⁴⁹² Speech by Foreign Minister Heiko Mass at the 56th Munich Security Conference, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 14 February 2020. Date Accessed: 15 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-munich-security-conference/2308256>.

¹⁴⁹³ Speech by Foreign Minister Heiko Mass at the 56th Munich Security Conference, German Federal Foreign Office (Bonn) 14 February 2020. Date Accessed: 15 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-munich-security-conference/2308256>.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Jessi Gilchrist

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to work the G5 Sahel to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 5 September 2019, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Luigi Di Maio reiterated Italy's support for the United Nations High Commissioner as a priority partner in assisting refugees in the ongoing humanitarian crises and in the management of migratory flows in transit countries such as Niger.¹⁴⁹⁴ This action provides verbal support to enhance the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 14 October 2019, the Government of Italy donated ten ambulances and three tank trucks to the Government of Niger through the Africa Fund in order to “strengthen the capacity of the Nigerian authorities to help migrants and to combat human trafficking.”¹⁴⁹⁵ This action provides tangible support to enhance Niger's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 6 December 2019, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Emanuela Del Re participated in a meeting with the Minister of Foreign of Niger Kalla Ankoura and declared that Niger and its stabilization is a priority of Italian foreign policy.¹⁴⁹⁶ Representatives from Niger and Italy discussed the economic and social development of Niger as it relates to security and agreed to organize upcoming initiatives in this regard.¹⁴⁹⁷ This action provides verbal support to enhance Niger's internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 7 November 2019, the Italian Embassy in Niger launched “Pizza for Peace,” a project designed to develop the entrepreneurship of refugee women residing in the country and assist Niger in structural economic reform.¹⁴⁹⁸ This action provides tangible support to enhance Niger's internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

¹⁴⁹⁴ Incontro del Ministro Di Maio con l'Alto Commissario ONU per i Rifugiati, Filippo Grandi, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale, (Rome) 25 September 2019. Date Accessed: 12 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/09/incontro-del-ministro-di-maio-con-l-alto-commissario-onu-per-i-rifugiati-filippo-grandi.html.

¹⁴⁹⁵ L'Italia dona 10 ambulanze al Governo del Niger, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 15 October 2019. Date Accessed: 11 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/10/l-italia-dona-10-ambulanze-al-governo-del-niger.html.

¹⁴⁹⁶ Med 2019: Del Re incontra il Ministro degli Esteri Niger, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 6 December 2019. Date Accessed: 11 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/12/med-2019-del-re-incontra-il-ministro-degli-esteri-niger.html

¹⁴⁹⁷ Med 2019: Del Re incontra il Ministro degli Esteri Niger, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 6 December 2019. Date Accessed: 11 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/12/med-2019-del-re-incontra-il-ministro-degli-esteri-niger.html

¹⁴⁹⁸ Settimana cucina italiana: In Niger 'la pizza per la pace', Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 7 November 2019. Date Accessed: 14 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/11/settimana-cucina-italiana-in-niger-la-pizza-per-la-pace.html.

On 7 December 2019, President Giuseppe Conte reaffirmed Italy's sustained action toward the stability and prosperity of the Republic of Chad in a speech at the Mediterranean Dialogues conference.¹⁴⁹⁹ This action provides verbal support to enhance Chad's internal security capabilities.

On 9 December 2019, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation allocated EUR800,000 to the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention through the Africa Fund to strengthen the capacities of judicial procedures in the fight against human trafficking in Niger as the crossroads of migrate routes to the central Mediterranean.¹⁵⁰⁰ This action provides tangible support to Niger's internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 3 February 2020, Deputy Minister Del Re participated in the seventh Ministerial Conference of Dialogue 5+5 that brought together representatives from Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, and Malta with representatives from the G5 Sahel countries to discuss Migration and Development.¹⁵⁰¹ At the Conference, Del Re reaffirmed Italy's support to integrate the "different dimensions of security" by promoting an "all-encompassing and balanced approach to ... migration" with the "fight against traffickers."¹⁵⁰² This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 25 February 2020, Deputy Minister Del Re attended the first General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance.¹⁵⁰³ At the meeting, she confirmed Italy's support for the Sahel Alliance in the challenges that the Sahel countries face with respect to security and development.¹⁵⁰⁴ At the conference, she participated in a meeting with the President of Burkina Faso Roch Mark Kaboré and expressed his "great satisfaction at the recent signing of the defense cooperation agreement which will allow for increased bilateral collaboration for training in the areas of border control and the fight against illicit trafficking."¹⁵⁰⁵ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

Italy has provided the G5 Sahel with tangible support to enhance both their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

¹⁴⁹⁹ Intervento del Presidente Conte al Rome MED 2019, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome) 7 December 2019. Date Accessed: 14 December 2019. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/intervento-del-presidente-conte-al-rome-med-2019/13531>.

¹⁵⁰⁰ Due nuovi contributi MAECI per rifugiati in Niger e Etiopia, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 9 December 2019. Date Accessed: 11 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/12/due-nuovi-contributi-maeci-per-rifugiati-in-niger-e-etioopia_0.html.

¹⁵⁰¹ Partecipazione della Vice Ministra Del Re alla VIII Conferenza Ministeriale del Dialogo 5+5 a Marrakech. Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 3 February 2020. Date Accessed: 16 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/03/partecipazione-della-vice-ministra-del-re-alla-viii-conferenza-ministeriale-del-dialogo-5-5-a-marrakech.html.

¹⁵⁰² Partecipazione della Vice Ministra Del Re alla VIII Conferenza Ministeriale del Dialogo 5+5 a Marrakech. Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 3 February 2020. Date Accessed: 16 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/03/partecipazione-della-vice-ministra-del-re-alla-viii-conferenza-ministeriale-del-dialogo-5-5-a-marrakech.html.

¹⁵⁰³ Del Re a Nouakchott: Italia per sicurezza e sviluppo in Sahel. Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 25 February 2020. Date Accessed: 13 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/02/del-re-a-nouakchott-italia-per-sicurezza-e-sviluppo-in-sahel.html.

¹⁵⁰⁴ Del Re a Nouakchott: Italia per sicurezza e sviluppo in Sahel. Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 25 February 2020. Date Accessed: 13 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/02/del-re-a-nouakchott-italia-per-sicurezza-e-sviluppo-in-sahel.html.

¹⁵⁰⁵ Del Re a Nouakchott: Italia per sicurezza e sviluppo in Sahel. Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 25 February 2020. Date Accessed: 13 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/02/del-re-a-nouakchott-italia-per-sicurezza-e-sviluppo-in-sahel.html.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jessi Gilchrist

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to work with the G5 Sahel to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 28 August 2019, Minister for Foreign Affairs Taro Kono participated in the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region at the Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7).¹⁵⁰⁶ Minister Kono pledged that Japan will provide training to 1,000 personnel from the G5 Sahel members over a three-year period, vocational training and educational opportunities for youth and fostering the development of human resources through the School of Peacekeeping “Ecole de Maintien de la Paix Alioune Blondin Beye de Bamako.”¹⁵⁰⁷ Minister Kono also reiterated Japan’s commitment to help refugees and their host communities in the context of the humanitarian and developmental issues.¹⁵⁰⁸ This action provides tangible support for structural reforms of the G5 Sahel region’s security apparatuses.

On 28 August 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe participated in a bilateral meeting with the President of the Republic of Mali, Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta.¹⁵⁰⁹ Prime Minister Abe discussed Japan’s support for the School of Peacekeeping in Mali and Japan’s continued support in the field of public safety including assistance to peacekeeping training centres in Africa.¹⁵¹⁰ This action provides verbal support to the Mali’s internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 29 August 2019, Prime Minister Abe participated in the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and neighbouring regions during the TICAD7.¹⁵¹¹ In attendance were the heads of state, heads of governments and government representatives from 15 countries and 16 organizations in Africa.¹⁵¹² This action provides verbal support to enhance the G5 Sahel’s defence and internal security capabilities.

¹⁵⁰⁶ Address by the Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Kono Taro at the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511296.pdf>.

¹⁵⁰⁷ Address by the Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Kono Taro at the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511296.pdf>.

¹⁵⁰⁸ Address by the Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Kono Taro at the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511296.pdf>.

¹⁵⁰⁹ Japan-Mali Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/ml/page3e_001070.html.

¹⁵¹⁰ Japan-Mali Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/ml/page3e_001070.html.

¹⁵¹¹ Prime Minister Abe and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Kono attended the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/page4e_001075.html.

¹⁵¹² Prime Minister Abe and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Kono attended the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Horn of Africa and the Neighboring Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/page4e_001075.html.

On 29 August 2019, Prime Minister Abe held a bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Mauritania at the TICAD7.¹⁵¹³ Prime Minister Abe renewed Japan's commitment to strengthen counter measures to illegal immigration and terrorism.¹⁵¹⁴ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 29 August 2019, Prime Minister Abe participated in a bilateral meeting with the President of Burkina Faso Roch Marc Christian Kaboré during the TICAD7.¹⁵¹⁵ President Kaboré welcomed Japan's New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa.¹⁵¹⁶ The two leaders also discussed counterterrorism in Burkina Faso.¹⁵¹⁷ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 29 August 2019, Minister Kono held a bilateral meeting with the Minister of Economy and Developmental Planning of Chad Issa Doubragne at the TICAD7.¹⁵¹⁸ Minister Kono renewed Japan's initiatives to improve the situation in the Lake Chad Basin and its renewed support to the goals of the G5 Sahel.¹⁵¹⁹ This action provides verbal support to the Chad's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 31 August 2019, Minister Kono held a bilateral meeting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation for Burkina Faso Alpha Barry during the TICAD7.¹⁵²⁰ Minister Barry welcomed NAPSA, which was introduced by Japan at TICAD7.¹⁵²¹ He also welcomed the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel region that was held as part of TICAD7.¹⁵²² Minister Kono expressed support for deepening bilateral cooperation on security measures among other things.¹⁵²³ This action provides verbal support to Burkina Faso's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 21 October 2019, Minister Kono held a Foreign Minister's meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Burkina Faso Alpha Barry.¹⁵²⁴ Japan will back up the efforts made by Burkina Faso in the fight against terrorism and will work with African-led initiatives, like the G5

¹⁵¹³ Japan-Mauritania Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/mr/page3e_001076.html.

¹⁵¹⁴ Japan-Mauritania Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/mr/page3e_001076.html.

¹⁵¹⁵ Japan-Burkina Faso Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/bf/page25e_000323.html.

¹⁵¹⁶ Japan-Burkina Faso Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/bf/page25e_000323.html.

¹⁵¹⁷ Japan-Burkina Faso Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/bf/page25e_000323.html.

¹⁵¹⁸ Meeting between Foreign Minister Kono and Doubragne, Minister of Economy and Developmental Planning of the Republic of Chad. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/td/page3e_001090.html.

¹⁵¹⁹ Meeting between Foreign Minister Kono and Doubragne, Minister of Economy and Developmental Planning of the Republic of Chad. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/td/page3e_001090.html.

¹⁵²⁰ Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 31 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/bf/page25e_000334.html.

¹⁵²¹ Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 31 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/bf/page25e_000334.html.

¹⁵²² Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 31 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/bf/page25e_000334.html.

¹⁵²³ Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 31 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/bf/page25e_000334.html.

¹⁵²⁴ Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 12 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002657.html.

Sahel.¹⁵²⁵ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 10 December 2019, Japan co-sponsored a United Nations Economic and Social Council draft resolution which was later adopted as resolution "Support to the Sahel region" (E/2020/L.3).¹⁵²⁶ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 10 March 2020, Japan extended an Emergency Grant Aid of USD 23.7 million for displaced persons due to the deteriorated security conditions in the Sahel region.¹⁵²⁷ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 11 March 2020, the delegation to the United Nations Ishikane Kimihiro supported a United Nations Security Council Presidential Statement calling for greater efforts to help Africa's fight against terrorism.¹⁵²⁸ Representative Bessho noted Japan's support for peacekeeping training centres in Mali and Japan's continued cooperation with joint efforts among the Security Council and the African Union.¹⁵²⁹ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

Japan has provided the G5 Sahel with tangible support to enhance both their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mostafa El Sharkany

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to work with the G5 to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 6 November 2019, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Ministry of Defence published a Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) Programme Summary on the Niger Delta and Maritime Security and Stability Programme.¹⁵³⁰ For the duration of April 2019 to March 2020, a sum budget of

¹⁵²⁵ Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 12 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002657.html.

¹⁵²⁶ Statement by Mr. Nakano Junya, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, EOP of Japan on the Resolution on the Sahel, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/nakano121019.html.

¹⁵²⁷ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel region, Reliefweb (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/burkina-faso/emergency-grant-aid-response-humanitarian-crisis-sahel-region>.

¹⁵²⁸ Security Council Issues Presidential Statement Calling for Greater Efforts to Help Africa Fight Terrorism, as Delegates Denounce 'Insufficient' Current Approaches, Reliefweb (New York City) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-issues-presidential-statement-calling-greater-efforts-help-africa>.

¹⁵²⁹ Security Council Issues Presidential Statement Calling for Greater Efforts to Help Africa Fight Terrorism, as Delegates Denounce 'Insufficient' Current Approaches, Reliefweb (New York City) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-issues-presidential-statement-calling-greater-efforts-help-africa>.

¹⁵³⁰ CSSF Programme Summary: Niger Delta and Maritime Security and Stability Program, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Ministry of Defence (London), 6 November 2019. Date of access: 10 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/842226/Niger_Delta_and_Maritime_Programme.odt.

GBP1.5 million is allocated to projects regarding regional maritime security and Niger Delta Stability.¹⁵³¹ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence.

On 6 November 2019, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development published a CSSF Programme Summary on stabilization in the Sahel region.¹⁵³² The project has a duration of April 2018 to March 2021, and in 2019 to 2020 a sum budget of GBP5.05 million is allocated to projects regarding stabilization in Niger, Mali, Chad, and the region as a whole.¹⁵³³ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 6 November 2019, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Ministry of Defence, National Crime Agency, and Stabilization Unit published a CSSF Programme Summary on the Sahel Defence and Security Programme.¹⁵³⁴ For the duration of 2019 to 2020, a sum budget of GBP6.4 million is allocated to projects regarding defence and security institutions, professional development of Sahelian States' Officer Corps, counter-terrorism, and related areas.¹⁵³⁵ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 20 November 2019, Deputy Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations Ambassador Jonathon Allen addressed the United Nations Security Council briefing on the Joint Force of the G5 Sahel regarding commitments within the G5.¹⁵³⁶ Ambassador Allen noted the United Kingdom's contribution of USD20 million through the European Union and USD116 million independently toward bilateral development in the G5 Sahel Force.¹⁵³⁷ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

¹⁵³¹ CSSF Programme Summary: Niger Delta and Maritime Security and Stability Program, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Ministry of Defence (London), 6 November 2019. Date of access: 10 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/842226/Niger_Delta_and_Maritime_Programme.odt

¹⁵³² CSSF Programme Summary: Sahel Stabilisation CSSF Programme, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development (London), 6 November 2019. Date of access: 10 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/842237/Sahel_Stabilisation.odt

¹⁵³³ CSSF Programme Summary: Sahel Stabilisation CSSF Programme, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development (London), 6 November 2019. Date of access: 10 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/842237/Sahel_Stabilisation.odt

¹⁵³⁴ CSSF Programme Summary: Sahel Defence and Security Programme, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Ministry of Defence and National Crime Agency and Stabilization Unit (London), 6 November 2019. Date of access: 10 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/842236/Sahel_Defence_and_Security.odt

¹⁵³⁵ CSSF Programme Summary: Sahel Defence and Security Programme, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Ministry of Defence and National Crime Agency and Stabilization Unit (London), 6 November 2019. Date of access: 10 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/842236/Sahel_Defence_and_Security.odt

¹⁵³⁶ G5 efforts to combat instability in the Sahel, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Jonathan Allen (New York), 20 November 2019. Date of access: 5 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/g5-efforts-to-combat-instability-in-the-sahel>.

¹⁵³⁷ G5 efforts to combat instability in the Sahel, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Jonathan Allen (New York), 20 November 2019. Date of access: 5 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/g5-efforts-to-combat-instability-in-the-sahel>.

On 5 December 2019, the United Kingdom Chief of the Defence Staff (CDF) General Sir Nick Carter delivered the CDF's annual Royal United Services Institute speech regarding the current state of defence, in which he outlined the approximately 5,000 troops deployed to support French troops in the Sahel.¹⁵³⁸ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence.

On 9 January 2020, Ambassador James Roscoe delivered a speech at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel that outlined an additional GBP20 million in humanitarian funding on top of the GBP50 million currently spent.¹⁵³⁹ This initiative aims to combat humanitarian crises in the Sahel region through security and humanitarian work while countries within the region prepared for elections.¹⁵⁴⁰ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 20 January 2020, Prime Minister Boris Johnson met with President of Ghana Akufo-Addo at the UK-Africa Investment Summit and expressed continued support for security within the Sahel region, although no specific contributions were outlined.¹⁵⁴¹ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 7 April 2020, Ambassador and acting UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN James Roscoe delivered an address at the Security Council briefing on the situation in Mali which outlined the United Kingdom's continued work toward free elections and security in Mali during the Covid-19 pandemic, including deploying 250 British troops to Mali later this year and continuing support for the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).¹⁵⁴² This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

The United Kingdom has provided the G5 Sahel with tangible support to enhance both their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Shauna McLean

¹⁵³⁸ Chief of the Defence Staff, General Sir Nick Carter's annual RUSI speech, United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (London), 5 December 2019. Date of access: 10 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/chief-of-the-defence-staff-general-sir-nick-carters-annual-rusi-speech>.

¹⁵³⁹ Address by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 20 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preparing-for-elections-and-addressing-root-causes-of-conflict-in-west-africa>.

¹⁵⁴⁰ Address by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 20 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preparing-for-elections-and-addressing-root-causes-of-conflict-in-west-africa>.

¹⁵⁴¹ PM meeting with President of Ghana: 20 January 2020, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 20 January 2020, Access Date: 20 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-president-of-ghana-20-january-2020>.

¹⁵⁴² Address by Ambassador and acting UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the situation in Mali, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-from-all-parties-is-necessary-for-sustainable-peace-in-mali>.

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to work with the G5 Sahel to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 16 September 2019, United States Army General and Commander of the United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) Stephen Townsend met with the President of Mali Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, senior Malian military leaders and leaders of the G5 Sahel Joint Force.¹⁵⁴³ General Townsend recognized the continued assistance and partnership of the United States toward Mali, including funding to the G5 Sahel Joint Force which provides equipment, training, and advisory support for G5 members to operate infantry forces in the fight against violent extremism in the Sahel region.¹⁵⁴⁴ This action provides verbal support to Mali's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 17 September 2019, General Townsend met with the President of Burkina Faso Roch Marc Christian Kabore and Burkinabe military leaders.¹⁵⁴⁵ In their discussion, General Townsend stressed the significance of annual regional military exercises like Flintlock and AFRICOM's military support.¹⁵⁴⁶ This action provides verbal support to Burkina Faso's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 18 September 2019, General Townsend met with the President of Niger Mahamadou Issoufou, Nigerian military leaders, and United States troops deployed in Niger.¹⁵⁴⁷ General Townsend and President Issoufou discussed the new Air Base 201 which will support intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions by the United States and Nigerien Air Forces.¹⁵⁴⁸ AFRICOM said that MQ-9 Reaper drones were set to start flying missions from the base by the end of 2019.¹⁵⁴⁹ United States Ambassador to Niger Eric Paul Whitaker stated that the goal of the United States mission is to "enable Niger's defense and security forces to develop and sustain a professional force and contribute to peacekeeping efforts" while General Townsend recognized Niger as "a regional security leader."¹⁵⁵⁰ This action provides verbal support to Niger's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 8 October 2019, United States Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for West Africa and Security Affairs in the Bureau of African Affairs Whitney Baird met with the Ambassadors of the United States to Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger.¹⁵⁵¹ Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Baird

¹⁵⁴³ AFRICOM Commander Visits West Africa, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/article/32219/africom-commander-visits-west-africa>.

¹⁵⁴⁴ AFRICOM Commander Visits West Africa, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/article/32219/africom-commander-visits-west-africa>.

¹⁵⁴⁵ AFRICOM Commander Visits West Africa, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/article/32219/africom-commander-visits-west-africa>.

¹⁵⁴⁶ AFRICOM Commander Visits West Africa, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/article/32219/africom-commander-visits-west-africa>.

¹⁵⁴⁷ AFRICOM Commander Visits West Africa, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/article/32219/africom-commander-visits-west-africa>.

¹⁵⁴⁸ AFRICOM Commander Visits West Africa, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/article/32219/africom-commander-visits-west-africa>.

¹⁵⁴⁹ US begins ISR flight operations from Air Base 201 in northern Niger, The Defense Post (Washington) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/01/us-isr-flights-nigerien-air-base-201-agadez-sahel/>.

¹⁵⁵⁰ AFRICOM Commander Visits West Africa, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/article/32219/africom-commander-visits-west-africa>.

¹⁵⁵¹ AFRICOM hosts high level discussions on G5 Sahel region, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/Article/32259/africom-hosts-high-level-discussions-on-g5-sahel-region>.

discussed the overall approach of the United States toward the Sahel region with the purpose of increasing the understanding of county and region-specific issues.¹⁵⁵² United States Agency for International Development Directors, State Department personnel and Department of Defence personnel were also present.¹⁵⁵³ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 1 November 2019, AFRICOM began intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance flight operations from Air Base 201 in Niger to support "partner forces and international efforts to counter violent extremist organizations in the region."¹⁵⁵⁴

On 20 November 2019, Senior Policy Advisor to the United States Mission to the United Nations Michael Barkin proclaimed at a United Nations Security Council meeting proclaimed in response to the increasing terrorist activity in the Sahel region that "new funding for direct support of the joint force should be avoided, rather existing international modalities of support should be leveraged by the countries of the Sahel."¹⁵⁵⁵ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 31 December 2019, the Lead Inspector General for the Department of Defence submitted a quarterly report to the U.S. Congress titled "East Africa and North and West Africa Counterterrorism operations."¹⁵⁵⁶ In this report, the Inspector General notes the Department of Defence's "Blank Slate Review" of USAFRICOM.¹⁵⁵⁷ Senior Department of Defence officials have said that options under consideration include troop reduction in West Africa, ceasing operations from Air Base 201 in Niger and ending assistance to French forces fighting militias in Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso.¹⁵⁵⁸ This action goes against the U.S.'s commitment to support G5 Sahel in enhancing their defence and internal security capabilities.

On 6-7 February 2020, Under Secretary for Political Affairs David Hale met with President of Mali Ibrahim Boubacar Keita in Mali.¹⁵⁵⁹ Under Secretary Hale discussed efforts to address security

¹⁵⁵² AFRICOM hosts high level discussions on G5 Sahel region, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/Article/32259/africom-hosts-high-level-discussions-on-g5-sahel-region>.

¹⁵⁵³ AFRICOM hosts high level discussions on G5 Sahel region, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/Article/32259/africom-hosts-high-level-discussions-on-g5-sahel-region>.

¹⁵⁵⁴ US begins ISR flight operations from Air Base 201 in northern Niger, The Defense Post (Washington) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/01/us-isr-flights-nigerien-air-base-201-agadez-sahel/>.

¹⁵⁵⁵ Amid Increased Terrorist Activity in Sahel Region, Speakers Tell Security Council Greater Commitment Needed for Joint Force, United Nations (New York) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14027.doc.htm>.

¹⁵⁵⁶ East Africa and North and West Africa Counterterrorism Operations, Lead Inspector General Report to the United States Congress (Washington) 31 December 2019. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://media.defense.gov/2020/Feb/21/2002252793/-1/-1/1/LEAD%20IG%20EAST%20AFRICA%20AND%20NORTH%20AND%20WEST%20AFRICA%20COUNTERTERRORISM%20OPERATIONS.PDF>

¹⁵⁵⁷ East Africa and North and West Africa Counterterrorism Operations, Lead Inspector General Report to the United States Congress (Washington) 31 December 2019. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://media.defense.gov/2020/Feb/21/2002252793/-1/-1/1/LEAD%20IG%20EAST%20AFRICA%20AND%20NORTH%20AND%20WEST%20AFRICA%20COUNTERTERRORISM%20OPERATIONS.PDF>.

¹⁵⁵⁸ Pentagon Eyes Africa Drawdown as First Step in Global Troop Shift, New York Times (Washington) 24 December 2019. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/24/world/africa/esper-troops-africa-china.html>.

¹⁵⁵⁹ Under Secretary Hale's Visit to Bamako- February 6-7, 2020, U.S. Embassy in Mali (Bamako) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://ml.usembassy.gov/under-secretary-for-political-affairs-david-hales-visit-to-bamako/>.

concerns and improve civilian protection in the region.¹⁵⁶⁰ This action provides verbal support to Mali's internal security capabilities.

On 10 February 2020, Under Secretary for Political Affairs David Hale met with Burkina Faso Prime Minister Christophe Joseph Marie Dabire and Minister of Defence Chreiff Moumina Sy in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.¹⁵⁶¹ Under Secretary Hale reaffirmed America's support in the fight against terrorism and discussed the need for solutions to restore stability and address the cause of violent extremism.¹⁵⁶² This action provides verbal support for Burkina Faso's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 12 February 2020, Under Secretary Hale met with President of Mauritania Ghazounai, Prime Minister Sidiya, and Foreign Minister Ahmed in Nouakchott, Mauritania.¹⁵⁶³ Under Secretary Hale reiterated America's support for efforts to improve, govern and develop throughout the region.¹⁵⁶⁴ Under Secretary Hale also met with the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretary Maman Sidikou.¹⁵⁶⁵ Under Secretary Hale expressed strong support for the G5 Sahel.¹⁵⁶⁶ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 27-28 February 2020, Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs R. Clarke Cooper travelled to Mauritania to observe the Flintlock 2020, the US-led multinational special forces operations exercise.¹⁵⁶⁷ This action provides verbal support to Mauritania's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 8 March 2020, Secretary of State appointed Dr. J. Peter Pham as the U.S. Special Envoy for the Sahel Region.¹⁵⁶⁸ The Special Envoy maximizes U.S. diplomatic efforts to address the threat of violent extremists and engages actively to support governance, political liberalization, economic growth and development in the region.¹⁵⁶⁹

The United States has provided the G5 Sahel with verbal support to enhance both their defense and internal security capabilities but has failed to provide tangible support for these initiatives, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

¹⁵⁶⁰ Under Secretary Hale's Visit to Bamako- February 6-7, 2020, U.S. Embassy in Mali (Bamako) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020 <https://ml.usembassy.gov/under-secretary-for-political-affairs-david-hales-visit-to-bamako/>

¹⁵⁶¹ Under Secretary Hale's Meetings in Burkina Faso, U.S. Embassy in Burkina Faso (Ouagadougou) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://bf.usembassy.gov/under-secretary-hales-meetings-in-burkina-faso/>.

¹⁵⁶² Under Secretary Hale's Meetings in Burkina Faso, U.S. Embassy in Burkina Faso (Ouagadougou) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://bf.usembassy.gov/under-secretary-hales-meetings-in-burkina-faso/>.

¹⁵⁶³ Under Secretary for Political Affairs Visits Mauritania, U.S. Embassy in Mauritania (Nouakchott) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://mr.usembassy.gov/under-secretary-for-political-affairs-visits-mauritania/>.

¹⁵⁶⁴ Under Secretary for Political Affairs Visits Mauritania, U.S. Embassy in Mauritania (Nouakchott) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020 <https://mr.usembassy.gov/under-secretary-for-political-affairs-visits-mauritania/>.

¹⁵⁶⁵ Under Secretary for Political Affairs Visits Mauritania, U.S. Embassy in Mauritania (Nouakchott) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://mr.usembassy.gov/under-secretary-for-political-affairs-visits-mauritania/>.

¹⁵⁶⁶ Under Secretary for Political Affairs Visits Mauritania, U.S. Embassy in Mauritania (Nouakchott) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://mr.usembassy.gov/under-secretary-for-political-affairs-visits-mauritania/>.

¹⁵⁶⁷ Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs R. Clarke Cooper Travels to Mauritania, Algeria, and Tunisia, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/assistant-secretary-of-state-for-political-military-affairs-r-clarke-cooper-travels-to-mauritania-algeria-and-tunisia/>.

¹⁵⁶⁸ Dr. J. Peter Pham Special Envoy for the Sahel Region of Africa, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/biographies/dr-j-peter-pham/>.

¹⁵⁶⁹ Office of the Special Envoy for the Sahel Region of Africa, U.S. Department of State (Washington) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-political-affairs/bureau-of-african-affairs/office-of-the-special-envoy-for-the-sahel-region-of-africa/>.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mostafa El Sharkany

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to work with the G5 Sahel to improve and better coordinate efforts to enhance their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 23 October 2019, the European Union Regional Advisory and Coordination Cell ran a pre-deployment training session for 35 staff officers from G5 Sahel members.¹⁵⁷⁰ The course took place at the Defense College of the G5 Sahel and was conducted by EU security and defence experts.¹⁵⁷¹ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 12 November 2019, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini, speaking at a press conference following a meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council in Defence Formation, announced the EU's intention to broaden its presence and support for regional partners combating terrorism in the Sahel.¹⁵⁷² High Representative Mogherini remarked that while the attending ministers discussed ongoing EU operations and missions, they drew particular focus to the existing missions in the Sahel.¹⁵⁷³ There are more than 5,000 EU military personnel on the ground in the Sahel, and an additional 16 missions operating under the EU flag.¹⁵⁷⁴ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 13 November 2019, the EU announced plans to increase its support in the Sahel region, committing an additional EUR35 million in humanitarian aid.¹⁵⁷⁵ The funding will be provided to humanitarian organisations working in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger, and will increase access to food and basic social services, aid people forcibly displaced by conflicts in the region and host communities, and support humanitarian organisations in responding to sudden humanitarian crises.¹⁵⁷⁶ With this addition, the EU's financial contribution total reaches more than

¹⁵⁷⁰ Pooling forces and know-how: first staff-level course by EU security and defence experts for the joint military force of the five African G5 Sahel countries, European Union External Action Services (Brussels) 23 October 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/new-zealand/69292/pooling-forces-and-know-how-first-staff-level-course-eu-security-and-defence-experts-joint_en.

¹⁵⁷¹ Pooling forces and know-how: first staff-level course by EU security and defence experts for the joint military force of the five African G5 Sahel countries, European Union External Action Services (Brussels) 23 October 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/new-zealand/69292/pooling-forces-and-know-how-first-staff-level-course-eu-security-and-defence-experts-joint_en.

¹⁵⁷² EU to 'increase presence and improve support' for Sahel partners fighting terrorism, The Defense Post (Washington) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/13/eu-support-sahel-terrorism-mali/>.

¹⁵⁷³ EU to 'increase presence and improve support' for Sahel partners fighting terrorism, The Defense Post (Washington) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/13/eu-support-sahel-terrorism-mali/>.

¹⁵⁷⁴ EU to 'increase presence and improve support' for Sahel partners fighting terrorism, The Defense Post (Washington) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/13/eu-support-sahel-terrorism-mali/>.

¹⁵⁷⁵ EU commits additional €35 million for Africa's Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2019. Access Date: December 22 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/eu-commits-additional-35-million-africa-s-sahel-region_en.

¹⁵⁷⁶ EU commits additional €35 million for Africa's Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2019. Access Date: December 22 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/eu-commits-additional-35-million-africa-s-sahel-region_en.

EUR187 million in 2019.¹⁵⁷⁷ This action provides tangible support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

On 13 January 2020, European Council President Charles Michel announced plans to host an EU-Sahel summit in late March.¹⁵⁷⁸ The announcement came when President Michel was attending the Pau Summit, hosted by France and attended by members of the G5 Sahel coalition.¹⁵⁷⁹ The next day, Michel's spokesman confirmed that all G5 Sahel nations would attend the upcoming conference.¹⁵⁸⁰ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 17 January 2020, Special Representative of the European Union for the Sahel Angel Losada transferred 13 Arquus Bastion armored vehicles to the Malian Army.¹⁵⁸¹ Of the 13 Bastion armoured vehicles delivered, eight were configured for troop transport, two to combat improvised explosive devices, two for medical evacuations, and one as a command post vehicle.¹⁵⁸² The vehicles will be used to equip two Malian battalions serving as part of the regional G5 Sahel Joint Force.¹⁵⁸³ The transfer is part of a larger program to deliver 46 armored vehicles to G5 Sahel countries funded by the EU African Peace Facility.¹⁵⁸⁴ EU Ambassador to Mali Bart Ouvry was also present at the ceremony.¹⁵⁸⁵ This action provides tangible support to Mali's defence.

On 25 February 2020, Jutta Urpilainen, European Commissioner, delivered a speech at the G5 Sahel Summit, stressing that "the Sahel remains a top priority."¹⁵⁸⁶ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities.

On 9 March 2020, the European Union released a new Africa engagement strategy that aims to create a more equal partnership.¹⁵⁸⁷ It will focus on five key areas: sustainable growth and jobs; peace,

¹⁵⁷⁷ EU commits additional €35 million for Africa's Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2019. Access Date: December 22 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/eu-commits-additional-35-million-africa-s-sahel-region_en.

¹⁵⁷⁸ Charles Michel reaches for his peak, Politico (Brussels) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.politico.eu/article/charles-michel-reaches-for-his-peak-summit-euco/>.

¹⁵⁷⁹ Charles Michel reaches for his peak, Politico (Brussels) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.politico.eu/article/charles-michel-reaches-for-his-peak-summit-euco/>.

¹⁵⁸⁰ Charles Michel reaches for his peak, Politico (Brussels) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.politico.eu/article/charles-michel-reaches-for-his-peak-summit-euco/>.

¹⁵⁸¹ EU hands 13 Arquus Bastion armored vehicles to Mali for G5 Sahel operations, The Defense Post (Washington) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2020/01/21/mali-eu-arquus-bastion-vehicles-g5-sahel/>.

¹⁵⁸² EU hands 13 Arquus Bastion armored vehicles to Mali for G5 Sahel operations, The Defense Post (Washington) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2020/01/21/mali-eu-arquus-bastion-vehicles-g5-sahel/>.

¹⁵⁸³ EU hands 13 Arquus Bastion armored vehicles to Mali for G5 Sahel operations, The Defense Post (Washington) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2020/01/21/mali-eu-arquus-bastion-vehicles-g5-sahel/>.

¹⁵⁸⁴ EU hands 13 Arquus Bastion armored vehicles to Mali for G5 Sahel operations, The Defense Post (Washington) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2020/01/21/mali-eu-arquus-bastion-vehicles-g5-sahel/>.

¹⁵⁸⁵ EU hands 13 Arquus Bastion armored vehicles to Mali for G5 Sahel operations, The Defense Post (Washington) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.thedefensepost.com/2020/01/21/mali-eu-arquus-bastion-vehicles-g5-sahel/>.

¹⁵⁸⁶ Speech by Commissioner Urpilainen at G5 Sahel Summit, European Commission (Brussels) 27 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/urpilainen/announcements/speech-commissioner-urpilainen-g5-sahel-summit_en.

security and governance; migration and mobility; digital transformation, and access to energy (particularly green energy).¹⁵⁸⁸ This action provides verbal support to the G5 Sahel's defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

The European Union has provided the G5 Sahel with tangible support to enhance both their defence and internal security capabilities, including through support for structural reforms of their security apparatus.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: William Lloyd

¹⁵⁸⁷ Africa in the news: New EU-Africa strategy, impacts of the oil price crash, and spread of coronavirus, Brookings (Washington) 14 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/africa-in-focus/2020/03/14/africa-in-the-news-new-eu-africa-strategy-impacts-of-the-oil-price-crash-and-spread-of-coronavirus/>.

¹⁵⁸⁸ Africa in the news: New EU-Africa strategy, impacts of the oil price crash, and spread of coronavirus, Brookings (Washington) 14 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/africa-in-focus/2020/03/14/africa-in-the-news-new-eu-africa-strategy-impacts-of-the-oil-price-crash-and-spread-of-coronavirus/>.

10. Regional Security: G5 Sahel Police

“As the G7, we will work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.”

Sahel Partnership Action Plan

Assessment

Member	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada	-1		
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average	-0.13 (44%)		

Background

On 16 February 2014, the leaders of Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Chad met in Nouakchott, Mauritania to create the G5 Sahel, in order to improve cooperation, security, and development in the Sahel region of Africa.¹⁵⁸⁹ The goals of the G5 Sahel group are to:

- Guarantee the conditions required for economic development and peace in the Sahel Region
- Provide a framework for strategic intervention for improving living conditions in the region
- Combine development with security through democracy and good governance, while promoting regional and international cooperation
- Promote inclusive and sustainable development in the Sahel Region.¹⁵⁹⁰

On 1 August 2014, France launched Operation Barkhane, a counter-terrorism operation focused on fighting and neutralizing jihadist organizations operating in the Sahel region, deploying 3,000 soldiers to the region to support the G5 Sahel countries.¹⁵⁹¹

On 5 June 2017, the European Union pledged EUR50 million for the creation of a larger, multinational joint Sahel task force, merging the French soldiers from the prior Operation Barkhane with soldiers from various other countries, totaling a force of 10,000 soldiers.¹⁵⁹²

With one of the major themes of the Biarritz Summit focusing on cooperation with Africa, the Sahel region was brought forward as a significant discussion point for the first time. In the Sahel

¹⁵⁸⁹ Le G5 Sahel, G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 29 September 2015. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.g5sahel.org/qui-sommes-nous/le-g5-sahel>

¹⁵⁹⁰ Le G5 Sahel, G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 29 September 2015. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.g5sahel.org/qui-sommes-nous/le-g5-sahel>

¹⁵⁹¹ Welcome to France's New War on Terror in Africa: Operation Barkhane, The National Interest (Washington D.C.) 7 August 2014. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://nationalinterest.org/feature/welcome-frances-new-war-terror-africa-operation-barkhane-11029>

¹⁵⁹² Mali: la France propose à l'ONU le déploiement d'une force africaine au Sahel, France Info Africa (Niamey) 8 June 2017. Access Date: 7 December 2019. https://www.francetvinfo.fr/monde/afrique/niger/mali-la-france-propose-a-lonu-le-deploiement-dune-force-africaine-au-sahel_3060181.html

Partnership Action Plan, G7 leaders outlined the major issues facing the region, and how the G7 and G5 Sahel can work together to improve the pace at which the G5 Sahel group reaches its goals.¹⁵⁹³ A major focus was the security aspect of the G5 Sahel goals, with the G7 calling for international cooperation between the G7 and G5 Sahel, as well as the United Nations as INTERPOL.¹⁵⁹⁴

Commitment Features

While the goals of the G5 Sahel group focus on both security and development, the commitment text focusses on specifically bolstering the G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities. As such, for all aspects of this commitment only actions that address security issues will be considered for compliance.

The primary measure of compliance for this commitment will be cooperation with the aim of improving regional security in the Sahel. Compliance will be split into two sections; the first type of compliance will be G7 cooperation with UN to address security issues, and the second type of compliance will be cooperation with INTERPOL to address security issues in the Sahel region. Examples of the first type of compliance include, but are not limited to, cooperation with INTERPOL to specifically address security issues, funding provisions for security issues, bolstering of the G5 Sahel joint security force through military or financial contributions, and cooperation with INTERPOL in providing key information that would aid in counter-terrorism operations in the Sahel region. Examples of the second type of compliance include, but are not limited to, cooperation with UN to directly target and neutralize threats from Sahel region jihadist groups, and financial support of or participation in multinational UN security operations in the Sahel region.

In order to achieve a full compliance score, a G7 member must take actions of both the first and second types. In order to achieve a partial compliance score, a G7 member must take actions of either the first or second type. A G7 member who does not take either type of actions will receive a score of no compliance.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member has not cooperated with United Nations OR with INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.
0	G7 member has cooperated with United Nations OR with INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.
+1	G7 member has cooperated with United Nations AND with INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

*Compliance Director: Ian Stansbury
Lead Analyst: Bogdan Stovba*

¹⁵⁹³ Sahel Partnership Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/sahel-partnership-action-plan.html>

¹⁵⁹⁴ Sahel Partnership Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/sahel-partnership-action-plan.html>

Canada: –1

Canada has not complied with its commitment to work with United Nations and INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to the G5 Sahel group in developing more efficient security and defence capabilities.

On 1 September 2019, Canada ended its peacekeeping mission in Mali that was a part of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSMA).¹⁵⁹⁵ Only “a small number of CAF members will remain in the region” until January 2020.¹⁵⁹⁶ There is no indication that Operation PRESENCE Mali would resume at a later date.¹⁵⁹⁷ However, Canada will continue to provide financial, military personnel, military training, and civilian police officers in Mali through the Peace and Stabilization Operations Program and Canadian Policy Arrangements.¹⁵⁹⁸

On 14 March 2020, a Canadian woman and Italian man kidnapped in Burkina Faso in 2018 were found by MINUSMA peacekeeping forces. Canada Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Philippe Champagne indicated that the Government of Canada was working closely with the leaders of Burkina Faso and Mali to apprehend the perpetrators.¹⁵⁹⁹

On April 7 2020, Travel and Tourism Canada updated its travel advisories, warning against “non-essential” to Burkina Faso “due to the threat of terrorism.”¹⁶⁰⁰ Updated travel advisory all recommend to “avoid all travel” to provinces along Mali, Niger, Benin and Togo boarded due to “terrorist threat as well as the risk of banditry and kidnapping.”¹⁶⁰¹

Canada has failed to extend its pivotal PRESENCE-MALI mission despite increasing tensions in the region and growing threat of terrorism. Canada has not demonstrated effort to work with INTERPOL and reduced its cooperation with United Nations to support Sahel countries security and defect capabilities improvement.¹⁶⁰²

¹⁵⁹⁵ Operation PRESENCE, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 December 2019. Access Date: 10 January 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/op-presence.html>

¹⁵⁹⁶ Canadian Armed Forces Conclude Peacekeeping Mission in Mali, National Defense (Ottawa) 1 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2019/08/canadian-armed-forces-conclude-peacekeeping-mission-in-mali.html>

¹⁵⁹⁷ Canadian Armed Forces Conclude Peacekeeping Mission in Mali, National Defense (Ottawa) 1 September 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/news/2019/08/canadian-armed-forces-conclude-peacekeeping-mission-in-mali.html>

¹⁵⁹⁸ Canada’s Engagement in Mali, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 December 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.international.gc.ca/country-pays/mali/relations.aspx?lang=eng>

¹⁵⁹⁹ Diallo, Tiemoko. Two Western Hostages Freed after 15-Month Captivity in Africa’s Sahel (Bamako) 14 March 2020. Access Date: April 13 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mali-kidnapping-canada-italy/canadian-woman-and-italian-man-kidnapped-in-burkina-faso-have-been-released-u-n-idUSKBN2110HR>

¹⁶⁰⁰ Official Global Travel Advisory (Ottawa) April 7 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/burkina-faso?wbdisable=true#levels>

¹⁶⁰¹ Official Global Travel Advisory (Ottawa) April 7 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/burkina-faso?wbdisable=true#levels>

¹⁶⁰² This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <https://www.international.gc.ca/country-pays/mali/relations.aspx?lang=eng> <https://pm.gc.ca/en> <https://www.humanitariancoalition.ca/sahel-crisis> https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/peace_security-paix_securite/capacity_building-renforcement_capacites.aspx?lang=eng https://oecdobserver.org/news/archivestory.php/aid/181/Shifting_sands_of_Sahel_aid.html <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/list.html> <https://www.unhcr.ca/where-we-work/central-sahel/> <http://natoassociation.ca/the-fall-of-canadian-peacekeeping-should-it-be-revived/> https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations_relations_internationales/afrika-afrique/index.aspx?lang=eng

Thus, Canada receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Nicholas Lovrics

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

Between 29 September and 7 October 2019, French soldiers of the “Belleface” desert battle group led a major operation, which mobilized about 200 men and 40 vehicles, to establish zone control in the three-border area of the Liptako region and to strengthen the Operational Military Partnership with the Malian Armed Forces in the area.¹⁶⁰³ The operation led to the improvement and reinforcement of passive defense points in the cities and the Malian military camps, with the aim of preventing the armed terrorist groups from operating in the region.¹⁶⁰⁴

On 3 October 2019, the French Barkhane force participated in the operational coordination committee of the G5 Sahel member countries, organized by the General Staff of the Armies of Chad, which aimed to increase cooperation between the forces.¹⁶⁰⁵ Participation in the coordination committee improved “understanding of the complementary” of the Barkhane and the G5 Sahel members armed forces “in the fight against armed terrorist groups.”¹⁶⁰⁶

On 10 October 2019, the G5 Sahel Joint Force, backed by the French-led Operation Barkhane force, completed a “major arms seizure” following a 10-day military counter-terrorism operation in northern Niger, during which the French force carried out airdrops and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance flights.¹⁶⁰⁷

Between 1-17 November 2019, the G5 Sahel Joint Force, in cooperation with the armies of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, and with support from the Barkhane force, carried out operation Bourgou IV which aimed to disrupt the activity of armed terrorist groups in the “three borders” Sahel region.¹⁶⁰⁸ The operation mobilized over 1,400 soldiers, with 600 of them French.¹⁶⁰⁹ Bourgou IV succeeded in the coordination of all the troops and resulted in 25 terrorists neutralized or captured,

¹⁶⁰³ BARKHANE: The Malian armed forces and Barkhane in operation in the Liptako, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-les-forces-armees-maliennes-et-barkhane-en-operation-dans-le-liptako>

¹⁶⁰⁴ BARKHANE: The Malian armed forces and Barkhane in operation in the Liptako, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-les-forces-armees-maliennes-et-barkhane-en-operation-dans-le-liptako>

¹⁶⁰⁵ BARKHANE: Operational coordination committee of the G5 Sahel member countries in N'Djamena, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/espanol/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-comite-de-coordination-operationnelle-des-pays-membres-du-g5-sahel-a-n-djamena>

¹⁶⁰⁶ BARKHANE: Operational coordination committee of the G5 Sahel member countries in N'Djamena, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/espanol/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-comite-de-coordination-operationnelle-des-pays-membres-du-g5-sahel-a-n-djamena>

¹⁶⁰⁷ G5 Sahel Joint Force makes ‘major’ weapons seizure in northern Niger, The Defense Post (Washington) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/10/17/g5-sahel-weapons-seizure-niger-madama>

¹⁶⁰⁸ French and Sahel soldiers step up campaign against jihadists, France 24 (Paris) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20191125-french-and-sahel-soldiers-step-up-campaign-against-jihadists>

¹⁶⁰⁹ BARKHANE: Operation BOURGOU IV in the Gourma, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-operation-bourgou-iv-dans-le-gourma>

64 vehicles destroyed, a large quantity of ammunition seized, over 100 phones recovered, and a fuel depot and an IED manufacturing workshop destroyed.¹⁶¹⁰

On 20 November 2019, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Nicolas de Rivière affirmed that France supports “the G-5 countries’ requests for increased multilateral support.”¹⁶¹¹ Rivière announced that a European special forces unit named Takuba will be deployed as part of Operation Barkhane in Mali starting in 2020 to support them on their path to autonomy.¹⁶¹²

On 19 December 2019, President Emmanuel Macron delivered a speech in Niamey, Niger following an attack on a military camp in Niger that killed 71 soldiers.¹⁶¹³ Macron vowed to keep fighting extremism in the region, noting that the Sahel is at a “turning point” in the war, and emphasized the need to redefine and clarify military and political objectives at the upcoming summit on 13 January 2020 with the Sahel G5 leaders in Pau, France.¹⁶¹⁴

On 20 December 2019, Operation Barkhane forces killed 33 Islamist militants in Mali near the Mauritanian border where a “group linked to Al Qaeda operates,” utilizing helicopters, ground troops, and a drone.¹⁶¹⁵ The operation also included a seizure of four equipped trucks, four motorcycles, and a large volume of armaments including heavy machine guns, as well as a release of two Malian hostage gendarmes.¹⁶¹⁶

Between 27-29 December 2019, the G5 Sahel Joint Force Staff met with representatives of the Sahel national armies and the Barkhane Force at the Niamey command post.¹⁶¹⁷ General Facon, Commander of the Barkhane, “stressed that all the conditions are met for increased cooperation in the fight” and reaffirmed the need to continue strengthening the joint operationalization between the partner forces in the region.¹⁶¹⁸

¹⁶¹⁰ Joint Force G5 Sahel Operation in the Gourma, G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.g5sahel.org/21-nos-activite%C3%A9s/defense-et-securite/1539-force-conjointe-operation-dans-le-gourma>

¹⁶¹¹ Address by Permanent Representative Nicolas de Rivière at the United Nations Security Council, The Permanent Representation of France to the UN (Paris) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/situation-in-the-Sahel-remains-very-precarious>

¹⁶¹² Address by Permanent Representative Nicolas de Rivière at the United Nations Security Council, The Permanent Representation of France to the UN (Paris) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/situation-in-the-Sahel-remains-very-precarious>

¹⁶¹³ ‘We are at a turning point in war’ against jihadism: French President Macron in Niger, France 24 (Paris) 22 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20191222-we-are-at-a-turning-point-in-war-against-jihadism-french-president-macron-in-niger>

¹⁶¹⁴ ‘We are at a turning point in war’ against jihadism: French President Macron in Niger, France 24 (Paris) 22 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20191222-we-are-at-a-turning-point-in-war-against-jihadism-french-president-macron-in-niger>

¹⁶¹⁵ France Kills 33 Militants in Mali Raid: President, New York Times (New York) 21 December 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2019/12/21/world/africa/21reuters-france-mali-conflict.html>

¹⁶¹⁶ BARKHANE: Neutralization of a major armed terrorist group in the Mopti region, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 21 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-neutralisation-d-un-important-groupe-arme-terroriste-dans-la-region-de-mopti>

¹⁶¹⁷ BARKHANE: The G5 Sahel Joint Force strengthens its preponderant role in cross-border operations, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-la-force-conjointe-du-g5-sahel-renforce-son-role-preponderant-dans-les-operations-transfrontalieres>

¹⁶¹⁸ BARKHANE: The G5 Sahel Joint Force strengthens its preponderant role in cross-border operations, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 3 January 2020. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-la-force-conjointe-du-g5-sahel-renforce-son-role-preponderant-dans-les-operations-transfrontalieres>

On 13 January 2020, President Macron hosted the G5 Sahel member countries' heads of state at a summit in Pau, France, where they reaffirmed their commitment to jointly combat terrorism in the Sahel region and urged international partners to increase their aid.¹⁶¹⁹ The heads of state formed a new framework, "Coalition for the Sahel," on the basis of four pillars: the fight against terrorism, strengthening of military capabilities of states in the region, support for the return of the state and administrations on the territory, and development assistance.¹⁶²⁰

On 2 February 2020, the French Ministry of the Armed Forces issued a press release announcing the deployment of 600 more troops in the Barkhane force.¹⁶²¹ This action was taken as part of the Coalition for the Sahel framework agreed upon at the Pau summit and brought the total number of troops to approximately 5,100.¹⁶²²

Between 6-7 February 2020, Operation Barkhane neutralized 20 terrorists and destroyed several vehicles in a double targeted strike west of the Gourma region.¹⁶²³ This operation aimed was conducted to reduce "the potential of armed terrorist groups" by destroying their supply chains.¹⁶²⁴

Between 9-15 February 2020, Operation Barkhane's "Steel" desert battle group carried out an operation in Liptako, Mali, during which one terrorist was put out of action, several resources were seized, and terrorist group materials were destroyed.¹⁶²⁵

Between 9-17 February 2020, Operation Barkhane utilized drones, jet fighters and combat helicopters to carry out two operations in the Mopti region in Mali, which neutralized approximately 50 jihadist fighters, destroyed over 30 vehicles, and allowed for major weapon seizures.¹⁶²⁶ This operation aims to "weaken the offensive potential of armed terrorist groups."¹⁶²⁷

On 12 February 2020, a Barkhane-taught three-week training course for special Malian anti-terrorist units (USAT-2) was concluded in a ceremony which saw the graduation of 97 Malian soldiers.¹⁶²⁸

¹⁶¹⁹ France and the G5 Sahel agree for a "Coalition for the Sahel" at the Pau Summit, Embassy of France (Washington) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9533>

¹⁶²⁰ France and the G5 Sahel agree for a "Coalition for the Sahel" at the Pau Summit, Embassy of France (Washington) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9533>

¹⁶²¹ Official speeches and statements - February 4, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9575#2>

¹⁶²² Official speeches and statements - February 4, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9575#2>

¹⁶²³ BARKHANE: Opportunity actions in the region of the three borders, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-actions-d-opportunite-dans-la-region-des-trois-frontieres>

¹⁶²⁴ BARKHANE: Opportunity actions in the region of the three borders, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-actions-d-opportunite-dans-la-region-des-trois-frontieres>

¹⁶²⁵ BARKHANE: The "Steel" battle group in operation in the Malian Liptako, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-le-groupe-tactique-acier-en-operation-dans-le-liptako-malien>

¹⁶²⁶ BARKHANE: Operations in the Mopti region, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 20 February 2020. Access Date 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/operations/actualites2/barkhane-operations-dans-la-region-de-mopti>

¹⁶²⁷ BARKHANE: Operations in the Mopti region, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 20 February 2020. Access Date 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/operations/actualites2/barkhane-operations-dans-la-region-de-mopti>

¹⁶²⁸ BARKHANE: End of training for the USAT-2 of the Malian armed forces, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-fin-de-formation-pour-l-usat-2-des-forces-armees-maliennes>

This training also helped with establishing “real working relations ... between French and Malian soldiers.”¹⁶²⁹

On 20 February 2020, the Nigerian defense ministry released a balance sheet demonstrating that 120 terrorists have been neutralized in southwestern Niger since the start of the joint military operation conducted by the Nigerian armed forces and the French Barkhane force on 1 February 2020.¹⁶³⁰ Niger’s defence minister welcomed the “cooperation with the strategic partner in the fight against terrorism” and noted that the joint operation is “in line with the recommendations resulting from the Pau summit.”¹⁶³¹

Between 3-23 March 2020, the Barkhane force conducted Operation Monclar in an unprecedented joint commitment with the Malian and Nigerian forces in the three-border region.¹⁶³² Operation Monclar mobilized nearly 5,000 soldiers through the establishment of a Joint Command Mechanism, which made the large-scale coordination of forces possible; the operation brought “particularly notable results,” “neutralized a large number of terrorists,” and either seized or destroyed a “very large number of resources.”¹⁶³³

On 27 March 2020, French Minister for Armed Forces Florence Parly held a remote conference with five other European Defense Ministers and the Defense Ministers in Mali and Niger to discuss the launch of the Takuba Task Force, a grouping of European special forces whose military contributions will be placed under Operation Barkhane’s command and will operate in the Liptako region.¹⁶³⁴ The Takuba Task Force is expected to become operational by early 2021 and will work in coordination with G5 Sahel partners, the UN mission (MINUSMA) and EU missions.¹⁶³⁵

Between 2-5 April 2020, the “Dragon” desert battle group conducted a series of operations and sweeps along the Niger River in the area of the three borders to disrupt the movements of armed terrorist groups through and reassure local populations.¹⁶³⁶

¹⁶²⁹ BARKHANE: The “Altior” and “Centurion” battlegroups in operation in the Malo-Nigerian Liptako, Ministry of Defense (Paris) 27 February 2020, Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-les-groupements-tactique-altior-et-centurion-en-operation-dans-le-liptako-malo-nigerien>

¹⁶³⁰ Niger. 120 “terrorists neutralized” during an operation, Ouest France (Paris) 22 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.ouest-france.fr/monde/niger/niger-120-terroristes-neutralises-au-cours-d-une-operation-6747870>

¹⁶³¹ Niger. 120 “terrorists neutralized” during an operation, Ouest France (Paris) 22 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.ouest-france.fr/monde/niger/niger-120-terroristes-neutralises-au-cours-d-une-operation-6747870>

¹⁶³² BARKHANE: Operation Monclar - unprecedented concentration of efforts in the three border area, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-l-operation-monclar-concentration-inedite-des-efforts-en-zone-des-trois-frontieres>

¹⁶³³ BARKHANE: Operation Monclar - unprecedented concentration of efforts in the three border area, Ministry of Defence (Paris) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-l-operation-monclar-concentration-inedite-des-efforts-en-zone-des-trois-frontieres>

¹⁶³⁴ Official speeches and statements - March 30, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9690#2>

¹⁶³⁵ Official speeches and statements - March 30, 2020, Embassy of France (Washington) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9690#2>

¹⁶³⁶ BARKHANE: The Desert Dragon Battle Group (GTD) in operation, Ministry of Defense (Paris) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-le-groupement-tactique-desert-gtd-dragon-en-operation>

On 8 April 2020, a French patrol of two Mirage 2000s responded to an air support request from a reconnaissance mission of a G5 Sahel joint in Burkina Faso and successfully supported troops on the ground in repelling an armed terrorist group.¹⁶³⁷

France has demonstrated efforts to counter terrorism and provide appropriate support to G5 countries through the work of the Operation Barkhane forces, which have collaborated with the G5 Sahel Joint Force to neutralize jihadist groups and stifle militant operations in all five countries. France, through its leadership role in the United Nations, is advocating for increased multilateral support for the G5 but there is no evidence of its cooperation with INTERPOL.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mascha Kopytina

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

On 24 September 2019, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas stated that as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, Germany will focus on “peaceful cooperation and de-escalation” of conflicts in Syria, Gulf states, Yemen, Sahel region and Sudan.¹⁶³⁸

On 16 October 2019, at the Franco-German Defense and United Nations Security Council, Germany reaffirmed its commitment to “securing, stabilizing and developing the Sahel region.”¹⁶³⁹ Germany also committed to working with France and the European Union on “the launch and implementation of the Partnership for Security and Stability in the Sahel (P3S).”¹⁶⁴⁰

In December 2019, the German Defense Ministry rejected for the second time a French request to dispatch “European special forces to tackle Mali’s dangerous security situation.”^{1641,1642} Germany also “turned down the request” to create a Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force.¹⁶⁴³ This is an instance of lack of compliance with the commitment to cooperate with G5 Sahel nations.

¹⁶³⁷ BARKHANE: Joint force of the G5 Sahel and Mirage 2000D coordinate during an operation, Ministry of Defense (Paris) 15 April 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020.

<https://www.defense.gouv.fr/english/operations/barkhane/breves/barkhane-force-conjointe-du-g5-sahel-et-mirage-2000d-se-coordonnent-au-cours-d-une-operation>

¹⁶³⁸ Statement by Foreign Minister Maas prior to his departure for New York, Federal Foreign Office 24 September 2019. Access Date: 21 January 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-gneral-assembly/2249318>

¹⁶³⁹ Agreed Conclusions, Franco-German Defence and Security Council (Toulouse) 16 October 2019. Access Date 21 January 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2258026/d0f478d0223d47c90dbe02f5426fc9c1/191016-erklaerung-data.pdf>

¹⁶⁴⁰ Agreed Conclusions, Franco-German Defence and Security Council (Toulouse) 16 October 2019. Access Date 21 January 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/2258026/d0f478d0223d47c90dbe02f5426fc9c1/191016-erklaerung-data.pdf>

¹⁶⁴¹ Germany twice rejects France plea for military aid in Mali as Paris keeps sending body bags home, Russia Today 21 December 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.rt.com/news/476973-germany-rejects-help-france-mali/>

¹⁶⁴² Terrorism poses growing threat in Africa’s Sahel, Germany warns, Deutsche Welle 27 December 2019. Access Date: 21 January 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/terrorism-poses-growing-threat-in-africas-sahel-germany-warns/a-51813261>

¹⁶⁴³ Terrorism poses growing threat in Africa’s Sahel, Germany warns, Deutsche Welle 27 December 2019. Access Date: 21 January 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/terrorism-poses-growing-threat-in-africas-sahel-germany-warns/a-51813261>

On 29 December 2019, Defense Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer stated that “Germany should consider expanding its troop mandate” in Sahel region.¹⁶⁴⁴ Currently, 1100 Bundeswehr soldiers are “taking part in a UN mission in the region, as well as an EU military training mission,” however, the German mandate “does not cover taking part in counter-terrorism operations.”¹⁶⁴⁵ Thus, Germany expressed desire to cooperate further with the G5 Sahel countries.

While Germany rejected the creation of the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force, it has demonstrated commitment to work with the United Nations and G5 Sahel countries to build more efficient police and defense capabilities. However, Germany has demonstrated that it is or will be working with INTERPOL on improving Sahel countries police capabilities.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Shamsbir Malik

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

On 29 August 2019, the Italian Army team, as part of the Bilateral Support Mission in Niger (MISIN), concluded its two-week improvised explosive device (IED) threat awareness course at the Niamey training centre.¹⁶⁴⁶ The course taught the Nigerian Security Forces the procedures of combatting fundamentalist terrorism attacks caused by explosive devices through lessons on the characteristics of the IEDs and their effects.¹⁶⁴⁷

On 13 September 2019, the Mobile Training Team (MTT) of the Carabinieri, the Italian military force, concluded the final exercise of a forest combat techniques course as part of MISIN.¹⁶⁴⁸ The course trained the Nigerian military forces on the proper defensive conduct in wooded areas, including specific techniques of concealment, “hand strike,” and ambush.¹⁶⁴⁹

On 27 September 2019, the MTT concluded the final exercise of a two-part Operative Intervention Techniques course as part of MISIN.¹⁶⁵⁰ The course trained the National Guard of Niger and the Gendarmes in theoretical and practical skills of engagement in territorial control and police

¹⁶⁴⁴ Germany ponders bigger troop mandate in Africa's Sahel, Deutsche Welle 29 December 2019. Access Date 21 January 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-ponders-bigger-troop-mandate-in-africas-sahel/a-51828723>

¹⁶⁴⁵ Germany ponders bigger troop mandate in Africa's Sahel, Deutsche Welle 29 December 2019. Access Date 21 January 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-ponders-bigger-troop-mandate-in-africas-sahel/a-51828723>

¹⁶⁴⁶ Niger: IED threat awareness course completed, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Niger_concluso_corso_contro_minaccia_IED.aspx

¹⁶⁴⁷ Niger: IED threat awareness course completed, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Niger_concluso_corso_contro_minaccia_IED.aspx

¹⁶⁴⁸ Niger Mission: combat techniques course, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 13 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_Niger_corso_tecniche_combattimento_boschivo_per_esercito_nigerino.aspx

¹⁶⁴⁹ Niger Mission: combat techniques course, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 13 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_Niger_corso_tecniche_combattimento_boschivo_per_esercito_nigerino.aspx

¹⁶⁵⁰ Mission to Niger: training courses for Nigerian forces, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. http://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_in_Niger_corsi_di_formazione_per_le_forze_nigerine.aspx

operations, and sought to develop the Nigerian forces' knowledge of criminal law and procedure, the "jus in bello," and the skills of carrying out immediate relief.¹⁶⁵¹

On 25 September 2019, at the 74th United Nations General Assembly, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte declared Italy's "strong commitment to face the Sahel crisis."¹⁶⁵² Prime Minister stated that Italy plans to "play a high profile role" on the African continent at bilateral level and also through coordination with the European Union.¹⁶⁵³

On 4 October 2019, Brigade General Claudio Dei of MISIN and Permanent Secretary Maman Sambo Sidikou of the G5 Sahel signed a military cooperation agreement for the training of personnel at the G5 Sahel Defense College in Nouakchott, Mauritania.¹⁶⁵⁴ As part of the agreement, Italy committed to sending two MISIN officers to teach and train at the college.¹⁶⁵⁵

On 14 October 2019, the Ministry of Defense, with the aid of resources from the National Africa Fund and as part of the MISIN commitment, donated ten ambulances and three military tanks to the Government of Niger in a handover ceremony in Niamey.¹⁶⁵⁶ This military equipment will increase Nigerian authorities' capacity in "rescuing migrants and fighting human trafficking."¹⁶⁵⁷

On 4 December 2019, Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Stefano Stefanile outlined the Italian efforts to "support the G5 Sahel Joint Force both financially and through capacity building activities" and confirmed Italy's "strong commitment to the stabilization of the Sahel" in a statement at the Peacebuilding Commission Session.¹⁶⁵⁸

On 22 December 2019, the MTT, under the command of the MISIN Brigadier General Claudio Dei, completed the training of the Paratrooper Battalion of Niger in a launch of 150 paratroopers.¹⁶⁵⁹ The

¹⁶⁵¹ Mission to Niger: training courses for Nigerian forces, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. http://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_in_Niger_corsi_di_formazione_per_le_forze_nigerine.aspx.

¹⁶⁵² Address by Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte at the United Nations, The Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/intervento-del-presidente-conte-alla-74-assemblea-generale-onu/12876>

¹⁶⁵³ Address by Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte at the United Nations, The Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 September 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/intervento-del-presidente-conte-alla-74-assemblea-generale-onu/12876>

¹⁶⁵⁴ Signature of a military cooperation partnership between the G5Sahel Defense College and Italy, G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. <https://www.g5sahel.org/21-nos-activit%C3%A9s/defense-et-securite/1525-signature-d-un-partenariat-de-cooperation-militaire-entre-le-college-de-defense-du-g5sahel-et-l-italie>.

¹⁶⁵⁵ Niger: two Italian officers in the Collège de Défense du G5 Sahel, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Niger_due_ufficiali_italiani_nel_Collage_de_Defence_du_G5_Sahel.aspx.

¹⁶⁵⁶ Italy donates 10 ambulances to the government of Niger, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/10/l-italia-dona-10-ambulanze-al-governo-del-niger.html.

¹⁶⁵⁷ Italy donates 10 ambulances to the government of Niger, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/10/l-italia-dona-10-ambulanze-al-governo-del-niger.html.

¹⁶⁵⁸ Statement by Ambassador Stefano Stefanile at the Peacebuilding Commission Annual Session, The Permanent Representation of Italy to the UN (Rome) 4 December 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://italyun.esteri.it/rappresentanza_onu/en/comunicazione/archivio-news/2019/12/peacebuilding-commission-sessione.html.

¹⁶⁵⁹ Mission to Niger: the 2019 Zebu exercise is over, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 22 December 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_in_Niger_terminata_lesercitazione_Zebu_2019.aspx.

training team included three instructors from the Pisa Parachuting Training Center in Italy, who carried out the 21-week course.¹⁶⁶⁰

On 6 March 2020, the Italian Air Force donated equipment to the Niger Armée de l'Air as part of the MISIN training program.¹⁶⁶¹ Donation of the equipment will allow Nigerian army to proceed with the practical training of the personnel that protects the country's main airport.¹⁶⁶²

Italy has demonstrated independent efforts to train and contribute to the defense of the security forces in Niger through the assistance initiative MISIN, and has cooperated with United Nations in the region. However, Italy has not directly cooperated with INTERPOL to target and neutralize threats in the Sahel region.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Mascha Kopytina

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to work with the United Nations and INTERPOL to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

On 28 August 2019, the government of Japan co-hosted the seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) with the United Nations, United Nations Development Programme, World Bank and African Union Commission.¹⁶⁶³ The Government of Japan and the African Union also co-organized the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel region, which occurred on the margins of TICAD7.¹⁶⁶⁴ The participants renewed their commitment to further enhancing peace and stability in the Sahel region and strengthening the coordination of their efforts.

On 30 August 2019, The Yokohama Declaration 2019 was produced, endorsing the theme of TICAD7, "Advancing Africa's Development through People, Technology and Innovation."¹⁶⁶⁵ The Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019, which accompanies the Declaration, lists actions expected to be implemented by the TICAD partners in order to promote focus areas of the three main pillars of the Yokohama Declaration 2019 adopted at TICAD7.¹⁶⁶⁶ These actions include Japan's "New Approach

¹⁶⁶⁰ Mission to Niger: the 2019 Zebu exercise is over, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 22 December 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/Missione_in_Niger_terminata_lesercitazione_Zebu_2019.aspx.

¹⁶⁶¹ MISIN: donated material to Niger's Armee de l'Air, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/MISIN_donato_materiale_a_Arme_de_l_Air_Niger.aspx.

¹⁶⁶² MISIN: donated material to Niger's Armee de l'Air, Ministry of Defense (Rome) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. https://www.difesa.it/OperazioniMilitari/op_intern_corso/Niger_missione_bilaterale_supporto/notizie_teatro/Pagine/MISIN_donato_materiale_a_Arme_de_l_Air_Niger.aspx.

¹⁶⁶³ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af2/page25e_000274.html

¹⁶⁶⁴ Co-chairs' Summary of the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region on the Margins of TICAD7, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>

¹⁶⁶⁵ Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf

¹⁶⁶⁶ Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019 Actions for Implementation of the Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019, Access Date: 28 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf

for Peace and Stability in Africa” (NAPSA).¹⁶⁶⁷ Japan has committed to train 60,000 people in the areas of justice, police, security maintenance and others, as well as provide states with border control equipment.¹⁶⁶⁸ Japan has also committed to strengthen capacity-building through supporting 15 African Peacekeeping Operations Training Centres and enhance capability development through the United Nations Triangular Partnership Project for Rapid Deployment of Enabling Capabilities.¹⁶⁶⁹

Japan’s cooperation with the United Nations is evidence of its commitment to build more efficient police and defence capabilities. However, it has not cooperated to the same extent with INTERPOL.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Jonathan Banfield

United Kingdom 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

On January 9, 2020, the United Kingdom ambassador Hames Roscoe conducted a briefing at the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel where he stated that “On the security and humanitarian side, as I said, we’re continuing to be concerned about the damaging cycles of violence that we’re seeing”¹⁶⁷⁰ and that to aid in this the UK “has just released a further 20 million pounds in additional humanitarian funding in the Sahel on top of the 50 million pounds we’re already spending to help address this situation.”¹⁶⁷¹

On January 16, 2020, United Kingdom ambassador Jonathan Allan, at the Security Council briefing on UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), said “we very much commend MINUSMA’s plans and efforts to adopt a more mobile, flexible and agile posture with high-end capabilities”¹⁶⁷² and that “the UK’s planned deployment of 250 troops to the mission is testament to the important role that we believe MINUSMA plays and also of this region.”¹⁶⁷³

On March 1, 2020, United Kingdom minister for Africa James Duddridge met with Sahel leaders to discuss “how the UK can support the fragile region in key sectors such as health and education, and

¹⁶⁶⁷ TICAD7: Japan’s contributions for Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019, Access Date: 29 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7_torikumi_en.pdf

¹⁶⁶⁸ TICAD7: Japan’s contributions for Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019, Access Date: 29 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7_torikumi_en.pdf

¹⁶⁶⁹ TICAD7: Japan’s contributions for Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019, Access Date: 29 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7_torikumi_en.pdf

¹⁶⁷⁰ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), United Nations (New York). 9 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preparing-for-elections-and-addressing-root-causes-of-conflict-in-west-africa>

¹⁶⁷¹ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), United Nations (New York). 9 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preparing-for-elections-and-addressing-root-causes-of-conflict-in-west-africa>

¹⁶⁷² Statement by Ambassador Jonathan Allen, UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, at the Security Council briefing on UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), United Nations (New York). 16 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/inclusive-government-action-needed-to-bring-stability-to-mali>

¹⁶⁷³ Statement by Ambassador Jonathan Allen, UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, at the Security Council briefing on UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), United Nations (New York). 16 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/inclusive-government-action-needed-to-bring-stability-to-mali>

help to build peace and security for millions.”¹⁶⁷⁴ Responding to a question from a Member of Parliament (MP) about terrorism in Sahel Africa, the minister stated that the UK is expanding “development, diplomacy and defence engagement to address the impacts and drivers of conflict and poverty” which included providing of “three CH-47 Chinook helicopters to French counter terrorism operation Barkhane [and] a UN peacekeeping deployment later this year.”¹⁶⁷⁵

On March 3, 2020, United Kingdom Minister of State (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) James Cleverly answered a question from MP Harriet Baldwin on the potential security effects of developments in the Sahel Libya region, stating that “UK interests will be supported by lasting peace and stability in the Sahel and Libya”¹⁶⁷⁶ and that the UK will increase “support to the Sahel, bringing together our development, diplomacy and defence expertise to help tackle the underlying causes of poverty and conflict in the region.”¹⁶⁷⁷

On 12 March, 2020, United Kingdom Minister of State answered another question from Baldwin about bi and multilateral programs in Sahel and Libya regions on 12 March, 2020, stating that at the G5 Leaders’ Summit the UK has restated its “commitment to increased efforts to improve security and encourage development in the Sahel.”¹⁶⁷⁸

On April 7, 2020, United Kingdom ambassador James Roscoe gave a speech in the UN security council briefing on the situation in Mali and “welcoming the deployment of the reconstituted armed forces to Kidal, Gao, Timbuktu and Menaka.”¹⁶⁷⁹

The United Kingdom has demonstrated commitment to expanding their military and financial commitments to provide support to G5 countries in areas of security and peace through bilateral programs and in cooperation with the United Nation but not INTERPOL.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Faadil Butt

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

¹⁶⁷⁴ Minister for Africa James Duddridge meets Sahel leaders and partners, championing the UK’s role in girls’ education and ending preventable deaths, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (London). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>

¹⁶⁷⁵ Sahel and West Africa: Terrorism:Written question - 29866, Parliament (London). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-16/29866/>

¹⁶⁷⁶ Libya and Sahel: Politics and Government:Written question - 20480, Parliament (London). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20480/>

¹⁶⁷⁷ Libya and Sahel: Politics and Government:Written question - 20480, Parliament (London). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-02-25/20480/>

¹⁶⁷⁸ Libya and Sahel: Politics and Government:Written question - 25093, Parliament (London). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2020-03-04/25093/>

¹⁶⁷⁹ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe, acting UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, at the Security Council briefing on the situation in Mali, United Nations (New York). Access Date: 9 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-from-all-parties-is-necessary-for-sustainable-peace-in-mali>

On 18 September 2019, United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) commander Stephen Townsend met with the G5 Sahel joint force heads. The meeting was held to “get a better understanding of defence and security-related issues in the region” as well as to “ensure ... future cooperation is understood and well-coordinated.”¹⁶⁸⁰ Commander Townsend confirmed US continuous support of “international effort taking place in Burkina Faso” aiming to contain “the spread of terrorism.”¹⁶⁸¹ The actions taken by the AFRICOM commander display cooperation with the G5 Sahel countries.

On 30 September 2019, the United States cooperated with the G5 Sahel countries and delivered the “second tranche of equipment to Chadian G5 Sahel security forces.”¹⁶⁸² The equipment includes “vehicle, communications gear, and other related support material” worth of US\$15 million and will “help Chad’s military and police forces fight terrorism and insecurity in the region.”¹⁶⁸³

On 17 October 2019, AFRICOM hosted a “high level discussions on G5 Sahel region.”¹⁶⁸⁴ The meeting was attended by the representatives of the US, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger, Chad, as well as Germany, France, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

On 1 November 2019, U.S. Africa Command announced that intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance operations were conducted on the military base in Agadez, Niger.¹⁶⁸⁵ AFRICOM commander U.S. Army Gen. Stephen Townsend commented: “We are working with our African and international partners to counter security threats in West Africa.”¹⁶⁸⁶ The construction of this base demonstrates our investment in our African partners and mutual security interests in the region.”¹⁶⁸⁷

On 11 November 2019, the UN Secretary-General delivered a report to the United Nations Security Council on the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel.¹⁶⁸⁸ The report states that the United States provided US\$15 million worth of equipment to Chad, US\$15 million to Mauritania, US\$21 million

¹⁶⁸⁰ US AFRICOM commander Townsend meets G5 Sahel leaders in inaugural trip, The Defence Post. 18 September 2019. Access Date: 13 January 2020. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/09/18/us-afcom-townsend-g5-sahel-mali-burkina-faso-niger/>

¹⁶⁸¹ US AFRICOM commander Townsend meets G5 Sahel leaders in inaugural trip, The Defence Post. 18 September 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/09/18/us-afcom-townsend-g5-sahel-mali-burkina-faso-niger/>

¹⁶⁸² U.S. Equipment Donation Strengthens Chadian G5 Sahel Forces, US Embassy in Chad (Njamena) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://td.usembassy.gov/u-s-equipment-donation-strengthens-chadian-g5-sahel-forces/>

¹⁶⁸³ U.S. Equipment Donation Strengthens Chadian G5 Sahel Forces, US Embassy in Chad (Njamena) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://td.usembassy.gov/u-s-equipment-donation-strengthens-chadian-g5-sahel-forces/>

¹⁶⁸⁴ AFRICOM hosts high level discussions on G5 Sahel region, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 13 January 2020. <https://www.afcom.mil/media-room/photo/32255/afcom-hosts-high-level-discussions-on-g5-sahel-region>

¹⁶⁸⁵ Armed drones to fly out of Niger air base now operational after delayed completion. Air Force Times (Vienna, United States) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.airforcetimes.com/flashpoints/2019/11/01/armed-drones-to-fly-out-of-niger-air-base-now-operational-after-delayed-completion/>

¹⁶⁸⁶ Armed drones to fly out of Niger air base now operational after delayed completion. Air Force Times (Vienna, United States) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.airforcetimes.com/flashpoints/2019/11/01/armed-drones-to-fly-out-of-niger-air-base-now-operational-after-delayed-completion/>

¹⁶⁸⁷ Armed drones to fly out of Niger air base now operational after delayed completion. Air Force Times (Vienna, United States) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.airforcetimes.com/flashpoints/2019/11/01/armed-drones-to-fly-out-of-niger-air-base-now-operational-after-delayed-completion/>

¹⁶⁸⁸ Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel - Report of the Secretary-General, United Nations. 11 November 2019. Access Date: 14 January 2020. <https://undocs.org/S/2019/868>

to Niger.¹⁶⁸⁹ The US also provided “training to troops operating under the Joint Force.”¹⁶⁹⁰ This displays the cooperation of the United States with the United Nations.

On 20 December 2019, according to Foreign Policy, the Trump administration is “creating a new special envoy position and task force”¹⁶⁹¹ due to the “a growing alarm in Washington about the rise of extremist groups in West Africa.”¹⁶⁹²

On 7 March 2020, Reuters reported that the United States has created a special envoy for Africa’s Sahel region to “counter rising violence from groups linked to al Qaeda and Islamic State which are expanding their foothold.”¹⁶⁹³ Envoy Peter Pham, who previously served as U.S. Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa, holds this newly created role.¹⁶⁹⁴

The efforts of the United States to engage with G5 Sahel Countries, in partnership with the United Nations, are evidence of its commitment to build more efficient police and defence capabilities. However, there is no evidence that US has cooperated with INTERPOL on these matters.

Thus, the United States receive a score of 0.

Analyst: Shamshir Malik

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to work with the United Nations and INTERPOL in order to provide appropriate support to G5 countries in building more efficient G5 Sahel police and defence capabilities.

On 17-18 October 2019, EU representatives met with researchers, Sahel experts, and representatives from other Sahel partner members to share security and stability analyses for the Sahel region.¹⁶⁹⁵ Representatives also discussed the difficulty of border management and possible solutions.¹⁶⁹⁶

On 12 November 2019, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini spoke at a conference after a meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council in Defense Formation.¹⁶⁹⁷ She announced that the EU decided to increase its presence and support given to

¹⁶⁸⁹ Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel - Report of the Secretary-General, United Nations. 11 November 2019. Access Date: 14 January 2020. <https://undocs.org/S/2019/868>

¹⁶⁹⁰ Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel - Report of the Secretary-General, United Nations. 11 November 2019. Access Date: 14 January 2020. <https://undocs.org/S/2019/868>

¹⁶⁹¹ U.S. to Ramp Up Counterterrorism Efforts in Sahel Region, Foreign Policy. (Washington DC) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/20/us-ramp-up-counterterrorism-sahel-africa/>

¹⁶⁹² U.S. to Ramp Up Counterterrorism Efforts in Sahel Region, Foreign Policy (Washington DC) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/12/20/us-ramp-up-counterterrorism-sahel-africa/>

¹⁶⁹³ U.S. creates new envoy position to counter rising terrorism in Sahel, Reuters. 7 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-sahel/u-s-creates-new-envoy-position-to-counter-rising-terrorism-in-sahel-idUSKBN20T2ZJ>

¹⁶⁹⁴ U.S. creates new envoy position to counter rising terrorism in Sahel, Reuters. 7 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-sahel/u-s-creates-new-envoy-position-to-counter-rising-terrorism-in-sahel-idUSKBN20T2ZJ>

¹⁶⁹⁵ 7th special envoys for the Sahel and partners meeting, West Africa Brief (Paris) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. <http://www.west-africa-brief.org/content/en/7th-special-envoys-sahel-and-partners-meeting>

¹⁶⁹⁶ 7th special envoys for the Sahel and partners meeting, West Africa Brief (Paris) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. <http://www.west-africa-brief.org/content/en/7th-special-envoys-sahel-and-partners-meeting>

¹⁶⁹⁷ EU to ‘increase presence and improve support’ for Sahel partners fighting terrorism, 13 November 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/13/eu-support-sahel-terrorism-mali/>

Sahel partners in fighting terrorism and organized crime, especially Mali, through the support of security forces and diplomatic efforts.¹⁶⁹⁸

On 12 November 2019, the European Council formally adopted 13 new projects under the Permanent Structured Cooperation on Defence and Security (PESCO), including a new EUR10.5 billion “peace facility” proposed by High Representative Mogherini.¹⁶⁹⁹ The purpose of the facility would be to pay for military equipment, including lethal weaponry, for crisis zones such as the Sahel region.¹⁷⁰⁰

On 25 November 2019, the Vice President of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the EU Special Representative Ambassador met in Nigeria to discuss regional security in West Africa.¹⁷⁰¹ Parties discussed the importance of signing a Memorandum of Understanding to promote cooperation on G5 Sahel, especially protecting citizens living in areas affected by terrorism.¹⁷⁰²

On 20 January 2020, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borell announced that the EU Foreign Affairs Council would increase strategic cooperation with Sahel members as the leading partner and donor in the region.¹⁷⁰³ The Council expressed support for expanding the existing Sahel Strategy to increase security, stability and development in the region with maximum cooperation between actors involved in the Sahel region.¹⁷⁰⁴

On 25 February 2020, Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen attended the G5 Sahel Summit in Mauritania.¹⁷⁰⁵ Commissioner Urpilainen donated seven armoured vehicles to the Mauritanian battalion of the G5 Sahel Joint Force and emphasized the EU’s commitment to the stabilization and recovery of the Sahel region.¹⁷⁰⁶

On 23 March 2020, the Council of the EU expanded the scope of the EU military mission contributing to the training of the Malian Armed Forces and increased the mission budget to

¹⁶⁹⁸ EU to ‘increase presence and improve support’ for Sahel partners fighting terrorism, 13 November 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/13/eu-support-sahel-terrorism-mali/>

¹⁶⁹⁹ EU launches 13 new PESCO defense cooperation projects, 12 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/12/new-pesco-projects-eu-defense-cooperation/>

¹⁷⁰⁰ EU launches 13 new PESCO defense cooperation projects, 12 November 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <https://thedefensepost.com/2019/11/12/new-pesco-projects-eu-defense-cooperation/>

¹⁷⁰¹ ECOWAS Commission and European Union Discuss Regional Security, Economic Community of West African States (Abuja) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.ecowas.int/ecowas-commission-and-european-union-discuss-regional-security/>

¹⁷⁰² ECOWAS Commission and European Union Discuss Regional Security, Economic Community of West African States (Abuja) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.ecowas.int/ecowas-commission-and-european-union-discuss-regional-security/>

¹⁷⁰³ Foreign Affairs Council, 20 January 2020, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/01/20/>

¹⁷⁰⁴ Foreign Affairs Council, 20 January 2020, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2020/01/20/>

¹⁷⁰⁵ G5 Sahel Summit: Commissioner Urpilainen underlines importance of continued partnership with Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/g5-sahel-summit-commissioner-urpilainen-underlines-importance-continued-partnership-sahel_en

¹⁷⁰⁶ G5 Sahel Summit: Commissioner Urpilainen underlines importance of continued partnership with Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/g5-sahel-summit-commissioner-urpilainen-underlines-importance-continued-partnership-sahel_en

EUR133.7 million for a four-year period.¹⁷⁰⁷ The Council also prolonged the mission until 18 May 2024.¹⁷⁰⁸ The mission will provide military assistance to the G5 Sahel Joint Force and national forces in G5 Sahel members through military advice, training, and mentoring conducted through coordination with the UN and ECOWAS.¹⁷⁰⁹

On 24 March 2020, the EU donated 13 armoured vehicles to Niger to strengthen the capacity of Nigerien soldiers fighting against terrorism in the Sahel.¹⁷¹⁰ Minister of National Defence of Niger Issoufou Katambé clarified that donated vehicles will protect deployed units in areas of operation against traps and explosive devices used by armed terrorist groups that seek to destabilize the border regions of Niger.¹⁷¹¹

The EU has demonstrated efforts to support G5 members through funding and cooperation, as well as UN initiatives to counteract terrorism. However, the EU has not cooperated with INTERPOL to support G5 police capabilities

Thus, the EU receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Sofia Shatrova

¹⁷⁰⁷ EUTM Mali: Council extends training mission with broadened mandate and increased budget, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/03/23/eutm-mali-council-extends-training-mission-with-broadened-mandate-and-increased-budget>.

¹⁷⁰⁸ EUTM Mali: Council extends training mission with broadened mandate and increased budget, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/03/23/eutm-mali-council-extends-training-mission-with-broadened-mandate-and-increased-budget>.

¹⁷⁰⁹ EUTM Mali: Council extends training mission with broadened mandate and increased budget, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/03/23/eutm-mali-council-extends-training-mission-with-broadened-mandate-and-increased-budget>.

¹⁷¹⁰ European Union armored vehicle donation to Niger, Secrétariat Permanent du G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 24 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.g5sahel.org/nos-activites/infrastructures/1588-don-de-vehicules-blindes-de-l-union-europeenne-au-niger>

¹⁷¹¹ European Union armored vehicle donation to Niger, Secrétariat Permanent du G5 Sahel (Nouakchott) 24 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.g5sahel.org/nos-activites/infrastructures/1588-don-de-vehicules-blindes-de-l-union-europeenne-au-niger>

11. Development: G5 Sahel

“We support facilitating increased access of G5 countries to all available public and private finance.”

Sahel Partnership Action Plan

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union		0	
Average	+0.50 (75%)		

Background

The Sahel region has been a focus of the international community throughout the past decade, facing escalating instability catalyzed by challenges to the region’s agriculture and farming industries. “Since the 1970s, the Sahel has experienced drought conditions on a regular basis,”¹⁷¹² which some scientists attribute to climate change.¹⁷¹³ In 2012, an estimated 19 million people became food insecure due to “late, erratic rainfall, high food prices, displacement and chronic poverty.”¹⁷¹⁴ Immediate responses attempted to tackle the most pressing issues: rising food prices and low agricultural production; chronic food insecurity and malnutrition; and rising violence in northern Mali, causing high numbers of internally displaced persons and refugees.¹⁷¹⁵ However, mounting conflict has triggered the need for a stronger and more unified international strategy for tackling the profound, multifaceted issues embedded in the Sahel conflict. Adverse conditions are expected to become increasingly complex and severe as the Sahel’s population is predicted to double by 2040, while inequality rises particularly amongst women and youth, and as climate change continues to present unexpected challenges to the region’s agriculture.¹⁷¹⁶

The international community has since banded together by establishing new platforms to facilitate regional cooperation, cross-sectoral knowledge sharing, and international partnerships between diverse stakeholders with the aim to invest in sustainable development. Countries first took a security approach to establishing long-term peace and development in the region. In 2011, the international community – including all G7 (previously G8) members¹⁷¹⁷ – established the Global Counterterrorism Forum to discuss, ideate, and promote strategies to counter terrorism and violent

¹⁷¹² Droughts — Case study: the impact of drought in a developing country – the Sahel, BBC. Access date: 17 November 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zt9ncwx/revision/4>.

¹⁷¹³ Analysis: Understanding the Sahel drought, Steff Gaultier, Al Jazeera, 22 June 2012. Access date: 17 November 2019. <https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/spotlight/saheldrought/2012/06/2012616174721352901.html>.

¹⁷¹⁴ Sahel Crisis — A Call to Action, Food and Agriculture Association of the United Nations, June 2012. Access date: 17 November 2019. <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/resources/videos/video-detail/en/c/150327>.

¹⁷¹⁵ Sahel Regional Strategy 2013, United Nations, December 2012. Access date: 17 November 2019. https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/SahelStrategy2013_Dec2012.pdf.

¹⁷¹⁶ Joint Paris G7 /G5 Communique, 4 July 2019. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2019-g7-g5.pdf>.

¹⁷¹⁷ Members and Partners, Global Counterterrorism Forum. Access date: 10 November 2019. <https://www.thegctf.org/About-us/Members-and-partners>.

extremism.¹⁷¹⁸ Since the Forum's establishment, it has focused on the Sahel region.¹⁷¹⁹ Its current working group for capacity-building in the West Africa Region directly focuses on identifying solutions to issues in the Sahel, such as "enhancing international police cooperation," "countering terrorist financing," and "border security management."¹⁷²⁰

In 2012, leaders at the Camp David Summit highlighted the need to improve food security and nutrition in collaboration with African partners.¹⁷²¹ By increasing public policy and investment in sustainable agriculture, as well as attracting more private capital, G8 leaders hoped to support the global need for sustainable development through agricultural investment.¹⁷²² This mission led to the launch of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa, through which participating African countries shared their policy commitments and future private investment partners through a "country cooperation framework."¹⁷²³

The 2013 Lough Erne Summit focused on economic strategies as agents of change to drive international prosperity by engaging private finance.¹⁷²⁴ British Prime Minister David Cameron advocated to "unleash the power of the private sector" in order to "support the development of open economies, open governments and open societies" by "advancing trade, ensuring tax compliance, and promoting greater transparency."¹⁷²⁵ Among the summit's commitments include: reducing "global imbalances" through macroeconomic policy; collaborating with the private sector, international financial institutions, and other international partners to facilitate the finance of "bankable trade-related infrastructure projects," particularly in Africa; and enhancing counter-terrorism efforts by tackling recruitment and radicalization, as well as providing support for vulnerable communities.¹⁷²⁶ Prior to the summit, G8 foreign ministers highlighted the Sahel as a focal region in need of support during a meeting to discuss international issues impacting foreign peace and security.¹⁷²⁷

After the unexpected magnitude of the 2014 Ebola crisis, G7 members drafted an agenda "in close cooperation with the African Union and other African regional organisations (EAC [East African Community], ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States], IGAD [Intergovernmental Authority on Development])" to strengthen and expand upon pre-existing security frameworks.¹⁷²⁸

¹⁷¹⁸ Background and Mission, Global Counterterrorism Forum. Access date: 10 November 2019. <https://www.thegctf.org/About-us/Background-and-Mission>.

¹⁷¹⁹ Capacity-building in the West Africa Region, Global Counterterrorism Forum. Access date: 10 November 2019. <https://www.thegctf.org/Working-Groups/Sahel-Region-Capacity-Building>.

¹⁷²⁰ Capacity-building in the West Africa Region, Global Counterterrorism Forum. Access date: 10 November 2019. <https://www.thegctf.org/Working-Groups/Sahel-Region-Capacity-Building>.

¹⁷²¹ Camp David Declaration, 19 May 2019. Access date 19 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>.

¹⁷²² Camp David Declaration, 19 May 2019. Access date 19 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>.

¹⁷²³ The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Africa, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2015. Access date: 24 November 2019. <http://www.fao.org/family-farming/detail/en/c/384055/>.

¹⁷²⁴ A G8 Meeting That Goes Back to First Principles, David Cameron, 21 November 2012. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/121121-cameron.html>.

¹⁷²⁵ A G8 Meeting That Goes Back to First Principles, David Cameron, 21 November 2012. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/121121-cameron.html>.

¹⁷²⁶ 2013 Lough Erne G8 Summit Final Compliance Report, G8 Research Group, 5 June 2018. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2013compliance-final/2013-g8-compliance-final.pdf>.

¹⁷²⁷ G8 Foreign Ministers' meeting statement, G8 UK United Kingdom 2013, 11 April 2013. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin130411.html>.

¹⁷²⁸ Beyond Ebola: a G7 agenda to help prevent future crises and enhance security in Africa, G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Lübeck, 15 April 2015. Access date: 10 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/150415-G7_Africa_Agenda.pdf.

The Ebola crisis, which instigated “the first UN Mission to tackle a health security challenge,” generated widespread support from nations, non-governmental agencies, international financial institutions, and private sector.¹⁷²⁹ The agenda “[supported] capacity building with governments, regional bodies, civil societies and the private sector on crisis management and crisis communication as well as awareness-raising” for future epidemics.¹⁷³⁰ However, these relationships are necessary to tackle the cross-border, multi-sectoral challenges the Sahel faces beyond health security.

The G5 Sahel Joint Force was established in 2014 as a security strategy in response to the growing instability, threats, and violence in the region.¹⁷³¹ The region’s challenges revolve around porous borders and power vacuums, leading to organized crime and the trafficking of humans, drugs, and arms.¹⁷³² The result is forced displacement, which further perpetuates the cycles of instability and crime. As residents flee and illicit activity rises, terrorist organizations can expand their influence and sources of revenue.¹⁷³³

In a continuation of the security concerns that led to the establishment of the Global Counterterrorism Forum in 2011, the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit committed to advancing nonproliferation by “strengthening the system of multilateral treaties and ... the Arms Trade Treaty.”¹⁷³⁴ Germany partnered with members of the African Union to monitor and control the movement of arms in the Sahel, focusing on small arms and light weapons as well as physical security and stockpile management.¹⁷³⁵

At the 2017 G7 foreign ministers’ meeting, ministers agreed to “enhance cooperation” and “continue to support the efforts of the Sahel and Lake Chad Basin countries to fight terrorism and organized crime,” particularly against Boko Haram.¹⁷³⁶ France, Germany, and the European Union launched the Sahel Alliance to provide an effective response through initiatives simultaneously tackling security and sustainable development.¹⁷³⁷ Partnering countries, international financial institutions, and non-governmental organizations collaborate on projects targeting priority fields, implementing new modes of action, and focusing on the most vulnerable regions.¹⁷³⁸

The Sahel Alliance has engaged projects on the principle of mutual accountability to help partners tangibly meet and measure their collective goals.¹⁷³⁹ Among the Alliance’s biggest projects include

¹⁷²⁹ Beyond Ebola: a G7 agenda to help prevent future crises and enhance security in Africa, G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Lübeck, 15 April 2015. Access date: 10 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/150415-G7_Africa_Agenda.pdf.

¹⁷³⁰ Beyond Ebola: a G7 agenda to help prevent future crises and enhance security in Africa, G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Lübeck, G7 Research Group, 15 April 2015. Access date: 10 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/150415-G7_Africa_Agenda.pdf.

¹⁷³¹ The G5 Sahel Task Force Gains Traction, Africa Centre for Strategic Studies, 9 February 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/g5-sahel-joint-force-gains-traction>.

¹⁷³² The G5 Sahel Task Force Gains Traction, Africa Centre for Strategic Studies, 9 February 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/g5-sahel-joint-force-gains-traction>.

¹⁷³³ G5 Sahel Joint Force, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York, 5 November 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/G5-Sahel-Joint-Force-10433>.

¹⁷³⁴ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit 2015, G7 Research Group, 8 June 2015. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

¹⁷³⁵ 8. Nonproliferation: Arms Trade — 2015 Schloss Elmau G7 Summit Final Compliance Report, G7 Research Group, 23 May 2016. Access date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2015compliance-final/2015-g7-compliance-final-160523.pdf>.

¹⁷³⁶ 2017 G7 Foreign Ministers’ Commitments, G7 Research Group, 11 April 2017. Access date: 17 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/foreign-commitments-2017.html>.

¹⁷³⁷ The Sahel Alliance. Access date: 17 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance>.

¹⁷³⁸ The Sahel Alliance. Access date: 17 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance>.

¹⁷³⁹ The Sahel Alliance. Access date: 17 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance>.

bolstering pastoralism throughout the region.¹⁷⁴⁰ Through private-public partnerships, investment in pastoralism can contribute to the perpetuation of regional sustainable agriculture through increased livestock services, resource management, and entrepreneurship among targeted disadvantaged communities.¹⁷⁴¹ Since its implementation, veterinary services, disease control, and infrastructure have all expanded.¹⁷⁴²

World leaders and international stakeholders met in August 2019 to announce the Biarritz Declaration for a G7 and Africa Partnership.¹⁷⁴³ The Partnership establishes multilateral commitments to support development by promoting female entrepreneurship, promoting accessible digital transformation, and fighting corruption in public procurement through partnerships between “governments, businesses and civil society organizations.”¹⁷⁴⁴

On July 4, 2019, members from G7 and G5 Sahel countries released the Joint Paris G7/G5 Sahel Communiqué.¹⁷⁴⁵ Prior to the Biarritz Summit, stakeholder representatives from both groups met to discuss the region’s mounting instability and committed to “strong partnerships and coordinated action.”¹⁷⁴⁶ The Communiqué asserted the G7’s unanimous commitment to the Sahel by announcing “all G7 members are now part of [the Sahel Alliance], as either members or observers.”¹⁷⁴⁷ The Communiqué highlighted the importance for G5 Sahel countries to first “improve governance, domestic resource mobilization, increase budget expenditures and strengthen institutional capacity for the provision of quality basic services to all, without discrimination,” then called for “the international community, to support these efforts with enhanced, coherent and coordinated support.”¹⁷⁴⁸ This document offers a clear blueprint for the 18th commitment for development in G5 Sahel countries made at Biarritz weeks later.

Commitment Features

The G7 commitment is to “support facilitating increased access of G5 countries to all available public and private finance.” “Facilitating” is understood as “to help bring about.”¹⁷⁴⁹ In this context, facilitating would mean to provide the resources and/or connections through which G5 Sahel countries could access all available public and private finance. The Sahel Alliance’s Regional Support Project for Sahel Pastoralism demonstrates facilitating private-public partnerships. It is a project implemented by the World Bank that works with Sahel Alliance partners to devise and implement development strategies that create opportunities for private financing. The project incorporated professional organizations into the plan and focused on creating new markets to boost market access.

¹⁷⁴⁰ Regional Support Project for Sahel Pastoralism, Sahel Alliance, 30 June 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/projects/regional-sahel-pastoralism-support-project-praps>.

¹⁷⁴¹ Regional Support Project for Sahel Pastoralism, Sahel Alliance, 30 June 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/projects/regional-sahel-pastoralism-support-project-praps>.

¹⁷⁴² Regional Support Project for Sahel Pastoralism, Sahel Alliance, 30 June 2019. Access date: 29 November 2019. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/projects/regional-sahel-pastoralism-support-project-praps>.

¹⁷⁴³ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership, G7 Research Group, 26 August 2019. Access date: 17 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-declaration-africa-partnership.html>.

¹⁷⁴⁴ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership, G7 Research Group, 26 August 2019. Access date: 17 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-declaration-africa-partnership.html>.

¹⁷⁴⁵ Joint Paris G7 /G5 Communiqué, 4 July 2019. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2019-g7-g5.pdf>.

¹⁷⁴⁶ Joint Paris G7 /G5 Communiqué, 4 July 2019. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2019-g7-g5.pdf>.

¹⁷⁴⁷ Joint Paris G7 /G5 Communiqué, 4 July 2019. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2019-g7-g5.pdf>.

¹⁷⁴⁸ Joint Paris G7 /G5 Communiqué, 4 July 2019. Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/dev/2019-g7-g5.pdf>.

¹⁷⁴⁹ Facilitate, Merriam-Webster. Access date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/facilitate>.

“Increased access” is understood as further contributing to the efforts of previous G7 commitments to provide G5 countries with “the right to obtain or make use of”¹⁷⁵⁰ public and private finance. In this context, increased access is a reaffirmation of the G7’s commitments to supporting G5 Sahel states by continuing to support productive development initiatives through public and private finance.

“G5 countries” is understood as the group of five countries from the Sahel region formed in 2014, comprising Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Chad.¹⁷⁵¹

“Public finance” is understood as financial resources and investment from publicly funded institutions, namely governments and government-funded organizations (for example, the International Monetary Fund or World Bank Group). In this context, public finance can be interpreted as financial resources and/or aid potentially accessible and/or available to G5 Sahel countries from G7 governments.

“Private finance” is understood as financial resources and investment from privately owned and/or operated organizations, namely companies. In this context, private finance can be interpreted as resources and/or investment potentially accessible and/or available to G5 Sahel countries from privately owned entities. Examples of private finance could include private investments in the G5 Sahel’s agriculture industry or developments in the Group’s green energy sector (i.e. solar or wind).

To achieve full compliance and a score of +1, G7 members must: 1. facilitate increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public finance, and 2. facilitate increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available private finance.

If only one of two thresholds of this commitment is fulfilled, G7 members will be considered in partial compliance and will thus receive a score of 0. For instance, if a G7 member facilitates increased access of G5 Sahel countries to available public funds, but does not facilitate increased access of G5 Sahel countries to available private funds, the country will be considered in partial compliance.

A country will be considered in no compliance if a no demonstrable action is taken to fulfill neither component of this commitment, and will consequently receive a score of –1.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

–1	G7 member does NOT facilitate increased access of G5 Sahel countries to any available public or private finance.
0	G7 member facilitates increased access of G5 Sahel countries to any available public OR private finance.
+1	G7 member facilitates increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public AND private finance.

*Compliance Director: Philip Schartz
Lead Analyst: Ninar Fawal*

¹⁷⁵⁰ Increased, Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, 27 September 2017. Access date: 13 October 2019; Access, Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, 27 September 2017. Access date: 13 October 2019.

¹⁷⁵¹ Le G5 Sahel, Secrétariat permanent du G5 Sahel, 29 September 2015. Access date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.g5sahel.org/qui-sommes-nous/le-g5-sahel>.

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 10 December 2019, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), of which Canada is a member, adopted the “Support to the Sahel Region” resolution that focused on better coordinating support to the Sahel region.¹⁷⁵² ECOSOC also called on international financial institutions to provide support to the Sahel region in coordination with the United Nations and other organizations.¹⁷⁵³ ECOSOC also stressed the need to provide opportunities for young people in the Sahel.¹⁷⁵⁴

On 10 February 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau reaffirmed Canada’s commitment to supporting the African Development Bank, and announced that Canada will contribute CAD355.2 million over three years for the 15th replenishment of the African Development Fund.¹⁷⁵⁵ He also announced that Canada will invest CAD4.8 million to ACUMEN, an international non-profit organization, in order to help provide leadership training to 200 youth leaders and support women-led businesses serving conflict-affected communities.¹⁷⁵⁶

On 10 February 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that Canada will hold the first high-level consultations with the African Union Commission, of which Burkina Faso is a commissioner.¹⁷⁵⁷ The consultations are set to focus on common priorities including trade policy.¹⁷⁵⁸

On 8 May 2020, Canada’s Development Minister Karina Gould stated that the Canadian government is pushing international actors to provide debt relief to Africa in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁷⁵⁹ She stated the government is advocating for this in order to help fight threats of hunger, economic ruin, and terrorism as the pandemic continues, referring specifically to the Sahel

¹⁷⁵² Economic and Social Council Adopts Resolution on Better Coordinating Support to Sahel Region, Fills Positions in Subsidiary Bodies, UN-Women, United Nations (New York) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ecosoc7016.doc.htm>.

¹⁷⁵³ Economic and Social Council Adopts Resolution on Better Coordinating Support to Sahel Region, Fills Positions in Subsidiary Bodies, UN-Women, United Nations (New York) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ecosoc7016.doc.htm>.

¹⁷⁵⁴ Economic and Social Council Adopts Resolution on Better Coordinating Support to Sahel Region, Fills Positions in Subsidiary Bodies, UN-Women, United Nations (New York) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ecosoc7016.doc.htm>.

¹⁷⁵⁵ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>.

¹⁷⁵⁶ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>.

¹⁷⁵⁷ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>.

¹⁷⁵⁸ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>.

¹⁷⁵⁹ Coronavirus: Canada pushing for debt relief to Africa, minister says (Toronto) 8 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://globalnews.ca/news/6922522/coronavirus-africa-debt-relief/>.

region.¹⁷⁶⁰ She also stated that Canada is looking to do this in response to the United Nations' recent increase in budget aimed at fighting the pandemic globally.¹⁷⁶¹

Through its membership to ECOSOC and its support of multilateral cooperation with international financial institutions to promote development in the Sahel region, Canada has partially complied with the commitment.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ninar Fawal

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 17 September 2019, Proparco, the private services arm of the Agence Française de Développement (Afd),¹⁷⁶² signed a EUR25 million subordinated loan with French multinational bank Société Générale as part of Afd Group's Choose Africa initiative.¹⁷⁶³ The loan will allow the bank's Burkina Faso division to continue its financing of local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).¹⁷⁶⁴ These funds will support approximately 10,000 SMEs through tools and financing to develop their businesses in collaboration with local partners.¹⁷⁶⁵

On 9 and 10 October 2019, Afd hosted the "Energy Access in the G5 Sahel Countries" Conference to promote energy access in the Sahel countries and aim to double the access to energy by 2022.¹⁷⁶⁶ The event was hosted in conjunction with the World Bank, the European Union, and the Coordination Unit of the Sahel Alliance.¹⁷⁶⁷

¹⁷⁶⁰ Coronavirus: Canada pushing for debt relief to Africa, minister says (Toronto) 8 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://globalnews.ca/news/6922522/coronavirus-africa-debt-relief/>.

¹⁷⁶¹ Coronavirus: Canada pushing for debt relief to Africa, minister says (Toronto) 8 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://globalnews.ca/news/6922522/coronavirus-africa-debt-relief/>.

¹⁷⁶² A Financial Institution Working for the Private Sector and Sustainable Development, Proparco, Groupe Agence Française de Développement (Paris). Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/financial-institution-working-private-sector-and-sustainable-development>.

¹⁷⁶³ Identity, About us, Société Générale (Paris). Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.societegenerale.com/en/about-us/identity>.

¹⁷⁶⁴ Proparco signs a loan with Société Générale Burkina Faso to support the country's SMEs, Proparco, Group Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-signs-loan-societe-generale-burkina-faso-support-countrys-smes>.

¹⁷⁶⁵ Proparco signs a loan with Société Générale Burkina Faso to support the country's SMEs, Proparco, Group Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-signs-loan-societe-generale-burkina-faso-support-countrys-smes>.

¹⁷⁶⁶ Access to electricity in Sahel doubled by 2022 – Synthesis of the Conference, Agence Française de développement (Paris) November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/ressources/access-electricity-sahel-doubled-2022-synthesis-conference>.

¹⁷⁶⁷ Access to electricity in Sahel doubled by 2022 – Synthesis of the Conference, Agence Française de développement (Paris) November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/ressources/access-electricity-sahel-doubled-2022-synthesis-conference>.

On 10 and 11 October 2019, the Minister of State attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne, affirmed France's commitment to make further investments in human development and stabilization efforts in the Sahel.¹⁷⁶⁸

On 20 November 2019, the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Nicolas de Rivi re, announced France was allocating EUR522 million in funding for the G5 Sahel Priority Investment Programme for 2019 and 2020.¹⁷⁶⁹ The funding was done in conjunction with assurance of increased French security presence in the Sahel region.¹⁷⁷⁰

On 11 December 2019, Proparco partnered with Attijari bank Mauritania to provide EUR5.5 million in loans for Mauritanian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).¹⁷⁷¹ The financing consisted of two types of loans: ARIZ-guaranteed loans¹⁷⁷² between EUR10,000 to EUR300,000, totalling EUR3 million, and EURIZ-guaranteed loans¹⁷⁷³ to societally important sectors ranging from EUR 5,000 to EUR 100,000, totalling in EUR2.5 million.¹⁷⁷⁴ About 140 Mauritanian SMEs are expected to benefit from the loans.¹⁷⁷⁵

On 6 April 2020, Proparco granted ACEP Niger, Niger's second largest microfinance institution, a XOF1.5 billion loan to support entrepreneurs.¹⁷⁷⁶ The loan was distributed with the hopes of helping over 35,000 entrepreneurs.¹⁷⁷⁷

On 8 April 2020, the AFD announced the "COVID-19 – Health in Common" initiative, which will consist of deploying EUR1.2 billion in bilateral resources and funds to support African countries

¹⁷⁶⁸ OECD/Development Assistance Committee – Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne attending the Tidewater meeting of development ministers, France Diplomatie (Lyon) 10-11 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/news-2019/article/oecd-development-assistance-committee-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-attending-the>.

¹⁷⁶⁹ Statement by Mr. Nicolas de Rivi re, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Permanent Mission of France (New York) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/situation-in-the-Sahel-remains-very-precarious>.

¹⁷⁷⁰ Statement by Mr. Nicolas de Rivi re, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Permanent Mission of France (New York) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/situation-in-the-Sahel-remains-very-precarious>.

¹⁷⁷¹ Proparco and Attijari Bank Mauritania facilitate access to finance for Mauritanian SMEs, Proparco, Groupe Agence Fran aise de D veloppement (Paris) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-and-attijari-bank-mauritania-facilitate-access-finance-mauritanian-smes>.

¹⁷⁷² Guarantees: an instrument to mobilize local instruments, Agence Fran aise de D veloppement (Paris). Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/guarantees-instrument-mobilize-local-instruments>.

¹⁷⁷³ Launch of the EURIZ guarantee -  181 million to facilitate MSMEs' access to credit in Africa and the Caribbean, Proparco, Groupe Agence Fran aise de D veloppement (Paris). Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/launch-euriz-guarantee-eu181-million-facilitate-msmes-access-credit-africa-and-caribbean>.

¹⁷⁷⁴ Proparco and Attijari Bank Mauritania facilitate access to finance for Mauritanian SMEs, Proparco, Groupe Agence Fran aise de D veloppement (Paris) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-and-attijari-bank-mauritania-facilitate-access-finance-mauritanian-smes>.

¹⁷⁷⁵ Proparco and Attijari Bank Mauritania facilitate access to finance for Mauritanian SMEs, Proparco, Groupe Agence Fran aise de D veloppement (Paris) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-and-attijari-bank-mauritania-facilitate-access-finance-mauritanian-smes>.

¹⁷⁷⁶ Proparco and ACEP Niger support entrepreneurs in Niger, Proparco Groupe Agence Fran aise de D veloppement (Paris) 06 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-and-acep-niger-support-entrepreneurs-niger>.

¹⁷⁷⁷ Proparco and ACEP Niger support entrepreneurs in Niger, Proparco Groupe Agence Fran aise de D veloppement (Paris) 06 April 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.proparco.fr/en/actualites/proparco-and-acep-niger-support-entrepreneurs-niger>.

during the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁷⁷⁸ The plan includes EUR150 million in donations, and EUR1 billion in loans to assist partner countries and development banks.¹⁷⁷⁹

On 17 April 2020, Minister of State attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne took part in the meeting of the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.¹⁷⁸⁰ The meeting reviewed the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in developing countries and discussed the USD14 billion plan adopted by the World Bank to fund almost 100 projects globally, a third of which are in sub-Saharan Africa.¹⁷⁸¹ Moreover, the meeting reviewed a plan to put together a USD160 billion package focusing on macro-economic support, and discussed the possibility of a moratorium on debt service for the poorest countries during the pandemic.¹⁷⁸²

By making public funds available through AfD initiatives, and collaborating with industry leaders to support the development of local private industries in the Sahel region, France has fully complied with the commitment.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Geoffrey Burrows

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 10 October 2019, Germany increased its pledge to the Global Fund to EUR1 billion.¹⁷⁸³ The Global Fund aims to battle HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria with the ultimate goal of “[enhancing] the quality of life for people living with the diseases and [strengthening] national health and community systems.”¹⁷⁸⁴

¹⁷⁷⁸ France Launches, via AFD, The “Covid-19 – Health in Common” Initiative to Support African Countries (9 April 2020) (Paris) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/france-launches-via-afd-the-covid-19-health-in-common-initiative-to-support>.

¹⁷⁷⁹ France Launches, via AFD, The “Covid-19 – Health in Common” Initiative to Support African Countries (9 April 2020) (Paris) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/france-launches-via-afd-the-covid-19-health-in-common-initiative-to-support>.

¹⁷⁸⁰ World Bank / IMF - Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne taking part in the Development Committee meeting (17 Apr. 2020) (Paris) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/world-bank-imf-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-taking-part-in-the-development-committee>.

¹⁷⁸¹ World Bank / IMF - Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne taking part in the Development Committee meeting (17 Apr. 2020) (Paris) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/world-bank-imf-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-taking-part-in-the-development-committee>.

¹⁷⁸² World Bank / IMF - Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne taking part in the Development Committee meeting (17 Apr. 2020) (Paris) 17 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/world-bank-imf-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-taking-part-in-the-development-committee>.

¹⁷⁸³ Global Fund raises US\$14.02 billion to end epidemics, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://health.bmz.de/events/Events_2019/global_fund_raises_14_billion_end_epidemics/index.html.

¹⁷⁸⁴ Global Fund raises US\$14.02 billion to end epidemics, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://health.bmz.de/events/Events_2019/global_fund_raises_14_billion_end_epidemics/index.html.

On 12 November 2019, Chancellor Angela Merkel met in Berlin with the G20 Compact with Africa countries, including Burkina Faso, “to discuss opportunities to enhance the business environment and increase investment in African countries.”¹⁷⁸⁵ Chancellor Merkel took this opportunity to highlight Germany’s new investment fund in Africa, which will foster private European investment in Africa, support German companies navigating the legal and economic frameworks of African countries, and facilitate funding for small and medium-sized enterprises in Africa.¹⁷⁸⁶

On 12 November 2019, at the World Population Summit in Nairobi, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) announced Germany would increase its family planning initiatives and establish new maternity centres in Niger.¹⁷⁸⁷

On 19 November 2019, Development Minister Gerd Müller reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to supporting African businesses with the goal to create “a better enabling environment for investment in our reform partner countries.”¹⁷⁸⁸ Minister Müller pointed to the implementation of the new investment fund, through which Germany has made a total of EUR1 billion available to private European and African companies to foster increased cooperation and investment between both continents.¹⁷⁸⁹

Between 20 and 22 November 2019, Germany, as head of the Sahel Alliance’s decentralization group, co-organized a “regional workshop on decentralisation and governance as a vector of peace and stability in Sahel” in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme.¹⁷⁹⁰ The meeting concluded with the commitment to focus on “improving public finance management with a view to increased mobilisation of domestic resources and their better use.”¹⁷⁹¹

On 12 December 2019, an emergency project for border stabilization led by Germany’s development agency, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH,¹⁷⁹² received a

¹⁷⁸⁵ Compact with Africa High-Level Conference, G20 Compact with Africa. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.compactwithafrica.org/content/compactwithafrica/home/events/CompactwithAfricaHigh-LevelConference.html>.

¹⁷⁸⁶ Compact with Africa High-Level Conference, G20 Compact with Africa. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.compactwithafrica.org/content/compactwithafrica/home/events/CompactwithAfricaHigh-LevelConference.html>.

¹⁷⁸⁷ Germany steps up its international efforts for family planning, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191112_pm_064_Germany-steps-up-its-international-efforts-for-family-planning/index.html.

¹⁷⁸⁸ Minister Müller on the G20 Africa summit: Our offer for the private sector stands, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191119_pm_067_Minister-Mueller-on-the-G20-Africa-summit-Our-offer-for-the-private-sector-stands/index.html.

¹⁷⁸⁹ Minister Müller on the G20 Africa summit: Our offer for the private sector stands, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191119_pm_067_Minister-Mueller-on-the-G20-Africa-summit-Our-offer-for-the-private-sector-stands/index.html.

¹⁷⁹⁰ Sahel: collective intelligence serving decentralising and governance, Sahel Alliance, 13 January 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://medium.com/@sahelalliance/sahel-collective-intelligence-serving-decentralising-and-governance-1abfe82f70fc>.

¹⁷⁹¹ Sahel: collective intelligence serving decentralising and governance, Sahel Alliance, 13 January 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://medium.com/@sahelalliance/sahel-collective-intelligence-serving-decentralising-and-governance-1abfe82f70fc>.

¹⁷⁹² Programme d’urgence pour la stabilisation des espaces frontaliers du G5 Sahel (PDU), European Commission (Brussels). Access Date: 29 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/region/sahel-lake-chad/regional/programme-durgence-pour-la-stabilisation-des-espaces-frontaliers-du-g5_en.

further EUR45.23 million.¹⁷⁹³ Following an increase in armed attacks in the region between Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, the funds will be directed to improving living conditions, such as access to water and sanitation, food security, and general social cohesion.¹⁷⁹⁴

In late 2019, GIZ continued its commitment to sustainable economic cooperation with African countries by continuing its AFRIKA KOMMT! program for a 2020-2022 cycle.¹⁷⁹⁵ The program, implemented on behalf of the private sector, trains young professionals and managers from sub-Saharan Africa in Germany.¹⁷⁹⁶ This program enables German companies to increase their cooperation and investment in African industries, learn from diverse perspectives, and support organizations looking to expand in the sub-Saharan markets.¹⁷⁹⁷

On 3 February 2020, Minister Müller announced Germany was working toward a new strategy to stabilize the region, and strengthen their missions in the Sahel and surrounding region.¹⁷⁹⁸ “The focus is on modernising agricultural methods, improving water supply and creating jobs and training opportunities. Only if people can see a future for themselves will we be able to effectively curb radicalisation, terrorism, forced displacement and people trafficking.”¹⁷⁹⁹

Other German-led projects currently targeting G5 Sahel countries include: promotion of productive agriculture¹⁸⁰⁰; vocational training for start-ups in Niger (ProEMPLOI)¹⁸⁰¹; promotion of national decentralisation and good governance¹⁸⁰²; green innovation centres for the agriculture and food sector¹⁸⁰³; more fish and income from sustainable fisheries and aquaculture¹⁸⁰⁴; and promotion of employment and occupational integration in rural areas.¹⁸⁰⁵

¹⁷⁹³ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €70 million to support local communities and protect migrants and refugees in the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu70-million-support-local-communities-and-protect_en.

¹⁷⁹⁴ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €70 million to support local communities and protect migrants and refugees in the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu70-million-support-local-communities-and-protect_en.

¹⁷⁹⁵ AFRIKA KOMMT! An Initiative of German Industry for Future Leaders from Africa, AFRIKA KOMMT! (Düsseldorf).

Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://afrika-kommt.de>.

¹⁷⁹⁶ AFRIKA KOMMT! (Africa is coming!) – a training programme for young managers, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (Düsseldorf) November 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/9611.html>.

¹⁷⁹⁷ AFRIKA KOMMT! (Africa is coming!) – a training programme for young managers, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (Düsseldorf) November 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/9611.html>

¹⁷⁹⁸ Development Minister Gerd Müller on the eve of his tour of Nigeria, Sudan and Egypt, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2020/februar/200203_Development-Minister-Gerd-Mueller-on-the-eve-of-his-tour-of-Nigeria-Sudan-and-Egypt/index.html.

¹⁷⁹⁹ Development Minister Gerd Müller on the eve of his tour of Nigeria, Sudan and Egypt, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2020/februar/200203_Development-Minister-Gerd-Mueller-on-the-eve-of-his-tour-of-Nigeria-Sudan-and-Egypt/index.html.

¹⁸⁰⁰ Promotion of productive agriculture, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/23343.html>.

¹⁸⁰¹ Improving employment and income opportunities, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/57419.html>.

¹⁸⁰² Promotion of national decentralisation and good governance, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/23276.html>.

¹⁸⁰³ Green Innovation Centres for the Agriculture and Food Sector (GIC), Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/32209.html>.

By financing programs that foster increased collaboration and investment between Germany and African countries, as well as investing in projects to improve quality of life in the Sahel region, Germany has fully complied with the commitment.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Philip Schwarz

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 10 November 2019, the Italian Development Bank Cassa Depositi e Prestiti signed a EUR30 million financial guarantee agreement with the European Commission and the African Development Bank.¹⁸⁰⁶ This guarantee, called “Archipelagos One4A – One Platform for Africa” will generate 50,000 jobs and support 1,500 small African businesses by enabling financing partners to divide the risk of investments.¹⁸⁰⁷ Along with the FMO Ventures Programme, the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica stated that the agreements “will help to boost access o finance for small businesses, notably in the tech sector – and create up to 175,000 jobs directly and indirectly.”¹⁸⁰⁸

Italy has taken some action toward facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Philip Schwarz

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

Between 28 and 30 August 2019, Japan held the seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) in Yokohama aimed at improving political, economic, and cultural relations between Japan and African states.¹⁸⁰⁹ The Special Conference of Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region took place on the first day and addressed several key areas, including development assistance,

¹⁸⁰⁴ More fish and income from sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/78737.html>.

¹⁸⁰⁵ Promotion of employment and occupational integration in rural areas, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/62597.html>.

¹⁸⁰⁶ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁰⁷ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁰⁸ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁰⁹ A New Stage in Japan-Africa Partnership, Les Echos (Paris) 27 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.lesechos.fr/idees-debats/cercle/vers-une-nouvelle-etape-du-partenariat-japon-afrique-1126885>.

global cooperation, and assistance for refugees and internally displaced persons.¹⁸¹⁰ During this conference, Japan “shared the importance of effective support from donor countries and international organizations” to support development efforts in such areas as health, education, and infrastructure.¹⁸¹¹ Japan also renewed its commitments to contributing to the Sahel Partnership Action Plan, and “strengthening the coordination of their efforts” to enhance peace and stability in the Sahel region.¹⁸¹²

On 28 August 2019, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met with Mauritanian Prime Minister Ismail Ould Bedda Ould Cheikh Sidiya. During the exchange, Prime Minister Abe commented on “his intention to support countermeasures against terrorism and illegal immigrants as well as improving food security in Mauritania, with the aim of assisting the G5 Sahel’s efforts.”¹⁸¹³ He reaffirmed his commitment to investment in the Mauritanian fisheries industry,¹⁸¹⁴ mentioning a grant aid both countries signed in February 2019.¹⁸¹⁵ Furthermore, Prime Minister Sidiya noted his expectations for Japan’s contributions toward creating an improved environment for business and investment in Mauritania.¹⁸¹⁶

On 29 August 2019, Prime Minister Abe met with the President of Burkina Faso Roch Marc Christian Kaboré, whereby Japan pledged to support the West Africa “Growth Ring” network through better road infrastructure to improve connectivity between West African states including the G5 Sahel.¹⁸¹⁷

On 29 August 2019, Foreign Minister Taro Kono and Minister of Economy and Development Planning Issa Doubragne of Chad, held a meeting where Japan expressed its intention to promote private Japanese companies’ investment in Chad to strengthen economic relations between the two nations.¹⁸¹⁸

On 29 August 2019, Prime Minister Abe held a summit meeting with Nigerien President Issoufou Mahamadou, where Prime Minister Abe expressed his intention to support counter-terrorism as well

¹⁸¹⁰ Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region on the Margins of TICAD7 Co-chairs’ Summary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019.

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>.

¹⁸¹¹ Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region on the Margins of TICAD7 Co-chairs’ Summary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019.

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>.

¹⁸¹² Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region on the Margins of TICAD7 Co-chairs’ Summary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019.

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>.

¹⁸¹³ Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region on the Margins of TICAD7 Co-chairs’ Summary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019.

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>.

¹⁸¹⁴ Japan-Mauritania Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/mr/page3e_001076.html

¹⁸¹⁵ Signing of Grant Agreement with Mauritania: Contributing to enhancing capacity of sanitary inspection and analysis of fishery and aquaculture product through the construction of a sanitary inspection and analysis laboratory and the provision of equipment, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/190228_01.html.

¹⁸¹⁶ Japan-Mauritania Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/mr/page3e_001076.html.

¹⁸¹⁷ Japan-Burkina Faso Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/bf/page25e_000323.html.

¹⁸¹⁸ Meeting between Foreign Minister Kono and Doubragne, Minister of Economy and Development Planning of the Republic of Chad, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/td/page3e_001090.html.

as irrigation agriculture and food security through humanitarian and development assistance within the context of G5 Sahel aid.¹⁸¹⁹

On 30 August 2019, at the conclusion of the TICAD7, the Yokohama Declaration was put forward.¹⁸²⁰ This encouraged the promotion of sustainable and inclusive trade within the newly established African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), an agreement that includes all 55 member states of the African Union.¹⁸²¹ Highlights of the declaration include promoting advocacy platforms that improve the visibility of the AfCFTA internationally and within the private sector, as well as accelerating economic growth and improving the business environment through innovation and private sector engagement.¹⁸²²

On 30 August 2019, following the Yokohama Declaration, a plan of action was created that outlined three key pillars of sustainable development across the continent including the Sahel, the first being “accelerating economic transformation and improving business environment through innovation and private sector engagement.”¹⁸²³ The document highlights several recommended initiatives undertaken by both Japan as well as in partnership with organizations such as the World Bank and United Nations Development Programme.¹⁸²⁴ Such initiatives are intended to foster greater market access in crucial areas of development including infrastructure, education, and healthcare through the provision of both monetary funds and resources.¹⁸²⁵ A key initiative recommends the creation of the Japan Business Council for Africa to encourage cooperation between the Japanese private sector and the government in development projects.¹⁸²⁶

On 20 October 2019, a summit meeting between Prime Minister Abe and Nigerien President Issoufou Mahamadou took place. An exchange of notes was signed for an aid grant worth approximately JPY1.3 billion to improve irrigation farming as well as a package for JPY300 million toward food assistance.¹⁸²⁷

On 21 October 2019, Japanese Foreign Affairs Minister Motegi Toshimitsu met with his counterpart from Burkina Faso, Alpha Barry, yielding an exchange of notes for grant aid to develop road infrastructure and food assistance.¹⁸²⁸ A memorandum of understanding on cooperation and

¹⁸¹⁹ Japan-Niger Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 29 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/ne/page3e_001087.html.

¹⁸²⁰ Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf.

¹⁸²¹ Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf.

¹⁸²² Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf.

¹⁸²³ Yokohama Plan of Actions, 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

¹⁸²⁴ Yokohama Plan of Actions, 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

¹⁸²⁵ Yokohama Plan of Actions, 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

¹⁸²⁶ Yokohama Plan of Actions, 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 30 August 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_action_plan_en.pdf.

¹⁸²⁷ Japan-Niger Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 20 October 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/ne/page4e_001113.html.

¹⁸²⁸ Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 21 October 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002657.html.

promotion of private sector investment in Burkina Faso between the Japan External Trade Organization and the Promotion Agency of Burkina Faso was also signed.¹⁸²⁹

On 12 February 2020, a United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change report noted that the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the Japanese government's official institution pertaining to overseas development assistance, was the second largest source of revenue for the African Development Bank.¹⁸³⁰

On 10 March 2020, Japan extended Emergency Grant Aid to Chad, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali, totalling USD23.7 million.¹⁸³¹ The funds have been targeted toward refugees and internally displaced persons in the Sahel region, through the provision of tents, shelter, food, sanitation services, as well as the implementation of educational programs and long-term employment opportunities for citizens.¹⁸³²

On 11 March 2020, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations Kimihiro Ishikane affirmed that “inclusive development remains essential” with respect to the Sahel region, and that “for its part, Japan has placed African-led capacity-building at the core of its engagement, particularly in the security and justice sectors.”¹⁸³³

On 9 April 2020, the Government of Japan announced a total of USD11.7 million in funding through the World Food Programme to provide food assistance to populations in the Sahel made vulnerable by armed conflict and climate change.¹⁸³⁴ The aid is intended to be distributed among Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger, and is aimed at refugees, internally displaced persons, children, and pregnant women.¹⁸³⁵

On 13 April 2020, the International Monetary Fund announced that Japan contributed USD100 million as debt service relief to the countries of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, and Niger in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁸³⁶

Through its direct partnerships with G5 Sahel countries, collaboration with international organizations, investment in G5 Sahel industry, and action to accelerate growth and development through private engagement, Japan has fully complied with the commitment.

¹⁸²⁹ Japan-Burkina Faso Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan 21 October 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002657.html.

¹⁸³⁰ African Development Bank-Finance instruments for North African countries, United Nations Framework on Climate Change (Cairo) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/NBFArabStates_Session4_Phillips.pdf.

¹⁸³¹ Emergency Grant Aid in Response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html.

¹⁸³² Emergency Grant Aid in Response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html.

¹⁸³³ Security Council Issues Presidential Statement Calling for Greater Efforts to Help Africa Fight Terrorism, as Delegates Denounce 'Insufficient' Current Approaches, United Nations Security Council (New York) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2020/sc14140.doc.htm>.

¹⁸³⁴ Japan contributes US\$11.7 million to assist the most vulnerable populations in central Sahel, World Food Programme (Yokohama) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-contributes-us117-million-assist-most-vulnerable-populations-central-sahel>.

¹⁸³⁵ Japan contributes US\$11.7 million to assist the most vulnerable populations in central Sahel, World Food Programme (Yokohama) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-contributes-us117-million-assist-most-vulnerable-populations-central-sahel>.

¹⁸³⁶ IMF Executive Board Approves Immediate Debt Relief for 25 Countries (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2020/04/13/pr20151-imf-executive-board-approves-immediate-debt-relief-for-25-countries>.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Malhaar Mobarir

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 27 September 2019, International Development Minister Alok Sharma announced GBP90 million in aid funds to Africa intended to generate over GBP500 million of private investment in financial markets,” as well as plans for a UK-Africa Investment Summit in early 2020.¹⁸³⁷

On 30 September 2019, the Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters project which included investment from the United Kingdom terminated.¹⁸³⁸ These projects were implemented to improve adaptability and resiliency in the face of climate change in developing countries across the world, including the G5 Sahel member states.¹⁸³⁹ The United Kingdom spent approximately GBP134 million through the Department for International Development, as well as donating grants to civil society organizations to implement innovative technological practices in the Sahel region.¹⁸⁴⁰

On 14 October 2019, Trade Commissioner for Africa Emma Wade-Smith announced that the United Kingdom was currently re-evaluating trading and aid relationships with African states in light of Britain’s impending departure from the European Union.¹⁸⁴¹ Commisisoner Wade-Smith noted that the United Kingdom “sees opportunities in infrastructure and clean energy, and wants to form stronger, long-term partnerships in the region.”¹⁸⁴²

On 4 November 2019, it was announced that EUR15 million were provided for the Archipelago programme, a cross-border initiative aimed at improving the employability of youth in small and medium enterprises around the Sahel region.¹⁸⁴³ A call for proposals was announced by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) whereby EUR400,000-500,000 would be provided in funding for projects to be implemented in the Sahel region.¹⁸⁴⁴

¹⁸³⁷ The Private Sector Can Unlock Africa’s Promise, City A.M. (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.cityam.com/the-private-sector-can-unlock-africas-promise/>.

¹⁸³⁸ Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters, Development Tracker 17 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-202921>.

¹⁸³⁹ Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters, Development Tracker 17 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-202921>.

¹⁸⁴⁰ Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters, Development Tracker 17 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-202921>.

¹⁸⁴¹ U.K. Seeks to Be Largest G-7 Investor in Africa, Bloomberg (London) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-10-14/u-k-seeks-to-be-largest-g-7-investor-in-africa>.

¹⁸⁴² U.K. Seeks to Be Largest G-7 Investor in Africa, Bloomberg (London) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-10-14/u-k-seeks-to-be-largest-g-7-investor-in-africa>.
U.K. Seeks to Be Largest G-7 Investor in Africa, Bloomberg (London) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-10-14/u-k-seeks-to-be-largest-g-7-investor-in-africa>.

¹⁸⁴³ Archipealgo-2nd call for proposals launched!, EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa 4 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/archipelago-2eme-appel-propositions-lance_en.

¹⁸⁴⁴ Archipealgo-2nd call for proposals launched!, EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa 4 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/archipelago-2eme-appel-propositions-lance_en

On 20 November 2019, a United Nations Security Council Meeting was held in response to increased armed group attacks in the Sahel region.¹⁸⁴⁵ President of the Security Council for the month of November and Deputy Permanent Representative of the UK Mission to the UN Jonathan Guy Allen noted the contribution of the UK toward the security issues at hand, but emphasized that the “leading role must be played by the countries involved.”¹⁸⁴⁶ He further noted that the UK has provided development aid as well as resources to improve security, both bilaterally with the G5 Sahel nations in addition to through the European Union.¹⁸⁴⁷

As of 20 November 2019, 12 programmes in Burkina Faso were implemented through funding by the EUTF and local organizations aimed at preserving social cohesion and facilitating dialogue between various ethnic and religious groups.¹⁸⁴⁸

On 16 December 2019, Ambassador James Roscoe presented a briefing on peace and security in Africa at the United Nations Security Council.¹⁸⁴⁹ The Ambassador highlighted the contributions of the United Kingdom, in particular USD6.6 million in bilateral funding to support the operations of the Multinational Joint Task Force, as well as USD2.4 million to the G5 Sahel Joint Force.¹⁸⁵⁰ Additionally, the Ambassador highlighted that the UK was one of the biggest supporters to the Peacebuilding Fund, in particular focusing on Mali, with approximately USD43 million in aid provided to the organization in 2018.¹⁸⁵¹

On 8 January 2020, Ambassador James Roscoe delivered a speech acknowledging the security and humanitarian concerns that continue to affect the Sahel region.¹⁸⁵² He reaffirmed the United Kingdom’s release of GBP20 million in humanitarian aid in addition to the GBP50 million already given to address such concerns.¹⁸⁵³

¹⁸⁴⁵ Amid Increased Terrorist Activity in Sahel Region, Speakers Tell Security Council Greater Commitment Needed for Joint Force, United Nations Security Council 20 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14027.doc.htm>

¹⁸⁴⁶ Amid Increased Terrorist Activity in Sahel Region, Speakers Tell Security Council Greater Commitment Needed for Joint Force, United Nations Security Council 20 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14027.doc.htm>

¹⁸⁴⁷ Amid Increased Terrorist Activity in Sahel Region, Speakers Tell Security Council Greater Commitment Needed for Joint Force, United Nations Security Council 20 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14027.doc.htm>

¹⁸⁴⁸ In Burkina Faso, preserving peace and social cohesion is a priority for the FFU, EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa 22 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019

¹⁸⁴⁹ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on peace and security in Africa, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (United Kingdom) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/identifying-underlying-drivers-of-the-conflict-in-africa>

¹⁸⁵⁰ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on peace and security in Africa, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (United Kingdom) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/identifying-underlying-drivers-of-the-conflict-in-africa>

¹⁸⁵¹ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on peace and security in Africa, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (United Kingdom) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/identifying-underlying-drivers-of-the-conflict-in-africa>

¹⁸⁵² Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preparing-for-elections-and-addressing-root-causes-of-conflict-in-west-africa>

¹⁸⁵³ Statement by Ambassador James Roscoe at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/preparing-for-elections-and-addressing-root-causes-of-conflict-in-west-africa>

On 20 January 2020, the United Kingdom hosted the UK-Africa Investment Summit, with representation from 21 African nations including Mauritania.¹⁸⁵⁴ Over GBP2 billion were pledged from the Commonwealth Development Corporation to support African businesses over the next two years.¹⁸⁵⁵ Furthermore, the UK reaffirmed its commitment toward funding the AfCFTA and the African Development Bank, as well as GBP397 million to fund new programmes across the continent.¹⁸⁵⁶

On 20 January 2020, Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani spoke at the UK-Africa Investment Summit and reaffirmed the importance of key economic sectors such as mining, fisheries, and agriculture.¹⁸⁵⁷ He also highlighted the steps Mauritania had taken to promote a more sustainable investment environment, namely: improving security nationwide, infrastructure modernization, and encouragement of greater private-sector investment.¹⁸⁵⁸

On 1 March 2020, Minister for Africa James Duddridge met with G5 Sahel countries' leaders at the General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance and Sixth Summit of the Leaders of the G5.¹⁸⁵⁹ Topics of discussion predominantly involved the use of funding for girls' education programs in the G5 countries.¹⁸⁶⁰ He also stated that the United Kingdom was in close collaboration with the World Bank to finance development projects in the Sahel region.¹⁸⁶¹

On 7 April 2020, Ambassador James Roscoe delivered a speech concerning the stability of Mali following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁸⁶² He outlined the United Kingdom's pledge of USD6 million through the United Nations to strengthen the government of Mali's response to the pandemic.¹⁸⁶³

¹⁸⁵⁴ All the news from the UK-Africa Investment Summit, Devex International Development (London) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.devex.com/news/all-the-news-from-the-uk-africa-investment-summit-96394>.

¹⁸⁵⁵ UK Government Statement, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf.

¹⁸⁵⁶ UK Government Statement, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf.

¹⁸⁵⁷ Address by President Mohammed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, Department for International Development (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vz43FAea7W0>.

¹⁸⁵⁸ Address by President Mohammed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, Department for International Development (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vz43FAea7W0>.

¹⁸⁵⁹ Africa Minister champions UK leadership to help educate girls and end preventable deaths, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>.

¹⁸⁶⁰ Africa Minister champions UK leadership to help educate girls and end preventable deaths, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>.

¹⁸⁶¹ Africa Minister champions UK leadership to help educate girls and end preventable deaths, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>.

¹⁸⁶² Commitment from all parties is necessary for sustainable peace in Mali, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-from-all-parties-is-necessary-for-sustainable-peace-in-mali>.

¹⁸⁶³ Commitment from all parties is necessary for sustainable peace in Mali, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 7 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-from-all-parties-is-necessary-for-sustainable-peace-in-mali>.

On 13 April 2020, the International Monetary Fund announced that the United Kingdom contributed USD185 million as debt service relief to the countries of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, and Niger in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁸⁶⁴

Through its foreign aid contributions and its investments in the African private sector, the United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Malhaar Moharir

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to facilitating increased access of G5 Sahel countries to all available public and private finance.

On 12 November 2019, the United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) and the African Development Bank Group signed an agreement to “mobilize private capital in support of development in Africa.”¹⁸⁶⁵ The agreement aims to invest a combined USD2 billion alongside an additional USD3 billion from the private sector.¹⁸⁶⁶ The DFC and the African Development Bank Group aim to prioritize critical infrastructure, power and energy, financial services, and agriculture through this agreement.¹⁸⁶⁷

On 16 December 2019, the representative of the United States at the United Nations Security Council meeting called on countries to step up their assistance to countries in the Sahel region.¹⁸⁶⁸ The representative also stated that the United States has built the capacity of young people in the region and provides support for livelihoods.¹⁸⁶⁹ She continued to affirm that all pressing issues in the

¹⁸⁶⁴ IMF Executive Board Approves Immediate Debt Relief for 25 Countries (Washington, D.C.) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2020/04/13/pr20151-imf-executive-board-approves-immediate-debt-relief-for-25-countries>.

¹⁸⁶⁵ Africa Investment Forum 2019: African Development Bank U.S. International Development Finance Corporation team up to mobilise private capital for Africa’s development, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2019-african-development-bank-us-international-development-finance-corporation-team-mobilise-private-capital-africas-development-32625>.

¹⁸⁶⁶ Africa Investment Forum 2019: African Development Bank U.S. International Development Finance Corporation team up to mobilise private capital for Africa’s development, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2019-african-development-bank-us-international-development-finance-corporation-team-mobilise-private-capital-africas-development-32625>.

¹⁸⁶⁷ Africa Investment Forum 2019: African Development Bank U.S. International Development Finance Corporation team up to mobilise private capital for Africa’s development, African Development Bank Group (Abidjan) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/africa-investment-forum-2019-african-development-bank-us-international-development-finance-corporation-team-mobilise-private-capital-africas-development-32625>.

¹⁸⁶⁸ Special Representative Stresses Urgent Need to Address Causes of Conflict between Farmers, Herders, as Security Council Considers West Africa, United Nations (New York) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14050.doc.htm>.

¹⁸⁶⁹ Special Representative Stresses Urgent Need to Address Causes of Conflict between Farmers, Herders, as Security Council Considers West Africa, United Nations (New York) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14050.doc.htm>.

region can be confronted if governments work alongside their international partners, regional organizations, and the Security Council.¹⁸⁷⁰

On 22 January 2020, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. African Development Foundation announced that they will be awarding USD400,000 in grant funding, with support from Citi Foundation, to 42 young African social entrepreneurs across 22 sub-Saharan African countries.¹⁸⁷¹ Each winner will receive at least USD10,000 in seed capital to support the growth of their businesses.¹⁸⁷²

On 16 April 2020, USAID launched its Yalwa activity, aimed at increasing the resilience of agricultural, livestock, and food market systems in Niger.¹⁸⁷³ The activity is meant to strengthen the capacity of farmers, producer organizations, agribusinesses, and rural households in the country.¹⁸⁷⁴ Over the span of five years, USD29 million will be distributed in order to increase sales and incomes of 105,000 farmers and 160 small and medium-sized enterprises.¹⁸⁷⁵

On 16 April 2020, USAID launched the Yidgiri activity aimed at increasing resilience of agricultural and livestock market systems in Burkina Faso.¹⁸⁷⁶ Over the span of five years, the activity will facilitate commercial relationships among farmers, producer organizations, and agribusinesses in the country to ensure the population's uninterrupted access to sufficient food.¹⁸⁷⁷ Through coordinating with private and public sector actors, the activity aims to provide greater capacity to markets in Burkina Faso.¹⁸⁷⁸

¹⁸⁷⁰ Special Representative Stresses Urgent Need to Address Causes of Conflict between Farmers, Herders, as Security Council Considers West Africa, United Nations (New York) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14050.doc.htm>.

¹⁸⁷¹ USAID, USADF, and Citi Foundation Team Up to Invest in Young African Social Entrepreneurs, USAID (Washington, D.C.) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jan-22-2020-usaid-usadf-citi-foundation-team-invest-young-african-social-entrepreneurs>.

¹⁸⁷² USAID, USADF, and Citi Foundation Team Up to Invest in Young African Social Entrepreneurs, USAID (Washington, D.C.) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jan-22-2020-usaid-usadf-citi-foundation-team-invest-young-african-social-entrepreneurs>.

¹⁸⁷³ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Agricultural Sector in Niger (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and>.

¹⁸⁷⁴ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Agricultural Sector in Niger (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and>.

¹⁸⁷⁵ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Agricultural Sector in Niger (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and>.

¹⁸⁷⁶ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Burkina Faso's Most Vulnerable (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and-protect-vulnerable>.

¹⁸⁷⁷ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Burkina Faso's Most Vulnerable (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and-protect-vulnerable>.

¹⁸⁷⁸ USAID Builds on Efforts to Improve Incomes and Nutrition for Burkina Faso's Most Vulnerable (Washington, D.C.) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/sahel-regional/press-releases/usaid-builds-efforts-improve-incomes-and-protect-vulnerable>.

On 19 May 2020, the United States announced a USD5 million investment contribution to Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali, and Chad in order to strengthen their response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁸⁷⁹

By collaborating with government agencies to provide funding toward relief and investment in the Sahel region, the United States partially complies with the commitment.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ninar Fawal

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to support facilitating increased access of G5 countries to all available public and private finance.

On 10 November 2019, the European Commission launched the FMO Ventures Programme in partnership with the Dutch development bank Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO).¹⁸⁸⁰ The programme is a EUR40 million financial guarantee agreement that targets Sub-Saharan African start-up companies, specifically ones led by youth, that use technological solutions to lower costs of products and services that were previously unaffordable to the public.¹⁸⁸¹ It will support up to 125,000 new jobs directly and indirectly.¹⁸⁸²

On 10 November 2019, the European Commission signed a EUR30 million financial guarantee agreement with the Italian Development Bank Cassa di Risparmio di Roma and the African Development Bank.¹⁸⁸³ This guarantee, called “Archipelagos One4A – One Platform for Africa” will generate 50,000 jobs and support 1,500 small African businesses by enabling financing partners to divide the risk of investments.¹⁸⁸⁴ Along with the FMO Ventures Programme, the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica stated that the agreements “will help to boost access to finance for small businesses, notably in the tech sector – and create up to 175,000 jobs directly and indirectly.”¹⁸⁸⁵

On 12 December 2019, the European Commission “adopted additional funding worth €70.23 million from the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa to improve resilience, stability and migration

¹⁸⁷⁹ Update: The United States is Continuing to Lead the Humanitarian and Health Assistance Response to COVID-19, 19 May 2020 20 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/update-united-states-continuing-lead-humanitarian-and-health-assistance-response-1>.

¹⁸⁸⁰ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁸¹ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁸² Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁸³ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁸⁴ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

¹⁸⁸⁵ Africa-Europe Alliance: two new financial guarantees under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6244.

management in countries of the Sahel and Lake Chad region.”¹⁸⁸⁶ The majority of the funds will be directed to stabilizing the border areas between Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger through the Emergency Programme for the Stabilisation of G5 Sahel Border Areas.¹⁸⁸⁷ The remaining funds will go toward protecting and assisting refugees across the region, facilitating resettlement, and managing reintegration.¹⁸⁸⁸

On 28 February 2020, the European Commission announced that the European Trust Fund for Africa’s investment in Niger, through the European Union-financed ProGEM program, is facilitating resident and migrant communities’ access basic services and infrastructure while strengthening social cohesion.¹⁸⁸⁹

On 28 April 2020, the President of the European Council, Charles Michel, co-chaired a video conference with the President in office of the G5 Sahel, the heads of state of the G5 Sahel, the President of the European Commission, and the High Representative of the EU.¹⁸⁹⁰ During the meeting, which was held to address the consequences of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis on G5 Sahel countries, “the President of the European Council reiterated that the European Union will do its utmost to help countries and communities ... strengthen the sustainability of global integrated value and supply chains in order to adapt them to demand.”¹⁸⁹¹

Through its collaboration with various member countries and development banks to provide aid via public financing, the European Union has partially complied with the commitment.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analysts: Philip Schwarz and Nicole Shi

¹⁸⁸⁶ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €70 million to support local communities and protect migrants and refugees in the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020.
https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu70-million-support-local-communities-and-protect_en.

¹⁸⁸⁷ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €70 million to support local communities and protect migrants and refugees in the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020.
https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu70-million-support-local-communities-and-protect_en.

¹⁸⁸⁸ EU Trust Fund for Africa: €70 million to support local communities and protect migrants and refugees in the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020.
https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/eu-trust-fund-africa-eu70-million-support-local-communities-and-protect_en.

¹⁸⁸⁹ A Zinder, le FFU améliore l’accès des populations résidentes et des migrants aux services et infrastructures de base pour favoriser le vivre-ensemble., European Commission (Brussels) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020.
https://ec.europa.eu/trustfundforafrica/all-news-and-stories/zinder-le-ffu-ameliore-lacces-des-populations-residentes-et-des-migrants-aux_en.

¹⁸⁹⁰ Press release by President Charles Michel following the EU-G5 Sahel video conference, European Council: Council of the European Union (Brussels) 29 April 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020.
<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/04/28/president-charles-michel-after-the-eu-g5-sahel-video-conference>.

¹⁸⁹¹ Press release by President Charles Michel following the EU-G5 Sahel video conference, European Council: Council of the European Union (Brussels) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020.
<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/04/28/president-charles-michel-after-the-eu-g5-sahel-video-conference>.

12. Development: Sustainable Development Goals

“We are determined to work together to address global challenges, in line with Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and taking into account the African Union Agenda 2063.”

Biarritz Declaration for a G7 and Africa Partnership

Assessment

Member	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.88 (94%)		

Background

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted in 2015 at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in New York.¹⁸⁹² Here the UN General Assembly “acknowledge[d] the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions.”¹⁸⁹³ The 17 SDGs are interconnected while providing a guideline with multiple targets for tackling the root causes of poverty and environmental degradation, thereby offering an opportunity for all people to enjoy peace and prosperity.¹⁸⁹⁴ These goals prioritize economic, social, and environmental progress, including in areas such as economic inequality, education, and sustainable consumption among others.¹⁸⁹⁵

The SDGs are the successor to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).¹⁸⁹⁶ On 8 September 2000, the MDGs were established as the United Nations General Assembly first adopted the UN Millennium Declaration which reaffirmed their “collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level.”¹⁸⁹⁷ Fifteen years later the UN published the MDG Report 2015, which illustrated the MDGs’ achievements and shortfalls.¹⁸⁹⁸ During this period,

¹⁸⁹² Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Development Programme (New York). Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>

¹⁸⁹³ Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Development Programme (New York). Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>

¹⁸⁹⁴ Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Development Programme (New York). Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>

¹⁸⁹⁵ Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Development Programme (New York). Access date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>

¹⁸⁹⁶ United Nations Millennium Declaration, United Nations (New York). Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/Millennium.aspx>

¹⁸⁹⁷ United Nations Millennium Declaration, United Nations (New York). Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/Millennium.aspx>

¹⁸⁹⁸ The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015, United Nations Development Programme (New York). Access date: 13 October 2019.

([https://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20rev%20\(July%201\).pdf](https://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20rev%20(July%201).pdf))

global efforts had produced profound achievements, however, progress was uneven, with the poorest and most vulnerable left behind.¹⁸⁹⁹

On 25 September 2015, world leaders at the UN Sustainable Development Summit adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This 15-year agenda centres on the SDGs, that stated to be developed in 2012, and that built upon the MDGs. This ambitious agenda aims to eliminate poverty, decrease inequality, and added new issues such as energy access and sustainable consumption.¹⁹⁰⁰

On 16 May 2016, at the G7 Toyama environment ministers' meeting, ministers welcomed the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.¹⁹⁰¹ The ministers recognized that the "SDGs will be critical to the people, planet and prosperity for the upcoming 15 years and beyond" and that within their "mandate as G7 environment ministers, [they] have important active roles in implementing the SDGs so that all dimensions are addressed in a [they] have important active roles in implementing the SDGs so that all dimensions are addressed in a balanced manner."¹⁹⁰²

In 2017 at Taormina, G7 leaders reaffirmed their desire to promote sustainable development as envisaged by the 2030 Agenda for Development.¹⁹⁰³ Additionally, in Charlevoix 2019, leaders innovative financing frameworks in order to work toward achieving the 2030 Agenda.¹⁹⁰⁴

The Africa Union Agenda 2063 meanwhile was produced in 2013 after the African Union celebrated its 50th anniversary and began the development for its new 50-year agenda.¹⁹⁰⁵ The African Union Commission (AUC), supported by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Planning and Coordinating Agency, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa created Agenda 2063, which the AU adopted in 2015.¹⁹⁰⁶

Within the long-term vision of Agenda 2063, the AUC also developed the First Ten Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063 (2013-2023).¹⁹⁰⁷ This is the first in a series of five ten-year programs to provide attainable development objectives in areas such as infrastructure and technology. Included are 12 Flagship Projects, such as the creation of an Integrated High-Speed Train Network, near-term national and Regional Economic Communities, development priorities to ensure the

¹⁸⁹⁹ The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015, United Nations Development Programme (New York). Access date: 13 October 2019.

[https://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20rev%20\(July%201\).pdf](https://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20rev%20(July%201).pdf)

¹⁹⁰⁰ World leaders adopt Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Development Programme (New York) Sep 25, 2015. Access Date 13 October 2019. <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2015/09/24/undp-welcomes-adoption-of-sustainable-development-goals-by-world-leaders.html>

¹⁹⁰¹ Communiqué G7 Toyama Environment Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) May 16, 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2016-environment.html>

¹⁹⁰² Communiqué G7 Toyama Environment Ministers' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) May 16, 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/environment/2016-environment.html>

¹⁹⁰³ G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

¹⁹⁰⁴ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019. (<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>)

¹⁹⁰⁵ Agenda 2063: First Ten-Year Implementation Plan 2014-2023, tralac (Stellenbosch) 31 March 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/9370-agenda-2063-first-ten-year-implementation-plan-2014-2023.html>.

¹⁹⁰⁶ Agenda 2063: First Ten-Year Implementation Plan 2014-2023, tralac (Stellenbosch) 31 March 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/9370-agenda-2063-first-ten-year-implementation-plan-2014-2023.html>.

¹⁹⁰⁷ Agenda 2063: First Ten-Year Implementation Plan 2014-2023, tralac (Stellenbosch) 31 March 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/9370-agenda-2063-first-ten-year-implementation-plan-2014-2023.html>

successful completion of long-term development aspirations, and continental frameworks such as the Science Technology Innovation Strategy for Africa, in order to support state development efforts.¹⁹⁰⁸

The G7 has been governing on development, including in Africa, since its start. Notably, at the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, the G8 members created the Action Plan for Africa in response to the outcomes to the NEPAD economic development program summit in 2001.¹⁹⁰⁹ The G8 leaders agreed to partner with NEPAD countries to address issue areas such as health care, economic projects, debt relief, and water management.¹⁹¹⁰

In 2005, G8 members agreed to increase aid to developing countries by USD50 billion, in addition to debt cancellation for the 18 poorest states in the African continent.¹⁹¹¹ Furthermore, G8 members committed to expanding Aids treatment, providing new resources for peacekeeping forces, a strengthening democracy and good governance on the continent.¹⁹¹²

In 2011, at the Deauville Summit, the G8 members agreed to support the economic communities of Africa and the Minimum Integration Programme of the African Union.¹⁹¹³ Members committed to improving infrastructure and strengthening economic resilience, in line with the economic pillar of the SDGs.¹⁹¹⁴ The G7 leaders reaffirmed this commitment, and was discussed at the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, and the 2017 Taormina Summit.

In the 2018 Charlevoix Summit Communiqué, the G7 members reiterated their commitment to realizing Africa's potential through Agenda 2063 and outlined new priorities for security, stability, and sustainable development.¹⁹¹⁵ Additionally, the G7 leaders agreed to the Charlevoix Commitment on Innovative Financing for Development to promote economic growth in developing economies and foster greater equality of opportunity within and between countries.¹⁹¹⁶

Commitment Features

This commitment refers to a larger set of development goals outlined in both the African Union Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Through Agenda 2063, African leaders pledged to accelerate growth, development, and prosperity across the continent, reinforced by a pan-African vision of self-reliance and socioeconomic enhancement.

Agenda 2063 has seven key aspirations, including:

¹⁹⁰⁸ Agenda 2063: First Ten-Year Implementation Plan 2014-2023, tralac (Stellenbosch) 31 March 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.tralac.org/news/article/9370-agenda-2063-first-ten-year-implementation-plan-2014-2023.html>

¹⁹⁰⁹ G8 Summit 2007, The Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 2009. Access Date: 13 October 2019. https://www.g-8.de/nn_92160/Content/EN/Lexikon/G8/N/neue-partnerschaft-f_C3_BCafrikas-entwicklung.html

¹⁹¹⁰ G8 Summit 2007, The Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 2009. Access Date: 13 October 2019. https://www.g-8.de/nn_92160/Content/EN/Lexikon/G8/N/neue-partnerschaft-f_C3_BCafrikas-entwicklung.html

¹⁹¹¹ G8 leaders agree \$50bn aid boost, BBC News (London) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/4662297.stm>.

¹⁹¹² G8 leaders agree \$50bn aid boost, BBC News (London) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/4662297.stm>.

¹⁹¹³ Deauville G8 Summit Final Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 18 May 2012. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2011compliance-final/index.html>

¹⁹¹⁴ Deauville G8 Summit Final Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 18 May 2012. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2011compliance-final/index.html>

¹⁹¹⁵ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

¹⁹¹⁶ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

- Sustainable development to modernize infrastructure, preserve the environment, improve education, and eradicate poverty
- A united continent free from colonialism, oppression, and restrictive border policies
- A democratic Africa supportive of human rights, the rule of law, justice, and good governance
- A peaceful Africa
- Entrenched pan-Africanism promoting the cultural diversity and heritage of the region
- People-driven development aimed at empowering women and youth
- A globally influential and self-reliant Africa¹⁹¹⁷
- The 2030 Agenda has three key pillars:
 1. Social dimension of sustainable development: implies that “the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized – in both developed and developing countries – should be assured a minimum level of social and environmental protection, and a basic standard of living.”¹⁹¹⁸
 2. Environmental dimension of sustainable development: suggests that people must “live within our means and achieve greater prosperity in an inclusive manner within the capacity of the Earth’s life support system.”¹⁹¹⁹
 3. Economic dimension of sustainable development: indicates the need to increase “natural, social and economic capital to achieve greater resilience and secure future generations’ livelihoods.”¹⁹²⁰

At the core of this commitment is the recognition that G7 members must work together to address global challenges in line with the 2030 Agenda. This refers to embracing actions that tackle social, economic, and environmental issues outlined throughout the Agenda. For instance, policies that reduce poverty, end gender inequalities, and promote clean energy all fall under the scope of the agenda. Additionally, the commitment states that G7 members must work together to address these global challenges, thereby actions must be in coordination to achieve compliance.

The second part of this commitment states that G7 members must take into account the African Union Agenda 2063. Thereby, the G7 must align their actions with the aforementioned seven priorities in their support for Agenda 2063, in order to score compliance in the second portion of this commitment.

In this context, to achieve full compliance G7 members must work in partnership to implement multiple sustainable development actions that achieve the goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda. Additionally, these actions must support the African Union Agenda 2063 in a manner consistent with the seven priorities of this continental blueprint. Therefore, these G7 actions must aim to promote sustainable development throughout Africa. Actions include enacting policies and financing investments that aim to end inequalities, promote inclusive growth, and tackle the climate challenge,

¹⁹¹⁷ Agenda 2063, African Union Foundation (Addis Ababa) 2015. Access Date: 13 October 2019.
https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/36204-doc-agenda2063_popular_version_en.pdf.

¹⁹¹⁸ The Three Dimensions of Sustainable Development, UNEP (New York) 2015. Access Date 13 October 2019.
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/3782unep2.pdf>

¹⁹¹⁹ The Three Dimensions of Sustainable Development, UNEP (New York) 2015. Access Date 13 October 2019.
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/3782unep2.pdf>

¹⁹²⁰ The Three Dimensions of Sustainable Development, UNEP (New York) 2015. Access Date 13 October 2019.
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/3782unep2.pdf>

for instance. Thereby given actions must consider the economic, social, and environmental pillars of the SDGs.

If the G7 members demonstrate action toward implementing the 2030 Agenda, but without consideration for Africa in accordance with the Agenda 2063, then they will receive only partial compliance.

Non-compliance, or -1, is assigned to any G7 member who fails to implement any actions in accordance with the 2030 Agenda.

The G7 member works to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and takes into account the African Union Agenda 2063.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member NEITHER takes any actions toward the 2030 Agenda, NOR takes actions that support the African Union Agenda 2063.
0	G7 member takes action toward implementing the 2030 Agenda, but takes NO action that supports the African Union Agenda 2063.
+1	G7 member takes action implementing multiple sustainable development actions that achieve the goals outlined in the 2030 agenda AND takes actions that support the African Union Agenda 2063.

*Compliance Director: David Manocchio
Lead Analyst: Ally Johnson*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to the development goals outlined in both the African Union Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

On 26 August 2019, the Government of Canada announced that Canada will provide CAD1 million in funding to support the 2020 elections in Ethiopia.¹⁹²¹ The objective of this project is to help Ethiopia's electoral management body increase its capacity, put in place transparency measures and build trust with the electorate.¹⁹²² The project will have a special focus on ensuring the inclusive participation in the electoral process of women, youth and ethnic groups in all regions of the country.¹⁹²³

On 28 August 2019, the Government of Canada announced up to CAD20 million over the next five years to help improve access to quality health and reproductive services for women and girls in Mali.¹⁹²⁴ The funding is provided to train more than 2,300 health professionals, managers and trainers

¹⁹²¹ Canada provides electoral funding support to strengthen democracy in Ethiopia, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/08/canada-provides-electoral-funding-support-to-strengthen-democracy-in-ethiopia.html>.

¹⁹²² Canada provides electoral funding support to strengthen democracy in Ethiopia, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/08/canada-provides-electoral-funding-support-to-strengthen-democracy-in-ethiopia.html>.

¹⁹²³ Canada provides electoral funding support to strengthen democracy in Ethiopia, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/08/canada-provides-electoral-funding-support-to-strengthen-democracy-in-ethiopia.html>.

¹⁹²⁴ Canada increases access to gender-sensitive health services for women and girls in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Quebec) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/08/canada-increases-access-to-gender-sensitive-health-services-for-women-and-girls-in-mali.html>

in the Bamako, Kayes, Koulikoro, Ségou and Sikasso regions on gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights.¹⁹²⁵ The project will also aid capacity building of managers responsible for the Malian government's human resources management to improve the performance of the health system.¹⁹²⁶

On 28 November 2019, the Government of Canada reaffirmed its commitment to the Ottawa Convention and announced CAD8.3 million to support mine-affected communities, including CAD2 million for landmine clearance in northern Sri Lanka, where women will comprise 50 per cent of the workforce.¹⁹²⁷ The project aims to ensure “gender equality in decision-making processes, as well as in implementation and universalization of the convention.”¹⁹²⁸

On 9 December 2019, the Government of Canada announced that the Healthy Families Pakistan initiative, led by the United Nations Population Fund in partnership with the Aga Khan Development Network, would receive federal funding of up to CAD21 million over the next five years to support gender-sensitive approach to women's reproductive health services in Pakistan.¹⁹²⁹ The project aims to provide women and adolescent girls with “safe and accessible family planning resources” and address underlying “social and cultural barriers” to accessing health services.¹⁹³⁰

On 10 December 2019, the Government of Canada, at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Madrid, reaffirmed its commitment to ambitious climate action, including exceeding current 2030 targets and reaching net-zero emissions by 2050.¹⁹³¹ The Government of Canada also welcomed new endorsees of the Ocean Plastics Charter¹⁹³² and new members of the Powering Past Coal Alliance.¹⁹³³ Canada also announced a contribution of CAD5 million in support of the Partnership for Market Implementation at the World Bank, to provide technical assistance to

¹⁹²⁵ Canada increases access to gender-sensitive health services for women and girls in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Quebec) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/08/canada-increases-access-to-gender-sensitive-health-services-for-women-and-girls-in-mali.html>

¹⁹²⁶ Canada increases access to gender-sensitive health services for women and girls in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Quebec) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/08/canada-increases-access-to-gender-sensitive-health-services-for-women-and-girls-in-mali.html>

¹⁹²⁷ Canada underscores ongoing commitment to mine action under the Ottawa Convention, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/canada-underscores-ongoing-commitment-to-mine-action-under-the-ottawa-convention.html>

¹⁹²⁸ Canada underscores ongoing commitment to mine action under the Ottawa Convention, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/canada-underscores-ongoing-commitment-to-mine-action-under-the-ottawa-convention.html>

¹⁹²⁹ Minister Gould announces new support for women's reproductive health services in Pakistan, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/12/minister-gould-announces-new-support-for-womens-reproductive-health-services-in-pakistan.html>

¹⁹³⁰ Minister Gould announces new support for women's reproductive health services in Pakistan, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/12/minister-gould-announces-new-support-for-womens-reproductive-health-services-in-pakistan.html>

¹⁹³¹ Canada advanced climate action and remains committed to ambitious global action as United Nations Climate Change Conference concludes, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-advanced-climate-action-and-remains-committed-to-ambitious-global-action-as-united-nations-climate-change-conference-concludes.html>

¹⁹³² Canada spearheads global action to reduce plastic pollution at COP25, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-spearheads-global-action-to-reduce-plastic-pollution-at-cop25.html>

¹⁹³³ Canada welcomes new members to the Powering Past Coal Alliance at COP25, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-welcomes-new-members-to-the-powering-past-coal-alliance-at-cop25.html>

developing countries to design, pilot and implement carbon pricing and market instruments.¹⁹³⁴ The Partnership is expected to begin in July 2020, with anticipated USD100 million in capitalization.¹⁹³⁵

On 16 December 2019, the Government of Canada announced it will be providing a repayable contribution in the amount of CAD1.7 million dollars under the Regional Economic Growth Through Innovation program, in cooperation with the Government of Quebec for a total of CAD4.7 million in financial assistance to Coop Agri-Énergie Warwick to develop a cooperative agricultural biomethanizer and the production of renewable energy.¹⁹³⁶ This project is a local initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the agricultural sector, while also reducing emissions resulting from the use of fossil-based natural gas and synthetic fertilizers.¹⁹³⁷

On 17 December 2019, the Government of Canada announced up to CAD8.5 million in funding to the University of Calgary to support energy-savings project including retrofits at the University's Foothills Campus and Main Campus.¹⁹³⁸ The project aims to reduce energy consumption in laboratories and medical buildings.¹⁹³⁹ The funding is part of the Government of Canada's Low Carbon Economy Challenge, which invests in projects that reduce carbon pollution, save money, and create jobs.¹⁹⁴⁰

On 19 December 2019, the Government of Canada participated in the G7 High Level (Labour and Employment) meeting in Paris, France.¹⁹⁴¹ At the meeting, labour and employment representatives of G7 members, along with international social partners and international organizations, discussed the importance of reducing inequalities and working together to address the opportunities and changes generated by technological transformation and their impact on the future of work.¹⁹⁴² The

¹⁹³⁴ Canada announces support for new carbon-pricing initiative at COP25, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Ottawa) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-announces-support-for-new-carbon-pricing-initiative-at-cop25.html>

¹⁹³⁵ At COP25, the World Bank Announces Global Partnership for Implementing Carbon Markets, The World Bank (Madrid) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2019/12/10/at-cop25-the-world-bank-announces-global-partnership-for-implementing-carbon-markets>

¹⁹³⁶ Québec and Ottawa provide \$4.7M in financial assistance to develop a cooperative agricultural biomethanizer, Canada Economic Development for Quebec Region (Quebec) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/economic-development-quebec-regions/news/2019/12/quebec-and-ottawa-provide-47m-in-financial-assistance-to-develop-a-cooperative-agricultural-biomethanizer.html>

¹⁹³⁷ Government Announces Climate Action Incentive Payment Amounts for 2020, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.fin.gc.ca/n19/19-107-eng.asp>

¹⁹³⁸ Government of Canada announces support for energy savings at University of Calgary, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Alberta) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-energy-savings-at-university-of-calgary.html>

¹⁹³⁹ Government of Canada announces support for energy savings at University of Calgary, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Alberta) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-energy-savings-at-university-of-calgary.html>

¹⁹⁴⁰ Government of Canada announces support for energy savings at University of Calgary, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Alberta) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-energy-savings-at-university-of-calgary.html>

¹⁹⁴¹ Minister Qualtrough concludes successful G7 High Level (Labour and Employment) meeting in France, Newswire (New York) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/minister-qualtrough-concludes-successful-g7-high-level-labour-and-employment-meeting-in-france-813918972.html>

¹⁹⁴² Minister Qualtrough concludes successful G7 High Level (Labour and Employment) meeting in France, Newswire (New York) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/minister-qualtrough-concludes-successful-g7-high-level-labour-and-employment-meeting-in-france-813918972.html>

Government of Canada is committed to achieving concrete results on gender equality, reducing wage gaps and ending violence and harassment in the workplace.¹⁹⁴³

On 14 January 2020, the Government of Canada announced CAD250,000 in funding would be provided to the World Food Programme and CAD40,000 to Caritas to assist the most vulnerable people affected by floods in the Republic of Congo.¹⁹⁴⁴ World Food Programme activities will include distributing food where there is no longer any access to food, providing cash vouchers where the price of food has soared, and increasing screening and treatment of malnutrition in children.¹⁹⁴⁵ Caritas will provide emergency kits of essential household items to 500 families affected by the floods in Brazzaville.¹⁹⁴⁶

On 15 January 2020, the Government of Canada announced CAD56 million in funding to help Control the Ebola epidemic address the humanitarian needs of the country's most vulnerable people and strengthen its local health system.¹⁹⁴⁷ CAD10 million is allocated to development assistance, CAD45 million is allocated to trusted humanitarian partners working in the Democratic Republic of Congo to response to Ebola-specific and other humanitarian needs.¹⁹⁴⁸ And CAD991,699 is allocated to the Peace and Stabilization Operations Program aimed at reducing the spread of Ebola.¹⁹⁴⁹

On 17 January 2020, the Government of Canada announced funding for several Canada-Africa projects. Funding includes: CAD18 million over five years for Mozambican Rural Women's and Girls' Participatory Economic Empowerment project focused on fostering the economic

¹⁹⁴³ Minister Qualtrough concludes successful G7 High Level (Labour and Employment) meeting in France, Newswire (New York) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/minister-qualtrough-concludes-successful-g7-high-level-labour-and-employment-meeting-in-france-813918972.html>

¹⁹⁴⁴ Canada announces funding to provide humanitarian assistance to flood-affected people in the Republic of Congo and to fight Ebola and other crises in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 6 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canada-announces-funding-to-provide-humanitarian-assistance-to-flood-affected-people-in-the-republic-of-congo-and-to-fight-ebola-and-other-crises-i.html>

¹⁹⁴⁵ Canada announces funding to provide humanitarian assistance to flood-affected people in the Republic of Congo and to fight Ebola and other crises in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 6 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canada-announces-funding-to-provide-humanitarian-assistance-to-flood-affected-people-in-the-republic-of-congo-and-to-fight-ebola-and-other-crises-i.html>

¹⁹⁴⁶ Canada announces funding to provide humanitarian assistance to flood-affected people in the Republic of Congo and to fight Ebola and other crises in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 6 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canada-announces-funding-to-provide-humanitarian-assistance-to-flood-affected-people-in-the-republic-of-congo-and-to-fight-ebola-and-other-crises-i.html>

¹⁹⁴⁷ Canada announces funding to provide humanitarian assistance to flood-affected people in the Republic of Congo and to fight Ebola and other crises in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 6 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canada-announces-funding-to-provide-humanitarian-assistance-to-flood-affected-people-in-the-republic-of-congo-and-to-fight-ebola-and-other-crises-i.html>

¹⁹⁴⁸ Canada announces funding to provide humanitarian assistance to flood-affected people in the Republic of Congo and to fight Ebola and other crises in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 6 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canada-announces-funding-to-provide-humanitarian-assistance-to-flood-affected-people-in-the-republic-of-congo-and-to-fight-ebola-and-other-crises-i.html>

¹⁹⁴⁹ Canada announces funding to provide humanitarian assistance to flood-affected people in the Republic of Congo and to fight Ebola and other crises in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 6 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canada-announces-funding-to-provide-humanitarian-assistance-to-flood-affected-people-in-the-republic-of-congo-and-to-fight-ebola-and-other-crises-i.html>

empowerment of women and girl members of agricultural associations and stimulate agri-food production through field training focused on climate-smart agriculture, and CAD10 million over five years to Action for Girls and Young Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Mozambique, which aims to improve gender equality in Mozambique.¹⁹⁵⁰

On 10 February 2020, the Government of Canada announced CAD200,000 in funding through the federal government's Climate Action Fund to the Youth Climate Lab.¹⁹⁵¹ This funding will support the creation of the FutureXChange program designed to equip 15 young Canadians with the tools they need to create their own climate projects around Traditional Knowledge and climate policy, and raise awareness about climate change through digital outreach, community workshops, and conferences.¹⁹⁵²

On 10 April 2020, the Government of Canada and the Government of Jamaica chaired the UN Group of Friends on SDG Financing videoconference, bringing together Ambassadors from across the entire membership of the United Nations with high-level representatives from the UN, G20, International Monetary Fund, World Bank Group and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to discuss ways to mitigate the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially on developing nations in Africa.¹⁹⁵³

On 12 May 2020, Karina Gould, Minister of International Development, announced new funding to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's end-game strategy.¹⁹⁵⁴ The purpose of this new and renewed funding is to "[lead] efforts to advance gender equality and [reduce] the burden of infectious diseases" through access to essential vaccinations.¹⁹⁵⁵ Canada pledged CAD600 million to the replenishment of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and committed CAD47.5 million annually for four years to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.¹⁹⁵⁶

On 18 May 2020, the Minister of International Development announced CAD306 million in response to the annual humanitarian appeals issued by UN humanitarian agencies to support 2020

¹⁹⁵⁰ Canada-Africa project announcements, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 6 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canada-africa-project-announcements.html>

¹⁹⁵¹ Government of Canada announces support for Youth Climate Lab, Government of Canada (Vancouver) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 6 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-youth-climate-lab.html>

¹⁹⁵² Government of Canada announces support for Youth Climate Lab, Government of Canada (Vancouver) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 6 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-youth-climate-lab.html>

¹⁹⁵³ Joint statement by Canadian and Jamaican Foreign Ministers, following their chairing of a historic meeting of the UN Group of Friends on SDG Financing, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/joint-statement-by-canadian-and-jamaican-foreign-ministers-following-their-chairing-of-a-historic-meeting-of-the-un-group-of-friends-on-sdg-financing.html>

¹⁹⁵⁴ Minister Gould announces funding for global vaccinations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/05/minister-gould-announces-funding-for-global-vaccinations.html>

¹⁹⁵⁵ Minister Gould announces funding for global vaccinations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/05/minister-gould-announces-funding-for-global-vaccinations.html>

¹⁹⁵⁶ Minister Gould announces funding for global vaccinations, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/05/minister-gould-announces-funding-for-global-vaccinations.html>

initiatives.¹⁹⁵⁷ This aid will be used to provide food assistance, health care, drinking water, shelter and protection services to vulnerable people.¹⁹⁵⁸

Through involvement in sustainable initiatives, such as the Climate Action Incentive Payment, and engagement and aid with African Union members, like reproductive health projects in Mali, Canada has taken action toward both the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union Agenda 2063.

Thus, Canada has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Marjila Yousof

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda and taking into account the African Union Agenda 2063.

On 10 October 2019, President Emmanuel Macron pledged a total of USD1.4 billion at the Global Fund's Sixth Replenishment Conference.¹⁹⁵⁹ The president also made a "stirring appeal" at the conference, inducing other donors to "[make] last minute-minute increases on top of their original pledges" in order to reach the Global Fund target of at least USD14 billion.¹⁹⁶⁰ These funds will go toward efforts to end AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.¹⁹⁶¹

On 22 October 2019, Minister of State attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne launched France's new international strategy for food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture at its launch event.¹⁹⁶² This new strategy is designed to "focus France's international development activities for the period of 2019-2024 on this issue, in particular by supporting more sustainable, nutritious food and agricultural systems and by developing a type of agriculture that is more productive from an economic, social, and environmental standpoint."¹⁹⁶³

On 4-9 November 2019, France signed the Rome Declaration in support of the "transition [to] a more sustainable cold chain in order to limit food losses and waste" and the movement toward a

¹⁹⁵⁷ Canada responds to humanitarian crises with funding to the world's most vulnerable, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/05/canada-responds-to-humanitarian-crises-with-funding-to-the-worlds-most-vulnerable.html>

¹⁹⁵⁸ Canada responds to humanitarian crises with funding to the world's most vulnerable, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/05/canada-responds-to-humanitarian-crises-with-funding-to-the-worlds-most-vulnerable.html>

¹⁹⁵⁹ Pledges at Global Fund Sixth Replenishment Conference, The Global Fund (Geneva) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/8882/replenishment_2019sixthreplenishmentconferencepledges_list_en.pdf.

¹⁹⁶⁰ Global Fund Donors Pledge US\$14 Billion in Fight to End Epidemics, The Global Fund (Geneva) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news/2019-10-10-global-fund-donors-pledge-usd14-billion-in-fight-to-end-epidemics/>.

¹⁹⁶¹ World AIDS Day (1 December 2019), France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 1 December 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/health/news/article/world-aids-day-1-dec-2019>.

¹⁹⁶² Food security - Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne launches France's new international strategy on food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture, France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 22 October 2019. Access date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-food-security-nutrition-sustainable-agriculture/events/article/food-security-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-launches-france-s-new-international>.

¹⁹⁶³ Food security - Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne launches France's new international strategy on food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture, France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 22 October 2019. Access date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-food-security-nutrition-sustainable-agriculture/events/article/food-security-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-launches-france-s-new-international>.

low-carbon economy.¹⁹⁶⁴ Concrete measures include a new tax on hydrofluorocarbons to be introduced on 1 January 2021 and a reinforced energy savings certificate system on 1 March 2021.¹⁹⁶⁵

On 6 November 2019, President Macron and China's President Xi Jinping committed to fulfilling "the commitments by developed countries to provide and mobilize US100 billion each year for climate finance by 2020 and set a new collective quantified goal from a floor of USD100 billion per year by 2025."¹⁹⁶⁶ This was part of the Beijing Call for Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change in which both presidents expressed "their full support for multilateralism in international environmental governance" and committed to other actions against biodiversity loss and degradation of terrestrial ecosystems.¹⁹⁶⁷

On 12 November 2019, Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian and German Minister for Foreign Affairs Heiko Maas published a joint article in *Le Figaro* titled "No, multilateralism is not outdated!"¹⁹⁶⁸ The purpose of this article was to encourage multilateral actions and collaborations in synchrony with the meeting of the Alliance for Multilateralism at the Paris Peace Forum.¹⁹⁶⁹

On November 20 2019, 27 Yezidi women accompanied by their children arrived in France by from Erbil.¹⁹⁷⁰ These women, along with others who also arrived in 2019, fulfilled the pledge by President Macron to "welcome 100 Yezidi families – the victims of crimes committed by Daesh – to France."¹⁹⁷¹

On 28 November 2019, Chief Executive Officer of the Agence Française de Développement (AfD) Rémy Rioux and Group Chief Executive Director of the African Guarantee Fund for Small and

¹⁹⁶⁴ Refrigeration systems: France supports a more sustainable cold chain by signing the Rome Declaration, Ministry of the Ecological and Inclusive Transition (Paris) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/systemes-refrigeration-france-soutient-chaine-froid-plus-durable-en-signant-declaration-rome>

¹⁹⁶⁵ Refrigeration systems: France supports a more sustainable cold chain by signing the Rome Declaration, Ministry of the Ecological and Inclusive Transition (Paris) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/systemes-refrigeration-france-soutient-chaine-froid-plus-durable-en-signant-declaration-rome>

¹⁹⁶⁶ Beijing Call for Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change (06 November 2019), France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate-and-environment/news/article/beijing-call-for-biodiversity-conservation-and-climate-change-06-nov-19>.

¹⁹⁶⁷ Statement of UNCCD Executive Secretary Ibrahim Thiaw in response to the Beijing Call for Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (Bonn) 7 November 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.unccd.int/news-events/statement-unccd-executive-secretary-ibrahim-thiaw-response-beijing-call-biodiversity>.

¹⁹⁶⁸ Joint article by Jean-Yves Le Drian and Heiko Maas: "No, multilateralism is not outdated!" (published in *Le Figaro* newspaper - 12 November 2019), France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism-63158/article/joint-article-by-jean-yves-le-drian-and-heiko-maas-no-multilateralism-is-not>.

¹⁹⁶⁹ Joint article by Jean-Yves Le Drian and Heiko Maas: "No, multilateralism is not outdated!" (published in *Le Figaro* newspaper - 12 November 2019), France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism-63158/article/joint-article-by-jean-yves-le-drian-and-heiko-maas-no-multilateralism-is-not>.

¹⁹⁷⁰ Joint press release - 27 Yezidi families, previously victims of Daesh, welcomed in France (20 November 2019), France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/iraq/news/article/joint-press-release-27-yezidi-families-previously-victims-of-daesh-welcomed-in>.

¹⁹⁷¹ France to take in 100 Yazidi women stranded in Iraqi Kurdistan, France 24 (Paris) 25 October 2018. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20181025-france-take-100-yazidi-women-iraqi-kurdistan>.

Medium-Sized Enterprises Félix Bikpo signed a sub-participation agreement of USD30 million.¹⁹⁷² This action seeks to “improve access to credit to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) throughout the African continent” by increasing the capacity of the African Guarantee Fund to offer loans to small African businesses.^{1973,1974}

On 2 December 2019, Minister of State attached to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Brune Poirson and the President of the Inter-American Bank of Development Alberto Moreno signed the agreement to create a new trust fund devoted to biodiversity and committed EUR24 million.¹⁹⁷⁵

On 9 December 2019, the AfD launched a EUR15 million seed fund in Africa as part of a “growing commitment to expanding the continent’s digital ecosystem.”¹⁹⁷⁶ This is part of EMERGING Valley, an international summit organized by the agency to “provide support and financing for African start-ups” as well as a “platform for emerging innovations and partnerships between Europe and Africa.”¹⁹⁷⁷

On 9 December 2019, Secretary of State to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Emmanuelle Wargon announced the deployment of a second version of the national geographic information system for compensatory measures against biodiversity.¹⁹⁷⁸ This was done in conjunction with the Agence Française de la Biodiversité toward the objective of “not net loss, or even gain in biodiversity” following past decreases by facilitating environmental assessments and compensatory measures.¹⁹⁷⁹

On 11 December 2019, the AfD Regional Director for Senegal, the Gambia, Cape Verde and Guinea Bissau Alexandre Pointier and the Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs Mambureh Njie signed an agreement formalizing budget support worth EUR2 million for Gambia.¹⁹⁸⁰

On 17 December 2019, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic met and discussed prospects for increasing

¹⁹⁷² The French Development Agency Supports African SMEs via a Counter-Guarantee of USD 30 Million to the African Guarantee Fund, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/french-development-agency-supports-african-smes-counter-guarantee-usd-30-million-african-guarantee-fund>.

¹⁹⁷³ The French Development Agency Supports African SMEs via a Counter-Guarantee of USD 30 Million to the African Guarantee Fund, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/french-development-agency-supports-african-smes-counter-guarantee-usd-30-million-african-guarantee-fund>.

¹⁹⁷⁴ French Development Agency Supports African SMEs via a Counter-Guarantee of USD 30 Million to the African Guarantee Fund, African Guarantee Fund (Nairobi) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://africanguaranteefund.com/french-development-agency-supports-african-smes-via-a-counter-guarantee-of-usd-30-million-to-the-african-guarantee-fund/>.

¹⁹⁷⁵ Biodiversity – COP25 – Press release issued by the Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition, France in the United Kingdom French Embassy in London (London) 02 December 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2020. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/France-helps-create-biodiversity-fund>.

¹⁹⁷⁶ AFD Group: Driver for African Startups, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups>.

¹⁹⁷⁷ AFD Group: Driver for African Startups, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups>.

¹⁹⁷⁸ Biodiversity: new version of GéoMCE, Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/biodiversite-nouvelle-version-geomce>.

¹⁹⁷⁹ Biodiversity: new version of GéoMCE, Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/biodiversite-nouvelle-version-geomce>.

¹⁹⁸⁰ Gambia: French Development Agency Grants Budget Support to Government, allAfrica (Kanifing) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201912110900.html>.

economic cooperation, particularly in the renewable energy sector through projects such as the Nam Theun 2 dam project.¹⁹⁸¹

On 19 December 2019, Minister Le Drian and the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States Marcelo Luis Ebrard Casaubo issued the French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism.¹⁹⁸² The two countries committed to jointly hosting the Generation Equality Forum in 2020 and promoting cooperation on global issues with a focus on the environment, technology, international peace, human rights, and the economy.¹⁹⁸³

On 13 January 2020, President Macron attended the Pau Summit with the heads of state of the G5 Sahel region and took part in the creation of the Coalition for the Sahel, a new framework bringing together the participating countries and any outside countries and organizations that wish to contribute.¹⁹⁸⁴ The four pillars of the plan are “military engagement, capacity-building of the G5 armed forces, support for the restoration of state and local authority, stabilization and development.”¹⁹⁸⁵

On 20 January 2020, French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe confirmed the closures of Fessenheim 1 and 2, the two oldest operating nuclear reactors in France, on 22 February 2020 and 30 June 2020 respectively.¹⁹⁸⁶ The two closures are part of France’s energy-climate strategy which holds the “diversification of sources of production and supply of electricity” as one of its major axes.¹⁹⁸⁷

On 22 January 2020, the AfD, the German Ministry for the Environment, BlackRock, and the Hewlett and Grantham foundations announced the Climate Finance Partnership, an investment fund aimed to “direct capital into climate-related projects in developing countries,” such as in Africa. France will contribute USD30 million and AfD will “provide knowledge of climate issues in emerging countries and expertise in the field.”¹⁹⁸⁸

¹⁹⁸¹ Laos – Meeting between Jean-Yves Le Drian and his Laotian counterpart (17 December 2019), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/laos/events/article/laos-meeting-between-jean-yves-le-drian-and-his-laotian-counterpart-17-dec-2019>.

¹⁹⁸² French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism (19 December 2019), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mexico/news/article/french-mexican-declaration-for-effective-multilateralism-19-dec-2019>.

¹⁹⁸³ French-Mexican Declaration for Effective Multilateralism (19 December 2019), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mexico/news/article/french-mexican-declaration-for-effective-multilateralism-19-dec-2019>.

¹⁹⁸⁴ G5 Sahel – Pau Summit – Statement by the Heads of State (13 Jan. 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/news/news-about-defence-and-security/article/g5-sahel-pau-summit-statement-by-the-heads-of-state-13-jan-2020>.

¹⁹⁸⁵ Sahel - Jean-Yves Le Drian’s participation in the General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance and the G5 Sahel Summit (Nouakchott, 25 Feb. 20), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mauritania/news/article/sahel-jean-yves-le-drian-s-participation-in-the-general-assembly-of-the-sahel>.

¹⁹⁸⁶ Fessenheim closure confirmed for 2020, Nuclear Engineering International (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.neimagazine.com/news/newsfessenheim-closure-confirmed-for-2020-7609762>.

¹⁹⁸⁷ Closure of the Fessenheim power station, Ministry of the Ecological and Inclusive Transition (Paris) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/fermeture-centrale-fessenheim>.

¹⁹⁸⁸ A Partnership with Blackrock to Direct Investment into Greener Finance in Developing Countries, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/blackrock-climate-finance-partnership?origin=/en/actualites>.

On 30 January 2020, the AfD board of directors approved the Indicative Funding Program for loans related to development projects in order to achieve the targets set for public aid by 2022 by the French state.¹⁹⁸⁹ The target of the funding program is set at EUR7.5 billion.¹⁹⁹⁰

On 6 February 2020, AfD CEO Rioux and President of the Organising Committee for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic games Tony Estanguet signed an agreement to cooperate on “sports and development projects” in developing countries.¹⁹⁹¹ Projects over the 2020-2023 include entrepreneurship support programs and funding for projects in which sports are used to promote development.¹⁹⁹²

On 7 February 2020, the AfD announced the selection of 12 cities across East and West Africa to take part in the African Smart Towns Network.¹⁹⁹³ The initiative places emphasis on using new technologies to create smart cities by providing services that are well-suited to local contexts and the needs of residents. AfD support includes EUR2.995 million over two-and-a-half years to be managed directly by the cities for the accomplishment of a specific priority with relation to digital transition.¹⁹⁹⁴

On 10 February 2020, President Macron signed Law No. 2020-105 Regarding a Circular Economy and the Fight Against Waste as part of efforts to help change the French society model “from a linear economy to a circular economy.”¹⁹⁹⁵ The law also contains provisions to phase out single-use implements such as paper receipts and plastic bags and aims for “all plastic to be recyclable by 2025 and a 50 [per cent] reduction in the use of single-use plastic bottles in the next decade.”¹⁹⁹⁶

On 25 February 2020, Minister Le Drian chaired the meeting of the General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance, a group aimed at “ensuring high-level international mobilisation in support of the joint commitments to promote development in the region.”¹⁹⁹⁷

On 28 February 2020, Minister of the Ecological and Inclusive Transition Élisabeth Borne attended the Salon International de l’Agriculture.¹⁹⁹⁸ At the show, she announced the mobilisation of EUR150

¹⁹⁸⁹ AFD approves Indicative Funding Program 2020, Development Aid (Nicosia) 07 February 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.developmentaid.org/#!/news-stream/post/58685/afd-approves-indicative-funding-program-2020>.

¹⁹⁹⁰ AFD approves Indicative Funding Program 2020, Development Aid (Nicosia) 07 February 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.developmentaid.org/#!/news-stream/post/58685/afd-approves-indicative-funding-program-2020>.

¹⁹⁹¹ Sports and Sustainable Development: AFD and Paris 2024, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 06 February 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/sports-and-sustainable-development-afd-and-paris-2024?origin=/en/actualites>.

¹⁹⁹² Sports and Sustainable Development: AFD and Paris 2024, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 06 February 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/sports-and-sustainable-development-afd-and-paris-2024?origin=/en/actualites>.

¹⁹⁹³ 12 African Cities Making the Digital Transition, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 07 February 2020. Access Date: 4 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/12-african-cities-making-digital-transition?origin=/en/actualites>.

¹⁹⁹⁴ 12 African Cities Making the Digital Transition, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 07 February 2020. Access Date: 4 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/12-african-cities-making-digital-transition?origin=/en/actualites>.

¹⁹⁹⁵ France: New Anti-waste Law Adopted, Library of Congress (Washington DC) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <http://www.loc.gov/law/foreign-news/article/france-new-anti-waste-law-adopted/>.

¹⁹⁹⁶ Landmark French law will stop unsold goods being thrown away, The Guardian (London) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/30/france-passes-landmark-law-to-stop-unsold-goods-being-thrown-away>.

¹⁹⁹⁷ Sahel - Jean-Yves Le Drian’s participation in the General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance and the G5 Sahel Summit (Nouakchott, 25 Feb. 20), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mauritania/news/article/sahel-jean-yves-le-drian-s-participation-in-the-general-assembly-of-the-sahel>.

million by water agencies in order to promote good practices in farming as well as the installation of photovoltaics on agricultural buildings.¹⁹⁹⁹

On 6 March 2020, Minister Poirson signed the European Plastics Pact, which requires the signatories to individually and collectively contribute to “achieving better management of the life cycle of single use plastic products and packaging.”²⁰⁰⁰

On 10 March 2020, the French government adopted an international water and sanitation strategy from 2020-2030 aimed at universal access to water and sanitation services and sustainable water management.²⁰⁰¹

On 11 March 2020, Minister Le Drian met with the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs Ann Linde to discuss future cooperations between their respective countries. More specifically, the ministers agreed to intensified cooperation on emerging technologies, gender equality, and actions in the Sahel.²⁰⁰²

On 12 March 2020, the AfD signed an agreement with the Indonesian Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries aimed at “[raising] awareness of the causes of marine debris, its effects at sea, and ways to reduce pollution.” Additionally, the project will help to protect wildlife such as the sea turtle by tracing their travels and examining where they may encounter floating plastic. The AfD will provide a grant of EUR500 000 in support of the project.²⁰⁰³

On 20 March 2020, the AfD signed a public policy loan agreement with the Mexican Finance Ministry pertaining to green finance.²⁰⁰⁴ The objective of the loan is to help Mexico “help Mexico channel public and private funds into low-carbon, inclusive growth, in line with the commitments of the Paris Agreement” and to “pursue work on risk management and resilience, particularly as it pertains to infrastructure.”²⁰⁰⁵

¹⁹⁹⁸ For efficient and environmentally friendly agriculture, Ministry of the Ecological and Inclusive Transition (Paris) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/agriculture-performante-et-respectueuse-lenvironnement>.

¹⁹⁹⁹ For efficient and environmentally friendly agriculture, Ministry of the Ecological and Inclusive Transition (Paris) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/agriculture-performante-et-respectueuse-lenvironnement>.

²⁰⁰⁰ A European Pact to control use of plastic and promote a circular economy, Government of France (Paris) 06 March 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/a-european-pact-to-control-use-of-plastic-and-promote-a-circular-economy>.

²⁰⁰¹ France’s International Strategy for Water and Sanitation (2020-2030), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 24 February 2020. Access Date: April 04 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/photos-publications-and-graphics/publications/article/france-s-international-strategy-for-water-and-sanitation-2020-2030>.

²⁰⁰² Joint press statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and France (Paris, 11 March 2020), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sweden/events/article/joint-press-statement-by-the-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-of-sweden-and-france>.

²⁰⁰³ Indonesia: Tackling Plastic and Marine Debris, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 22 March 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/indonesia-ocean-plastic-debris?origin=/en/actualites>.

²⁰⁰⁴ “Mexico Is on Its Way to a Major Climate Transition” – Jean-Baptiste Sabatié, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://burundi.afd.fr/en/actualites/mexico-its-way-major-climate-transition-jean-baptiste-sabatie>.

²⁰⁰⁵ “Mexico Is on Its Way to a Major Climate Transition” – Jean-Baptiste Sabatié, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 04 April 2020. <https://burundi.afd.fr/en/actualites/mexico-its-way-major-climate-transition-jean-baptiste-sabatie>.

On 30 April 2020, the French National Research Agency, along with the French Development Agency, launched the Partnerships with African Higher Education (PEA) programme.²⁰⁰⁶ The programme aims to “finance ambitious academic partnerships in priority sectors for the development of 18 eligible African countries.”²⁰⁰⁷

On 5 May 2020, the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a press briefing outlining additional assistance to African countries to address the coronavirus pandemic.²⁰⁰⁸ France committed EUR1.2 billion to fight the spread of the disease in the most vulnerable countries.²⁰⁰⁹ This is part of the international initiative to address the impact of covid-19 in Africa, which focuses on support for African healthcare systems, support for African research, humanitarian support and economic support.²⁰¹⁰

France has engaged in numerous actions to further the SDGs in alignment with the African Union’s Agenda 2063 by engaging in economic development projects with members of the African Union and by supporting global efforts around these goals. Specifically, France has maintained a consistently high level of engagement with environmental efforts as well as support for developing nations and democracy.

Thus, France has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Yu Xin Liu (Daisy)

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to address global challenges, in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda and taking into account the African Union Agenda 2063.

On 9 September 2019, Federal Minister of Development Gerd Müller launched the “Green Button” textile certification mark.²⁰¹¹ This mark certifies that textile manufacturers meet a series of 26 minimum social and environmental standards.²⁰¹²

²⁰⁰⁶ Launch of the Partnerships with African Higher Education (PEA) programme: France strengthens its support to African universities, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 30 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/educational-cooperation/news/article/press-release-launch-of-the-partnerships-with-african-higher-education-pea>

²⁰⁰⁷ Launch of the Partnerships with African Higher Education (PEA) programme: France strengthens its support to African universities, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 30 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/educational-cooperation/news/article/press-release-launch-of-the-partnerships-with-african-higher-education-pea>

²⁰⁰⁸ Covid-19 Assistance for Africa, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 5 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/news/article/covid-19-assistance-for-africa>

²⁰⁰⁹ Covid-19 Assistance for Africa, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 5 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/news/article/covid-19-assistance-for-africa>

²⁰¹⁰ Covid-19 Assistance for Africa, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 5 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/news/article/covid-19-assistance-for-africa>

²⁰¹¹ Minister Gerd Müller introduces the "Green Button", a publicly endorsed textile label, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/september/190909_pm_048_Minister-Gerd-Mueller-introduces-the-Green-Button-a-publicly-endorsed-textile-label/index.html

²⁰¹² Minister Gerd Müller introduces the "Green Button", a publicly endorsed textile label, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/september/190909_pm_048_Minister-Gerd-Mueller-introduces-the-Green-Button-a-publicly-endorsed-textile-label/index.html

On 23 September 2019, Minister Müller committed EUR200 million to a global forest conservation program in partnership with the World Bank.²⁰¹³ Additionally, Minister Müller committed EUR30 million to the Central African Forest Initiative.²⁰¹⁴

On 12 November 2019, Minister Müller announced the expansion of family planning and maternity ward stations in Cameroon, Malawi, and Niger.²⁰¹⁵ The contribution will help further the realization of sexual rights and reproductive health goals including the continuation of “self-determined family planning and maternal health.”²⁰¹⁶

On 19 November 2019, Chancellor Angela Merkel committed EUR20 million to the G20 Compact with Africa Facility, which will support local green businesses in Africa.²⁰¹⁷ The facility will work to create an enabling environment for investment through 1) Policy dialogue and creation of enabling environments; 2) Capacity development and technical assistance; 3) Design of blended finance instruments for the private sector.²⁰¹⁸

On 9 December 2020, Minister Müller committed EUR500 million to expand international protection against climate change.²⁰¹⁹ The announcement was made at the COP 25 conference in Madrid, and included funds for natural disaster relief in developing countries – including in Africa – and for helping coastal communities adapt to climate change.²⁰²⁰

²⁰¹³ Germany provides 200 million euros in seed funding for World Bank loan programme for forest conservation, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/september/190923_pm_051_Germany-provides-200-million-euros-in-seed-funding-for-World-Bank-loan-programme-for-forest-conservation/index.html

²⁰¹⁴ Germany provides 200 million euros in seed funding for World Bank loan programme for forest conservation, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/september/190923_pm_051_Germany-provides-200-million-euros-in-seed-funding-for-World-Bank-loan-programme-for-forest-conservation/index.html

²⁰¹⁵ Deutschland steigert internationales Engagement für Familienplanung, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191112_pm_064_Deutschland-steigert-internationales-Engagement-fuer-Familienplanung/index.html

²⁰¹⁶ Deutschland steigert internationales Engagement für Familienplanung, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. http://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191112_pm_064_Deutschland-steigert-internationales-Engagement-fuer-Familienplanung/index.html

²⁰¹⁷ G20 Compact with Africa Facility supports green business, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/g20-compact-with-africa-facility-supports-green-business-1/>

²⁰¹⁸ G20 Compact with Africa Facility supports green business, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/g20-compact-with-africa-facility-supports-green-business-1/>

²⁰¹⁹ At the climate conference in Madrid, the Federal Development Ministry announces new projects to protect against climate risks and protect the oceans, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/dezember/191209_pm_067_BMZ-kuendigt-auf-der-Klimakonferenz-in-Madrid-neue-Projekte-zur-Absicherung-von-Klimarisiken-und-zum-Schutz-der-Ozeane-an/index.html

²⁰²⁰ At the climate conference in Madrid, the Federal Development Ministry announces new projects to protect against climate risks and protect the oceans, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/dezember/191209_pm_067_BMZ-kuendigt-auf-der-Klimakonferenz-in-Madrid-neue-Projekte-zur-Absicherung-von-Klimarisiken-und-zum-Schutz-der-Ozeane-an/index.html

On 10 December 2019, Federal Minister for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety Svenja Schulze committed EUR30 million to the Adaptation Fund.²⁰²¹ The Adaptation Fund finances sustainable climate change adaptation projects in developing countries.²⁰²²

On 11 December 2019, Minister Schulze committed EUR20 million to support 12 developing countries in implementing climate targets in land use and agricultural sectors.²⁰²³ A key focus is to support partner countries in implementing their obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Paris Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.²⁰²⁴

On 17 January 2020, Minister Schulze committed EUR10 million to protecting extremely rare insect species.²⁰²⁵ The funds will develop insect-friendly grassland, and demonstrate Germany's commitment to preserving life on land, an SDG. The scope of the projects ranges from the rescue of an extremely rare insect species through the development of an insect-friendly grassland to model processes for the protection and promotion of the insect fauna in biosphere reserves.²⁰²⁶

On 2 February 2020, Minister Müller committed EUR15 million to support cultural industries in Africa.²⁰²⁷ The initiative will target African start-ups, for example in the film and fashion industry, which will be supported with advice and further training in management, product development and sales.²⁰²⁸

On 27 March 2020, the German Federal Council adopted amendments to the Fertilizer Law, intended to increase the protection of groundwater. The amendments will reduce nitrate pollution, and prevent erosion-related flooding.²⁰²⁹

²⁰²¹ UN Climate Change Conference: Germany supports Adaptation Fund with 30 million euros, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/un-climate-change-conference-germany-supports-adaptation-fund-with-30-million-euros/>

²⁰²² UN Climate Change Conference: Germany supports Adaptation Fund with 30 million euros, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/un-climate-change-conference-germany-supports-adaptation-fund-with-30-million-euros/>

²⁰²³ BMU promotes climate action in farming, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Bonn) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/bmu-promotes-climate-action-in-farming/>

²⁰²⁴ BMU promotes climate action in farming, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Bonn) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/bmu-promotes-climate-action-in-farming/>

²⁰²⁵ Praxisprojekte zum Insektenschutz: Schulze übergibt Förderbescheide, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/praxisprojekte-zum-insektenschutz-schulze-uebergibt-foerderbescheide/>

²⁰²⁶ Praxisprojekte zum Insektenschutz: Schulze übergibt Förderbescheide, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/praxisprojekte-zum-insektenschutz-schulze-uebergibt-foerderbescheide/>

²⁰²⁷ Bundesentwicklungsministerium startet neue Initiative zur Förderung der Kreativwirtschaft in Afrika, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/2020/februar/200212_pm_03_Bundesentwicklungsministerium-startet-neue-Initiative-zur-Foerderung-der-Kreativwirtschaft-in-Afrika/index.html

²⁰²⁸ Bundesentwicklungsministerium startet neue Initiative zur Förderung der Kreativwirtschaft in Afrika, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 12 February 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/2020/februar/200212_pm_03_Bundesentwicklungsministerium-startet-neue-Initiative-zur-Foerderung-der-Kreativwirtschaft-in-Afrika/index.html

²⁰²⁹ Schulze: Neues Düngerecht sorgt für besseren Schutz des Grundwassers, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Bonn) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/schulze-neues-duengerecht-sorgt-fuer-besseren-schutz-des-grundwassers/>

On 23 April 2020, the German Federal Foreign Office outlined plans for how they would adapt current projects in Africa to respond to the coronavirus pandemic.²⁰³⁰ These efforts include adapting the Biosecurity Programme in Sudan and aiding the German Red Cross in their outreach.²⁰³¹ These actions are also supported by the EUR363 million in humanitarian aid that the German government had already made available in 2020.²⁰³²

On 15 May 2020, the German Federal Foreign Office announced an additional EUR300 million to curb the spread of the pandemic in humanitarian emergencies.²⁰³³ This aid will be used to expand testing, access to water, and improve sanitation.²⁰³⁴

On 26 May 2020, German Foreign Minister Maas announced EUR22 million in additional aid to help in the Venezuelan refugee crisis amid the global pandemic.²⁰³⁵ Of this aid, EUR18 million will be going to neighbouring countries that have accepted Venezuelan refugees and EUR4 million will go to development projects in Venezuela.²⁰³⁶

Germany has committed funds to a variety of environmental and economic sustainability projects in Germany and worldwide, including projects in line with the African Union Agenda 2063.

Thus, Germany has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Sterling Mancuso

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to the development goals outlined in both the African Union Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

On 18 September 2019, the Government of Italy presented the project entitled “Mediterranean Diet’s principles for Agenda 2030,” a multi-day event focused on carrying out scientific studies, considerations and analyses on the Mediterranean Diet.²⁰³⁷ The project aims to promote and disseminate knowledge of the principles underlying the Mediterranean Diet, benefits to community

²⁰³⁰ Africa: Solidarity in the fight against Covid-19, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/afrika/covid-afrika/2336778>

²⁰³¹ Africa: Solidarity in the fight against Covid-19, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/afrika/covid-afrika/2336778>

²⁰³² Africa: Solidarity in the fight against Covid-19, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/afrika/covid-afrika/2336778>

²⁰³³ “People around the world are in need of our solidarity”: Humanitarian assistance and human rights, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 15 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/humanitaerehilfe/maas-humanitarian-assistance-corona/2342390>

²⁰³⁴ “People around the world are in need of our solidarity”: Humanitarian assistance and human rights, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 15 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/humanitaerehilfe/maas-humanitarian-assistance-corona/2342390>

²⁰³⁵ Germany increases assistance for Venezuela to more than 50 million euro, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 26 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/venezuela-node/venezuela-donors-conference/2344744>

²⁰³⁶ Germany increases assistance for Venezuela to more than 50 million euro, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 26 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/venezuela-node/venezuela-donors-conference/2344744>

²⁰³⁷ Italy presents the project “Mediterranean Diet’s principles for Agenda 2030”, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/2019/09/l-italia-presenta-il-progetto-mediterranean-diet-s-principles-for-agenda-2030.html

health and wellbeing, and benefits to the environment and to the planet's resources.²⁰³⁸ It will also dedicate days to "protecting biodiversity, respecting the environment, nutritional aspects, less food waste, the role of women" – to assure a sustainable agricultural and nutritional development model.²⁰³⁹

On 3 October 2019, the Government of Italy signed an intergovernmental agreement with Jordan under which Italian Cooperation will contribute EUR85 million to the education and training of children and young people in Jordan.²⁰⁴⁰ The agreement part of the 2016-2025 Jordanian national human resources development strategy to achieve the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).²⁰⁴¹ The project aims to fulfill two goals by 2025: ensure that all boys and girls have access to quality education, and all young adults who have technical and professional skills, have access to jobs.²⁰⁴²

On 15 October 2019, the Government of Italy donated 10 ambulances and three water tankers to the Government of Niger to enable the authorities to provide assistance to migrants and tackle human trafficking, through the Fund for Africa.²⁰⁴³

On 23 October 2019, the Government of Italy reaffirmed its commitment to partnering with African Countries for inclusive and sustainable development toward the 2030 Agenda and the Agenda 2063 of the African Union during a debate chaired by the President of the United Nations General Assembly.²⁰⁴⁴ The Government of Italy also expressed strong support for the African Architecture of Peace and Security, for strengthening the trilateral cooperation between the UN, African Union and European Union, and welcomed the entry into force of the African continental Free Trade Area, which represents a big step toward an integrated and peaceful Africa.²⁰⁴⁵

²⁰³⁸ Italy presents the project "Mediterranean Diet's principles for Agenda 2030", Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019.

https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/2019/09/l-italia-presenta-il-progetto-mediterranean-diet-s-principles-for-agenda-2030.html

²⁰³⁹ Italy presents the project "Mediterranean Diet's principles for Agenda 2030", Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019.

https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/eventi/2019/09/l-italia-presenta-il-progetto-mediterranean-diet-s-principles-for-agenda-2030.html

²⁰⁴⁰ Italy-Jordan: 85 million euros for education and training, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 03 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/italia-giordania-85-mln-di-euro-per-istruzione-e-formazione.html

²⁰⁴¹ Italy-Jordan: 85 million euros for education and training, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 03 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/italia-giordania-85-mln-di-euro-per-istruzione-e-formazione.html

²⁰⁴² Italy-Jordan: 85 million euros for education and training, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 03 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/italia-giordania-85-mln-di-euro-per-istruzione-e-formazione.html

²⁰⁴³ Italy donates 10 ambulances to the Niger Government, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/10/l-italia-dona-10-ambulanze-al-governo-del-niger.html

²⁰⁴⁴ Zappia: Italy is among the top donor countries for Africa, and is ready to do more, Onu Italia (New York) 23 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.onuitalia.com/zappia-italy-is-among-the-top-donor-countries-for-africa-and-is-ready-to-do-more/>

²⁰⁴⁵ Zappia: Italy is among the top donor countries for Africa, and is ready to do more, Onu Italia (New York) 23 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.onuitalia.com/zappia-italy-is-among-the-top-donor-countries-for-africa-and-is-ready-to-do-more/>

On 29 October 2019, the Government of Italy co-sponsored an unanimously adopted resolution on Women, Peace and Security Agenda at the Security Council meeting.²⁰⁴⁶ The next step will be the organization in Rome on 3 and 4 December at an international seminar on the responsibility of States to promote the participation of women in peace processes, in collaboration with UN Women, and the third edition of the Women's Forum.²⁰⁴⁷

On 30 October 2019, the Government of Italy spoke at the meeting of the UN Commission for the Consolidation of Peace dedicated to the situation in Central Africa, reaffirming its commitment to promoting the full implementation of the Bangui peace agreement, and calling upon the UN and the international community to support the 2020/2021 elections in the Central African Republic, which “represents an important step for democracy in the country.”²⁰⁴⁸

On 4 November 2019, the Government of Italy announced that state schools will begin incorporating sustainability and climate crisis into as many compulsory subjects for school children as possible.²⁰⁴⁹ Other subjects including geography, mathematics and physics will be taught from the perspective of sustainability, with one hour a week dedicated to the themes of global heating and humans' influence on the planet.²⁰⁵⁰ Starting in September 2020, a 33-hour-a-year lesson will be used as a pilot program to ultimately incorporate the 2030 Agenda into the entire curriculum.²⁰⁵¹

On 21 November 2019, the Government of Italy and UNESCO, signed the MAECI-UNESCO agreement in Doha for the implementation of a joint cooperation project aimed at ensuring access to education for children in Iraq who currently cannot go to school, with the Government of Italy committing EUR1 million to the project.²⁰⁵² The funds will be used by UNESCO to restart ten schools, conduct campaigns to promote enrollment and provide school kits to about 17,000 boys and girls of the Governorships of Salah al-Din and Baghdad.²⁰⁵³

²⁰⁴⁶ Women, peace and security: Italy co-sponsor resolution reaffirms its commitment, Onu Italia (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.onuitalia.com/women-peace-and-security-italy-co-sponsors-new-resolution-and-reaffirms-its-support/>

²⁰⁴⁷ Women, peace and security: Italy co-sponsor resolution reaffirms its commitment, Onu Italia (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.onuitalia.com/women-peace-and-security-italy-co-sponsors-new-resolution-and-reaffirms-its-support/>

²⁰⁴⁸ Central Africa: Italy to Peacebuilding Commission, commitment for Bangui agreement facilitated by Sant'Egidio, Onu Italia (New York) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.onuitalia.com/central-african-republic-italy-at-the-peacebuilding-commission-support-for-the-bangui-agreement-to-be-facilitated-by-santegidio/>

²⁰⁴⁹ Italy to put sustainability at heart of learning in schools, The Guardian (London) 06 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2019/nov/06/italy-to-school-students-in-sustainability-and-climate-crisis>

²⁰⁵⁰ Italy's Students Will Get a Lesson in Climate Change. Many Lessons, in Fact, The New York Times (New York) 05 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/05/world/europe/italy-schools-climate-change.html>

²⁰⁵¹ Italy's Students Will Get a Lesson in Climate Change. Many Lessons, in Fact, The New York Times (New York) 05 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/05/world/europe/italy-schools-climate-change.html>

²⁰⁵² Doha: Signing of the MAECI-UNESCO Agreement on children's education in Iraq, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/firmato-a-doha-accordo-maeci-unesco-per-istruzione-infantile-in-iraq.html

²⁰⁵³ Doha: Signing of the MAECI-UNESCO Agreement on children's education in Iraq, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/firmato-a-doha-accordo-maeci-unesco-per-istruzione-infantile-in-iraq.html

On 26 November 2019, the Government of Italy opened the Italy-Africa Business Week in Milan, designed to boost business relations and economic cooperation with the African continent.²⁰⁵⁴ Deputy Minister Emanuela Del Re met the Somali Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism, Mohamed and the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Handicrafts of Burkina Faso, highlighting the growing trade volume with Africa.²⁰⁵⁵

On 5 December 2019, the Italian Embassy in Nairobi and the Italian Cultural Institute in Kenya in association with World Agroforestry Centre, Centre for International Forestry Research, and Bioversity International, held a symposium on “Climate Change, Forests and Food Security” in Nairobi.²⁰⁵⁶ The main goal of the event was for Kenya and Italy to exchange ideas on best practices, and to discuss the integrated management of the territory, taking into account the current climate change and food security challenges.²⁰⁵⁷

On 9 December 2019, the Government of Italy, at the 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, made an open pledge to take all the necessary steps to assure that children may live safely and enjoy their fundamental rights also in situations of conflict. Italy’s pledge aims to prevent violence against children, through continuity of education, access of humanitarian operations to children in conflict zones, and awareness raising campaigns against the recruitment and deployment of children in armed conflicts.²⁰⁵⁸

On 13 December 2019, the Government of Italy in coordination with the Food and Agriculture Organization) and Future Food Institute announced the second edition of international training bootcamps to train a new class of “Climate Shapers” to address and mitigate the climate crisis through the regeneration of agri-food systems, with three Italian stops in Marettimo (Sicily), Rome and Bologna.²⁰⁵⁹ The project aims to address four themes, “Climate Smart Cities,” “Climate Smart Farms,” “Climate Smart Oceans,” and “Climate Smart Kitchen.”²⁰⁶⁰

On 18 December 2019, the Government of Italy hosted the sixth annual meeting of the Joint Committee for Development Cooperation.²⁰⁶¹ The Joint Committee approved a package of initiatives

²⁰⁵⁴ Heading: Del Re opens Italy-Africa Business Week in Milan, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/11/del-re-apre-lavori-di-italia-africa-business-week-di-milano.html

²⁰⁵⁵ Heading: Del Re opens Italy-Africa Business Week in Milan, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/11/del-re-apre-lavori-di-italia-africa-business-week-di-milano.html

²⁰⁵⁶ Symposium on climate change and forests in Kenya, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 05 December 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/12/in-kenya-un-simposio-su-cambiamenti-climatici-e-foreste.html

²⁰⁵⁷ Symposium on climate change and forests in Kenya, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 05 December 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/12/in-kenya-un-simposio-su-cambiamenti-climatici-e-foreste.html

²⁰⁵⁸ International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent: Italy makes an open pledge, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e Della Cooperazione Internazionale (Roma) 09 December 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/12/conferenza-croce-rossa-e-mezzaluna-rossa-impegno-italiano.html

²⁰⁵⁹ Fao and Future Food Institute promote boot-camps to form “Climate Shapers”; three stops in Italy, Onu Italia (New York) 13 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.onuitalia.com/fao-and-future-food-institute-promote-boot-camps-to-form-climate-shapers-three-stops-in-italy/>

²⁰⁶⁰ Fao and Future Food Institute promote boot-camps to form “Climate Shapers”; three stops in Italy, Onu Italia (New York) 13 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.onuitalia.com/fao-and-future-food-institute-promote-boot-camps-to-form-climate-shapers-three-stops-in-italy/>

²⁰⁶¹ Sixth Session of the Joint Committee for Development Cooperation (Roma) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/12/vi-seduta-annuale-del-comitato-congiunto-per-la-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo.html

for a total value of over EUR69 million, of which 30 million for African countries, and 10 for the territorial implementation of the 2030 Agenda.²⁰⁶² The programs confirm Italy's priority attention to the Mediterranean and to sub-Saharan Africa.²⁰⁶³

On 4 March 2020, the Government of Italy reaffirmed Italy's support for a democratic and peaceful transition process, as well as Sudan's Prime Minister Abdallah Hamdok's vision of economic and social progress in his country during an institutional visit to Sudan.²⁰⁶⁴ The Government of Italy reiterated the commitment to enhance its advocacy within the Group of friends of Sudan to facilitate the removal of Sudan from the list of countries sponsoring terrorism.²⁰⁶⁵

Italy has taken action to both support the United Nations SDGs as well as specifically support the African Union's Agenda 2063 through general development aid and targeted engagement with members of the African Union.

Thus, Italy has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Marjila Yousof

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to take action to support the goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and support the African Union Agenda 2063.

On 27 August 2019, the Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry inaugurated two bodies under the Strategic Policy Committee of the Advisory Committee for Natural Resources and Energy: the Subcommittee on System Reform for Renewable Energy as Main Power Source and the Subcommittee for Sustainable Power Systems.²⁰⁶⁶ This was done in response to past large-scale blackouts with the goal of advancing the development of technologies for "making renewable energy become a main power source against the backdrop of increasing demand for decarbonization."²⁰⁶⁷

On 28 August 2019, the Prime Minister Shinzo Abe presented many initiatives during his keynote speech at the Tokyo International Conference for Africa's Development (TICAD7), including African Business Education Initiative 3.0, further promotion of universal health coverage including through launch of the Africa Health and Wellbeing Initiative, and support to measures for Africa's own peace and stability.²⁰⁶⁸

²⁰⁶² Sixth Session of the Joint Committee for Development Cooperation (Roma) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/12/vi-seduta-annuale-del-comitato-congiunto-per-la-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo.html

²⁰⁶³ Sixth Session of the Joint Committee for Development Cooperation (Roma) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 6 March 2019. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/12/vi-seduta-annuale-del-comitato-congiunto-per-la-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo.html

²⁰⁶⁴ Visit by Vice Minister Del Re in Sudan (Roma) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/03/visita-della-vice-ministra-del-re-in-sudan.html

²⁰⁶⁵ Visit by Vice Minister Del Re in Sudan (Roma) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2020/03/visita-della-vice-ministra-del-re-in-sudan.html

²⁰⁶⁶ Two Bodies Inaugurated: Subcommittee on System Reform for Renewable Energy as Main Power Source and Subcommittee for Sustainable Power Systems, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo), 27 August 2019. Access Date: December 11 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0827_004.html

²⁰⁶⁷ Two Bodies Inaugurated: Subcommittee on System Reform for Renewable Energy as Main Power Source and Subcommittee for Sustainable Power Systems, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo), 27 August 2019. Access Date: December 11 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0827_004.html

²⁰⁶⁸ Tokyo International Conference on African Development 7 (TICAD7) was held on August 28, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/page4e_001088.html

On 29 August 2019, Prime Minister Abe met with Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Abiy Ahmed Ali and pledged support for Ethiopian development through two grant aids for elections and improvement of Ethiopian health and medical services respectively as well as the dispatchment of an agricultural expert to improve agricultural productivity in Ethiopia.²⁰⁶⁹

On 30 August 2019, the Prime Minister Abe “announced Japan’s decision to provide emergency grant aid of USD5 million and the dispatch of the Japan Disaster Relief Team/Infectious Disease Response Team” in response to the recent Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.²⁰⁷⁰

On 30 August 2019, Japan and the African Union members along with the representatives of Intergovernmental African, international, regional organizations and partner countries as well as the private sector and civil society organizations from Japan and Africa committed to the Yokohama Declaration 2019. Japan committed to the “Yokohama Plan of Actions 2019” with the overarching theme of “Advancing Africa’s Development through People, Technology and Innovation.”²⁰⁷¹ The three main pillars are “accelerating economic transformation and improving business environment through innovation and private sector engagement,” “deepening sustainable and resilient society,” and strengthening peace and stability.²⁰⁷²

On 30 August 2019, Japanese State Minister of Finance Keisuke Suzuki announced a joint grant of USD3.5 billion with the African Development Bank under the Enhanced Private Sector Assistance for Africa initiative.²⁰⁷³ The funds are expected to “enhance the fourth phase of EPSA [Enhanced Private Sector Assistance for Africa] to spur private-sector-led sustainable and inclusive growth in Africa.”²⁰⁷⁴

On 6 September 2019, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) committed to an additional investment of up to USD30 million in the Japan ASEAN [Association of South East Asian Nations] Women Empowerment Fund.²⁰⁷⁵ The objective of the fund is to expand financing to micro-finance institutions and promote gender equality by empowering low-income women through the “improvement of women’s access to funds for economic activities.”²⁰⁷⁶

²⁰⁶⁹ Japan-Ethiopia Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af2/et/page3e_001079.html.

²⁰⁷⁰ Japan-Democratic Republic of the Congo Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/d_congo/page6e_000210_00002.htm.

²⁰⁷¹ Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf.

²⁰⁷² Yokohama Declaration 2019, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf.

²⁰⁷³ Japan and African Development Bank announce \$3.5 billion in support of Africa’s development, RegionWeek (Burundi) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 05 April 2020. <https://regionweek.com/japan-and-african-development-bank-announce-3-5-billion-in-support-of-africas-development/>.

²⁰⁷⁴ Japan, AfDB Announce \$3.5 billion to Support Africa’s Private Sector Development, Liberian Observer (Monrovia) 02 September 2019. Access Date: 05 April 2020. <https://www.liberianobserver.com/news/japan-afdb-announce-3-5-billion-to-support-africas-private-sector-development/>.

²⁰⁷⁵ Additional fund investment for microfinance institutions targeting women’s empowerment -Contributing to the improvement of financial access and poverty reduction for women in Asia-, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 04 September 2019. Access Date: 06 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20190904_10_en.html.

²⁰⁷⁶ Additional fund investment for microfinance institutions targeting women’s empowerment -Contributing to the improvement of financial access and poverty reduction for women in Asia-, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 04 September 2019. Access Date: 06 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20190904_10_en.html.

On 11 September 2019, Japan's Ambassador to Burundi Miyashita Takayuki signed and exchanged a note with Burundian Foreign Minister Ezekiel Nibigira on a gift of food aid consisting of 3700 tons of rice.²⁰⁷⁷ The sale of the donated rice within the country is expected to generate USD3 million to be used in development projects in accordance with the National Development Plan.²⁰⁷⁸

On 25 September 2019, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan Isshu Sugawara announced the "Carbon Recycling 3C Initiative" and also signed the Memorandum of Cooperation on Carbon Recycling between Japan and Australia.²⁰⁷⁹ The initiative is aimed toward the use of carbon dioxide as a fuel and material and includes three specific actions: 1) Promotion of mutual exchange (caravan); 2) establishment of research and development and demonstration base (centre of research); and 3) Promotion of international joint research (collaboration).²⁰⁸⁰

On 26 September 2019, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of the Environment established a joint meeting between the Working Group for the Study for Introducing Fee-incurring Plastic Checkout Bags, and the Subcommittee on the Study for Introducing Fee-incurring Plastic Checkout Bags of the Working Group for a Circular Economy of the Central Environment of the Council.²⁰⁸¹ The goal of this meeting was to further discuss the application of fees to plastic checkout bags and to hold interviews with a wide variety of stakeholders including both consumers and companies involved in the distribution of such bags.²⁰⁸²

On 10 October 2019, Chair of the TCF Consortium and Professor at Hitotsubashi University Kunio Ito announced the Guidance for Utilizing Climate-related Information to promote Green Investment (Green Invest Guidance).²⁰⁸³ This effort aims to realize a "virtuous cycle of environment and growth." The three basic approaches are to "promote constructive dialogue (engagement) with companies, leading to enhanced corporate value," "identify and assess the risks and opportunities posed by climate change," and "promote innovation for decarbonization, and to create mechanisms for appropriate flow of funds."²⁰⁸⁴

On 10 October 2019, JICA signed a grant agreement with the Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic to provide aid of up to JPY1.9 billion for the Project for the Expansion of

²⁰⁷⁷ Japan donates 3 million dollars aid to Burundi Government, RegionWeek (Burundi) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 05 April 2020. <https://regionweek.com/japan-donates-3-million-dollars-aid-to-burundi-government/>.

²⁰⁷⁸ Japan donates 3 million dollars aid to Burundi Government, RegionWeek (Burundi) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 05 April 2020. <https://regionweek.com/japan-donates-3-million-dollars-aid-to-burundi-government/>.

²⁰⁷⁹ Carbon Recycling 3C Initiative, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/pdf/0925_001.pdf.

²⁰⁸⁰ Carbon Recycling 3C Initiative, Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/pdf/0925_001.pdf.

²⁰⁸¹ First Joint Meeting to be Held between: the Working Group for the Study for Introducing Fee-incurring Plastic Checkout Bags under the Waste and Recycling Subcommittee of the Committee on Industrial Science and Technology Policy and Environment of the Industrial Structure Council, METI; and the Subcommittee on the Study for Introducing Fee-incurring Plastic Checkout Bags of the Working Group for a Circular Economy of the Central Environment Council, MOE, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo), 19 September 2019. Access Date: December 11 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0919_002.html.

²⁰⁸² First Joint Meeting to be Held between: the Working Group for the Study for Introducing Fee-incurring Plastic Checkout Bags under the Waste and Recycling Subcommittee of the Committee on Industrial Science and Technology Policy and Environment of the Industrial Structure Council, METI; and the Subcommittee on the Study for Introducing Fee-incurring Plastic Checkout Bags of the Working Group for a Circular Economy of the Central Environment Council, MOE, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo), 19 September 2019. Access Date: December 11 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/0919_002.html.

²⁰⁸³ The Inaugural TCFD Summit Held in Japan, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/1010_004.html.

²⁰⁸⁴ The Inaugural TCFD Summit Held in Japan, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/1010_004.html.

Water Supply System in Luang Prabang City.²⁰⁸⁵ The project will target the water purification plant and distribution facilities in Luang Prabang city and is expected to contribute to sustainable development through the establishment of a safe and stable water supply.²⁰⁸⁶

On 31 October 2019, the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Japan Motegi Toshimitsu took part in the Joint Declaration on Cooperation in the Pacific Islands Region with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand Winston Peters.²⁰⁸⁷ The declaration outlined the implementation of actions such as the Annual Japan-New Zealand Pacific Policy Dialogue and various projects in support of ocean conservation, preventing climate change, and promoting regional connectivity through airports, ports, and information and communication technology.²⁰⁸⁸

On 4 November 2019, Prime Minister Abe attended the 14th East Asia Summit and took part in the East Asian Summit Leaders' Statement on Partnership for Sustainability.²⁰⁸⁹ This declaration required all affiliated countries to take actions toward goals such as to “enhance efforts at reducing poverty, promoting food and water security, [and] ensuring access to safe water and sanitation” as well as “collaboration on energy efficiency and conservation [and] promotion of renewable energy and effective use of all energy sources” among others.²⁰⁹⁰ In regards to these goals, Prime Minister Abe specifically stated that Japan will “promote improvements in energy access and resilience, diversification of energy resources, and cleaner energy technologies.”²⁰⁹¹

On 4 November 2019, Japan launched an initiative aimed at mobilizing USD3 billion from public and private sectors from 2020 to 2022, USD1.2 billion of which were specifically dedicated as an overseas loan and investment for ASEAN by JICA.²⁰⁹² These funds will be targeted toward “quality infrastructure development, improving financial access and supporting women, and green investment.”²⁰⁹³

From 23-24 November 2019, Minister of the Environment of Japan Shinjiro Koizumi partook in the 21st Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting with Minister of the Environment of the Republic Korea Cho Myungrae and Minister of Ecology and Environment of the People's Republic of China

²⁰⁸⁵ Signing of Grant Agreement with Laos: Contributing to the improvement of the urban environment through a stable water supply by expansion of the water supply system, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 05 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20191010_10_en.html.

²⁰⁸⁶ Signing of Grant Agreement with Laos: Contributing to the improvement of the urban environment through a stable water supply by expansion of the water supply system, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 05 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20191010_10_en.html.

²⁰⁸⁷ Japan-New Zealand Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002667.html.

²⁰⁸⁸ Japan-New Zealand Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002667.html.

²⁰⁸⁹ East Asian Summit Leaders' Statement on Partnership for Sustainability, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/rp/page3e_001123.html.

²⁰⁹⁰ East Asian Summit Leaders' Statement on Partnership for Sustainability, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/rp/page3e_001123.html.

²⁰⁹¹ The 14th East Asian Summit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/a_o/rp/page3e_001123.html.

²⁰⁹² Foreign Policy Speech by Foreign Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu on the occasion of The 1st Tokyo Global Dialogue(provisional translation), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) December 2 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/pp/page3e_001133.html.

²⁰⁹³ Foreign Policy Speech by Foreign Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu on the occasion of The 1st Tokyo Global Dialogue(provisional translation), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) December 2 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/pp/page3e_001133.html.

Li Ganjie.²⁰⁹⁴ At the meeting, Minister Koizumi adopted the new priorities for the period from 2020-2024, including air quality improvement, transition to Green Economy, and marine and water environment management and pledged to work with the other ministers to develop the Tripartite Joint Action Plan around the aforementioned pillars.²⁰⁹⁵

On 25 November 2019, the Government of Japan provided humanitarian aid by way of emergency relief goods through the Japan International Cooperation Agency as well as further emergency assistance to the Government of Djibouti, which was done in response to recent heavy rain and flood.²⁰⁹⁶

On 26 November 2019, the Government of Japan implemented the International Disaster Relief Operation by a part of Self-Defense-Forces unit in response in the Gulf of Aden off the coast of Somalia.²⁰⁹⁷ This was done in coordination with the Government of Djibouti in response to the damage caused by recent heavy flooding in order to provide humanitarian aid.²⁰⁹⁸

On 27 November 2019, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Miyamoto Shuji met with Secretary of the Department of Energy, Philippines Alfonso G. Cusi in the First Government-Private Forum on Cleaner Energy Future Initiative for ASEAN and confirmed future Japan-Philippines cooperation.²⁰⁹⁹ Specifically, this will be focused on certain subjects such as “improving electrification accessible by people on islands and low carbonization in the transport sector.”²¹⁰⁰

On 10 December 2019, the Government of Japan extended Emergency Grant Aid of USD14 million to Syria in response to the humanitarian crisis in its North-eastern region.²¹⁰¹ The goal of the grant is to “provide humanitarian assistance in the areas of WASH, health, provision of shelter, blankets and tents, and coordination through four international organizations.”²¹⁰²

²⁰⁹⁴ Joint Communiqué The 21st Tripartite Environment Ministers’ Meeting among Japan, Korea and China 23-24 November 2019, Kitakyushu Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 24 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.env.go.jp/press/files/jp/112838.pdf>.

²⁰⁹⁵ Joint Communiqué The 21st Tripartite Environment Ministers’ Meeting among Japan, Korea and China 23-24 November 2019, Kitakyushu Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 24 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.env.go.jp/press/files/jp/112838.pdf>.

²⁰⁹⁶ Emergency Assistance to Djibouti in Response to the Heavy Rain and Flood Disaster, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 26 November 2019. Access date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002708.html.

²⁰⁹⁷ Dispatch of the Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Team (Japan Self-Defense Force Units) in Response to the Heavy Rain and Flood Disaster in Djibouti, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002709.html.

²⁰⁹⁸ Dispatch of the Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) Team (Japan Self-Defense Force Units) in Response to the Heavy Rain and Flood Disaster in Djibouti, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002709.html.

²⁰⁹⁹ METI Parliamentary Vice-Minister Miyamoto Attends the First CEFIA Government-Private Forum, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/1128_001.html.

²¹⁰⁰ METI Parliamentary Vice-Minister Miyamoto Attends the First CEFIA Government-Private Forum, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 11 December 2019. https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2019/1128_001.html.

²¹⁰¹ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in North-eastern Syria, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002726.html.

²¹⁰² Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in North-eastern Syria, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 10 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002726.html.

On 9 January 2020, JICA signed a loan agreement with the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for up to JPY27.97 billion for the Infrastructure Reconstruction Sector Loan.²¹⁰³ The project is an extension of JICA's ongoing work in Central Sulawesi after the 2018 earthquake and contributes to "rebuilding and constructing infrastructure based on the Build Back Better concept aiming at building disaster-resilient communities."²¹⁰⁴

On 21 January 2020, JICA signed loan agreements with the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to support socioeconomic development through various infrastructure projects.²¹⁰⁵

On 22 January 2020, with the support of JICA and the World Bank with funding from the Ministry of Finance of Japan, the Kenyan Ministry of Health launched the report of the Kenya Harmonised Health Facility Assessment, the Kenya Health Research Observatory, the Kenya Health Research Observatory, and Primary Healthcare Vital Statistics Profile.²¹⁰⁶ The new expansion of scope and real-time available health data is expected to facilitate the assessment and creation of feedback loops for programs put in place to support universal health coverage.²¹⁰⁷

On 10 February 2020, the JICA Digital Transformation Task Force co-hosted the Estonia-JICA Networking Seminar on Digital Ecosystem Building for International Development: Extending "Society 5.0 for SDGs" Beyond Borders with the Government of Estonia.²¹⁰⁸ The objective of the event was to strengthen Estonian-Japanese stakeholder partnerships to "enhance digital transformation in developing countries through international cooperation."²¹⁰⁹

On 14 February 2020, JICA signed a loan agreement with the Republic of Ghana's Cocoa Board for the provision of USD600 million in co-financing by development finance institutions and private

²¹⁰³ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Indonesia: Building disaster-resilient communities in Central Sulawesi by supporting infrastructure reconstruction, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200108_10_en.html.

²¹⁰⁴ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Indonesia: Building disaster-resilient communities in Central Sulawesi by supporting infrastructure reconstruction, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200108_10_en.html.

²¹⁰⁵ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreements with Myanmar: Comprehensive Support for Economic and Social Development, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200121_10_en.html

²¹⁰⁶ Launch of the Report of the Kenya Harmonized Health Facility Assessment and the Kenya Health and Research Observatory, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. <https://www.jica.go.jp/kenya/english/office/topics/200122.html>.

²¹⁰⁷ Launch of the Report of the Kenya Harmonized Health Facility Assessment and the Kenya Health and Research Observatory, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. <https://www.jica.go.jp/kenya/english/office/topics/200122.html>.

²¹⁰⁸ Estonia - JICA Networking Seminar on Digital Ecosystem Building for International Development: Extending "Society 5.0 for SDGs" Beyond Borders, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/20200210_01.html.

²¹⁰⁹ Estonia - JICA Networking Seminar on Digital Ecosystem Building for International Development: Extending "Society 5.0 for SDGs" Beyond Borders, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2019/20200210_01.html.

financial institutions.²¹¹⁰ JICA and the Asian Development Bank, specifically, will jointly provide USD350 million from 2020-2022 in support of the development of Africa's private sector.²¹¹¹

On 19 February 2020, JICA signed a Limited Partnership Agreement to provide financing for "Women's World Banking Capital Partners II," a fund that will finance institutions who deliver financial services to women in developing countries.²¹¹²

On 21 February 2020, JICA signed a grant agreement with the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for up to JPY1.882 billion for the Project for Trenchless Sewerage Pipe Rehabilitation.²¹¹³ The funds are expected to contribute to urgent development of urban environmental infrastructure.²¹¹⁴

On 24 February 2020, JICA signed a grant agreement with the Palestinian Authority to provide grant aid of up to JPY1.955 billion for the Project for the Improvement of Medical Equipment.²¹¹⁵ The project aims to "strengthen the capacity for diagnosis and treatment of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) at core hospitals ... through the supply of medical equipment."²¹¹⁶

On 27 February 2020, JICA signed a loan agreement with the Government of the Republic of Kenya to provide a Japanese ODA loan of up to JPY37.09 billion for the Mombasa Economic Zone Development Project.²¹¹⁷ The objective of the project is to improve the investment environment of the area through the enhancement of transportation capacity and the stabilization of the power supply to the area.²¹¹⁸

On 3 March 2020, Ambassador of Japan to the Federal Republic of Nigeria Kikuta Yutaka signed the Exchange of Notes with Country Representative for Nigeria Comfort Lamptey for approximately

²¹¹⁰ Signing of Loan Agreement for "Cocoa Value Chain Enhancement Project" in Ghana: Contributing to Enhancement of the Agricultural Value Chain and Related Industries, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200221_10_en.html.

²¹¹¹ Signing of Loan Agreement for "Cocoa Value Chain Enhancement Project" in Ghana: Contributing to Enhancement of the Agricultural Value Chain and Related Industries, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200221_10_en.html.

²¹¹² JICA Signs Limited Partnership Agreement to Support Women's World Banking in Expanding Women's Access to Financial Services and Contributing to Empowerment of Women in Developing Countries, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200219_10_en.html.

²¹¹³ Signing of Grant Agreement with Viet Nam: Improvement of water environment by rehabilitating the old drainage and sewer pipes with the trenchless technology, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200221_12_en.html.

²¹¹⁴ Signing of Grant Agreement with Viet Nam: Improvement of water environment by rehabilitating the old drainage and sewer pipes with the trenchless technology, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200221_12_en.html.

²¹¹⁵ Signing of Grant Agreement with Palestine: Contributing to the improvement of medical care services and health finance through the provision of medical equipment, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200226_41.html.

²¹¹⁶ Signing of Grant Agreement with Palestine: Contributing to the improvement of medical care services and health finance through the provision of medical equipment, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200226_41.html.

²¹¹⁷ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with the Republic of Kenya: Contributing to the establishment of a Special Economic Zone at Mombasa, a gateway to East Africa, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200228_41.html.

²¹¹⁸ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with the Republic of Kenya: Contributing to the establishment of a Special Economic Zone at Mombasa, a gateway to East Africa, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200228_41.html.

USD3.3 million in assistance for the Lake Chad region.²¹¹⁹ The multi-year grant is expected to promote “gender equality and women’s empowerment across disaster risk reduction, humanitarian and peace and security with focus on promoting women’s leadership, livelihoods and protection from violence in conflict contexts amplified by climate change.”²¹²⁰

On 04 March 2020, Ambassador Kikuta and Nigerian Minister of State for Budget and National Planning Clem Agba signed an agreement for USD18.2 million from the Japanese government to strengthen the capacity of network laboratories of Nigeria Centre of Disease Control (NCDC).²¹²¹ The funds are part of the commitments made by Prime Minister Abe at the TICAD7 conference and are expected to “strengthen [NCDC’s] surveillance system of infectious diseases and improve capacities for early response to public concerns in the country” through the construction of new laboratories and procurement of new equipment.²¹²²

On 10 March 2020, the Government of Japan extended a total of USD23.7 million through the United Nations High Commission for Refugees to the Republic of Chad, Burkina Faso, the Republic of Niger, and the Republic of Mali as host communities in the Sahel region of refugees and internally displaced persons.²¹²³ The funds are expected to provide humanitarian assistance and the opportunity of education for displaced children.²¹²⁴

On 12 March 2020, Japanese Ambassador to Ghana Himeno Tsutomu and UNICEF representative in Ghana Anne-Claire Dufay signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Project for Improving Nurturing Care through the use of Maternal and Child Health Record Book with Ghana’s Health Minister Kwaku Agyeman-Manu as witness.²¹²⁵ The project will contribute to “the realisation of Ghana’s Universal Coverage roadmap and in addressing the remaining health and nutrition challenges facing young children and mothers.”²¹²⁶

On 24 March 2020, JICA established the Facility for Accelerating Financial Inclusion in Asia, a credit line of up to USD500 million in order to “improve formal financial access mainly in the ASEAN regions, and of empowering women, low-income earners and micro, small and medium

²¹¹⁹ Japan Extends Grant Aid of USD 2.3 Million for Supporting Women and Girls to Withstand Crises, Recovery from the Impact of Crises and Increase Their Resilience in Nigeria and Cameroon, Embassy of Japan in Nigeria (Abuja) 03 March 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. <https://www.ng.emb-japan.go.jp/files/100018832.pdf>.

²¹²⁰ Project: Strengthening Resilience of Women and Girls Affected by Conflicts, Violent Extremism and Climate Change in the Lake Chad Region, United Nations Cameroon (Yaoundé) 05 March 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. <https://cameroon.un.org/en/36948-project-strengthening-resilience-women-and-girls-affected-conflicts-violent-extremism-and>.

²¹²¹ FG, Japan sign \$18.2m agreement to strengthen NCDC labs, Pulse (Lekki) 04 March 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. <https://www.pulse.ng/news/local/fg-japan-sign-dollar182m-agreement-to-strengthen-ncdc-labs/3yvkd6b>.

²¹²² FG, Japan sign \$18.2m agreement to strengthen NCDC labs, Pulse (Lekki) 04 March 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. <https://www.pulse.ng/news/local/fg-japan-sign-dollar182m-agreement-to-strengthen-ncdc-labs/3yvkd6b>.

²¹²³ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html.

²¹²⁴ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html.

²¹²⁵ UNICEF, Japan Embassy sign MoU to improve maternal and child healthcare, Business Financial Times (Accra) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. <https://thebftonline.com/2020/business/companies/unicef-japan-embassy-sign-mou-to-improve-maternal-and-child-healthcare/>.

²¹²⁶ UNICEF, Japan Embassy sign MoU to improve maternal and child healthcare, Business Financial Times (Accra) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. <https://thebftonline.com/2020/business/companies/unicef-japan-embassy-sign-mou-to-improve-maternal-and-child-healthcare/>.

enterprises.”²¹²⁷ The objective of the funding is to empower low-income earners by ensuring secure access to financing during the development of their businesses.²¹²⁸

On 26 March 2020, the Government of Japan provided a total of USD3.2 million in donations to the World Food Programme to support families in Syria against hunger and increase their food security through irrigation rehabilitation and emergency food assistance.²¹²⁹

Japan has taken action to support both the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals through their aid and contributions to green initiatives and development projects. These actions contribute to the African Union Agenda 2063, as they are in partnerships with members of the African Union. Specifically, Japan has made multiple official development assistance grants to African countries and has consistently shared new Japanese technology in order to further accelerate and facilitate the achievement of the seven key aspirations of the 2030 Agenda.

Thus, Japan is awarded a score of +1.

Analyst: Yu Xin (Daisy) Liu

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitments to multiple sustainable development actions that achieve the goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and takes actions that support the African Union Agenda 2063.

On 30 August 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced GBP14 billion funding package for primary and secondary education between from 2019 to 2023, beginning with GBP2.6 billion for the 2020/21 year in order to guarantee quality education as a right to the youth.²¹³⁰ This funding package ensures that every secondary school will receive a minimum of GBP5,000 per pupil starting 2019/20 year. In addition, the package includes GBP700 million extra for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in 2020/21.²¹³¹

On 10 September 2019, the Head of Office for the UK’s Department of International Development (DFID) signed an agreement with the government of Somaliland and Denmark to support the implementation of Phase II of the Somaliland Development Fund programme, which aims to improve lives of local people through the delivery of essential public services, through building of critical infrastructure, such as roads, water systems and agricultural facilities, and capacity-building within Somaliland’s institutions.²¹³² The UK and Somaliland also signed a renewed Memorandum of

²¹²⁷ The establishment of “Facility for Accelerating Financial Inclusion in Asia (FAIA)” (Private Sector Investment and Finance): Improving financial access for developing Asian countries and promoting empowerment of women, low-income earners and micro, small and medium enterprises, Japanese International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 06 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200327_10_en.html.

²¹²⁸ Japan contributions support WFP food assistance in Syria, World Food Programme (Rome) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-contributions-support-wfp-food-assistance-syria>.

²¹²⁹ Japan contributions support WFP food assistance in Syria, World Food Programme (Rome) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 05 April 2020. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-contributions-support-wfp-food-assistance-syria>.

²¹³⁰ Prime Minister boosts schools with £14 billion package, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-boosts-schools-with-14-billion-package>

²¹³¹ Prime Minister boosts schools with £14 billion package, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-boosts-schools-with-14-billion-package>

²¹³² British government signs agreements worth £31 million to support development in Somaliland, Government of UK (London) 11 September. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-government-signs-agreements-worth-31m-to-support-development-in-somaliland>

Understanding to support the implementation of the Energy Security and Resource Efficiency in Somaliland Programme that aims to provide a clean, affordable renewable energy in Somaliland.²¹³³

On 17 September 2019, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State and International Development Minister Baroness Sugg announced a new UK aid of GBP220 million at the Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) NGO [Non-governmental Organization] Network Conference.²¹³⁴ The aid aims to tackle five NTDs, lymphatic filariasis (also known as elephantiasis); onchocerciasis; schistosomiasis; visceral leishmaniasis and trachoma, which can cause disability, death and disfigurement and trap victims in a cycle of poverty, across Southern and Eastern Africa, and South Asia.²¹³⁵

On 23 September 2019, Prime Minister Johnson announced the United Nations General Assembly to double the UK's international climate finance (ICF) funds.²¹³⁶ The ICF refers to UK aid to poorer countries to address the causes of climate change, such as preventing deforestation and reducing carbon emissions, and to deliberate its repercussions, such as developing climate-resilient crops or implementing early-warning systems in areas vulnerable to flooding.²¹³⁷ Prime Minister Johnson launched the Ayrton Fund as part of the ICF, which offers GBP1 billion of aid to British scientists to develop technologies that can help the poorer countries to reduce emissions and meet global climate change targets.²¹³⁸

On 23 September 2019, Prime Minister Johnson announced GBP100 million investment in the new Bio-diverse Landscapes Fund to slow, stop, and reverse biodiversity loss in some of the world's most valuable habitats such as forests and mangroves.²¹³⁹

On 24 September 2019, Prime Minister Johnson announced GBP515 million to fund quality education for 12 million children – half of them girls – to improve women's rights in some of the poorest countries in the world.²¹⁴⁰

On 27 September 2019, International Development Minister Alok Sharma announced a UK aid package will help mobilise GBP500 million in private sector investment and create 50,000 jobs across

²¹³³ British government signs agreements worth £31 million to support development in Somaliland, Government of UK (London) 11 September. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-government-signs-agreements-worth-31m-to-support-development-in-somaliland>

²¹³⁴ New UK aid support to protect 200 million people from debilitating diseases, Government of UK (London) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-support-to-protect-200-million-people-from-debilitating-diseases>

²¹³⁵ New UK aid support to protect 200 million people from debilitating diseases, Government of UK (London) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-support-to-protect-200-million-people-from-debilitating-diseases>

²¹³⁶ UK aid to double efforts to tackle climate change, Government of UK (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-double-efforts-to-tackle-climate-change>

²¹³⁷ UK aid to double efforts to tackle climate change, Government of UK (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-double-efforts-to-tackle-climate-change>

²¹³⁸ UK aid to double efforts to tackle climate change, Government of UK (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-double-efforts-to-tackle-climate-change>

²¹³⁹ Prime Minister announces ambitious package of support to protect and restore the world's forests, Government of UK (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-announces-ambitious-package-of-support-to-protect-and-restore-the-worlds-forests>

²¹⁴⁰ PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, Government of UK (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-effort-to-get-every-girl-in-the-world-into-school>

sub-Saharan Africa to give 12.5 million people across Africa better access to financial services, with a specific focus on providing benefits to women.²¹⁴¹

On 15 October 2019, the UK government introduced a new Environment bill to create a framework for legally binding targets, to move toward a circular resource and waste economy, and to improve air quality, water service, green space, and waste management.²¹⁴²

On 1 November 2019, Chancellor of the Exchequer Sajid Javid announced GBP250 million in funding for the Housing Infrastructure Fund to ensure over 20 000 new homes nationwide have access to the vital infrastructure they need.²¹⁴³

On 5 November 2019, Minister Sharma pledged UK aid support to help vaccinate more than 400 million children a year against polio, with up to GBP400 million funded through the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.²¹⁴⁴

On 16 January 2020, Minister Sharma committed GBP 3.5 million in aid for women's economic empower to extend the SheTrades Commonwealth Programme from the Department for International Development.²¹⁴⁵ As an initiative of the International Trade Center, a joint agency of the United Nations and World Trade Organization, the SheTrades Programme supports African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, creates up to 3 000 jobs in female-run businesses, and empowers women in Ghana, Nigeria, and Kenya.²¹⁴⁶

On 20 January 2020, Minister Sharma announced that the UK is partnering with five African countries to mobilize private sector investment in quality, environmentally-friendly infrastructure projects with low carbon emissions and projects that will be resilient to a changing climate.²¹⁴⁷

On 22 January 2020, DFID provided GBP3 million to the United Nations World Food Programme to help improve food security of Burundian refugees in Mahama Camp in Eastern Rwanda.²¹⁴⁸

On 3 March 2020, International Development Secretary Anne-Marie Trevelyan announced a new GBP89 million UK aid package to help protect people at increasing risk of violence as the conflict in

²¹⁴¹ UK aid to boost access to finance for sub-Saharan Africa, Government of UK (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 1 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-boost-access-to-finance-for-sub-saharan-africa>

²¹⁴² Environment Bill 2019, Government of UK (London) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 7 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-bill-2019>

²¹⁴³ Infrastructure revolution to unlock thousands of new homes, Government of UK (London) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/infrastructure-revolution-to-unlock-thousands-of-new-homes>

²¹⁴⁴ UK Aid to help vaccinate more than 400 million children a year against polio, Government of UK (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 14 Dec 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-help-vaccinate-more-than-400-million-children-a-year-against-polio>

²¹⁴⁵ UK Aid Boosts Support for African Women Entrepreneurs to Expand Businesses into Global Markets, Government of UK (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 4 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>

²¹⁴⁶ UK Aid Boosts Support for African Women Entrepreneurs to Expand Businesses into Global Markets, Government of UK (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 4 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>

²¹⁴⁷ International Development Secretary launches new venture to create rich pipeline of infrastructure projects across Africa, Government of UK (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/international-development-secretary-launches-new-venture-to-create-rich-pipeline-of-infrastructure-projects-across-africa>

²¹⁴⁸ UK Aid Contributes GBP3 Million to Help Feed Burundian Refugees in Rwanda, Government of UK (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-contributes-3-million-to-help-feed-burundian-refugees-in-rwanda>

Syria escalates.²¹⁴⁹ This package will provide basic necessities, facilities to protect women and girls from sexual attacks, emergency access to education facilities, emergency obstetric care, and access to contraception and ‘dignity kits’ for girls, pregnant women, and new mothers.²¹⁵⁰

On 11 March 2020, the UK government pledged up to GBP150 million of UK aid toward the International Monetary Fund’s Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust (CCRT) to help developing countries mitigate economic challenges caused by coronavirus.²¹⁵¹ Eligible countries will receive support if they experience severe decline in national income or government revenues as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.²¹⁵²

On 29 April 2020, the Department for International Development announced new funding and support for Gavi, the Vaccine alliance.²¹⁵³ The International Development Secretary announced a funding pledge of GBP330 million a year over five years to help fund the immunizations of 75 million children in some of the world’s poorest countries.²¹⁵⁴

On 20 May 2020, the United Kingdom announced that it would invest GBP20 million into the new “African Union Covid-19 Response Fund” to help tackle the coronavirus on the continent.²¹⁵⁵ This aid will be used in the African response to the pandemic, as well as to help train African health experts to address the pandemic in Africa.²¹⁵⁶

The United Kingdom has complied with its commitments to multiple sustainable development actions that achieve the goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda and takes actions that support the African Union Agenda 2063, in the economic, social, and environmental aspects of the goals.

Thus, the United Kingdom has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Hillary (Hyunji) Song

²¹⁴⁹ UK Aid Protects Victims of Violence as Syrian Regime increases Attacks in Idlib, Government of UK (London) 4 March 2020. Access Date 8 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-protects-victims-of-violence-as-syrian-regime-increases-attacks-in-idlib>

²¹⁵⁰ UK Aid Protects Victims of Violence as Syrian Regime increases Attacks in Idlib, Government of UK (London) 4 March 2020. Access Date 8 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-protects-victims-of-violence-as-syrian-regime-increases-attacks-in-idlib>

²¹⁵¹ UK Helps World’s Poorest Countries Withstand the Economic Disruption of Coronavirus, Government of UK (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-helps-worlds-poorest-countries-withstand-the-economic-shock-of-coronavirus>

²¹⁵² UK Helps World’s Poorest Countries Withstand the Economic Disruption of Coronavirus, Government of UK (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-helps-worlds-poorest-countries-withstand-the-economic-shock-of-coronavirus>

²¹⁵³ UK leads global fight to protect up to 75 million children against deadly diseases, Government of UK (London) 29 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-global-fight-to-protect-up-to-75-million-children-against-deadly-diseases>

²¹⁵⁴ UK leads global fight to protect up to 75 million children against deadly diseases, Government of UK (London) 29 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-global-fight-to-protect-up-to-75-million-children-against-deadly-diseases>

²¹⁵⁵ UK to work with African Union to slow spread of coronavirus in Africa, Government of UK (London) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-work-with-african-union-to-slow-spread-of-coronavirus-in-africa>

²¹⁵⁶ UK to work with African Union to slow spread of coronavirus in Africa, Government of UK (London) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-work-with-african-union-to-slow-spread-of-coronavirus-in-africa>

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to uphold the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while supporting the African Union's Agenda 2063.

On 5 September 2019, Deputy Secretary of State John Sullivan met with the Argentine Foreign Minister Jorge Faurie to discuss their shared interest in women's empowerment and small business promotion.²¹⁵⁷ Minister Faurie welcomed the Overseas Private Investment Corporation approval of USD400 million in financing to restore and expand the Corredor C Toll Road, an "essential trade route for Argentina's economy."²¹⁵⁸

On 25 September 2019, the United States and the LEGO Foundation announced joint contributions of USD24.5 million to the global Education Cannot Wait (ECW) fund. ECW aims to provide "safe, free and quality education to crisis-affected youth."²¹⁵⁹ Through the partnership with the LEGO Foundation, the United States committed USD12 million and the LEGO Foundation provided a private-sector match of USD12.5 million.²¹⁶⁰

On 3 November 2019, the State Department announced the formation of the Indo-Pacific Transparency Fund as a part of the Indo-Pacific Transparency Initiative that had been created in November 2018.²¹⁶¹ The Transparency Fund will support "projects that promote the rule of law, civic space, and transparent and accountable governance in the advancement of a shared vision of an Indo-Pacific that is secure, open, inclusive, and rules-based."²¹⁶²

On 20 February 2020, the White House, State Department and US African Development Foundation announced funding for the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE).²¹⁶³ In 2020, the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs plans on doubling the size of the program, which is aimed at economically empowering women in the developing world. The additional USD10 million in funding will "provide select AWE graduates in Africa with seed funding to start and scale their enterprises."²¹⁶⁴

²¹⁵⁷ Deputy Secretary Sullivan's Meeting with Argentine Foreign Minister Faurie, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.state.gov/deputy-secretary-sullivans-meeting-with-argentine-foreign-minister-faurie-2/>

²¹⁵⁸ Deputy Secretary Sullivan's Meeting with Argentine Foreign Minister Faurie, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 6 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.state.gov/deputy-secretary-sullivans-meeting-with-argentine-foreign-minister-faurie-2/>

²¹⁵⁹ The U.S. Government and The LEGO Foundation Join Hands to Support Education Cannot Wait, USAID (Washington, D.C.) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.edu-links.org/announcements/us-government-and-lego-foundation-support-education-cannot-wait>

²¹⁶⁰ The U.S. Government and The LEGO Foundation Join Hands to Support Education Cannot Wait, USAID (Washington, D.C.) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.edu-links.org/announcements/us-government-and-lego-foundation-support-education-cannot-wait>

²¹⁶¹ Indo-Pacific Transparency Initiative, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 3 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.state.gov/indo-pacific-transparency-initiative/>

²¹⁶² Indo-Pacific Transparency Initiative, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 3 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.state.gov/indo-pacific-transparency-initiative/>

²¹⁶³ White House, State Department, and U.S. African Development Foundation Announce Funding for the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/white-house-state-department-and-u-s-african-development-foundation-announce-funding-for-the-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>

²¹⁶⁴ White House, State Department, and U.S. African Development Foundation Announce Funding for the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <https://www.state.gov/white-house-state-department-and-u-s-african-development-foundation-announce-funding-for-the-academy-for-women-entrepreneurs/>

On 6 May 2020, the United States committed USD128 million in global health and humanitarian assistance.²¹⁶⁵ This funding includes USD100 million for virus prevention, detection and control, and USD28 million to help prevent the spread of Covid-19 among refugees and migrants.²¹⁶⁶

On 6 May 2020, the Secretary of State announced that the United States would provide almost USD225 million in emergency food assistance to support the World Food Programme in Yemen.²¹⁶⁷

On 20 May 2020, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced USD200 million in humanitarian and development aid for Venezuela and its surrounding region.²¹⁶⁸ This additional aid was a part of an international call for donations to help Venezuelan refugees and migrants during the coronavirus pandemic.²¹⁶⁹

The United States taken some action to implement the 2030 Agenda and support the Africa 2063 Agenda through its support of women's economic empowerment in Africa, but has failed to adequately fulfill all dimensions of the SDGs.

Thus, the United States has received a score of 0.

Analyst: Alexandra Johnston

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to address global challenges, in line with Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and taking into account the African Union Agenda 2063.

On 25 September 2019, European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica committed EUR60 million to assist the Central African Republic implement its peace plan and re-establish basic services for its population.²¹⁷⁰

On 3 October 2019, the European Commission committed EUR27.5 million to assist Senegal with renewable energy projects and sustainable economic development.²¹⁷¹ The programmes aims to

²¹⁶⁵ Additional U.S. Foreign Assistance Builds Up U.S. Leadership in the Global COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 6 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.state.gov/additional-u-s-foreign-assistance-builds-upon-u-s-leadership-in-the-global-covid-19-response/>

²¹⁶⁶ Additional U.S. Foreign Assistance Builds Up U.S. Leadership in the Global COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 6 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.state.gov/additional-u-s-foreign-assistance-builds-upon-u-s-leadership-in-the-global-covid-19-response/>

²¹⁶⁷ Assistant Secretary of State Schenker Leads U.S. Delegation to High-Level Virtual Pledging Conference for Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 2 June 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.state.gov/assistant-secretary-of-state-schenker-leads-u-s-delegation-to-high-level-virtual-pledging-conference-for-humanitarian-crisis-in-yemen/>

²¹⁶⁸ International Donors Conference in Solidarity with Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 26 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.state.gov/international-donors-conference-in-solidarity-with-venezuelan-refugees-and-migrants/>

²¹⁶⁹ International Donors Conference in Solidarity with Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 26 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.state.gov/international-donors-conference-in-solidarity-with-venezuelan-refugees-and-migrants/>

²¹⁷⁰ Central African Republic: EU mobilises additional 60 million euros, European Commission (Brussels) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_19_5813

²¹⁷¹ The European Union is strengthening its partnership with Senegal with €27.5 million, European Commission (Brussels) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_19_5980

support development of renewable energies; and support technical cooperation to improve the implementation of EU cooperation programmes.²¹⁷²

On 27 October 2019, Commissioner Mimica committed EUR53 million to support health care services in Zimbabwe and to promote equal access to health services, especially from a gender perspective.²¹⁷³ Additionally, the new package will also support households and communities that are facing recurrent environmental and economic stresses by building their capacities to respond to food and nutrition security shocks.²¹⁷⁴

On 6 November 2019, the European Commission adopted an EUR79 million aid package to support development in Yemen.²¹⁷⁵ The package will help Yemeni communities such as local councils to improve health services, access to drinking water and food, primary and hospital care sanitation and invest in education.²¹⁷⁶ It will also stimulate the private sector, especially small-scale economic actors, for example in the sector of agri-businesses.²¹⁷⁷

On 1 December 2019, European Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen committed EUR50 million to assist the Democratic Republic of Congo fight Ebola and malnutrition.²¹⁷⁸ The bulk of the funding will provide access to free and quality health care, including for malnutrition, for those living in Ebola affected areas. The remaining amount will help tackle the food security crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo.²¹⁷⁹

On 6 December 2019, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen committed EUR170 million to assist Ethiopia improve healthcare and create sustainable investment and jobs.²¹⁸⁰ This funding will aim to support key economic reforms in the transport and logistic sectors, support the Government of Ethiopia's Health Transformation Plan for three additional years, support

²¹⁷² The European Union is strengthening its partnership with Senegal with €27.5 million, European Commission (Brussels) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_19_5980

²¹⁷³ EU to step up its support to Zimbabwe with a new package of €53 million, European Commission (Brussels) 27 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-step-its-support-zimbabwe-new-package-eu53-million_en

²¹⁷⁴ EU to step up its support to Zimbabwe with a new package of €53 million, European Commission (Brussels) 27 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-step-its-support-zimbabwe-new-package-eu53-million_en

²¹⁷⁵ EU supports Yemen with €79 million to sustain public services and generate job opportunities, European Commission (Brussels) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-supports-yemen-eu79-million-sustain-public-services-and-generate-job_en

²¹⁷⁶ EU supports Yemen with €79 million to sustain public services and generate job opportunities, European Commission (Brussels) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-supports-yemen-eu79-million-sustain-public-services-and-generate-job_en

²¹⁷⁷ EU supports Yemen with €79 million to sustain public services and generate job opportunities, European Commission (Brussels) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-supports-yemen-eu79-million-sustain-public-services-and-generate-job_en

²¹⁷⁸ EU allocates €50 million to fight Ebola and malnutrition in the Democratic Republic of Congo, European Commission (Brussels) 1 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6653

²¹⁷⁹ EU allocates €50 million to fight Ebola and malnutrition in the Democratic Republic of Congo, European Commission (Brussels) 1 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6653

²¹⁸⁰ EU strengthens cooperation with Ethiopia, European Commission (Brussels) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6679

accountability and transparency during the 2020 elections in Ethiopia, and improve the business climate in the country.²¹⁸¹

On 8 December 2019, Commissioner Urpilainen committed EUR31 million to assist Kenya create jobs, promote economic stability, and tackle poverty.²¹⁸² The funding will be directed at reforms of Kenya's public finances to promote economic stability, improve service delivery and tackle poverty, and will target economic cooperation and national policy reforms.²¹⁸³

On 18 December 2020, the European Commission committed EUR30 million for the "AfricaConnect" project, which seeks to provide affordable high-speed internet across Africa for education and research.²¹⁸⁴

On 22 January 2020, Commissioner Urpilainen committed EUR216 million to support renewable energy, urban infrastructure, and start-up firm in Africa, in partnership with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the European Investment Bank.²¹⁸⁵

On 4 February 2020, European Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries Virginijus Sinkevičius committed EUR75 million to the "BlueInvest Fund," which provides financing to businesses involved in maritime renewable energy and sustainable seafood.²¹⁸⁶

On 17 February 2020, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission Frans Timmermans committed EUR101.2 million for environmental and climate projects in Cyprus, Estonia, France, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Slovakia, Czechia, and Spain.²¹⁸⁷

On 17 March 2020, European Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms committed EUR1.4 billion for infrastructure projects in Croatia, Czechia, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Romania, and Spain.²¹⁸⁸ These infrastructure projects collectively demonstrate commitments preserving the environment, combating climate change, and creating employment and economic growth.²¹⁸⁹

On 28 April 2020, the President of the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs participated in the EU-G5 Sahel video conference where they affirmed

²¹⁸¹ EU strengthens cooperation with Ethiopia, European Commission (Brussels) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6679

²¹⁸² EU steps up economic partnership with Kenya to boost job creation, European Commission (Brussels) 8 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-steps-economic-partnership-kenya-boost-job-creation_en

²¹⁸³ EU steps up economic partnership with Kenya to boost job creation, European Commission (Brussels) 8 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-steps-economic-partnership-kenya-boost-job-creation_en

²¹⁸⁴ Africa-Europe Alliance: EU boosts pan-African Internet connectivity with €30 million, European Commission (Brussels) 18 December 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6789

²¹⁸⁵ Africa-Europe Alliance: Four new financial guarantees worth €216 million signed under the EU External Investment Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_96

²¹⁸⁶ European Commission and European Investment Fund launch €75 million BlueInvest Fund, European Commission (Brussels) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_167

²¹⁸⁷ EU invests more than €100 million in new LIFE Programme projects to promote a green and climate-neutral Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_251

²¹⁸⁸ EU Cohesion Policy invests over €1.4 billion in green projects in 7 Member States, European Commission (Brussels) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_462

²¹⁸⁹ EU Cohesion Policy invests over €1.4 billion in green projects in 7 Member States, European Commission (Brussels) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_462

their support for the region in facing the coronavirus pandemic.²¹⁹⁰ As a part of their support, the European Commission announced EUR194 million in aid to support the security, stability and resilience in the region.²¹⁹¹

On 26 May 2020, the European Union took part in the International Donors' Conference in solidarity with Venezuelan refugees and migrants.²¹⁹² At this conference, the European Commission pledged EUR144.2 million for immediate humanitarian assistance, medium and longer-term development assistance and conflict prevention interventions.²¹⁹³

The European Union has committed funds to a variety of sustainable development projects worldwide, especially projects in line with the African Union Agenda 2063.

Thus, the European Union has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Sterling Mancuso

²¹⁹⁰ EU Announces EUR194 million additional support to the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/eu-announces-eu194-million-additional-support-sahel_en

²¹⁹¹ EU Announces EUR194 million additional support to the Sahel, European Commission (Brussels) 28 April 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/eu-announces-eu194-million-additional-support-sahel_en

²¹⁹² EU mobilises international donors to support Venezuelan refugees and migrants and countries in the region, European Commission (Brussels) 26 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/eu-mobilises-international-donors-support-venezuelan-refugees-and-migrants-and-countries-region_en

²¹⁹³ EU mobilises international donors to support Venezuelan refugees and migrants and countries in the region, European Commission (Brussels) 26 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/eu-mobilises-international-donors-support-venezuelan-refugees-and-migrants-and-countries-region_en

13. Development: Entrepreneurship in Africa

2019-28: “We reiterate our willingness to continue to develop entrepreneurship and private sector youth employment in Africa through multilateral initiatives, such as the G20 Compact with Africa and other bilateral initiatives supported by individual G7 members.”

Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership

Assessment

Member	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy	-1		
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.63 (81%)		

Background

With the youngest population in the world, 11 million youth without work and millions more considered to be “working poor,” African youth unemployment threatens economic growth prospects of the continent.²¹⁹⁴ According to the International Labour Organization, of the 38.1 per cent estimated total working poor in sub-Saharan Africa, young people account for 23.5 percent.²¹⁹⁵ Coupled with the fact that Africa also has the fastest growing population in the world, G7 members recognise that “fighting inequality, strengthening governance and promoting inclusive sustainable economic growth, in the framework of a prosperous global economy, and social development are key elements of stability and peace, and are fundamental to ensuring a shared and prosperous future” for all citizens.²¹⁹⁶ Within this context, G7 members reiterate their commitment to support Africa’s priorities based on equal partnership and common goals, taking into account improved competitiveness and business environments across Africa.²¹⁹⁷

In July 2005 during the Gleneagles Summit, UK Prime Minister Tony Blair stated in the final press conference the G8 support pledged to African states through the African Partners Forum and a Joint Action Plan.²¹⁹⁸ Furthermore, G8 members agreed further measures to promote better governance, stability and peace that is needed for the private sector to grow and create jobs. In addition, members pledged to “support investment, enterprise development and innovation” as well as “youth employment, including vocational education and training relevant to market demands.”²¹⁹⁹

²¹⁹⁴ Youth employment in Africa, International Labour Organization, Geneva, Switzerland. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.ilo.org/africa/areas-of-work/youth-employment/lang--en/index.htm>

²¹⁹⁵ Youth employment in Africa, International Labour Organization, Geneva, Switzerland. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.ilo.org/africa/areas-of-work/youth-employment/lang--en/index.htm>

²¹⁹⁶ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership, European Council. 25 August 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/40532/biarritz-declaration-for-a-g7-and-africa-partnership.pdf>

²¹⁹⁷ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership, European Council. 25 August 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/40532/biarritz-declaration-for-a-g7-and-africa-partnership.pdf>

²¹⁹⁸ Chair’s Summary, Final Press Conference, Gleneagles Summit, 8 July 8, 2005. Access Date: 17 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

²¹⁹⁹ Joint Africa Plan, Gleneagles Summit, 8 July 2005. Access Date: 17 November 2019. http://data.unaids.org/topics/universalaccess/postg8_gleneagles_africa_en.pdf

In May 2007, at the Heiligendamm Summit, this was again underscored in the Summit declaration on Africa, whereby it stated G8 commitment to investing in private sector growth, small and medium-sized enterprises, and in efforts to reduce the cost of doing business on the continent.²²⁰⁰

In May 2017 during the Taormina Summit, United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres stated to G7 leaders that “High levels of youth unemployment are not only a tragedy for young people themselves, but can also undermine development and generate frustration and alienation that, in turn, can become a threat to global peace and security.”²²⁰¹ He stressed the need to educate women and girls and called for “moving manufacturing and traditional activities, such as agriculture, higher up the global value chain, as well as investing in infrastructure that links regions, countries and communities.”²²⁰² According to Secretary General Guterres, the international community needs to help the continent adapt as it heads for a new wave of industrialization.²²⁰³

In July 2017, under the G20 presidency of Germany, the G20 Compact for Africa was launched with the aim to increase of private investment through substantial improvements of the macro, business and financing frameworks.²²⁰⁴ Furthermore, the G20 Compact brings together “reform-minded African countries, international organizations and bilateral partners to coordinate country-specific reform agendas, support respective policy measures and advertise investment opportunities to private investors.”²²⁰⁵

Commitment Features

At Biarritz, G7 members pledged their continued commitment to develop entrepreneurship and private sector youth employment in Africa through multilateral and bilateral initiatives. In this regard, the commitment is seen to have four parts, which will measure final compliance.

The first two parts both involve “entrepreneurship” in Africa. Entrepreneurship is defined “as the effort an individual or group of individuals makes to initiate an economic activity under a legal form of business within the formal sector.”²²⁰⁶ The G7 leaders have committed to “developing” entrepreneurship. This will be understood as helping African countries to create a business environment that is conducive to entrepreneurship.²²⁰⁷ One aspect of this environment is whether there is a stable macroeconomic environment. Sound fiscal and monetary policies are necessary so that firms can predictably make the long-term investments necessary for expanding a firm. A second aspect of the environment are the policies and regulations. This can include competition policies

²²⁰⁰ Summit Declaration on Africa, G8 Summit Heiligendamm, 17 May 2007. Access Date: 17 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2007heilgendamm/2007-leaked-africa.pdf>

²²⁰¹ With Africa in spotlight at G7 summit, Secretary-General Guterres urges investment in youth, UN News, 27 May 2017. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2017/05/558282-africa-spotlight-g7-summit-secretary-general-guterres-urges-investment-youth>

²²⁰² With Africa in spotlight at G7 summit, Secretary-General Guterres urges investment in youth, UN News, 27 May 2017. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2017/05/558282-africa-spotlight-g7-summit-secretary-general-guterres-urges-investment-youth>

²²⁰³ With Africa in spotlight at G7 summit, Secretary-General Guterres urges investment in youth, UN News, 27 May 2017. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2017/05/558282-africa-spotlight-g7-summit-secretary-general-guterres-urges-investment-youth>

²²⁰⁴ G20 Compact with Africa, 8 July 2017. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.compactwithafrica.org/content/compactwithafrica/home/about.html>

²²⁰⁵ G20 Compact with Africa, 8 July 2017. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.compactwithafrica.org/content/compactwithafrica/home/about.html>

²²⁰⁶ Entrepreneurship Viewpoint, Financial and Private Sector Development Vice Presidency, World Bank, November 2006. Access Date: 16 November 2019. http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTEXPCOMNET/Resources/FIAS_Note_313.pdf

²²⁰⁷ Promoting Entrepreneurship and Innovative SMEs in a Global Economy, OECD. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/cfe/smes/31919590.pdf>

which protect entry firms from unfair competition by incumbent firms, financial market regulations that ensure entrepreneurs have access to financing, and labor policies that ensure entrepreneurs have ready access to the labor force. By designing them with entrepreneurs in mind, these policies and regulations should avoid becoming a burden that adversely affects entrepreneurial activity. A third aspect of this environment is education and training. The formal education system could provide access to information, skills and expertise relating to entrepreneurship. There can also be training programs outside of the formal education system that provides similar access. A final aspect of the environment are programmes introduced specifically to promote entrepreneurship.²²⁰⁸

What divides the commitment to “develop entrepreneurship” into two parts is whether the development is achieved through multilateral initiatives or bilateral initiatives. Multilateral initiatives involve more than two countries.²²⁰⁹ One example is the G20 Compact with Africa. This initiative brings together governments, would-be-investors, and international organizations to tackle impediments to private investment in Africa. Interested African countries choosing to participate first engage with international organizations to discuss objectives and possible national priorities and contributions. In the second step, countries work with international organizations to create individual Investment Prospectuses for reform and measures to better mobilize private investment.²²¹⁰ In both these steps, countries work with international organizations, which are formed by more than two participating countries. Bilateral initiatives on the other hand involve only two countries, one being at G7 member and the other being an African country.

The latter two parts both involve private sector youth employment in Africa. “Private sector” is defined as businesses owned or controlled by individuals rather than by the government.²²¹¹ The goal is to encourage such businesses to provide meaningful employment for African youth, those aged 15 to 24.²²¹² Measures designed to address short-term issues could include tackling weak aggregate demand, tackle demand-side barriers such as high labor costs, and encouraging employers to expand quality apprenticeship and internship programmes. Measures designed to address long-term issues can include strengthening the education system to prepare young people for the labor market, strengthening vocational education and training for youth already in the labor market, assisting the transition from education to work, and by introducing policies that provide employment protection.²²¹³ Similar to the commitment to “develop entrepreneurship,” the commitment to “develop private sector youth employment” is divided into two parts. Development can occur through multilateral initiatives or bilateral initiatives.

To achieve full compliance, a G7 member must take strong action in most aspects of these compliance. Specifically, they need to strongly meet at least three of the four parts of this commitment (>75%). For example, a G7 member that introduces both multilateral and bilateral initiatives to promote entrepreneurship along with bilateral initiatives to promote private sector youth employment would be fully complying with its commitment. Compliance does not require new initiatives as the wording of the commitment includes the word “continue.” A member will receive

²²⁰⁸ Promoting Entrepreneurship and Innovative SMEs in a Global Economy, OECD. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/cfe/smes/31919590.pdf>

²²⁰⁹ Meaning of multilateral in English, Cambridge Dictionary. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/multilateral>

²²¹⁰ G20 Compact with Africa, 8 July 2017. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.compactwithafrica.org/content/compactwithafrica/home/about.html>

²²¹¹ Types of Business Organisations, BBC. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpx7gdm/revision/1>

²²¹² World Youth Report, United Nations. 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.un.org/development/desa/youth/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/2018/12/WorldYouthReport-2030Agenda.pdf>

²²¹³ The OECD Action Plan for Youth – Giving Youth a Better Start in the Labour Market, OECD. Access Date: 30 November 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/newsroom/Action-plan-youth.pdf>

partial compliance is they meet two of the four parts of this commitment (50%). For example, a G7 member that introduces both multilateral and bilateral initiatives to promote entrepreneurship but no initiatives on private sector youth employment would be partially complying with the commitment. Finally, no compliance will be given to a G7 member that introduces initiatives on only one or two of the four parts of this commitment (<50%).

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member has helped to develop in Africa LESS THAN TWO of the following four parts: entrepreneurship through bilateral actions, entrepreneurship in through multilateral actions, private sector youth employment in through bilateral actions, and private sector youth employment through multilateral actions.
0	G7 member has helped to develop in Africa TWO of the following four parts: entrepreneurship through bilateral actions, entrepreneurship in through multilateral actions, private sector youth employment in through bilateral actions, and private sector youth employment through multilateral actions.
+1	G7 member has helped to develop in Africa MORE THAN TWO of the following four parts: entrepreneurship through bilateral actions, entrepreneurship in through multilateral actions, private sector youth employment in through bilateral actions, and private sector youth employment through multilateral actions.

*Compliance Director: Laila Kanji
Lead Analyst: Amanda Burns*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to take bilateral or multilateral action to support both youth employment and entrepreneurship in Africa.

On 26 August 2019, the Canadian government announced it will invest CAD9.5 million to Mozambique for the initiative, Empowering Adolescent Girls to Learn and Earn (EAGLE).²²¹⁴ This project is located throughout six districts of the Manica and Sofala provinces in Mozambique.²²¹⁵ EAGLE is designed to increase economic empowerment through expanding literacy, numeracy and skills development of 3,000 adolescent mothers and girls with HIV/AIDS or disabilities.²²¹⁶

On 26 August 2019, Canada announced that it will invest CAD12.5 million to the African Guarantee Fund toward Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA).²²¹⁷ Canada's investment in AFAWA will improve access to finance for women entrepreneurs in Africa.²²¹⁸ AFAWA is led by the

²²¹⁴ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>

²²¹⁵ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>

²²¹⁶ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>

²²¹⁷ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>

²²¹⁸ Is Canada Missing the Big Picture? Trudeau and Sustainable Development at G7 Summits (Ottawa) 3 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.mcleodgroup.ca/2019/09/is-canada-missing-the-big-picture/>

African Development Bank, and seeks to change the banking and financial climate for women entrepreneurs in Africa.²²¹⁹

On 10 April 2020, the Government of Canada announced an investment of CAD4.8 million to ACUMEN, an international non-profit organization. ACUMEN invests in companies at early stages through patient capital and provides business support to assist entrepreneurs in reducing poverty.²²²⁰ Canada's investment will help provide leadership training to 200 youths and support businesses led by women in communities affected by conflict.²²²¹

On 10 April 2020, the Government of Canada announced a CAD15 million contribution to TradeMark East Africa (TMEA).²²²² TMEA is an organization working to reduce trade barriers and increase business competitiveness in East Africa.²²²³ Canada's contribution will provide increased economic opportunities for 150,000 women trading cross-border in East Africa.²²²⁴

On 10 April 2020, the Government of Canada announced a CAD8.5 million contribution to RENEW and a CAD12.9 million contribution to Digital Opportunity Trust.²²²⁵ These contributions will focus on supporting youth and women entrepreneurs as well as small and medium-sized businesses in Ethiopia.²²²⁶

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support both youth employment and entrepreneurship in Africa. Canada took action to support youth employment in Africa through its contribution to ACUMEN.²²²⁷ Canada supported entrepreneurship in Africa through investing in RENEW, Digital Opportunity Trust, and TMEA to support women entrepreneurs in Africa.²²²⁸

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Lisa Hub

²²¹⁹ Is Canada Missing the Big Picture? Trudeau and Sustainable Development at G7 Summits (Ottawa) 3 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.mcleodgroup.ca/2019/09/is-canada-missing-the-big-picture/>

²²²⁰ About ACUMEN. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://acumen.org/about/>

²²²¹ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

²²²² Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

²²²³ About our organization. 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.trademarka.com/who-we-are/>

²²²⁴ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

²²²⁵ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

²²²⁶ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

²²²⁷ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

²²²⁸ Canada working with partners in Africa to advance shared priorities (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2020/02/10/canada-working-partners-africa-advance-shared-priorities>

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to work with the African continent in supporting youth employment and entrepreneurship in Africa.

On 24 August 2019, French President Emmanuel Macron and G7 members leaders approved a financial package totalling USD251 million to support the African Development Bank (AfDB)'s Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) initiative to support women entrepreneurs in Africa.²²²⁹ The AFAWA programme aims to work with African banks to establish a financing mechanism for African women entrepreneurs.²²³⁰

On 28 October 2019, AfDB partnered with the Association for the Right to Economic Initiatives (ADIE) to support a study on informal workers in the neighbourhoods of New Caledonia.²²³¹ It aims to quantify the informal economy and promote entrepreneurship in the region.²²³²

On 9 December 2019, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) launched a new EUR15 million seed fund to expand Africa's digital ecosystem and support African start-ups.²²³³ This Digital Africa seed fund is part of the Choose Africa initiative through which AFD Group has committed to allocating EUR2.5 billion to African start-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises by 2022.²²³⁴ The Digital Africa seed will finance six programs, including two professionalization and capacity building programs, to accompany and fund digital start-ups and will also permit youth employment in the private sector.²²³⁵

On 31 January 2020, France, along with Digital Africa, gave 1000 African entrepreneurs the opportunity to participate in the Africa-France Summit in Bordeaux, France, from 4 to 6 June 2020.²²³⁶ The summit will enable African entrepreneurs to present their projects and solutions for sustainable cities and territories.²²³⁷

²²²⁹ G20 – Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne's participation in the G20 Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers (Nagoya, 22-23 November 2019), France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 23 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g20-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-s-participation-in-the-g20-meeting-of-foreign-affairs>

²²³⁰ G20 – Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne's participation in the G20 Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers (Nagoya, 22-23 November 2019), France Diplomatie Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 23 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/economic-diplomacy-foreign-trade/news/article/g20-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-s-participation-in-the-g20-meeting-of-foreign-affairs>

²²³¹ AFD and ADIE launching a study to promote entrepreneurship in New Caledonia, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 28 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/afd-and-adie-launch-study-promote-entrepreneurship-new-caledonia>

²²³² AFD and ADIE launching a study to promote entrepreneurship in New Caledonia, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 28 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/afd-and-adie-launch-study-promote-entrepreneurship-new-caledonia>

²²³³ AFD Group: Driver for African Start-Ups, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups>

²²³⁴ AFD Group: Driver for African Start-Ups, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups>

²²³⁵ AFD Group: Driver for African Start-Ups, Agence Française de Développement (Paris) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/afd-group-driver-african-start-ups>

²²³⁶ Africans Entrepreneurs: Take part in Challenge of 1,000 at the Africa-France 2020 Summit. 20 November 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://ke.ambafrance.org/Africans-entrepreneurs-take-part-in-Challenge-of-1-000-at-the-Africa-France>

²²³⁷ Africans Entrepreneurs: Take part in Challenge of 1,000 at the Africa-France 2020 Summit. 20 November 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://ke.ambafrance.org/Africans-entrepreneurs-take-part-in-Challenge-of-1-000-at-the-Africa-France>

On 3 April 2020, applications opened for the French-African Foundation Young Leaders Program in France and Senegal.²²³⁸ The Young Leaders program was created to support new generations of leaders in Africa.²²³⁹ The program will be held under the double patronage of President Macron, and the President Nana Akufo-Addo of Ghana.²²⁴⁰

France has fully complied with its commitment as it has supported entrepreneurship through both bilateral and multilateral actions, as well as private sector youth employment.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Minh-Anh (Mia) Nguyen

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to work with the African continent in supporting youth employment and entrepreneurship in Africa.

On 18 November 2019, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) launched the Africa Cloud initiative, which offers e-learning opportunities to young people in remote and rural areas of Africa.²²⁴¹ The content of these courses, aimed at vocational trainers, young farmers and digital entrepreneurs, will be developed locally and can be downloaded onto a computer or smartphone, with local partners and a coach offering learners support.²²⁴²

On 19 November 2019, Development Minister Gerd Müller announced the signing of new reform partnership agreements with Senegal and Ethiopia, focussed on ownership, private investment, vocational education and employment, so as to make sure that Africa's young people have a future in Africa.²²⁴³ Funding under this agreement will be disbursed once agreed reforms have been implemented.²²⁴⁴

On 7 December 2019, Enpact, a Berlin-headquartered non-profit organization, announced the launch of a special edition of the organization's mentoring programme, dedicated to supporting high potential technology businesses in scaling and creating strategic international partnerships in Europe and Africa.²²⁴⁵ The initiative is under the Strategy Partnership Digital Africa (SPDA), funded by the

²²³⁸ French-African Foundation Young Leaders Program in France and Senegal (Ghana). 23 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.mladiinfo.eu/2020/03/23/french-african-foundation-young-leaders-program-france-senegal/>

²²³⁹ French-African Foundation Young Leaders Program in France and Senegal (Ghana). 23 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.mladiinfo.eu/2020/03/23/french-african-foundation-young-leaders-program-france-senegal/>

²²⁴⁰ French-African Foundation Young Leaders Program in France and Senegal (Ghana). 23 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.mladiinfo.eu/2020/03/23/french-african-foundation-young-leaders-program-france-senegal/>

²²⁴¹ Minister Müller announces launch of Africa Cloud initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). 18 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191118_pm_065_Minister-Mueller-announces-launch-of-Africa-Cloud-initiative

²²⁴² Minister Müller announces launch of Africa Cloud initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). 18 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191118_pm_065_Minister-Mueller-announces-launch-of-Africa-Cloud-initiative

²²⁴³ Minister Müller on the G20 Africa summit: Our offer for the private sector stands, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). 19 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191119_pm_067_Minister-Mueller-on-the-G20-Africa-summit-Our-offer-for-the-private-sector-stands

²²⁴⁴ Minister Müller on the G20 Africa summit: Our offer for the private sector stands, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). 19 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191119_pm_067_Minister-Mueller-on-the-G20-Africa-summit-Our-offer-for-the-private-sector-stands

²²⁴⁵ International Mentoring 2020: Apply Now! (Berlin). 7 December 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.enpact.org/blog/news/international-mentoring-apply/#/>

Federal Ministry of economic Cooperation and Development and coordinated by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).²²⁴⁶

On 19 December 2019, GIZ Egypt and Enpact Egypt held the Demo Day for the first cycle of their entrepreneurial support program, Founders' Support, at Startup Haus Cairo.²²⁴⁷ Founders' Support is an entrepreneurial program that provides financial support and mentoring for entrepreneurs in Egypt in their first year of business.²²⁴⁸

On 24 January 2020, the German Federal Government together with the African Union Commission (AUC) launched the second open call for project proposals under the African-German Youth Initiative Innovation Fund.²²⁴⁹ The aim of the fund is to improve and innovate youth exchange and mobility between African countries and Germany and to develop competencies and skills among young talents from African countries.²²⁵⁰

On 19 February 2020, BET Ghana organized the 8th annual conference on "Universities, Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development in Africa."²²⁵¹ The conference aims to increase knowledge transfer between entrepreneurship in Africa and private sector academic to support African and German small and medium-sized enterprises in Africa.²²⁵² The conference and BET Ghana project are funded by BMZ.²²⁵³

On 29 February 2020, GIZ and BMZ supported the WeCode programming academy and #eSkills4Girls initiative through launching eight digital projects in eight African countries.²²⁵⁴ These include the WeCode programming academy in Rwanda, where women learn to develop their own apps and other solutions. WeCode also employs graduating women for six months following program completion.²²⁵⁵

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to work with the African continent in supporting youth employment and entrepreneurship in Africa through both bilateral and multilateral initiatives.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Minh-Anh (Mia) Nguyen

²²⁴⁶ International Mentoring 2020: Apply Now! (Berlin). 7 December 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020.

<https://www.enpact.org/blog/news/international-mentoring-apply/#/>

²²⁴⁷ Founder' Support program concludes pilot cycle with ten-enabled startups in Egypt (Egypt). 19 December 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.enpact.org/blog/news/founders-support-program-concludes-pilot-cycle-with-ten-tech-enabled-startups-in-egypt/#/>

²²⁴⁸ Founder' Support program concludes pilot cycle with ten-enabled startups in Egypt (Egypt). 19 December 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.enpact.org/blog/news/founders-support-program-concludes-pilot-cycle-with-ten-tech-enabled-startups-in-egypt/#/>

²²⁴⁹ Call for Proposal: African-German Youth Initiative (AGYI) Innovation Fund 2020 (12,000 Euros). 24 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/agi-innovation-fund-2020/>

²²⁵⁰ Call for Proposal: African-German Youth Initiative (AGYI) Innovation Fund 2020 (12,000 Euros). 24 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/agi-innovation-fund-2020/>

²²⁵¹ 8th Conference "Universities, Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development in Africa" (19-20 February 2020). 19 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.h-brs.de/en/entrepreneurship-conference>

²²⁵² 8th Conference "Universities, Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development in Africa" (19-20 February 2020). 19 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.h-brs.de/en/entrepreneurship-conference>

²²⁵³ 8th Conference "Universities, Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development in Africa" (19-20 February 2020). 19 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.h-brs.de/en/entrepreneurship-conference>

²²⁵⁴ Digital Equality: GIZ promotes women in Africa's tech industry. 28 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/press/83548.html>

²²⁵⁵ Digital Equality: GIZ promotes women in Africa's tech industry. 28 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.giz.de/en/press/83548.html>

Italy: -1

Italy has failed to comply with its commitment to take bilateral or multilateral action to support both youth employment and entrepreneurship in Africa.

No bilateral nor multilateral action has been taken to support either youth employment or entrepreneurship in Africa.

Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of -1.²²⁵⁶

Analyst: Matthew Kieffer

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to take bilateral or multilateral action to support both youth employment and entrepreneurship in Africa.

On 30 August 2019, Japan announced in the Yokohama Declaration that the country will continue to provide business training through the African Business Education Initiative for Youth (ABE Initiative), in order to strengthen micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in Africa for job creation and entrepreneurship.²²⁵⁷ Japan also announced its support to African students in Japan and ABE Initiative graduates in finding employment in Japanese companies.²²⁵⁸

On 30 August 2019, Japan announced in the Yokohama Declaration that the country will continue to develop Africa's private sector prioritizing youth and women's entrepreneurship at the 2019 Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7).²²⁵⁹

On 30 August 2019, Japan confirmed its contribution to the African Guarantee Fund toward Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA), through Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative and Japanese International Cooperation Agency private-sector investment.²²⁶⁰ Japan's investment in AFAWA will improve access to finance for women entrepreneurs in Africa.²²⁶¹

On 24 February 2020, Japan's Ambassador Masahiro Imai and Yuko Yokomizo signed a grant contract with the project coordinator for Community Road Empowerment for the "Sustainable Youth Employment through Road Improvement using Locally Available Material Based Approach (3rd Phase)" project.²²⁶² The contract indicates up to a USD288,566 provision from the Embassy of

²²⁵⁶ This non-compliance was determined after research through the following websites: www.governo.it, www.lavoro.gov.it, www.esteri.it, www.senato.it, www.camera.it, www.finanze.gov, www.italcomm.com, www.iai.it, www.agi.it, www.parlamento.it, www.palazzochigi.it.

²²⁵⁷ Yokohama Declaration 2019, Advancing Africa's Development through People, Technology and Innovation (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf

²²⁵⁸ TICAD7: Japan's Contribution for Africa (Tokyo) August 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7_torikumi_en.pdf

²²⁵⁹ TICAD7: Japan's Contribution for Africa (Tokyo) August 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/ticad7_torikumi_en.pdf

²²⁶⁰ Yokohama Declaration 2019, Advancing Africa's Development through People, Technology and Innovation (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf

²²⁶¹ Yokohama Declaration 2019, Advancing Africa's Development through People, Technology and Innovation (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad/ticad7/pdf/yokohama_declaration_en.pdf

²²⁶² The Signing Ceremony for the project of "Sustainable Youth Employment through Road Improvement taking Locally Available Material Based Approach (3rd Phase)" (Tokyo) March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.rw.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/11_000001_00012.html

Japan to CORE for training on-site road repair and creating non-agricultural employment opportunities for Rwandan youth.²²⁶³

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to support both youth employment and entrepreneurship in Africa. Japan supported youth employment in Africa through the ABE Initiative and supported entrepreneurship in Africa through investing in AFAWA to finance women entrepreneurs in Africa and through its TICAD7 commitments.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Lisa Hub

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitments to support entrepreneurship and youth employment in Africa.

On 5 August 2019, the Department for International Development (DFID) reinforced its group of “sector development” initiatives, including the ongoing Kenya Market Assistance Programme, which has a budget of GBP48.2 million from 2012 to 2020.²²⁶⁴ One of the programme’s components is youth employment.²²⁶⁵

On 28 August 2019, DFID announced that Unilever is receiving aid from the United Kingdom to support female entrepreneurs in Africa to start their own businesses.²²⁶⁶

On 27 September 2019, the UK announced that it would invest GBP90 million into Financial Sector Deepening Africa, a non-profit that informs the poorest Africans about how to handle their money.²²⁶⁷ The money being invested by the UK will mobilize GBP500 million in private sector investment.²²⁶⁸ Both the aid package and private investment will allow for small financial services businesses and entrepreneurs to expand their companies.²²⁶⁹

²²⁶³ The Signing Ceremony for the project of “Sustainable Youth Employment through Road Improvement taking Locally Available Material Based Approach (3rd Phase)” (Tokyo) March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.rw.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/11_000001_00012.html

²²⁶⁴ Overview of sector transformation programmes funded by DFID, Institute of Development Studies (Falmer) 05 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/dfid-research-outputs/overview-of-sector-transformation-programmes-funded-by-dfid>.

²²⁶⁵ Overview of sector transformation programmes funded by DFID, Institute of Development Studies (Falmer) 05 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5d9b4e97e5274a5a29d7c22a/617_Sector_Transformation_Programme_s.pdf.

²²⁶⁶ International Development Secretary to boost infrastructure in the poorest countries with UK aid, Department for International Development (London) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://dfidnews.blog.gov.uk/2019/08/28/international-development-secretary-to-boost-infrastructure-in-the-poorest-countries-and-help-create-our-future-trading-partners/>.

²²⁶⁷ UK aid to boost access to finance for sub-Saharan Africa, Department for International Development (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-boost-access-to-finance-for-sub-saharan-africa>.

²²⁶⁸ UK aid to boost access to finance for sub-Saharan Africa, Department for International Development (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-boost-access-to-finance-for-sub-saharan-africa>.

²²⁶⁹ UK aid to boost access to finance for sub-Saharan Africa, Department for International Development (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-to-boost-access-to-finance-for-sub-saharan-africa>.

On 4 October 2019, the UK announced it would continue its majority funding to GuarantCo, which offers “innovative local currency contingent credit solutions.”²²⁷⁰ An example of these credit solutions is providing “guarantees” to investor groups if they offer support to “local capital markets.”²²⁷¹ This is an example of the UK providing financial support to small and medium enterprises by encouraging private sector investment.²²⁷²

On 20 January 2020, the UK government hosted the UK-Africa Investment Summit, which brought together key stakeholders, including senior bureaucrats of various African governments, African and British businesses, investors, and international organisations.²²⁷³ The Minister of State for Africa mentioned that the Summit was meant to encourage investment in Africa.²²⁷⁴

On 20 January 2020, at the UK-Africa Summit, the UK pledged to provide GBP3.5 million for the SheTrades programme.²²⁷⁵ This programme helps female entrepreneurs with developing their business.²²⁷⁶ The SheTrades programme expansion will include “specialist business training” for the female entrepreneurs.²²⁷⁷

On 21 January 2020, the UK and Kenya issued a joint statement on a new strategic partnership from 2020-2025 that will focus on five areas, and has EUR400 million ready to be dispersed.²²⁷⁸ Under the fifth pillar, called people to people, the UK and Kenya will work together to invigorate new innovation and entrepreneurship.²²⁷⁹

On 1 March 2020, the UK government received proposals from businesses that had the potential to offer many jobs in the future.²²⁸⁰ Each business proposal that was accepted would receive “grant funding and technical assistance.”²²⁸¹ The funding, worth GBP5 million in total, will be distributed

²²⁷⁰ Kenya closes its first ever green bond, British High Commissioner of Nairobi (Nairobi) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/kenya-closes-its-first-ever-green-bond>.

²²⁷¹ Kenya closes its first ever green bond, British High Commissioner of Nairobi (Nairobi) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/kenya-closes-its-first-ever-green-bond>.

²²⁷² Kenya closes its first ever green bond, British High Commissioner of Nairobi (Nairobi) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/kenya-closes-its-first-ever-green-bond>.

²²⁷³ UK-Africa Summit 2020 - UK Government Statement, UK Government (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf.

²²⁷⁴ Minister for Africa's speech at UN Global Compact event, Department for International Development (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/minister-of-state-speech-at-un-global-compact-event>.

²²⁷⁵ UK-Africa Summit 2020 - UK Government Statement, UK Government (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf.

²²⁷⁶ UK-Africa Summit 2020 - UK Government Statement, UK Government (London) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/859314/2020_01_20_AIS_-_UK_Government_Statement_-_Final_Version.pdf.

²²⁷⁷ UK aid boosts support for African women entrepreneurs to expand businesses into global markets, Department for International Development (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-boosts-support-for-african-women-entrepreneurs-to-expand-businesses-into-global-markets>.

²²⁷⁸ UK-Kenya Strategic Partnership 2020-2025: joint statement, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-kenya-strategic-partnership-2020-2025>.

²²⁷⁹ UK-Kenya Strategic Partnership 2020-2025: joint statement, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-kenya-strategic-partnership-2020-2025>.

²²⁸⁰ UK launches second call for proposals for Business Innovation Challenge in Kenya, British High Commissioner (Nairobi) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-second-call-for-proposals-for-business-innovation-challenge-in-kenya>.

²²⁸¹ UK launches second call for proposals for Business Innovation Challenge in Kenya, British High Commissioner (Nairobi) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-second-call-for-proposals-for-business-innovation-challenge-in-kenya>.

through the Kenya Catalytic Jobs Fund.²²⁸² The goal of this Fund is to help enterprises that could provide employment for youth and vulnerable populations.²²⁸³ The program is four years in length.²²⁸⁴

The UK has multilaterally promoted entrepreneurship through the UK-Africa Investment Summit, and bilaterally through the strategic partnership with Kenya. The UK has bilaterally promoted private sector youth employment through the Kenya Catalytic Jobs Fund.

Thus, the UK receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mark Edwards

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to take bilateral or multilateral action to support both youth employment and entrepreneurship in Africa.

On 26 September 2019, Senator Lindsey Graham introduced S.2583, the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020.²²⁸⁵ The Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Fiscal Year 2020 Congressional Budget Justification shows the congressional appropriation to the United States African Development Foundation (USADF) dropping from USD30 million in 2018 to USD4.628 million in 2020.²²⁸⁶

On 27 September 2019, USADF and Nigeria signed a memorandum of understanding agreeing to a five-year partnership.²²⁸⁷ The partnership commits both countries to invest USD1 million annually toward the development of small and medium sized enterprises in the Niger State, with an emphasis on youth and women.²²⁸⁸

On 23 January 2020, USADF, in conjunction with the United States Agency for International Development announced plans to award a total of USD400 thousand in grant funding to young African social entrepreneurs in 22 Sub-Saharan countries.²²⁸⁹

²²⁸² UK launches second call for proposals for Business Innovation Challenge in Kenya, British High Commissioner (Nairobi) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-second-call-for-proposals-for-business-innovation-challenge-in-kenya>.

²²⁸³ About Us, Kenya Catalytic Jobs. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://kenyacatalyticjobsfund.org/about-us/>.

²²⁸⁴ UK launches second call for proposals for Business Innovation Challenge in Kenya, British High Commissioner (Nairobi) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-second-call-for-proposals-for-business-innovation-challenge-in-kenya>.

²²⁸⁵ S.2583 — Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020, United States Congress (Washington) 26 September 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2583/summary>.

²²⁸⁶ FY 2020 Congressional Budget Justification — Foreign Operations, U.S. Agency for International Development (Washington) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1881/FY-2020-CBJ-State-and-USAID-Appendix-2.pdf>.

²²⁸⁷ USADF and the Government of Niger State (Nigeria) Announce \$10 Million Co-Funding Agreement During UNGA, United States African Development Foundation (New York) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/2019/9/27/usadf-and-government-of-niger-state-nigeria-announce-co-funding-agreement>.

²²⁸⁸ USADF and the Government of Niger State (Nigeria) Announce \$10 Million Co-Funding Agreement During UNGA, United States African Development Foundation (New York) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 8 December 2019. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases/2019/9/27/usadf-and-government-of-niger-state-nigeria-announce-co-funding-agreement>

²²⁸⁹ USADF, USAID, and Citi Foundation Team up to Invest in Young African Social Entrepreneurs, United States African Development Foundation (New York) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases?offset=1582038120558>

On 10 February 2020, USADF and Kebbi State, Nigeria pledged a collective USD10 million over five years to provide seed capital and technical assistance to local agribusinesses.²²⁹⁰ The partnership will focus on the development of small and medium sized enterprises and increase their competitiveness in regional, national, and international markets.²²⁹¹

On 12 February 2020, the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund partnered with USADF and awarded grants to 11 vocational training centres.²²⁹² These centres will provide necessary skills to 15,000 youth in Lagos State over the next five years, allowing them to take advantage of employment opportunities.²²⁹³

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to take bilateral and multilateral action to support both youth employment and entrepreneurship in Africa, noting that it has reduced congressional appropriation to the USADF for supporting these initiatives.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Matthew Kieffer

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitments to support entrepreneurship and youth employment in Africa.

On 11 September 2019, the EU and African Union (AU) alliance invested EUR17.6 million in Erasmus+, a program that allows for university exchanges between many African and European countries.²²⁹⁴ The goal of the alliance's partnership is "investing in people by investing in education and skills."²²⁹⁵

On 19 September 2019, the EU independently announced an initiative, called BEE-LIEVE to help women and landless youth who are considered "smallholder" beekeepers.²²⁹⁶ This initiative works on

²²⁹⁰ USADF and the Governor of Kebbi State, Nigeria kickoff 10 Million Dollar Partnership to Support Local Agribusiness, United States African Development Foundation (New York) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases?offset=1583954220043>

²²⁹¹ USADF and the Governor of Kebbi State, Nigeria kickoff 10 Million Dollar Partnership to Support Local Agribusiness, United States African Development Foundation (New York) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases?offset=1583954220043>

²²⁹² LSETF, USADF Award Grants to 11 Vocational Training Centres for Youth Capacity Building, United States African Development Foundation (New York) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases?offset=1582740218369>

²²⁹³ LSETF, USADF Award Grants to 11 Vocational Training Centres for Youth Capacity Building, United States African Development Foundation (New York) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.usadf.gov/pressreleases?offset=1582740218369>

²²⁹⁴ Erasmus+: EU boosts participation of African students and staff in 2019, The Africa-EU Partnership (Brussels). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_5547

²²⁹⁵ Erasmus+: EU boosts participation of African students and staff in 2019, The Africa-EU Partnership (Brussels). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_5547

²²⁹⁶ Beekeepers Economic Empowerment through long-Term Investments in Entrepreneurship and Value chain in Ethiopia, European Union External Action (Brussels). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67604/beekeepers-economic-empowerment-throughlong-term-investments-entrepreneurship-and-value-chain_en

“improving the technical, business and entrepreneurial skills of small producers and other value chain actors and supporters” and offers capacity building for entrepreneurs.²²⁹⁷

On 18 December 2019, the EU stated that it will be entering the third phase of a project that creates quality Internet for research institutes and student groups.²²⁹⁸ This third phase will have EUR30 million in funding.²²⁹⁹ The press release backgrounder outlined how “research and innovation environments” can better the job prospects and enhance the work abilities of youth.²³⁰⁰

On 21 January 2020, the EU announced EUR5 million for the Babban Gona, which is a Nigerian co-operative of farmers.²³⁰¹ The Babban Gona offers “education and training in sustainable farming practices, provision of high quality affordable agricultural inputs, provision of storage facilities, as well as marketing and distribution support.”²³⁰² The Babban Gona is intended to generate employment for youth and limit “insecurity.”²³⁰³

On 28 January 2020, the EU held an awards ceremony for the Women Entrepreneurs Contest, providing each winning contestant with EUR5000.²³⁰⁴ During the contest the participants were given mentoring, seed funding, and capacity building.²³⁰⁵

On 30 January 2020, the EU, Somaliland, and the Municipality of Berbera presented the Berbera Urban Development Project.²³⁰⁶ This initiative gives EUR7.5 million to “support inclusive and

²²⁹⁷ Beekeepers Economic Empowerment through long-Term Investments in Entrepreneurship and Value chain in Ethiopia, European Union External Action (Brussels). 19 September 2019. Access Date: 13 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67604/beekeepers-economic-empowerment-throughlong-term-investments-entrepreneurship-and-value-chain_en.

²²⁹⁸ Africa-Europe Alliance: EU boosts pan-African Internet connectivity with €30 million, Delegation of the European Union to the African Union (Brussels) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/african-union-au/72341/africa-europe-alliance-eu-boosts-pan-african-internet-connectivity-€30-million_en.

²²⁹⁹ Africa-Europe Alliance: EU boosts pan-African Internet connectivity with €30 million, Delegation of the European Union to the African Union (Brussels) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/african-union-au/72341/africa-europe-alliance-eu-boosts-pan-african-internet-connectivity-€30-million_en.

²³⁰⁰ Africa-Europe Alliance: EU boosts pan-African Internet connectivity with €30 million, Delegation of the European Union to the African Union (Brussels) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/african-union-au/72341/africa-europe-alliance-eu-boosts-pan-african-internet-connectivity-€30-million_en.

²³⁰¹ EU's EDFI AgriFI invests €5 million in Babban Gona to bring entrepreneurship to Nigerian agriculture, Delegation of the European Union to South Africa (Brussels) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/south-africa/73265/eus-edfi-agrifi-invests-€5-million-babban-gona-bring-entrepreneurship-nigerian-agriculture_en.

²³⁰² EU's EDFI AgriFI invests €5 million in Babban Gona to bring entrepreneurship to Nigerian agriculture, Delegation of the European Union to South Africa (Brussels) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/south-africa/73265/eus-edfi-agrifi-invests-€5-million-babban-gona-bring-entrepreneurship-nigerian-agriculture_en.

²³⁰³ EU's EDFI AgriFI invests €5 million in Babban Gona to bring entrepreneurship to Nigerian agriculture, Delegation of the European Union to South Africa (Brussels) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/south-africa/73265/eus-edfi-agrifi-invests-€5-million-babban-gona-bring-entrepreneurship-nigerian-agriculture_en.

²³⁰⁴ Awards Ceremony of the Women Entrepreneurs Contest, Delegation of the European Union to the African Union (Tunis) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/african-union-au/73566/awards-ceremony-women-entrepreneurs-contest_en.

²³⁰⁵ Awards Ceremony of the Women Entrepreneurs Contest, Delegation of the European Union to the African Union (Tunis) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/african-union-au/73566/awards-ceremony-women-entrepreneurs-contest_en.

sustainable development of the coastal city.”²³⁰⁷ One of the ways that this will be accomplished is by encouraging entrepreneurship and new jobs.²³⁰⁸ The EU Ambassador emphasized the Project’s importance in providing “improved decent work and business activity” for youth and other groups.²³⁰⁹

The EU has multilaterally promoted private sector youth employment by supporting Internet development for research and education networks in Africa, and bilaterally through the Babban Gona partnership and the Berbera Urban Development Project. The EU has bilaterally promoted entrepreneurship through the Berbera Urban Development Project and multilaterally through the Women Entrepreneurs Contest.

Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mark Edwards

²³⁰⁶ Berbera Urban Development Project, Delegation of the European Union to South Africa (Nairobi) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/south-africa/73681/blank>.

²³⁰⁷ Berbera Urban Development Project, Delegation of the European Union to South Africa (Nairobi) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/south-africa/73681/blank>.

²³⁰⁸ Berbera Urban Development Project, Delegation of the European Union to South Africa (Nairobi) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/south-africa/73681/blank>.

²³⁰⁹ Berbera Urban Development Project, Delegation of the European Union to South Africa (Nairobi) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/south-africa/73681/blank>.

14. Trade: World Trade Organization Reform

“[Therefore, the G7 wishes to overhaul the WTO [World Trade Organization] to improve effectiveness of eliminating] unfair trade practices.”

G7 Biarritz Leaders' Declaration

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy	-1		
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.50 (75%)		

Background

In October 1947, the first international trade regulation agreement was signed, known as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).²³¹⁰ The agreement came into effect on January 1948 and regulated international trade until January 1995, when it was replaced by an institution with wider breadth: the World Trade Organization (WTO).²³¹¹ While GATT focused on reciprocal reductions in tariffs on manufactured goods, the WTO also included measures relating to non-tariff trade barriers, such as subsidy policies and regulatory standards.²³¹² At the Uruguay Round in 1994, the WTO introduced new measures and policies intended to mitigate unfair trade practices and allow countries to fight against unfair trade practices within WTO framework through a dispute settlement process.²³¹³ These policies included the Anti-Dumping Agreement, Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, Safeguards, Trade Policy Review Mechanism, Dispute Settlement Understanding, and several industry-specific measures to ensure fair practices across all industries around the world.²³¹⁴

Discussions regarding unfair trade practices first appeared in the 1982 G7 summit in Versailles, where leaders pledged to “rule out the use of [their] exchange rates to gain unfair competitive advantages.”²³¹⁵ After the Versailles Summit, “unfair trade practices” were not mentioned again at G7 summits until the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, where the term “level playing field” was first applied in an economic context.²³¹⁶ However, since the L'Aquila Summit, the terms “level playing field” or “unfair

²³¹⁰ The GATT years: from Havana to Marrakesh, World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact4_e.htm.

²³¹¹ The GATT years: from Havana to Marrakesh, World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact4_e.htm.

²³¹² The Uruguay Round, World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 7 September 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/fact5_e.htm.

²³¹³ WTO Legal Texts, World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 November 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/legal_e.htm#a#antidump.

²³¹⁴ WTO Legal Texts, World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 November 2018. https://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/legal_e.htm#a#antidump.

²³¹⁵ Declaration of the Seven Heads of State and Government and Representatives of the European Communities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1982versailles/communiqu.html>.

²³¹⁶ Responsible leadership for a sustainable future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>.

trade practices” have been mentioned in every communiqué, except for the 2010 Muskoka Summit. At the 2017 Taormina Summit leaders pledged to “[stand] firm against all unfair trade practices.”²³¹⁷ The Taormina Summit also marked a shift in the G7’s prioritization of eliminating unfair trade practices, with the communiqué listing out for the first time in detail the types of practices that the G7 considers to be unfair, including protectionism, dumping, barriers to trade, forced technology transfers, subsidies, and other practices that would “distort markets.”²³¹⁸ At the Biarritz Summit, inequality was a primary focus across all topics discussed. G7 members called for “open and fair world trade” and for “the stability of the global economy.”²³¹⁹ The validity and effectiveness of certain WTO rulings has been called into question recently, particularly with regards to the recent U.S.-China trade war.²³²⁰ As such, the topic of trade at Biarritz was focused on revitalizing the WTO to improve effectiveness on multiple fronts, including intellectual property protection, dispute resolution, and unfair trade practices.²³²¹

Commitment Features

G7 members wish to overhaul the WTO in efforts to combat unfair trade practices. Examples of unfair trade practices included in the 2017 Taormina communiqué include “dumping, discriminatory non-tariff barriers, forced technology transfers, subsidies, and other support by governments and related institutions that distort markets.”²³²² Not included in the 2017 Taormina communiqué, but also considered as unfair trade practices are tariffs, quotas, and countervailing duties not permitted by the WTO.

By committing to “overhaul,” G7 members are expressing a desire to change the structure and/or rules of the WTO. One example of an overhaul could be to change the consensus principle on which governance of the WTO relies. With a membership of 160 countries with varying stages of economic, social, and political development, it is difficult to get all 160 countries to agree on issues. An alternative could be a majoritarian or representative decision-making process. Another could be to allow plurilateral agreements involving subset of members within the WTO structure.²³²³ A second example of an overhaul could be to change the bodies and rules involved in the dispute resolution process.

The G7 members have specified in their commitment that the overhaul should “improve the effectiveness” of eliminating unfair trade practices. For evaluating this commitment, to “improve the effectiveness” will be understood in two primary ways. The first is to expand the set of unfair trade practices that are regulated under the WTO. An example could be to introduce new WTO rules on the trade of agricultural products. The second is to increase the speed and success rates with which unfair trade practices are sanctioned by the WTO and subsequently removed by the country imposing them. This could involve changing the rules of the dispute settlement mechanism so that

²³¹⁷ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²³¹⁸ G7 Taormina Leaders’; Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²³¹⁹ G7 Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>.

²³²⁰ G7 Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>.

²³²¹ G7 Leaders’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-of-leaders.html>.

²³²² G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 12 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²³²³ The End of Bretton Woods and the Future of the International Trading System, Edward Elgar (Cheltenham). Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://elgar.blog/2015/01/22/the-end-of-bretton-woods-and-the-future-of-the-international-trading-system-by-michael-trebilcock/>.

cases are conducted on a faster timeline. Regardless of whether it is the first or second method, the goal is to “eliminate” unfair trade practices, which means “to put an end to.” However, when “eliminate” is understood together with “improve the effectiveness,” the measures adopted by a G7 member do not need to completely end unfair trade practices, but must work toward that goal.

The extent to which a G7 member fulfills this commitment will be measured by a depth analysis. A G7 member “fully wishing” to overhaul the WTO’s effectiveness of eliminating unfair trade practice will have publicly put forward proposals and engaged in multilateral negotiations in pursuit of this goal. A G7 member “partially wishing” to overhaul the WTO to improve effectiveness with regard to eliminating unfair trade practice will have publicly put forward proposals, but not have engaged in multilateral negotiations in pursuit of this goal. Successful negotiation of a multilateral agreement that changes WTO rules is not necessary for demonstrating “fully wishing” or “partially wishing,” as success depends on multiple countries reaching an agreement, including non-G7 members who have not made such a commitment.

In order for the G7 member to achieve full compliance score, it must have publicly put forward proposals and engaged in multilateral negotiations to change the rules and/or structure of the WTO to more effectively eliminate unfair trade practices. To earn a score of partial compliance, the G7 member must have publicly put forward proposals to change the rules and/or structure of the WTO to more effectively eliminate unfair trade practices, but not have engaged in multilateral negotiations. Non-compliance, or a score of -1, refers to G7 members who have not taken any action to more effectively eliminate unfair trade practices through the WTO.

Because the European Union represents its members in formal negotiations, Germany, Italy and France as EU members can achieve full compliance if they provide major, repeated, high-level public support for WTO reform and reform negotiations. A score of partial compliance will be awarded for one major, high-level act of public support for WTO reform negotiations. A score of non-compliance will be awarded if the member takes no action towards the aforementioned criteria.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member has NEITHER publicly put forward proposals NOR engaged in multilateral negotiations to change the rules and/or structure of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to eliminate unfair trade practices more effectively. For European Union members, G7 member makes no high-level acts of public support for WTO reform and reform negotiations.
0	G7 member has publicly put forward proposals OR has engaged in multilateral negotiations to change the rules and/or structure of the WTO to more effectively eliminate unfair trade practices. For EU members, G7 member provides a major act of high-level support for WTO reform and reform negotiations.
+1	G7 member has publicly put forward proposals AND has engaged in multilateral negotiations to change the rules and/or structure of the WTO to more effectively eliminate unfair trade practices. For EU members, G7 member provides major, repeated, high-level public support for WTO reform and reform negotiations.

*Compliance Director: Ian Stansbury
Lead Analyst: Jessica Rapson*

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to overhaul the World Trade Organization (WTO) to improve effectiveness of eliminating unfair trade practices.

On 10 December 2019, International Trade Minister Mary Ng said that Canada would work with all member states of the WTO in order to address and resolve the breakdown of the organization's dispute resolution system.²³²⁴ Minister Ng also reiterated Canada's commitment to WTO reform through the Ottawa Group and the Canada-European Union interim bilateral agreement, and that Canada is open to interim agreements until the situation is fully resolved.

On 27 March 2020, International Trade Minister Mary Ng stated that the Government of Canada is taking strong action to strengthen the rules-based trading system with the WTO.²³²⁵ Mary Ng announced that following statements by ministers at Davos, Switzerland, Canada and 15 other members of the WTO have put in place the Multi-party Interim Arrangement for allowing appeals of panel reports in trade disputes.²³²⁶ The arrangement will allow WTO members to solve trade disputes amongst themselves and will be in place until the WTO Appellate Body is fully operational.²³²⁷

Canada has engaged in multilateral negotiations to address issues within the WTO, however, has not publicly put forward any proposals on WTO reform.

Thus, Canada has received a score of 0.

Analysts: Adarsh Addepalli and Ian Stansbury

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to overhaul the World Trade Organization (WTO) to improve effectiveness of eliminating unfair trade practices.

On 19 September 2019, Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire met with German Finance Minister Olaf Scholz and German Economics Affairs Minister at the 50th Franco-German Economic and Financial Council in Paris.²³²⁸ Both countries aim to preserve the multilateral rules-based trading system with the WTO at its centre and leading its reform, focusing on issues of dispute settlement, industrial subsidies, and forced transfer of technologies.²³²⁹

On 10 October 2019, France and Canada co-host a session on trade and climate change as part of the WTO Public Forum with International Chamber of Commerce.²³³⁰ The French delegation, along with the Canadian delegation and the ICC, advocate that new international trade rules can foster and

²³²⁴ Canada will work to resolve WTO impasse, says trade minister, Radio Canada International (Ottawa). 10 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.rcinet.ca/en/2019/12/10/canada-will-work-to-resolve-wto-impasse-says-trade-minister/>

²³²⁵ Statement on Multi-party Interim Arrangement for appealing trade disputes through the WTO, Government of Canada (Ottawa). 27 March 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/statement-on-multi-party-interim-arrangement-for-appealing-trade-disputes-through-wto.html>.

²³²⁶ Statement on Multi-party Interim Arrangement for appealing trade disputes through the WTO, Government of Canada (Ottawa). 27 March 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/statement-on-multi-party-interim-arrangement-for-appealing-trade-disputes-through-wto.html>.

²³²⁷ Statement on Multi-party Interim Arrangement for appealing trade disputes through the WTO, Government of Canada (Ottawa). 27 March 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/03/statement-on-multi-party-interim-arrangement-for-appealing-trade-disputes-through-wto.html>.

²³²⁸ 50th Franco-German Economic and Financial Council, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 19 September 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Standardartikel/Topics/Europe/Articles/2019-09-19-D-F-ECOFIN.html>.

²³²⁹ 50th Franco-German Economic and Financial Council, The Portal for the Economy, Finance, Action and Public Accounts (Paris) 19 September 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2020. https://www.economie.gouv.fr/recherche-resultat?search_api_views_fulltext=wto+&sort_by=search_api_relevance&afficher_extraits=oui&gid=.

²³³⁰ ICC Launches consultations series to discuss nexus between trade and climate, International Chamber of Commerce (Paris, Geneva, New York) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 24 November 2019. <https://iccwbo.org/media-wall/news-speeches/icc-launches-consultation-series-to-discuss-the-nexus-between-trade-and-climate/>.

amplify research and innovation efforts in the private sector, and promote the reduction of tariff and non-tariff barriers.²³³¹

On 16 October 2019, President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel met for a Franco-German Council of Ministers meeting in Toulouse and reaffirmed the two countries' willingness to protect and strengthen the multilateral trading system based on a reformed WTO.²³³² The two countries are looking to preserve the multilateralism objectives and procedures of this WTO reform.²³³³

On 6 November 2019, President Macron met with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang to discuss economic cooperation between France and China. The two leaders also agreed to improve bilateral coordination with regards to policy stance on WTO reform, in an effort to “better safeguard free trade and multilateralism.”²³³⁴

On 11 November 2019, Secretary of State to the Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Baptiste LeMoigne attending a meeting of EU trade ministers, where he reiterated the need for “ambitious reform” of the WTO and said that France supported the European Commission’s efforts toward WTO reform.²³³⁵

On 12 November 2019, Minister Le Maire spoke at the Paris Peace Forum panel on “The Future of Trade Rules,” expressing that no WTO reform can be carried out without reshaping economic and capitalistic development models which have brought about serious inequalities and environmental damages.²³³⁶ Further, that new political and economic principles need to be redefined before rebuilding a multilateral trading system.²³³⁷

On 21 November 2019, Minister Lemoyne attended a Foreign Affairs Council meeting focused on trade.²³³⁸ The EU trade ministers meeting covered three major trade areas: WTO reform and preparations for the WTO’s 12th ministerial conference to be held in June 2020, trade with the United States and EU trade agreements.²³³⁹

²³³¹ Public Forum 2019, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 8 Dec 2019.

²³³² France-Germany: What ambition for Europe? Institut Montaigne (France). Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.institutmontaigne.org/en/blog/france-germany-what-ambition-europe>.

²³³³ France-Germany: What ambition for Europe? Institut Montaigne (France). Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.institutmontaigne.org/en/blog/france-germany-what-ambition-europe>.

²³³⁴ Li Keqiang Meets with President Emmanuel Macron of France, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1714263.shtml.

²³³⁵ EU - Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne attending Foreign Affairs Council in trade format (Brussels, 21 November 2019), France Diplomatie (Paris) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/european-union/news/article/eu-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-attending-foreign-affairs-council-in-trade-format>.

²³³⁶ The Future of Trade, Paris Peace Forum (Paris) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://parispeaceforum.org/publication/the-future-of-trade-rules/>.

²³³⁷ The Future of Trade, Paris Peace Forum (Paris) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://parispeaceforum.org/publication/the-future-of-trade-rules/>.

²³³⁸ EU – Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne attending Foreign Affairs Council in trade format, France Diplomacy (Paris) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 17 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/europe/news/article/eu-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-attending-foreign-affairs-council-in-trade-format>

²³³⁹ EU – Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne attending Foreign Affairs Council in trade format, France Diplomacy (Paris) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 17 June 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/europe/news/article/eu-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-attending-foreign-affairs-council-in-trade-format>

On 7 January 2020, Minister Le Maire met with EU Trade Commissioner Phil Hogan to discuss reforms to the WTO, among other financial topics.²³⁴⁰ Minister Le Maire said that “WTO reform is one of France’s top priorities,” and that “France is ready to support all efforts allowing a jump-start of WTO reform negotiations and the solving of the problems affecting its dispute settlement body.”²³⁴¹

As an EU member, France has taken steps to overhaul the WTO to improve effectiveness in eliminating unfair trade practices as it has engaged in multilateral negotiations, and has made repeated, high-level acts of support for WTO reform.

Thus, France has received a score of +1.

Analysts: Tirtha Shah and Ian Stansbury

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to overhaul the World Trade Organization (WTO) to improve effectiveness of eliminating unfair trade practices.

On 16 October 2019, Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron met for a Franco-German Council of Ministers meeting in Toulouse and reaffirmed the two countries’ willingness to protect and strengthen the multilateral trading system based on a reformed WTO.²³⁴² The two countries are looking to preserve the multilateralism objectives and procedures of this WTO reform.²³⁴³

On 1 November 2019, Germany and India released a joint statement during Chancellor Merkel’s visit to India, reiterating both countries’ strong support for a rules-based trading system, restoration of the WTO dispute settlement system and reformation of the WTO without undermining the organization fundamental principles.²³⁴⁴

As an EU member, Germany has engaged in multilateral negotiations to eliminate unfair trade practices, and had made repeated, high-level acts of public support for WTO reform.

Thus, Germany has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Wing Ka Tsang

Italy: –1

Italy has not complied with its commitment to overhaul the World Trade Organization (WTO) to improve effectiveness of eliminating unfair trade practices.

²³⁴⁰ France, US set two-week target for resolving digital tax spat, Reuters (Paris) 7 January 2020. Access Date: 9 January 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-usa-tax/france-us-set-two-week-target-for-resolving-digital-tax-spat-idUSKBN1Z60SM>.

²³⁴¹ France, US set two-week target for resolving digital tax spat, Reuters (Paris) 7 January 2020. Access Date: 9 January 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-usa-tax/france-us-set-two-week-target-for-resolving-digital-tax-spat-idUSKBN1Z60SM>.

²³⁴² France-Germany: What ambition for Europe? Institut Montaigne (France). Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.institutmontaigne.org/en/blog/france-germany-what-ambition-europe>.

²³⁴³ France-Germany: What ambition for Europe? Institut Montaigne (France). Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.institutmontaigne.org/en/blog/france-germany-what-ambition-europe>.

²³⁴⁴ Joint statement during the visit of Chancellor of Germany to India, Ministry of External Affairs (India). Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dtl/31991/Joint_Statement_during_the_visit_of_Chancellor_of_Germany_to_India.

Currently, Italy has stated support for the removal of fisheries subsidies as well as the initiatives to refine the rules of digital commerce.²³⁴⁵ Additionally, Italy supports the two-level dispute resolution system and Appellate Body.²³⁴⁶ However, Italy has not put forward proposals nor has it engaged in multilateral negotiations on WTO reform. No actions were found for this report after searching publicly available online sources published by the government, relevant ministries and international organizations.²³⁴⁷

As an EU member, Italy has also not offered any acts of high-level support for WTO reform and reform negotiations beyond sending Ivan Scalfarotto, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation, to participate in a Foreign Affairs Council meeting focused on trade on 21 November 2019, which discussed WTO reform and preparations for the WTO's 12th ministerial conference to be held in June 2020.²³⁴⁸

Thus, Italy has received a score of -1.

Analyst: Ayaka Behro

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to overhaul the World Trade Organization (WTO) to improve effectiveness of eliminating unfair trade practices.

On December 11, 2019, Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a press release stating the country's position to reform the WTO Appellate Body.²³⁴⁹ Japan has contributed to stimulating negotiations at the WTO by presenting a concrete proposal by April 2020.²³⁵⁰ With the country co-chairing negotiations on the trade aspects of electronic commerce at the WTO to progress international regulation of the digital economy.²³⁵¹

On January 14, 2020, in a joint statement by the European Union, United States and Japan, the countries announced their continued cooperation on WTO reform to include increased compliance with existing WTO notification obligations.²³⁵² The three countries agreed that the current list of prohibited subsidies under WTO guidelines is insufficient in undertaking market distorting subsidization in certain jurisdiction.²³⁵³ Additionally, the three countries concluded that new types of

²³⁴⁵ World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 25 April 2020.

https://italiarappginevra.esteri.it/rappginevra/en/italia_e_onu/omc/diritti-umani.html.

²³⁴⁶ World Trade Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 25 April 2020.

https://italiarappginevra.esteri.it/rappginevra/en/italia_e_onu/omc/diritti-umani.html.

²³⁴⁷ This non-compliance was determined after research of the following websites: www.bbc.com, www.nytimes.com, www.governo.it, www.esteri.it/mae/en, <https://www.repubblica.it/>, <https://www.corriere.it/>, <https://www.wto.org/>, <https://www.oecd.org/italy/>, <https://www.mise.gov.it/> and www.ansa.it.

²³⁴⁸ Foreign Affairs Council (Trade), 21 November 2019. European Council of the European Union. Access Date: 18 June 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/fac/2019/11/21/>.

²³⁴⁹ Paralysis of the WTO's Appellate Body and WTO Reform (Statement by Foreign Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu). 11 December 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000140.html

²³⁵⁰ Paralysis of the WTO's Appellate Body and WTO Reform (Statement by Foreign Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu). December 11, 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000140.html

²³⁵¹ Paralysis of the WTO's Appellate Body and WTO Reform (Statement by Foreign Minister MOTEGI Toshimitsu). December 11, 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press1e_000140.html.

²³⁵² Joint Statement of the Trilateral Meeting of the Trade Ministers of Japan, the United States and the European Union. January 14, 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2020/january/joint-statement-trilateral-meeting-trade-ministers-japan-united-states-and-european-union>

²³⁵³ Joint Statement of the Trilateral Meeting of the Trade Ministers of Japan, the United States and the European Union. January 14, 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2020/january/joint-statement-trilateral-meeting-trade-ministers-japan-united-states-and-european-union>

unconditionally prohibited subsidies must be added to the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures.²³⁵⁴

Japan has put forward several proposals and has engaged in multilateral negotiations on WTO reform.

Thus, Japan has received a score of +1.

Analysts: Ayaka Bebro and Ian Stansbury

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to overhaul the World Trade Organization (WTO) to improve effectiveness of eliminating unfair trade practices.

On 9 October 2019, International Trade Secretary Liz Truss reiterated the UK's commitment to reforming the WTO at her first WTO address at the International Chamber of Commerce Global dialogue on Trade Reform. In her speech, she put forward the factors the UK would like to see reformed, namely, the dispute settlement system and the Appellate Body.²³⁵⁵ More specifically, Minister Truss said that the UK wants to resolve the Appellate Body Crisis and change the time limits for Appellate Body adjudication on appeals to avoid further future unauthorised overrunning of cases.²³⁵⁶ She also indicated that there is “an urgent need to strengthen the rules on industrial subsidies, state-owned enterprises and forced technology transfer.”²³⁵⁷

On October 9 2019, Minister Truss reaffirmed that the UK will take concrete steps to change the rules and/or structure of the WTO to effectively eliminate unfair trade practices after Britain's exit from the European Union (Brexit) is formalized.²³⁵⁸ Currently, the European Commission speaks for all EU member States at almost all WTO meetings.²³⁵⁹ After Brexit negotiations are finalised, Britain will have its own independent seat at the WTO.²³⁶⁰ Minister Truss indicated that: “when we take our independent seat around the WTO table, I can assure you we will be unapologetic in fighting the forces of protectionism, in favour of genuinely free trade.”²³⁶¹

The United Kingdom has put forward public proposals and has engaged in multilateral negotiations related to WTO reforms.

Thus, the United Kingdom has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Amira Higazy

²³⁵⁴ Joint Statement of the Trilateral Meeting of the Trade Ministers of Japan, the United States and the European Union. January 14, 2020. Access Date: 25 April 2020. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/press-releases/2020/january/joint-statement-trilateral-meeting-trade-ministers-japan-united-states-and-european-union>

²³⁵⁵ International Trade Secretary WTO address (London). 9 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/international-trade-secretary-wto-address>.

²³⁵⁶ International Trade Secretary WTO address (London). 9 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/international-trade-secretary-wto-address>.

²³⁵⁷ International Trade Secretary WTO address (London). 9 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/international-trade-secretary-wto-address>.

²³⁵⁸ UK will back WTO reform after Brexit, trade minister says (Geneva). 9 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-wto-britain/uk-will-back-wto-reform-after-brexit-trade-minister-says-idUSKBN1W01RB>.

²³⁵⁹ Member Information The European Union and the WTO. Access Date: 9 December 2019. https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/countries_e/european_communities_e.htm.

²³⁶⁰ International Trade Secretary WTO address (London). 9 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/international-trade-secretary-wto-address>.

²³⁶¹ International Trade Secretary WTO address (London). 9 October 2019. Access Date: 27 November 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/international-trade-secretary-wto-address>.

United States: 0

The United States has not complied with its commitment to overhaul the World Trade Organization (WTO) to improve effectiveness of eliminating unfair trade practices.

On 15 October 2019, Permanent Representative to the WTO Dennis Shea delivered a statement to the WTO General Council, outlining concerns that the United States has with the WTO, and put forward several reformative proposals.²³⁶² Representative Shea also mentioned the US's dissatisfaction with the WTO's dispute mechanism, saying that if changes were not made to address unfair trade practices, the US would continue blocking appointments of judges to the Appellate Body.²³⁶³

On 10 December 2019, the United States allowed the WTO dispute mechanism to stop functioning.²³⁶⁴ The United States began blocking new appointments of the Appellate Body, reducing its seven members to three, and preventing the organization from issuing binding rulings on trade disagreements.²³⁶⁵

On 15 January 2020, the United States, including the European Union and Japan, proposed limiting industrial subsidies by adding four new “unconditionally prohibited subsidies” to the current WTO list of prohibited subsidies.²³⁶⁶ The countries also explored ways to regulate forced technology transfer. Currently, WTO rules prohibit subsidies linked to export performance and dependent on the use of excessively imported domestic goods.²³⁶⁷ The propose subsidies will improve WTO regulatory rules by requiring the subsidizing country to demonstrate that there is no serious negative effect on trade.²³⁶⁸

On 28 February 2020, the United States trade representative delivered President Donald Trump's 2020 Trade Policy Agenda and Annual Report to Congress.²³⁶⁹ The agenda highlighted the State's efforts to change WTO practices, including tabling a transparency proposal that establish appropriate consequences for chronic non-compliance with notification obligations.²³⁷⁰ Another proposal was made to update members' special and differential designations to better reflect WTO current

²³⁶² Statements Delivered to the General Council by Ambassador Dennis Shea U.S. Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization, US Missions to International Organizations in Geneva (Geneva) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 7 January 2019. <https://geneva.usmission.gov/2019/10/15/statements-by-the-united-states-at-the-wto-general-council-meeting/>.

²³⁶³ Free trade groups urge Trump administration to push forward WTO reform, Xinhua Net (China). Access Date: 19 December 2019. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/24/c_138497458.htm.

²³⁶⁴ Trump blocks global trade referee powers just ahead of planned China escalation, Market Insider (United States) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/trump-blocks-global-trade-referee-wto-china-tariff-fights-escalate-2019-12-1028752979>.

²³⁶⁵ Trump blocks global trade referee powers just ahead of planned China escalation, Market Insider (United States) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/trump-blocks-global-trade-referee-wto-china-tariff-fights-escalate-2019-12-1028752979>.

²³⁶⁶ Current trade matters, Newsboard, AmCham Germany (Frankfurt) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.amcham.de/newsboard/news/current-trade-matters>.

²³⁶⁷ Current trade matters, Newsboard, AmCham Germany (Frankfurt) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.amcham.de/newsboard/news/current-trade-matters>.

²³⁶⁸ Current trade matters, Newsboard, AmCham Germany (Frankfurt) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.amcham.de/newsboard/news/current-trade-matters>.

²³⁶⁹ Factsheet: The President's 2020 Trade Agenda and Annual Report, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 15 March 15, 2020. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/fact-sheets/2020/february/fact-sheet-presidents-2020-trade-agenda-and-annual-report>.

²³⁷⁰ Factsheet: The President's 2020 Trade Agenda and Annual Report, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 15 March 15, 2020. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/fact-sheets/2020/february/fact-sheet-presidents-2020-trade-agenda-and-annual-report>.

economic realities.²³⁷¹ This caused several WTO members to halt seeking special and differential treatment in trade negotiations.²³⁷²

On 3 March 2020, Ambassador Dennis Shea from the United States delivered a statement to the WTO General Council Meeting.²³⁷³ The U.S. proposed setting objective criteria to determine whether a WTO member may continue to have special and differential treatment.²³⁷⁴ The U.S. stated that certain WTO members were inappropriately seeking special and differentiated treatment in WTO negotiations, and that the proposed criteria would adequately address this issue.²³⁷⁵

The United States has publicly put forward proposals to reform the WTO. However, it has not participated in multilateral negotiations to change the rules or structure of the WTO.

Thus, the United States has received a score of 0.

Analyst: Wing Ka Tsang

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to overhaul the World Trade Organization (WTO) to improve effectiveness of eliminating unfair trade practices.

On 21 October 2019, the European Union agreed on a second interim appeal system with Norway as a means to “secure an effective and binding dispute settlement for any potential trade disputes” in the case that the Appellate Body fails to be operational.²³⁷⁶

On 21 November 2019, the Foreign Affairs Council held a meeting between EU foreign ministers, where ministers reiterated the importance of the WTO and that reform was required in order to maintain a stable international trade system.²³⁷⁷

On 12 December 2019, the European Commission released a proposal that would allow for the EU to enforce international trade rules in the case that the WTO is no longer able to.²³⁷⁸ The proposal

²³⁷¹ Factsheet: The President’s 2020 Trade Agenda and Annual Report, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 15 March 15, 2020. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/fact-sheets/2020/february/fact-sheet-presidents-2020-trade-agenda-and-annual-report>.

²³⁷² Factsheet: The President’s 2020 Trade Agenda and Annual Report, Office of the United States Trade Representative (Washington) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 15 March 15, 2020. <https://ustr.gov/about-us/policy-offices/press-office/fact-sheets/2020/february/fact-sheet-presidents-2020-trade-agenda-and-annual-report>.

²³⁷³ Statement by Ambassador Dennis Shea at the March 3, 2020 General Council Meeting, U.S. Mission to International Organization in Geneva (Geneva) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://geneva.usmission.gov/2020/03/03/statements-by-ambassador-dennis-shea-at-the-march-3-2020-general-council-meeting/>.

²³⁷⁴ Statement by Ambassador Dennis Shea at the March 3, 2020 General Council Meeting, U.S. Mission to International Organization in Geneva (Geneva) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://geneva.usmission.gov/2020/03/03/statements-by-ambassador-dennis-shea-at-the-march-3-2020-general-council-meeting/>.

²³⁷⁵ Statement by Ambassador Dennis Shea at the March 3, 2020 General Council Meeting, U.S. Mission to International Organization in Geneva (Geneva) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://geneva.usmission.gov/2020/03/03/statements-by-ambassador-dennis-shea-at-the-march-3-2020-general-council-meeting/>.

²³⁷⁶ EU and Norway agree on interim appeal system in wake of World Trade Organization Appellate Body Blockage, European Commission (Brussels) 21 October 2019. Date of Access: 21 December 2019. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2074>.

²³⁷⁷ Trade Ministers Discussed WTO Reform, EU-US Trade Relations and Implementation of Free Trade Agreements, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 7 January 2020. https://eu2019.fi/en/article/-/asset_publisher/kauppaministerien-agendalla-wto-n-uudistustyo-eu-n-ja-yhdysvaltojen-kauppasuhteet-seka-kauppasopimusten-toimeenpano.

was released in response to the WTO Appellate Body being unable to elect new judges in order to make binding decisions on trade disputes.²³⁷⁹ The proposal was made as an effort to maintain the continuity of the international trade system while ongoing negotiations regarding WTO reform continue.²³⁸⁰

On 7 January 2020, Trade Commissioner Phil Hogan met with French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire to discuss reforms to the WTO, among other financial topics.²³⁸¹ Commissioner Hogan said that the European Commission will “stand by France” in its digital tax dispute with the US, and that the EU “want[s] to see a reform of the WTO” and that the EU “share[s] the US analysis” on reforms.²³⁸²

On 24 January 2020, the European Union, agreed to create a temporary mechanism in order to settle trade disputes following the collapse of the Appellate Body, due to lack of support from the US.²³⁸³ This is a means to continue to the appeal system which had been a means to settle trade disputes with Norway.²³⁸⁴ This, takes those mechanisms and applies it to a total of 15 other countries.²³⁸⁵

On 15 April 2020, the European Union approved the creation of the Multi-Party Interim Appeal Arbitration Arrangement to allow WTO members to solve trade disputes while the WTO Appellate Body is suspended.²³⁸⁶

The European Union has participated in multilateral negotiations on WTO reform and has put forth proposals that would allow for trade system continuity as other WTO reforms continue to be negotiated and implemented.

Thus, the European Union has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Adarsh Addepalli

²³⁷⁸ Commission proposes new tools to enforce Europe's rights in international trade, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 7 January 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/QANDA_19_6757.

²³⁷⁹ Commission proposes new tools to enforce Europe's rights in international trade, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 7 January 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/QANDA_19_6757.

²³⁸⁰ Commission proposes new tools to enforce Europe's rights in international trade, European Commission (Brussels) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 7 January 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/QANDA_19_6757.

²³⁸¹ France, US set two-week target for resolving digital tax spat, Reuters (Paris) 7 January 2020. Access Date: 9 January 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-usa-tax/france-us-set-two-week-target-for-resolving-digital-tax-spat-idUSKBN1Z60SM>.

²³⁸² France, US set two-week target for resolving digital tax spat, Reuters (Paris) 7 January 2020. Access Date: 9 January 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-usa-tax/france-us-set-two-week-target-for-resolving-digital-tax-spat-idUSKBN1Z60SM>.

²³⁸³ EU and Norway agree on interim appeal system in wake of World Trade Organization Appellate Body Blockage, European Commission (Brussels) 21 October 2019. Date of Access: 21 December 2019. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2074>.

²³⁸⁴ EU and Norway agree on interim appeal system in wake of World Trade Organization Appellate Body Blockage, European Commission (Brussels) 21 October 2019. Date of Access: 21 December 2019. <https://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=2074>.

²³⁸⁵ EU, China and 15 others agree temporary fix to WTO crisis (Brussels) 24 January 2020. Date of Access: 13 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-trade-wto/eu-china-and-15-others-agree-temporary-fix-to-wto-crisis-idUSKBN1ZN0WM>.

²³⁸⁶ Council approves a multi-party interim appeal arbitration arrangement to solve trade disputes, Council of the European Union (Brussels). 15 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/04/15/council-approves-a-multi-party-interim-appeal-arbitration-arrangement-to-solve-trade-disputes/>.

15. Trade: Tax Policy

“The G7 commits to reaching in 2020 an agreement to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation Development].”

G7 Biarritz Leaders’ Declaration

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States	-1		
European Union		0	
Average	+0.25 (63%)		

Background

This commitment deals with international taxation in the context of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The OECD is an organization of 36 countries that formed in 1961 and was preceded by the Organisation for European Economic Cooperation, founded in 1948.²³⁸⁷ It works on numerous topics, including tax, trade, and regulatory reform through more than 300 committees and expert groups, and holds an annual Ministerial Council Meeting.²³⁸⁸ Within its work on tax, OECD areas of focus include “aggressive tax planning,” which refers to tax avoidance and evasion,²³⁸⁹ consumption taxes, transfer pricing, financial crime, fiscal federalism, and tax certainty and assurance. Throughout these areas, domestic tax base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS), whereby businesses “artificially shift profits” to jurisdiction with less taxation, is a particular concern since it is estimated to cause the loss of four to ten per cent of global corporate tax revenue annually. This is being addressed by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS, a collaboration of over 135 countries and jurisdictions.²³⁹⁰

On 8 June 2015, the G7 Schloss Elmau Leaders’ Declaration reaffirmed the members’ commitment to “finalize concrete and feasible recommendations for the G20/OECD Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Action Plan” by the end of that year in G7 Summit Leaders’ Declaration. They recognized “the importance of beneficial ownership transparency” and committed to “strive to improve existing international information networks and cross-border cooperation on tax matters,

²³⁸⁷ Who we are, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) No publication date. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/about/history/>.

²³⁸⁸ Organizational Structure, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) No publication date. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/about/structure/>.

²³⁸⁹ Aggressive Tax Planning, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) No publication date. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/aggressive/>.

²³⁹⁰ Base Erosion and Profit Shifting, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) No publication date. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/>.

including through a commitment to establish binding mandatory arbitration in order to ensure that the risk of double taxation does not act as a barrier to cross-border trade and investment.”²³⁹¹

On 27 May 2016, the G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration stated that leaders “remain committed to lead the [implementation of the G20/OECD BEPS package] by example.” Leaders reaffirmed the “G20's call on all relevant countries including all financial centres and jurisdictions to implement the standard on automatic exchange of information by committed deadline and to sign the Multilateral Convention, as well as the request to the OECD to establish the ‘objective criteria to identify non-cooperative jurisdictions with respect to tax transparency.’”²³⁹²

On 27 May 2017, the G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué stated that leaders “commit to tackling all forms of corruption and tax evasion, as a means of reinforcing public trust in governments and fostering sustainable global growth.”²³⁹³

On 9 June 2018, the Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué stated that leaders committed to “exchange approaches and support international efforts to deliver fair, progressive, effective and efficient tax systems” and to “continue to fight tax evasion and avoidance by promoting the global implementation of international standards and addressing base erosion and profit shifting.”²³⁹⁴

Also on 9 June 2018, the Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth similarly stated that leaders committed to “share approaches and support global efforts to make the tax system fair to everyone and facilitate tax collection by addressing base erosion and profit shifting and other forms of tax avoidance and continuing to work on tax capacity building to advance sustainable development.” As well, leaders “will promote the global implementation of international standards regarding financial accounts and beneficial ownership in order to fight tax evasion.”²³⁹⁵

On 18 July 2019, international taxation concerns were discussed in the Chair's Summary of the G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting in Chantilly, France. Finance ministers “agreed that it is urgent to address the tax challenges raised by the digitalization of the economy and the shortcomings of the current transfer pricing system” and “fully supported a two-pillar solution to be adopted by 2020 through the work programme endorsed by the G20 Leaders.” The first pillar would develop “administrable and simple” rules to address new business models to reinforce tax certainty and limit aggressive tax planning, complemented by “robust and effective tax dispute resolution through mandatory arbitration,” while the second pillar would develop a minimum level of effective taxation similar to the United States' Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income regime.²³⁹⁶

Commitment Features

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, the G7 members committed to “[reach] in 2020 an agreement to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD,” where “regulatory barriers” refers to restrictions on international commerce imposed by state institutions and “international taxation” refers to the global system of taxing transactions and

²³⁹¹ Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²³⁹² G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²³⁹³ G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>.

²³⁹⁴ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

²³⁹⁵ Charlevoix Commitment on Equality and Economic Growth, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/growth-commitment.html>.

²³⁹⁶ Chair's Summary: G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 July 2019. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/finance/190718-summary.html>.

entities that transcend national boundaries. Since this specific commitment is about a future action that is difficult to measure, this commitment will be interpreted in a similar manner to the “Financial Regulation: International Taxation” commitment from the G20 Research Group’s Buenos Aires Summit Compliance Report, for which the specific commitment was “We will continue our work for a globally fair, sustainable, and modern international tax system based, in particular on tax treaties and transfer pricing rules.”²³⁹⁷ That commitment from the Buenos Aires Summit Compliance Report focused on the G20 members’ actions to address BEPS under the OECD/G20 BEPS package.²³⁹⁸

There are three component areas for this commitment: the first two include either national-focused or international-focused actions to build a fairer and more modern international tax system under the OECD/G20 BEPS package, and the third includes actions taken as part of the process of adopting the OECD’s “Unified Approach” to deal with Pillar One BEPS issues. Pillar One issues include those surrounding solutions for determining where tax should be paid and on what basis, as well as the portion of profits that should be payable in the consumer’s jurisdiction.²³⁹⁹

Examples of the first component include actions taken to improve national tax systems by making them fairer and more modern and actions taken to simplify regulatory barriers in accordance with the principles of BEPS. Examples of the second component include any actions taken in cooperation with other countries, either bilaterally or multilaterally, to jointly improve tax systems, including by sharing financial information and best practices, and jointly simplify regulatory barriers. The third component consists of actions that directly support the adoption of or participate in the consultation process surrounding the new BEPS “Unified Approach.”

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member takes action in one or none of the three areas of improving national tax systems OR improving international tax systems OR cooperating in the adoption of the new “Unified Approach” of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
0	G7 member takes action in at least two of the three commitment areas of improving national tax systems OR improving international tax systems OR cooperating in the adoption of the new OECD “Unified Approach.”
+1	G7 member takes action in all three commitment areas of improving national tax systems AND improving international tax systems AND cooperating in the adoption of the new OECD “Unified Approach.”

*Compliance Director: Christopher Sims
Lead Analyst: Zhenglin Liu*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment “to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development].”

²³⁹⁷ Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>.

²³⁹⁸ 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Compliance Report, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 26 June 2019. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/compliance/2018buenosaires-final/16-2018-g20-compliance-tax.pdf>.

²³⁹⁹ Action 1: Tax Challenges Arising from Digitalisation. Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) No publication date. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/beps-actions/action1/>.

On 29 August 2019, Canada deposited its instrument of ratification for the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (MLI).²⁴⁰⁰ The MLI is a multilateral convention intended to simplify the process of amending bilateral tax treaties in accordance with the principles of base erosion and profit shifting and has already been ratified by 85 jurisdictions.²⁴⁰¹

On 9 December 2019, Finance Minister Bill Morneau confirmed plans to impose a three per cent digital services tax on digital companies with worldwide revenues of at least CAD1 billion and Canadian revenues of more than CAD40 million.²⁴⁰² The tax is designed to combat tax avoidance by international digital companies and is planned to take effect on 1 April 2020.²⁴⁰³

On 23 January 2020, Canada undertook a global day of action in conjunction with the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, and the Netherlands to investigate an international financial institution suspected of facilitating money laundering and tax evasion.²⁴⁰⁴ The coordinated day of action involved interviews and the use of subpoenas and search warrants, and is expected to lead to criminal, civil, and regulatory action in each participating country.²⁴⁰⁵ This was the first major operation of the Joint Chiefs of Global Tax Enforcement (J5), an organization of tax enforcement leaders from each of the five participating countries, formed to combat tax crime and money laundering.²⁴⁰⁶

On 30 January 2020, the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS [Base Erosion and Profit Shifting], of which Canada is a member, released a statement on the OECD's Two-Pillar Approach.²⁴⁰⁷ The statement includes an affirmation of commitment by members to reach an

²⁴⁰⁰ Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting coming into force in Canada, Ernst and Young LLC (Ottawa) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://assets.ey.com/content/dam/ey-sites/ey-com/en_ca/topics/tax/tax-alerts/2019/ey-taxalert2019no40.pdf.

²⁴⁰¹ Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting coming into force in Canada, Ernst and Young LLC (Ottawa) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://assets.ey.com/content/dam/ey-sites/ey-com/en_ca/topics/tax/tax-alerts/2019/ey-taxalert2019no40.pdf.

²⁴⁰² Canada to move ahead with digital services tax plan -finance minister, Reuters (Ottawa) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/canada-to-move-ahead-with-digital-services-tax-plan-finance-minister-2019-12-09>.

²⁴⁰³ Canada to move ahead with digital services tax plan -finance minister, Reuters (Ottawa) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/canada-to-move-ahead-with-digital-services-tax-plan-finance-minister-2019-12-09>.

²⁴⁰⁴ Global tax chiefs undertake unprecedented multi-country day of action to tackle international tax evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2020/01/global-tax-chiefs-undertake-unprecedented-multi-country-day-of-action-to-tackle-international-tax-evasion.html>.

²⁴⁰⁵ Global tax chiefs undertake unprecedented multi-country day of action to tackle international tax evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2020/01/global-tax-chiefs-undertake-unprecedented-multi-country-day-of-action-to-tackle-international-tax-evasion.html>.

²⁴⁰⁶ Global tax chiefs undertake unprecedented multi-country day of action to tackle international tax evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2020/01/global-tax-chiefs-undertake-unprecedented-multi-country-day-of-action-to-tackle-international-tax-evasion.html>.

²⁴⁰⁷ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

agreement on a consensus-based solution and an outline of the architecture of a Unified Approach on Pillar One.²⁴⁰⁸

Canada has taken action to improve national tax systems by implementing a digital services tax; has taken action to improve international tax systems by ratifying the MLI and acting with the J5 to combat offshore tax evasion; and has cooperated in the adoption of the new OECD “Unified Approach” through its statement as part of the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tony Xun

France: 0

France has partially complied with the commitment “to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development].”

On 26 August 2019, President Emmanuel Macron stated that France’s digital services tax (DST) would be eliminated during a conference with U.S. President Donald Trump.²⁴⁰⁹ President Macron also declared that if the OECD framework recommends the implementation of a new international digital services tax system then any DST that has been paid by multinational companies would be refunded.²⁴¹⁰

On 27 September 2019, the French government released its draft Finance Bill for 2020, which reduces a proposed French corporate income tax rate decrease for large companies.²⁴¹¹ The draft Finance Bill also proposes several steps to implement the European Union Anti-Tax Avoidance Directives and decreases a domestic research and development tax credit.²⁴¹² Following a decision by the Court of Justice of the European Union, the bill proposes to allow entities in certain jurisdictions in a tax loss position to claim refunds on some French withholding taxes.²⁴¹³ On 19 December 2019,

²⁴⁰⁸ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁴⁰⁹ G7 leaders’ declaration addresses international tax, France discusses future of French Digital Services Tax, EY Tax Insights (Paris) No publication date. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/g7-leader%E2%80%99s-declaration-addresses-international-tax-france.aspx>.

²⁴¹⁰ G7 leaders’ declaration addresses international tax, France discusses future of French Digital Services Tax, EY Tax Insights (Paris) No publication date. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://taxinsights.ey.com/archive/archive-news/g7-leader%E2%80%99s-declaration-addresses-international-tax-france.aspx>.

²⁴¹¹ French Government releases draft Finance Bill for 2020, EY Global Tax Alert (Paris) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--french-government-releases-draft-finance-bill-for-2020>.

²⁴¹² French Government releases draft Finance Bill for 2020, EY Global Tax Alert (Paris) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--french-government-releases-draft-finance-bill-for-2020>.

²⁴¹³ French Government releases draft Finance Bill for 2020, EY Global Tax Alert (Paris) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--french-government-releases-draft-finance-bill-for-2020>.

the French Parliament approved the Bill.²⁴¹⁴ Under it, executives of large French corporations whose annual turnover exceeds EUR250 million will be considered as tax residents of France.²⁴¹⁵

On 20 November 2019, the French Council of Economic Analysis, an official French organization that analyzes, tracks and offers proposals on French tax policy in line with the stance of the French government, proposed to “impose a minimum tax rate on the profits of multinationals, as well “as require that a portion of the profits of multinationals be taxed where their consumers or internet users are located.”²⁴¹⁶

On 26 November 2019, Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire defended the proposal for a 12.5 per cent minimum global tax rate in a speech at the OECD.²⁴¹⁷ This is in line with the rate at which foreign profits by American companies are taxed in the United States, but substantially lower than the average effective tax rate faced by large companies in France.²⁴¹⁸

On 6 December 2019, Minister Le Maire rejected a United States proposal for a “safe harbor regime” in the context of OECD negotiations on international tax reform.²⁴¹⁹ The proposal would enable companies to opt out of the proposed reforms, which include moves away from such structures as arm’s-length transfer pricing.²⁴²⁰

On 11 December 2019, the French government unveiled details of a planned pension system overhaul. President Macron has expressed his desire to replace the current complex system with a unified scheme, so that all workers have similar pension rights.²⁴²¹ According to the Associated Press, the current pension plan in France is complex, and the new one aims to “to adapt to a more flexible labor market,” as well as make “the new system financially sustainable in the long-term.”²⁴²² On 17 March 2020, however, Minister Le Maire announced that these reforms have been suspended.²⁴²³

On 21 January 2020, a French government official told the BBC that France has agreed to delay implementing its new digital tax on multinational technology firms until the end of 2020.²⁴²⁴ The

²⁴¹⁴ France – 2020 Finance Law Adopted, Some Changes to Budget Measures, KPMG GMS Flash Alert (Paris) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2020/01/flash-alert-2020-015.html>.

²⁴¹⁵ France – 2020 Finance Law Adopted, Some Changes to Budget Measures, KPMG GMS Flash Alert (Paris) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2020/01/flash-alert-2020-015.html>.

²⁴¹⁶ International Corporate tax, Government of France (Paris) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/international-corporate-tax>.

²⁴¹⁷ La France pour un impôt mondial minimum de 12,5 % sur les entreprises, Les Echos (Paris) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.lesechos.fr/monde/enjeux-internationaux/la-france-pour-un-impot-mondial-minimum-de-125-sur-les-entreprises-1150934>.

²⁴¹⁸ La France pour un impôt mondial minimum de 12,5 % sur les entreprises, Les Echos (Paris) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.lesechos.fr/monde/enjeux-internationaux/la-france-pour-un-impot-mondial-minimum-de-125-sur-les-entreprises-1150934>.

²⁴¹⁹ France rejects U.S. proposal on international tax reform, NASDAQ (Paris) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/france-rejects-u.s.-proposal-on-international-tax-reform-2019-12-06>.

²⁴²⁰ France rejects U.S. proposal on international tax reform, NASDAQ (Paris) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/france-rejects-u.s.-proposal-on-international-tax-reform-2019-12-06>.

²⁴²¹ France’s pension overhaul: a look at the planned changes, Associated Press News (Paris) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://apnews.com/2b83ffd527798d28e31bc61b898fafc7>.

²⁴²² France’s pension overhaul: a look at the planned changes, Associated Press News (Paris) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://apnews.com/2b83ffd527798d28e31bc61b898fafc7>.

²⁴²³ France scraps pension reform plan, budget, Pensions & Investments (New York) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.pionline.com/legislation/france-scraps-pension-reform-plan-budget>.

²⁴²⁴ France agrees to delay new tax on tech giants, BBC Business (London) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51192369>.

United States had previously threatened a possible tariff war between the United States and France where the United States would raise taxes on certain imports, hindering uniform global taxation.²⁴²⁵

On 30 January 2020, the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS [Base Erosion and Profit Shifting], of which France is a member, released a statement on the OECD's Two-Pillar Approach.²⁴²⁶ The statement includes an affirmation of commitment by members to reach an agreement on a consensus-based solution and an outline of the architecture of a Unified Approach on Pillar One.²⁴²⁷

On 9 March 2020, the French Tax Authorities published guidelines to the ordinance that implemented the EU directive on the exchange of taxation information into French law.²⁴²⁸ The guidelines reflect elements of the OECD's BEPS work on the mandatory disclosure of potentially aggressive tax planning.²⁴²⁹

On 3 April 2020, the French government announced that it has allowed companies in need to defer social security contributions and direct taxes originally due on 15 March.²⁴³⁰ Additionally, companies facing extreme financial difficulties may be considered for a tax refund, which is limited to corporate income tax and related taxes.²⁴³¹

On 14 May 2020, Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire announced that France plans to tax major digital corporations regardless of the progress made on reaching an international deal on the subject.²⁴³² Le Maire declared that “never has a digital tax been more legitimate and more necessary.”²⁴³³

France has taken action to improve national tax systems, including through legislation and proposing or defending minimum tax rates, and has cooperated in the adoption of the new OECD “Unified Approach,” but has taken no action in improving international tax systems.

²⁴²⁵ US could impose 100% tariffs on French goods following France's tax on tech giants, Tech Crunch (San Francisco) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://techcrunch.com/2019/12/03/us-could-impose-100-tariffs-on-french-goods-following-frances-tax-on-tech-giants/>.

²⁴²⁶ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁴²⁷ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁴²⁸ DAC 6: First FTA guidelines published, Deloitte Tax@hand (Paris) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.taxathand.com/article/13113/France/2020/DAC-6-First-FTA-guidelines-published>.

²⁴²⁹ DAC 6: First FTA guidelines published, Deloitte Tax@hand (Paris) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.taxathand.com/article/13113/France/2020/DAC-6-First-FTA-guidelines-published>.

²⁴³⁰ Prolongement des possibilités de report des cotisations sociales et impôts directs des entreprises pour tout le mois d'avril, Government of France (Paris) 6 April 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/prolongement-possibilites-report-cotisations-sociales-impots-directs-entreprises>.

²⁴³¹ Prolongement des possibilités de report des cotisations sociales et impôts directs des entreprises pour tout le mois d'avril, Government of France (Paris) 6 April 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/prolongement-possibilites-report-cotisations-sociales-impots-directs-entreprises>.

²⁴³² France to impose digital tax this year regardless of any new international levy, Reuters (Paris) 14 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-digital-tax/france-to-impose-digital-tax-this-year-regardless-of-any-new-international-levy-idUSKBN22Q25B>.

²⁴³³ France to impose digital tax this year regardless of any new international levy, Reuters (Paris) 14 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-digital-tax/france-to-impose-digital-tax-this-year-regardless-of-any-new-international-levy-idUSKBN22Q25B>.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Qiyn Zhou

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with the commitment “to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development].”

On 9 October 2019, the federal cabinet approved the draft Act Introducing a Reporting Obligation for Cross-Border Tax Arrangements. The new act enables the fiscal administration and lawmakers to identify base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) practices at an early stage and to close unintended loopholes rapidly.²⁴³⁴ The new reporting obligation includes a variety of measures, following the BEPS process, to be implemented by the German government to increase transparency, prevent harmful tax competition, and combat tax fraud and avoidance.²⁴³⁵

On 18 November 2019, the German Ministry of Finance set up a new task force to combat tax fraud and tax avoidance.²⁴³⁶ This new special unit will detect illicit tax schemes and large-scale tax fraud attempts like the Cum-Ex arrangement, a large tax fraud case in which billions of euros of tax revenue was lost because of the practice of claiming multiple tax refunds on the same security.²⁴³⁷

On 9 December 2019, Germany and Singapore amended the 28 June 2004 Agreement for Avoidance of Double Taxation to bring the agreement in line with the principles of BEPS.²⁴³⁸ The amendments reduce the withholding tax rate charged for cross-border dividend, the withholding tax rate on interest, and updates exchange of information provisions in line with international standards.²⁴³⁹

On 10 December 2019, German Finance Minister Olaf Scholz sent his plans for a new financial transaction tax to ministers from nine other EU member states. The draft sought to levy a tax of 0.2 per cent of the transaction value of purchases of shares in large registered European companies at over EUR1 billion. The proposed financial transaction tax is intended to make financial markets more stable by discouraging excessive risk-taking and to raise tax revenue.²⁴⁴⁰

²⁴³⁴ New reporting obligation will create greater fairness in taxation, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/2019-10-09-fair-taxation.html>.

²⁴³⁵ New reporting obligation will create greater fairness in taxation, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2019/2019-10-09-fair-taxation.html>.

²⁴³⁶ Germany To Launch Special Anti-Tax Fraud Unit, Tax-News (Sussex) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.tax-news.com/news/Germany_To_Launch_Special_AntiTax_Fraud_Unit___97426.html.

²⁴³⁷ Task force to combat tax fraud and tax avoidance: frequently asked questions, Federal Ministry of Finance (Berlin) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/EN/FAQ/faq-tax-fraud-tax-avoidance.html>.

²⁴³⁸ Singapore, Germany Add BEPS to DTA, Tax-News (Sussex) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.tax-news.com/news/Singapore_Germany_Add_BEPS_Amendments_To_DTA___97449.html.

²⁴³⁹ Singapore, Germany Add BEPS to DTA, Tax-News (Sussex) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.tax-news.com/news/Singapore_Germany_Add_BEPS_Amendments_To_DTA___97449.html.

²⁴⁴⁰ Germany's Plans for a Financial Transaction Tax, Tax Foundation (Washington) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mof.gov.sg/policies/tax-policies/international-tax/Press-Releases-and-Announcements-on-Singapores-bilateral-tax-treaties/singapore-and-germany-sign-protocol-amending-the-agreement-for-avoidance-of-double-taxation>.

On 10 December 2019, the German Ministry of Finance issued a draft bill as part of the implementation of the EU Anti-tax Avoidance Directive.²⁴⁴¹ This bill has not been passed yet. The proposed law changes with respect to German transfer pricing rules are of structural and clarifying nature.²⁴⁴²

On 23 January 2020, the German Ministry of Finance published a consultation agreement between the competent authorities of Germany and the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the implementation of the Mutual Agreement Procedure under the 2012 Germany-Netherlands Double Taxation Agreement.²⁴⁴³ The consultation agreement aims to seek specific solutions to avoid double taxation between two countries.²⁴⁴⁴

On 30 January 2020, the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS, of which Germany is a member, released a statement on the OECD's Two-Pillar Approach.²⁴⁴⁵ The statement includes an affirmation of commitment by members to reach an agreement on a consensus-based solution and an outline of the architecture of a Unified Approach on Pillar One.²⁴⁴⁶

On 3 April 2020, the German Ministry of Finance signed a mutual agreement for cross-border worker taxation with Luxembourg under the 2012 Double Taxation Agreement due to the coronavirus pandemic.²⁴⁴⁷

Germany has taken actions to improve national tax systems and international tax systems and has cooperated in the adoption of the new OECD “Unified Approach.”

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Gongjun (Katie) Gao

²⁴⁴¹ Draft German tax law has big implications for transfer pricing, Multinational Group Tax & Transfer Pricing News (Washington) 6 January 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://mnetax.com/draft-german-tax-law-has-big-implications-for-transfer-pricing-37290>.

²⁴⁴² Draft German tax law has big implications for transfer pricing, Multinational Group Tax & Transfer Pricing News (Washington) 6 January 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://mnetax.com/draft-german-tax-law-has-big-implications-for-transfer-pricing-37290>.

²⁴⁴³ Germany MOF Announces Consultation Agreement MAP Under DTA with Netherlands, Bloomberg Tax (Arlington) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://news.bloombergtax.com/daily-tax-report-international/germany-mof-announces-consultation-agreement-on-map-under-dta-with-netherlands>.

²⁴⁴⁴ Germany Publishes Consultation Agreement on MAP with the Netherlands on DTA, TPA Global (Amsterdam) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <http://www.transferpricingassociates.com/nieuws/2020-01-31/germany-publishes-consultation-agreement-on-map-with-the-netherlands-on-dta>.

²⁴⁴⁵ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁴⁴⁶ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁴⁴⁷ Germany MOF Announces Mutual Agreement for Cross-Border Worker Taxation With Luxembourg Due to Coronavirus, Bloomberg Tax (Arlington) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://news.bloombergtax.com/daily-tax-report-international/germany-mof-announces-mutual-agreement-for-cross-border-worker-taxation-with-luxembourg-due-to-coronavirus?context=search&index=0>.

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with the commitment “to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development].”

On 16 December 2019 the Italian upper chamber approved the Budget Law 2020, which was sent to the Lower Chamber for approval.²⁴⁴⁸ On 27 December 2019 Parliament approved the 2020 Budget Law.²⁴⁴⁹ The law includes an amendment to the digital services tax, which was introduced by the Budget Law 2019 but had not been implemented.²⁴⁵⁰ The law stipulates that a three per cent tax will be imposed on certain business-to-consumer and business-to-business digital services.²⁴⁵¹ It also stipulates increased measures to fight tax evasion through higher prison sentences, sanctions for retailers who do not accept credit cards, and stronger restriction on the use of cash in transactions.²⁴⁵² The law came into effect on 1 January 2020.²⁴⁵³

On 30 January 2020, the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS [Base Erosion and Profit Shifting], of which Italy is a member, released a statement on the OECD’s Two-Pillar Approach.²⁴⁵⁴ The statement includes an affirmation of commitment by members to reach an agreement on a consensus-based solution and an outline of the architecture of a Unified Approach on Pillar One.²⁴⁵⁵

Italy has taken actions to improve national tax systems and cooperate in the adoption of the new OECD “Unified Approach” but has taken no action toward improving international tax systems.²⁴⁵⁶

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Sarah Howe

²⁴⁴⁸ Italy: Digital services tax, changes made during legislative process, KPMG (Amstelveen) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://home.kpmg/us/en/home/insights/2019/12/tnf-italy-digital-services-tax-changes-made-during-legislative-process.html>.

²⁴⁴⁹ The Latest on BEPS and Beyond – January 2020, Ernst and Young (New York) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.ey.com/en_gl/beps-tracker/the-latest-on-beps-and-beyond---january-2020.

²⁴⁵⁰ Italy: Digital services tax proposed to apply beginning 1 January 2020, KPMG (Amstelveen) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://home.kpmg/us/en/home/insights/2019/10/tnf-italy-digital-services-tax-apply-beginning-1-january-2020.html>.

²⁴⁵¹ Italy: Digital services tax proposed to apply beginning 1 January 2020, KPMG (Amstelveen) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://home.kpmg/us/en/home/insights/2019/10/tnf-italy-digital-services-tax-apply-beginning-1-january-2020.html>.

²⁴⁵² Factbox: Key tax and spending measures in Italy's 2020 budget, Reuters (Rome) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-budget-factbox/factbox-key-tax-and-spending-measures-in-italys-2020-budget-idUSKBN1XE1MI>.

²⁴⁵³ The Latest on BEPS and Beyond – January 2020, Ernst and Young (New York) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.ey.com/en_gl/beps-tracker/the-latest-on-beps-and-beyond---january-2020.

²⁴⁵⁴ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁴⁵⁵ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁴⁵⁶ Non-compliance was determined after searching news.google.com, factiva.com, theguardian.com, bloomberg.com, and reuters.com, and mef.gov.it.

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with the commitment “to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development].”

On 30 August 2019, Japan and the United States exchanged instruments of ratification for the entry into force of the Protocol Amending Tax Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income.²⁴⁵⁷

On 10 September 2019, Japan and Uzbekistan initiated the first round of negotiations for the amendment of the current tax convention in Tokyo.²⁴⁵⁸

On 13 September 2019, Japan and Uruguay signed a tax convention clarifying the scope of taxable income in the two countries so as to eliminate double taxation arising between the two countries and prevent international tax evasion and avoidance.²⁴⁵⁹

On 20 September 2019, Japan and Uzbekistan agreed in principle to implement a new tax convention replacing their existing convention.²⁴⁶⁰ The new convention seeks to reinforce and introduce provisions for clarifying the scope of taxation in the two countries.²⁴⁶¹ On 19 December 2019, the two governments signed the new convention to eliminate double taxation and prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance.²⁴⁶²

On 1 October 2019, Japan and Morocco agreed in principle to implement a tax convention between the two countries to eliminate international double taxation and prevent tax evasion and avoidance.²⁴⁶³ On 8 January 2020, the two governments signed the convention to eliminate double taxation and prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance.²⁴⁶⁴ This is the first tax convention between Japan and Morocco and aims to enhance economic relations and mutual investments between the two countries.²⁴⁶⁵

²⁴⁵⁷ Protocol Amending Tax Convention with the United States Entered into Force, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20190830usa.htm.

²⁴⁵⁸ Negotiations for Tax Convention with Uzbekistan will be Initiated, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/190909uzb.htm.

²⁴⁵⁹ Tax Convention with Uruguay was Signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20190917urg.htm.

²⁴⁶⁰ New Tax Convention with Uzbekistan Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20190920uzb.htm.

²⁴⁶¹ New Tax Convention with Uzbekistan Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20190920uzb.htm.

²⁴⁶² New Tax Convention with Uzbekistan was Signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20191220uzb.htm.

²⁴⁶³ Tax Convention with Morocco Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20191001mor.htm

²⁴⁶⁴ Tax Convention with Morocco was Signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20200109mor.htm.

²⁴⁶⁵ Tax Convention with Morocco was Signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 9 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20200109mor.htm.

On 18 November 2019, Japan and Peru signed a tax convention to eliminate double taxation and prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance.²⁴⁶⁶ The convention covers business profits, investment income, and gains from company shares, and contains provisions to prevent abuse of the convention and promote information exchange and mutual assistance in enforcement.²⁴⁶⁷

On 28 November 2019, Japan and Ecuador exchanged diplomatic notes regarding the tax convention between them, which will come into force on 28 December 2019 and cover taxes levied on or after 1 January 2020.²⁴⁶⁸ The convention covers business profits and investment income.²⁴⁶⁹ It contains provisions to prevent abuse of the convention, to enable information exchange and mutual assistance in enforcement, and to establish a procedure of mutual agreement to address taxation contrary to the convention.²⁴⁷⁰

On 6 December 2019, Japan and Serbia agreed in principle to implement a tax convention between the two countries to eliminate international double taxation and prevent tax evasion and avoidance.²⁴⁷¹ It is expected that provisions of the convention will clarify the scope of taxation in the two countries.²⁴⁷²

On 12 December 2019, Japan and Jamaica signed a tax convention to eliminate double taxation and prevent international tax evasion and tax avoidance.²⁴⁷³ The convention covers business profits and investment income.²⁴⁷⁴ It contains provisions to prevent abuse of the convention, to enable information exchange and mutual assistance in enforcement, and to establish a procedure of mutual agreement or arbitration to address taxation contrary to the convention.²⁴⁷⁵

On 29 January 2020, Japan announced new measures to prevent base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) under its tax convention with Saudi Arabia, aligning with the OECD framework.²⁴⁷⁶ The two countries will add their tax treaty to the list of existing treaties covered by the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (MLI).²⁴⁷⁷

²⁴⁶⁶ Tax Convention with Peru was Signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20191119per.htm.

²⁴⁶⁷ Key Points of Tax Convention with Peru, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20191119per_pt.htm.

²⁴⁶⁸ Tax Convention with Ecuador will Enter into Force, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 29 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20191129ecu.htm.

²⁴⁶⁹ Key Points of Tax Convention with Ecuador, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20190116ec_pt.htm.

²⁴⁷⁰ Key Points of Tax Convention with Ecuador, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 16 January 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20190116ec_pt.htm.

²⁴⁷¹ Tax Convention with Serbia Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20191206ser.htm.

²⁴⁷² Tax Convention with Serbia Agreed in Principle, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20191206ser.htm.

²⁴⁷³ Tax Convention with Jamaica was Signed, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20191212jam.htm.

²⁴⁷⁴ Key Points of Tax Convention with Jamaica, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20191212jam_pt.htm.

²⁴⁷⁵ Key Points of Tax Convention with Jamaica, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 12 December 2019. Access Date: 1 May 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20191212jam_pt.htm.

²⁴⁷⁶ Tax Treaties Covered by the Convention to Implement Measures to Prevent BEPS will be Increased: Saudi Arabia, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20200207mli.htm.

²⁴⁷⁷ Tax Treaties Covered by the Convention to Implement Measures to Prevent BEPS will be Increased: Saudi Arabia, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20200207mli.htm.

On 30 January 2020, the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS, of which Japan is a member, released a statement on the OECD's Two-Pillar Approach.²⁴⁷⁸ The statement includes an affirmation of commitment by members to reach an agreement on a consensus-based solution and an outline of the architecture of a Unified Approach on Pillar One.²⁴⁷⁹

On 14 February 2020, the Government of Japan moved to apply the MLI to the existing tax treaty between Japan and Qatar to prevent BEPS, with changes taking effect by 1 April 2020.²⁴⁸⁰

On 6 March 2020, Japan announced new measures to prevent BEPS under its tax convention with Portugal, aligning with the framework of the OECD.²⁴⁸¹ The two countries will add their tax treaty to the list of existing treaties covered by the MLI.²⁴⁸²

Japan has taken actions to improve international tax systems and cooperate in the adoption of the new OECD "Unified Approach" but has taken no action toward improving national tax systems.²⁴⁸³

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Gongjun (Katie) Gao

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment "to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development]."

On 1 October 2019, the United Kingdom signed the UK/Gibraltar Double Taxation Agreement, which entered into force on 24 March 2020.²⁴⁸⁴ The agreement covers UK corporation taxes on payments made on or after 1 April 2020, UK income and capital gains taxes on or after 6 April 2020, both countries' taxes withheld at the sources on or after 1 May 2020, and Gibraltar income and corporation taxes on or after 1 July 2020.²⁴⁸⁵

²⁴⁷⁸ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁴⁷⁹ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁴⁸⁰ Tax Treaties Covered by the Convention to Implement Measures to Prevent BEPS will be Increased: Qatar, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20200221mli.htm.

²⁴⁸¹ Tax Treaties Covered by the Convention to Implement Measures to Prevent BEPS will be Increased: Portugal, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20200306mli.htm.

²⁴⁸² Tax Treaties Covered by the Convention to Implement Measures to Prevent BEPS will be Increased: Portugal, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20200306mli.htm.

²⁴⁸³ Partial compliance was determined after searching news.google.com, factiva.com, theguardian.com, bloomberg.com, and reuters.com.

²⁴⁸⁴ 2019 Gibraltar-UK Double Taxation Agreement, UK Government (London) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/841182/2019_Gibraltar-UK_Double_Taxation_Agreement___not_in_force.pdf.

²⁴⁸⁵ 2019 Gibraltar-UK Double Taxation Agreement, UK Government (London) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 1 May 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/878661/UK-Gibraltar_in-force_April_2020.pdf.

On 2 October 2019, an amending protocol to the UK/Cyprus Double Taxation Agreement entered into force.²⁴⁸⁶ The agreement covers taxes withheld at the source starting 1 January 2019 and covers income tax starting 6 April 2019.²⁴⁸⁷

On 21 October 2019, the 2016 United Kingdom–United Arab Emirates Double Taxation Convention, which is in force, was modified by Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (MLI).²⁴⁸⁸ The MLI is a multilateral convention intended to simplify the process of amending bilateral tax treaties in accordance with the principles of base erosion and profit shifting and had been ratified by 85 jurisdictions at the time.²⁴⁸⁹

On 5 November 2019, the 1967 Luxembourg-UK Double Taxation Convention, which is in force, was modified by the MLI.²⁴⁹⁰ The modifications cover both country's taxes withheld at the sources on amounts paid or credited to non-residents on or after 1 January 2020, UK corporation taxes starting 1 April 2020, UK income and capital gains taxes starting 6 April 2020, and all other taxes levied by Luxembourg for taxable periods beginning on or after 1 February 2020.²⁴⁹¹

On 15 November 2019, the 2004 UK-Georgia Double Taxation Agreement, the 1978 Canada-UK Double Taxation Convention, and the 1993 India-UK Double Taxation Convention were modified by the MLI.^{2492,2493,2494} On the UK side, the modifications cover taxes withheld at the sources on amounts paid or credited to non-residents on or after 1 January 2020, UK corporation taxes starting 1 April 2020, and UK income and capital gains taxes starting 6 April 2020.^{2495,2496,2497}

On 4 December 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson stated that he would press ahead with the planned April 2020 introduction of a two per cent digital services tax despite the backlash French

²⁴⁸⁶ Cyprus: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cyprus-tax-treaties>.

²⁴⁸⁷ Protocol to the UK/Cyprus Double Taxation Agreement, UK Government (London) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/839991/in_force.pdf.

²⁴⁸⁸ United Arab Emirates: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/united-arab-emirates-tax-treaties#history>.

²⁴⁸⁹ Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting coming into force in Canada, Ernst and Young LLC (Ottawa) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://assets.ey.com/content/dam/ey-sites/ey-com/en_ca/topics/tax/tax-alerts/2019/ey-taxalert2019no40.pdf.

²⁴⁹⁰ Luxembourg: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/luxembourg-tax-treaties#history>.

²⁴⁹¹ Luxembourg: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/luxembourg-tax-treaties#history>.

²⁴⁹² Georgia: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/georgia-tax-treaties>.

²⁴⁹³ Canada: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/canada-tax-treaties>.

²⁴⁹⁴ India: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/india-tax-treaties#history>.

²⁴⁹⁵ Georgia: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/georgia-tax-treaties>.

²⁴⁹⁶ Canada: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/canada-tax-treaties>.

²⁴⁹⁷ India: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/india-tax-treaties#history>.

President Emmanuel Macron has received from U.S. President Donald Trump over France's similar tax.²⁴⁹⁸

On 16 December 2019, the 2016 Colombia-UK Double Taxation Convention came into force.²⁴⁹⁹ The convention takes effect in the UK on taxes that are withheld at the source on 1 January 2020, on corporation tax on 1 April 2020, and on income and capital gains taxes on 6 April 2020.²⁵⁰⁰

On 6 January 2020, the 2008 Netherlands-UK Double Taxation Convention was modified by the MLI.²⁵⁰¹ The modifications cover taxes levied by the Netherlands starting 1 January 2020, UK withholding taxes starting 1 January 2020, UK corporation taxes starting 1 April 2020, and UK income and capital gains taxes starting 6 April 2020.²⁵⁰²

On 10 January 2020, the 1987 Belgium-UK Double Taxation Convention was modified by the MLI.²⁵⁰³ The modifications cover taxes levied by Belgium starting 1 April 2020, UK withholding taxes starting 1 January 2020, UK corporation taxes starting 1 April 2020, and UK income and capital gains taxes starting 6 April 2020.²⁵⁰⁴

On 23 January 2020, the United Kingdom undertook a global day of action in conjunction with Canada, the United States, Australia, and the Netherlands to investigate an international financial institution suspected of facilitating money laundering and tax evasion.²⁵⁰⁵ The coordinated day of action involved interviews and the use of subpoenas and search warrants, and is expected to lead to criminal, civil, and regulatory action in each participating country.²⁵⁰⁶ This was the first major operation of the Joint Chiefs of Global Tax Enforcement, an organization of tax enforcement leaders from each of the five participating countries, formed to combat tax crime and money laundering.²⁵⁰⁷

²⁴⁹⁸ Boris Johnson sticks with UK digital tax plan despite the risk of US tariffs, CNN (London) 4 December 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/04/tech/boris-johnson-digital-tax-trump/index.html>.

²⁴⁹⁹ Colombia: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/colombia-tax-treaties>.

²⁵⁰⁰ Colombia: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/colombia-tax-treaties>.

²⁵⁰¹ Netherlands: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/netherlands-tax-treaties>.

²⁵⁰² Netherlands: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 6 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/netherlands-tax-treaties>.

²⁵⁰³ Belgium: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 10 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/belgium-tax-treaties>.

²⁵⁰⁴ Belgium: Tax Treaties, UK Government (London) 10 January 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/belgium-tax-treaties>.

²⁵⁰⁵ Global tax chiefs undertake unprecedented multi-country day of action to tackle international tax evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2020/01/global-tax-chiefs-undertake-unprecedented-multi-country-day-of-action-to-tackle-international-tax-evasion.html>.

²⁵⁰⁶ Global tax chiefs undertake unprecedented multi-country day of action to tackle international tax evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2020/01/global-tax-chiefs-undertake-unprecedented-multi-country-day-of-action-to-tackle-international-tax-evasion.html>.

²⁵⁰⁷ Global tax chiefs undertake unprecedented multi-country day of action to tackle international tax evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2020/01/global-tax-chiefs-undertake-unprecedented-multi-country-day-of-action-to-tackle-international-tax-evasion.html>.

On 30 January 2020, the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS, of which the UK is a member, released a statement on the OECD's Two-Pillar Approach.²⁵⁰⁸ The statement includes an affirmation of commitment by members to reach an agreement on a consensus-based solution and an outline of the architecture of a Unified Approach on Pillar One.²⁵⁰⁹

On 11 March 2020, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs published a policy paper on the Digital Services Tax.²⁵¹⁰ It announced that the government of the United Kingdom will introduce a two per cent tax on revenue made from search engines, social media services, and online marketplaces that derive value from users in the country.²⁵¹¹ The tax came into force on 1 April 2020.²⁵¹²

On 1 April 2020, the UK government implemented a 2 per cent digital services tax on the revenue of search engines, social media services, and online marketplaces that engage in economic activity in the UK.²⁵¹³ The measure is expected to raise up to GBP515 million in revenue in five years' time, and is aimed at ensuring that large multinational businesses "make a fair contribution to supporting vital public services".²⁵¹⁴

The United Kingdom has taken actions to improve national and international tax systems and cooperate in the adoption of the new OECD "Unified Approach."

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Wayne George

United States: -1

The United States has not complied with the commitment "to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development]."

On 30 August 2019, the Governments of Japan and the United States exchanged instruments of ratification for the entry into force of the Protocol Amending Tax Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income.²⁵¹⁵

²⁵⁰⁸ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁵⁰⁹ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁵¹⁰ Policy Paper: Digital Services Tax, UK Government (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-the-digital-services-tax/digital-services-tax>.

²⁵¹¹ Policy Paper: Digital Services Tax, UK Government (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-the-digital-services-tax/digital-services-tax>.

²⁵¹² Policy Paper: Digital Services Tax, UK Government (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-the-digital-services-tax/digital-services-tax>.

²⁵¹³ Digital Services Tax Policy paper, UK Government (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-the-digital-services-tax/digital-services-tax>.

²⁵¹⁴ Digital Services Tax Policy paper, UK Government (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-the-digital-services-tax/digital-services-tax>.

²⁵¹⁵ Protocol Amending Tax Convention with the United States Entered into Force, Ministry of Finance (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/tax_policy/tax_conventions/press_release/20190830usa.htm.

On 30 October 2019, the Cypriot Tax Department announced that it was negotiating a Competent Authority Agreement for the exchange of Country by Country reports with the United States.²⁵¹⁶ Country by Country reporting involves all large multinational enterprises being required to prepare a country by country report with aggregate data on the global allocation of income, profit, taxes paid, and economic activity among the tax jurisdiction which it operates.²⁵¹⁷

On 31 October 2019, the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) added Singapore to the list of countries with which the United States was in negotiations for a Competent Authority Agreement for automatic Country by Country reports.²⁵¹⁸ The IRS is in the process of negotiating Competent Authority Agreements with eight other countries.²⁵¹⁹

On 2 December 2019, the Office of the United States Trade Representative released a Section 301 Investigation regarding France's digital services tax (DST).²⁵²⁰ It proposed to place tariffs on French goods such as champagne, handbags, and cheese in retaliation for the DST, arguing that it unfairly targets technology companies from the United States.²⁵²¹

On 3 December 2019, Secretary of the Treasury Steve Mnuchin announced that the United States no longer supported key elements of the OECD's compromise proposal to overhaul the rules for allocating the profits of multinationals for tax purposes and related issues of countries' taxing rights in the context of the "Unified Approach."²⁵²² Rather, Secretary Mnuchin proposed creating a "safe-harbor regime" in a letter to OECD Secretary General Ángel Gurría.²⁵²³

On 21 January 2020, the United States Senate Finance Committee announced that the United States and France had reached a compromise on France's proposed DST.²⁵²⁴ France agreed to postpone the implementation of the DST while the United States agreed to postpone the tariff retaliation that it had threatened on 2 December 2019.²⁵²⁵

²⁵¹⁶ Cyprus issues announcement regarding bilateral Competent Authority Agreement with the United States, Ernst and Young (Nicosia) 8 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://globaltaxnews.ey.com/news/2019-6397-cyprus-issues-announcement-regarding-bilateral-competent-authority-agreement-with-the-united-states>.

²⁵¹⁷ Action 13: Country by Country Reporting, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) No publication date. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/beps-actions/action13/>.

²⁵¹⁸ The Latest on BEPS and Beyond, Ernst and Young (New York) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.ey.com/gl/en/services/tax/international-tax/alert--the-latest-on-beps-and-beyond---november-2019>.

²⁵¹⁹ Country by Country Reporting Jurisdiction Status Table, Internal Revenue Service (Washington) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.irs.gov/businesses/country-by-country-reporting-jurisdiction-status-table>.

²⁵²⁰ US vows 100% tariff on French Champagne, cheese, handbags over digital tax, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 3 December 2019. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/12/03/us-vows-100percent-tariffs-on-french-champagne-cheese-over-digital-tax.html>.

²⁵²¹ US vows 100% tariff on French Champagne, cheese, handbags over digital tax, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 3 December 2019. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/12/03/us-vows-100percent-tariffs-on-french-champagne-cheese-over-digital-tax.html>.

²⁵²² Treasury Secretary Mnuchin warns of new global taxes, opposes digital service duty, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 4 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/12/04/treasurys-mnuchin-warns-of-global-taxes-opposes-new-digital-duties.html>.

²⁵²³ Treasury Letter OECD Digital Services Tax, KPMG (Washington) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://home.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/us/pdf/2019/12/treasury-letter-oecd-digital-services-tax.pdf>.

²⁵²⁴ Grassley, Wyden Joint Statement on French Digital Services Tax Hiatus, United States Senate Committee on Finance (Washington D.C.) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.finance.senate.gov/chairmans-news/grassley-wyden-joint-statement-on-french-digital-services-tax-hiatus>.

²⁵²⁵ France will delay controversial tech tax, The Verge (Washington) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.theverge.com/2020/1/23/21078574/france-us-digital-tax-deal-negotiations-tariffs-postponed-trump>.

On 23 January 2020, the United States undertook a global day of action in conjunction with Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and the Netherlands to investigate an international financial institution suspected of facilitating money laundering and tax evasion.²⁵²⁶ The coordinated day of action involved interviews and the use of subpoenas and search warrants, and is expected to lead to criminal, civil, and regulatory action in each participating country.²⁵²⁷ This was the first major operation of the Joint Chiefs of Global Tax Enforcement, an organization of tax enforcement leaders from each of the five participating countries, formed to combat tax crime and money laundering.²⁵²⁸

On 30 January 2020, the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS [Base Erosion and Profit Shifting], of which the United States is a member, released a statement on the OECD's Two-Pillar Approach.²⁵²⁹ The statement includes an affirmation of commitment by members to reach an agreement on a consensus-based solution and an outline of the architecture of a Unified Approach on Pillar One.²⁵³⁰

The United States has taken actions to improve international tax systems but has taken no action toward improving national tax systems and has undermined negotiations surrounding the adoption of the new OECD "Unified Approach."

Thus, the United States receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Wayne George

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with the commitment "to simplify regulatory barriers and modernize international taxation within the framework of the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development]."

On 27 September 2019, European Union commissioner-designate Margrethe Vestager signaled her intention to "act alone" in implementing a EU digital tax if no agreement on the topic is reached by the end of 2020.²⁵³¹ Commissioner-designate for taxation Paolo Gentiloni also commented that he

²⁵²⁶ Global tax chiefs undertake unprecedented multi-country day of action to tackle international tax evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2020/01/global-tax-chiefs-undertake-unprecedented-multi-country-day-of-action-to-tackle-international-tax-evasion.html>.

²⁵²⁷ Global tax chiefs undertake unprecedented multi-country day of action to tackle international tax evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2020/01/global-tax-chiefs-undertake-unprecedented-multi-country-day-of-action-to-tackle-international-tax-evasion.html>.

²⁵²⁸ Global tax chiefs undertake unprecedented multi-country day of action to tackle international tax evasion, Canada Revenue Agency (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/news/2020/01/global-tax-chiefs-undertake-unprecedented-multi-country-day-of-action-to-tackle-international-tax-evasion.html>.

²⁵²⁹ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁵³⁰ Statement by the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS on the Two-Pillar Approach to Address the Tax Challenges Arising from the Digitalisation of the Economy – January 2020, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 20 April 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/statement-by-the-oecd-g20-inclusive-framework-on-beps-january-2020.pdf>.

²⁵³¹ EU ready to act alone on digital tax if no global deal in 2020, Reuters (Brussels) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-economy-gentiloni/eu-ready-to-act-alone-on-digital-tax-if-no-global-deal-in-2020-idUSKBN1WC15D>.

would attempt to prevent individual EU members from vetoing tax decisions as occurred in March 2019 during negotiations over a proposed digital tax.²⁵³²

On 20 January 2020, Commissioner for Internal Market Thierry Breton stated that the EU will take action in the case of failure of OECD-level discussion on taxation for digital companies.²⁵³³ Breton added that EU members that had formerly opposed a digital tax were now largely in agreement on the matter.²⁵³⁴

On 25 April 2020, Commissioner Gentiloni stated that the best solution for the reform of the international corporate tax framework would be a global agreement that is “actively engaged in the work done by the OECD” in a response to a parliamentary question.²⁵³⁵

The European Union has taken actions to cooperate in the adoption of the new OECD “Unified Approach” but has taken no actions to improve international tax systems or national tax systems.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Aryan Agarwal

²⁵³² EU ready to act alone on digital tax if no global deal in 2020, Reuters (Brussels) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-economy-gentiloni/eu-ready-to-act-alone-on-digital-tax-if-no-global-deal-in-2020-idUSKBN1WC15D>.

²⁵³³ EU industry chief: EU ready to act on digital tax, if OECD fails, Reuters (Brussels) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-digital-tax-breton/eu-industry-chief-eu-ready-to-act-on-digital-tax-if-oecd-fails-idUSKBN1ZJ0TO>.

²⁵³⁴ EU industry chief: EU ready to act on digital tax, if OECD fails, Reuters (Brussels) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 28 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-digital-tax-breton/eu-industry-chief-eu-ready-to-act-on-digital-tax-if-oecd-fails-idUSKBN1ZJ0TO>.

²⁵³⁵ Parliamentary questions, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 25 April 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2020-001128-ASW_EN.html.

16. Health: Primary Health Care

“We commit to pursuing our efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment.”

Sahel Partnership Action Plan

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France	-1		
Germany		0	
Italy	-1		
Japan	-1		
United Kingdom		0	
United States			+1
European Union		0	
Average	-0.38 (31%)		

Background

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the G7 Leaders first committed to partnering with African governments to “deliver free and basic health care ... for all.”²⁵³⁶ The commitment included training healthcare practitioners; providing resources toward the fight against HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis; and supporting local healthcare systems in addition to national healthcare policies.²⁵³⁷ The G7 leaders proposed this commitment as a way to realize some of the United Nation’s Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).²⁵³⁸

At the 2006 St Petersburg Summit, the G7 leaders committed to achieving the health MDGs through combatting infectious diseases, such as malaria, polio, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS.²⁵³⁹ As part of this commitment, the G7 leaders agreed to support capacity-building efforts to strengthen the ability of healthcare systems in developing countries so that they can treat as many patients with these infectious diseases as possible.²⁵⁴⁰

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, the G7 leaders committed to both combatting infectious diseases and strengthening healthcare systems in Africa.²⁵⁴¹ The G7 adopted a gender-sensitive approach to treating HIV/AIDS and committed to supporting efforts to educate women and girls on sexual health.²⁵⁴² The G7 committed to “enhanc(ing) coordination of bilateral and multilateral health partnerships with national health strategies” that aimed to mobilize resources for healthcare in

²⁵³⁶ Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2005. Access Date: 6 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>.

²⁵³⁷ Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2005. Access Date: 6 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.pdf>.

²⁵³⁸ Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2005. Access Date: 6 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa>.

²⁵³⁹ Fight Against Infectious Disease, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2006. Access Date: 6 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/infdis.html>.

²⁵⁴⁰ Fight Against Infectious Disease, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2006. Access Date: 6 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/infdis.html>.

²⁵⁴¹ Growth and Responsibility in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2007. Access Date: 6 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heilgendamm/g8-2007-africa.pdf>.

²⁵⁴² Growth and Responsibility in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2007. Access Date: 6 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heilgendamm/g8-2007-africa.pdf>.

Africa.²⁵⁴³ The G7 also expressed support for knowledge-sharing platforms on health financing in poor countries.²⁵⁴⁴

At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, the G7 committed to contribute resources to the fight against infectious diseases in developing countries, especially malaria, tuberculosis, polio, and HIV/AIDS.²⁵⁴⁵ The G7 also committed to working toward harmonizing “disease-specific” policies and “health systems” policies in their delivery of the MDGs.²⁵⁴⁶ For example, the G7 agreed to fight “neglected tropical diseases” by “expanding health system coverage, alleviating poverty and social exclusion as well as promoting adequate integrated public health approaches, including through the mass administration of drugs.”²⁵⁴⁷

At the 2009 L’Aquila Summit, the G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen healthcare provision in Africa.²⁵⁴⁸ The G7 emphasized the need to create knowledge-sharing platforms on “health innovation” between researchers and African healthcare providers.²⁵⁴⁹ They stressed that the health MDGs required “maximizing synergies between global health initiatives and health systems.”²⁵⁵⁰ For example, the G7 resolved to promote “prevention and integration of services” for HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.²⁵⁵¹ The G7 also agreed that it was essential to treat health as “an outcome of all policies” such as nutrition and education.²⁵⁵²

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, the G7 launched the G8 Muskoka Initiative: Maternal, Newborn and Under-Five Child Health, an effort to strengthen services for mothers and newborns in developing countries.²⁵⁵³ Through this commitment, the G7 committed to supporting policies such as “antenatal care” and “sexual and reproductive health care and services,” but also “health education” and “basic nutrition.”²⁵⁵⁴ Once again, G7 leaders framed this commitment in the context of the MDGs.²⁵⁵⁵ G7 leaders also emphasized the importance of working with local healthcare systems.²⁵⁵⁶

²⁵⁴³ Growth and Responsibility in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2007. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-africa.pdf>.

²⁵⁴⁴ Growth and Responsibility in Africa, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2007. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-africa.pdf>.

²⁵⁴⁵ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2008. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

²⁵⁴⁶ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2008. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

²⁵⁴⁷ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2008. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>

²⁵⁴⁸ Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2009. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

²⁵⁴⁹ Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2009. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

²⁵⁵⁰ Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2009. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

²⁵⁵¹ Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2009. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

²⁵⁵² Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2009. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.pdf>

²⁵⁵³ Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2010. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>.

²⁵⁵⁴ Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2010. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>.

²⁵⁵⁵ Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2010. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>.

²⁵⁵⁶ Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2010. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>.

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, the G7 reaffirmed their commitment to maternal and child health in developing countries.²⁵⁵⁷ As part of this commitment, the G7 resolved to support initiatives promoting women's sexual health, improve access to health coverage, and contribute to nutrition and immunization.²⁵⁵⁸ They also expressed support for the GAVI, Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation and the World Health Organization's (WHO) International Health Regulations in the context of infectious disease.²⁵⁵⁹

At the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, the G7 declared that health was a fundamental human right.²⁵⁶⁰ In this context, they committed to "strengthening health systems through bilateral programmes and multilateral structures."²⁵⁶¹

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 adopted the G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health.²⁵⁶² In the Vision for Global Health, the G7 acknowledged the importance of "primary prevention," especially given the ageing populations of the G7 members.²⁵⁶³ G7 leaders also expressed support for organizations promoting universal health coverage in Africa.²⁵⁶⁴ At the summit, the G7 also stressed in the Leaders Declaration, the need to provide women and girls with "sexual and reproductive health, rights and services, immunization, better nutrition, and needs-based responses in emergencies and disasters."²⁵⁶⁵

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 committed to promoting the health of women and adolescents.²⁵⁶⁶ They also resolved to reinforce health systems to be more robust against public health emergencies.²⁵⁶⁷ At the 2017 G7 Milan Health Ministers Meeting, the G7 health ministers endorsed a gender-responsive approach to healthcare policy, especially adolescent females.²⁵⁶⁸ In this declaration, the G7 Health Ministers, during the fifth health ministers meeting, promoted efforts to strengthen mental health, nutrition, and health literacy for young women.²⁵⁶⁹

²⁵⁵⁷ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2014. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

²⁵⁵⁸ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2014. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

²⁵⁵⁹ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2014. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

²⁵⁶⁰ Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2015. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²⁵⁶¹ Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2015. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²⁵⁶² G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2016. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>.

²⁵⁶³ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2016. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>.

²⁵⁶⁴ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2016. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>.

²⁵⁶⁵ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2016. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#architecture>.

²⁵⁶⁶ G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2017. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communiqu.html>.

²⁵⁶⁷ G7 Taormina Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2017. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communiqu.html>.

²⁵⁶⁸ United towards Global Health: Common Strategies for Common Challenges, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2017. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2017-milan.html>.

²⁵⁶⁹ United towards Global Health: Common Strategies for Common Challenges, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2017. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2017-milan.html>.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 committed to “sustainable health systems that promote access to quality and affordable healthcare.”²⁵⁷⁰ As part of this commitment, the G7 reaffirmed its commitment to strengthen women’s and adolescent’s health, with an emphasis on evidence-based policy.²⁵⁷¹ The G7 also committed to educating the public on issues relating to mental health.²⁵⁷²

At the 2019 Paris G7 Health Ministers Meeting, the G7 health ministers affirmed the need to strengthen primary health care globally.²⁵⁷³ They stressed the importance of encouraging primary health care in the Sahel region as well as the gender dimension of primary health care, noting that it was important to improve women’s access to primary health care and to empower women working in the field of primary health care.²⁵⁷⁴ At that meeting, Health Ministers announced that the French government is producing a report on the possibility of a G7 Primary Health Care Universal Knowledge Initiative, an online platform through which G7 members and “low-middle-income countries, such as ... G5 Sahel” could exchange best practices on primary health care.²⁵⁷⁵ WHO, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) the World Bank Group, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance were also producing a report on the topic.²⁵⁷⁶

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, the G7 leaders committed to taking initiatives to “strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment.”²⁵⁷⁷

Commitment Features

At the G7 Biarritz Summit in August 2019, G7 leaders committed to “pursuing ... efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment.”

The OECD defines primary health care (PHC) as “the first level of contact for the population with the health care system,”²⁵⁷⁸ and WHO defines it as “meeting the majority of people’s health needs through services provided directly in the community where they live.”²⁵⁷⁹ According to WHO, a PHC approach focuses on “treat(ing) the person rather than the disease.”²⁵⁸⁰

²⁵⁷⁰ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

²⁵⁷¹ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

²⁵⁷² The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2018. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

²⁵⁷³ G7 Health Ministers Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2019-health.html>.

²⁵⁷⁴ G7 Health Ministers Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2019-health.html>.

²⁵⁷⁵ G7 Health Ministers Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2019-health.html>.

²⁵⁷⁶ G7 Health Ministers Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2019-health.html>.

²⁵⁷⁷ Sahel Partnership Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2019. Access Date: 6 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/sahel-partnership-action-plan.html>.

²⁵⁷⁸ Primary Care, OECD (Paris) 2016. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/health/health-systems/primary-care.htm>.

²⁵⁷⁹ Moving Towards PHC, WHO (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <https://www.who.int/activities/moving-towards-phc>.

²⁵⁸⁰ Moving Towards PHC, WHO (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <https://www.who.int/activities/moving-towards-phc>.

The key verb in this commitment is “to strengthen,” which means creation of new initiatives or the expansion of existing ones. We will count research and exploratory programs in primary health as strengthening primary health but will not count simple affirmations of the principles of primary health.

There are several definitions offered for primary health care.²⁵⁸¹ We will define it, as per WHO, as services offered in a person’s community that are not designed to treat a specific medical condition but rather to address the wide range of needs for that person’s overall health.

WHO has classified all PHC policies into one of three categories, all of which, for the purposes of compliance, will count as primary health care:

1. Meeting people’s health needs through comprehensive promotive, protective, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative care throughout the life course, strategically prioritizing key health care services aimed at individuals and families through primary care and the population through public health functions as the central elements of integrated health services;
2. Systematically addressing the broader determinants of health (including social, economic, environmental, as well as people’s characteristics and behaviours) through evidence-informed public policies and actions across all sectors; and
3. Empowering individuals, families, and communities to optimize their health, as advocates for policies that promote and protect health and well-being, as co-developers of health and social services, and as self-carers and care-givers to others.²⁵⁸²

Based on the G7 Health Ministerial Declaration from 2019, we will take primary health care to include “health promotion, prevention, treatment, immunization ... nutrition ... [and] peoples’ health literacy.”²⁵⁸³ As by OECD standards, we will also consider “preventive, curative and rehabilitative services” by “physicians, ... nurses, pharmacists, auxiliaries, and community health workers” to be under the umbrella of primary health care.²⁵⁸⁴ However, we will not count emergency or hospital care as primary health care.

The G5 Sahel countries are Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger. To comply with this commitment, a G7 member can strengthen primary healthcare by partnering with a G5 Sahel country’s government or through organizations operating in the country.

The G7 Health Ministerial Declaration stresses the importance of improving women’s access to healthcare, that many workers in the health sector are women and the need to encourage women in leadership positions in the health sector.²⁵⁸⁵ As such, “a specific focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment” includes any initiative that address healthcare issues affecting primarily women such as reproductive health; are specifically designed to reach the female population of a community; or promotes the interests of women working in primary health care in the Sahel region.

²⁵⁸¹ Primary Health Care, WHO (Geneva) 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/primary-health-care>.

²⁵⁸² Primary Health Care, WHO (Geneva) 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/primary-health-care>.

²⁵⁸³ G7 Health Ministers Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2019-health.html>.

²⁵⁸⁴ Primary Care, OECD (Paris) 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/health/health-systems/primary-care.htm>.

²⁵⁸⁵ G7 Health Ministers Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2019-health.html>.

Thus, to achieve a score of full compliance, or +1, a G7 member must pursue efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, inclusive of efforts that specifically focus on gender equality and women's empowerment in all three of WHO's defined primary health categories. Actions taken in accordance of the WHO categories can be inclusive of short, and long-term actions, in individual, bilateral or multilateral partnerships. Strengthening the health care system can be taken through providing financial development, health infrastructure creation or development in all areas of the WHO primary health care definition.

To achieve a score of 0, or partial compliance, a G7 member must pursue efforts to strengthen primary health care in Sahel countries, inclusive of efforts that specifically focus on gender equality and women's empowerment in two of the WHO defined primary health care areas.

Action taken in one or none of the WHO defined categories of primary health care areas will result in a score of -1, or no compliance.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member pursues efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries in ONE or NONE of the World Health Organization's (WHO) classified primary health care areas.
0	G7 member pursues efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries in TWO of the WHO defined categories of primary health care areas, which include efforts that focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.
+1	G7 member pursues efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries in ALL three categories of WHO classified primary health care areas, which include efforts that focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Compliance Director: Clara Geddes

Lead Analyst: Lilin Tong

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to pursue efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

On 28 August 2019, the Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality Maryam Monsef, announced that Canada will pledge CAD20 million over the next five years to help improve access to quality health and reproductive services for women and girls and Mali.²⁵⁸⁶ The funding is devoted to train more than 2,800 health professionals, managers, and trainers as well as to improve the Malian government's human resources management to improve the performance of the health system.²⁵⁸⁷

²⁵⁸⁶ Canada increases access to gender-sensitive health services for women and girls in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/08/canada-increases-access-to-gender-sensitive-health-services-for-women-and-girls-in-mali.html?fbclid=IwAR3-CNMak2kDUqpt9-vFsTcFLakYGmS64aSXlJ_62DUD02wGHeq0gLd_oF0.

²⁵⁸⁷ Canada increases access to gender-sensitive health services for women and girls in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/08/canada-increases-access-to-gender-sensitive-health-services-for-women-and-girls-in-mali.html?fbclid=IwAR3-CNMak2kDUqpt9-vFsTcFLakYGmS64aSXlJ_62DUD02wGHeq0gLd_oF0.

On 23 January 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Phillipe Champagne announced CAD78.9 million for eight different projects in Mali.²⁵⁸⁸ These include a CAD20 million pledge for over five years to “improving (the) knowledge and increasing their decision-making power and ability to act on their sexual and reproductive health and rights” of women and girls in the Kayes region.²⁵⁸⁹ Canada also committed to a CAD8 million project toward strengthening health systems that address maternal mortality and morbidity for more than 500,000 women and girls.²⁵⁹⁰ The rest of the CAD78.9 million is to go toward food and nutritional security, the promotion of girls’ education, and issues of peace and security.²⁵⁹¹

Canada’s engagement in Mali represents efforts to improve healthcare services and address broader determinants of health such as education and nutrition. In addition, the contribution toward reproductive health education constitutes an initiative that empowers women and girls in the Sahel region.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Adebisi Akande

France: –1

France has not complied with its commitment to strengthen quality primary healthcare in Sahel countries, with a focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment.

On 9 October 2019, President Emmanuel Macron, hosted the Sixth Replenishment Conference of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.²⁵⁹² At this conference, France committed to increasing its contribution by 20 per cent to reach USD1.429 billion.²⁵⁹³ This funding is devoted to strengthening all aspects of the health systems, including communities, hospitals, prevention efforts, and state-of-the-art care, with a priority in the Sahel region.²⁵⁹⁴

On 11 October 2019, the Minister of State attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne, participated in the inaugural France-Sahel Decentralized Cooperation Conference.²⁵⁹⁵ The conference, organized with the support of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, aims to help develop decentralized cooperation in Sahel countries in order to promote access to basic services and support local development.²⁵⁹⁶ The local and regional authorities of France and

²⁵⁸⁸ Minister Champagne concludes visit to Mali, continues on to Morocco, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/minister-champagne-concludes-visit-to-mali-continues-on-to-morocco.html>

²⁵⁸⁹ Canadian supported projects in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canadian-supported-projects-in-mali.html>

²⁵⁹⁰ Canadian supported projects in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canadian-supported-projects-in-mali.html>

²⁵⁹¹ Canadian supported projects in Mali, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/01/canadian-supported-projects-in-mali.html>

²⁵⁹² \$14.02 billion to fund the fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, France in the United States (Washington D.C.) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9372>.

²⁵⁹³ \$14.02 billion to fund the fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, France in the United States (Washington D.C.) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9372>.

²⁵⁹⁴ \$14.02 billion to fund the fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, France in the United States (Washington D.C.) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9372>.

²⁵⁹⁵ Sahel-Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne’s participation in the France-Sahel Decentralized Cooperation Conference, France Diplomatie (Paris) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/news/article/sahel-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-s-participation-in-the-france-sahel-decentralized>.

²⁵⁹⁶ Sahel-Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne’s participation in the France-Sahel Decentralized Cooperation Conference, France Diplomatie (Paris). 10 October 2019 Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/news/article/sahel-jean-baptiste-lemoyne-s-participation-in-the-france-sahel-decentralized>.

the Sahel have launched an approach within the “Sahel Project Group” in order to share their experiences, provide mutual support and promote the pooling of resources and the scaling up of projects.²⁵⁹⁷

On 25 February 2020, Minister for Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian participated in the General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance and G5 Sahel Summit in Nouakchott, Mauritania.²⁵⁹⁸ The General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance aims to ensure high-level international mobilization in the Sahel region.²⁵⁹⁹ Minister Le Drian underscored France’s continued support for the Sahel Alliance work on stabilization and development in Mauritania, Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Chad.²⁶⁰⁰

On 11 March 2020, in a joint press statement with Sweden on security in the Sahel region, Minister Le Drian reaffirmed the need for humanitarian aid and engagement on development issues in the Sahel.²⁶⁰¹

On 21 April 2020, the Agence Française du Développement announced it would spend EUR12 million to partner with non-governmental organizations on six initiatives mainly in sub-Saharan Africa which are to be part of COVID-19 – Health in Common.²⁶⁰² These include EUR2 million toward supporting African countries, including Niger, to “ensure the national and regional COVID-19 laboratory mandate is fulfilled and to help the countries in their fight against the pandemic.”²⁶⁰³ The French government also increased their funding for countries that include Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso to “access laboratory reagents so they could perform COVID-19 diagnostics” by EUR1.5 million.²⁶⁰⁴ Finally, one of the projects will be one to “reduce morbidity and mortality, stem the spread of COVID-19 and reinforce health ministries’ capacity to respond to the pandemic,” of which Burkina Faso will benefit.²⁶⁰⁵

France’s contribution to the “Health in Common” initiative, which will operate in the Sahel region, consists of an effort to meet people’s health needs. Moreover, the General Assembly of the Sahel

²⁵⁹⁷ Sahel—Jean Baptiste Lemoyne’s Participation in the France-Sahel Decentralized Cooperation Conference (Poitiers—October 10-11, 2019), The Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Washington) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/IMG/html/briefing/2019/DDB-2019-10-10.html>.

²⁵⁹⁸ Jean-Yves Le Drian’s participation in the General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance and the G5 Sahel Summit, France Diplomatie (Nouakchott) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mauritania/news/article/sahel-jean-yves-le-drian-s-participation-in-the-general-assembly-of-the-sahel>

²⁵⁹⁹ Jean-Yves Le Drian’s participation in the General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance and the G5 Sahel Summit, France Diplomatie (Nouakchott) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mauritania/news/article/sahel-jean-yves-le-drian-s-participation-in-the-general-assembly-of-the-sahel>

²⁶⁰⁰ Jean-Yves Le Drian’s participation in the General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance and the G5 Sahel Summit, France Diplomatie (Nouakchott) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/mauritania/news/article/sahel-jean-yves-le-drian-s-participation-in-the-general-assembly-of-the-sahel>

²⁶⁰¹ Joint press statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Sweden and France, France Diplomatie (Paris) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/sweden/events/article/joint-press-statement-by-the-ministers-for-foreign-affairs-of-sweden-and-france>

²⁶⁰² France launches, via AFD, the “COVID-19 – health in common” initiative to support African countries, French Development Agency (Paris) 09 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/france-launches-afd-covid-19-health-common-initiative-support-african-countries>

²⁶⁰³ France launches, via AFD, the “COVID-19 – health in common” initiative to support African countries, French Development Agency, AFD (Paris) 09 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/france-launches-afd-covid-19-health-common-initiative-support-african-countries>

²⁶⁰⁴ France launches, via AFD, the “COVID-19 – health in common” initiative to support African countries, French Development Agency, AFD (Paris) 09 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/france-launches-afd-covid-19-health-common-initiative-support-african-countries>

²⁶⁰⁵ France launches, via AFD, the “COVID-19 – health in common” initiative to support African countries, French Development Agency, AFD (Paris) 09 April 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/france-launches-afd-covid-19-health-common-initiative-support-african-countries>

Alliance mobilizes support for development in order to help communities improve health outcomes. However, neither of these initiatives relate specifically to gender. France has also not yet taken any action to begin addressing broader determinants of health in the Sahel region.

Thus, France receives a score of -1 .²⁶⁰⁶

Analyst: Alexis Beynon

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to pursue efforts to strengthen quality primary healthcare in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

On 14 October 2019, the Efficiency by Edification project, a sub-project of the Global Health Protection Program supported by the Federal Ministry of Health, held a workshop on "High Consequence Infectious Diseases (HCIDs)" in Berlin for healthcare professionals from Burkina Faso.²⁶⁰⁷ The aim of the workshop was to connect regional actors from Burkina Faso and build capacities for HCID detection and treatment.²⁶⁰⁸

On 12 November 2019, Germany's Minister for Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) Gerd Müller attended the World Population Summit held in Nairobi, Kenya. At this summit, Minister Müller announced that Germany would step up its family planning activities and set up additional maternity centres in Niger, Malawi, and Cameroon.²⁶⁰⁹ Minister Müller announced that the German government would support this initiative with up to EUR100 million a year through the BMZ's Initiative on Rights-based Family Planning and Maternal Health.²⁶¹⁰

On 23 January 2020, at the World Economic Forum, Germany announced it would contribute EUR600 million to the GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, which was then celebrating its 20th anniversary, between 2021 to 2025.²⁶¹¹ The pledge will contribute to GAVI's goal of immunising an additional 300 million children in the world's poorest countries between 2021 and 2025, and strengthening the health care system to extend immunisation capacity and fortify primary health care.²⁶¹²

²⁶⁰⁶ Non-compliance was determined after a thorough search of the following websites:

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/press-room/>, <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communiqu-e-de-presse>,
<https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/actualites-du-ministere/>, <https://www.who.int/news-room/releases/2>;
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/news>; <https://www.gavi.org/news-resources/media-room/news-releases>;
<https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news>; <https://www.unicef.org/media/press-releases>.

²⁶⁰⁷ October 2019: HCID workshop with new cooperation partner Opera Village, Global Health Protection Programme (Berlin) 18 October 2019. Access date: 8 December 2019. <https://ghpp.de/en/projects/effo-efficiency-by-edification/october-2019-hcid-workshop-with-new-cooperation-partner-opera-village/>.

²⁶⁰⁸ October 2019: HCID workshop with new cooperation partner Opera Village, Global Health Protection Programme (Berlin). 18 October 2019. Access date: 8 December 2019. <https://ghpp.de/en/projects/effo-efficiency-by-edification/october-2019-hcid-workshop-with-new-cooperation-partner-opera-village/>.

²⁶⁰⁹ Germany steps up its international efforts for family planning, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 11 April 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191112_pm_064_Germany-steps-up-its-international-efforts-for-family-planning/index.html.

²⁶¹⁰ Germany steps up its international efforts for family planning, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Access Date: 11 April 2020. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2019/november/191112_pm_064_Germany-steps-up-its-international-efforts-for-family-planning/index.html.

²⁶¹¹ World Leaders Commit to Gavi's Vision to Protect the Next Generation with Vaccines, Gavi Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/world-leaders-commit-gavis-vision-protect-next-generation-vaccines>

²⁶¹² World Leaders Commit to Gavi's Vision to Protect the Next Generation with Vaccines, Gavi Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/world-leaders-commit-gavis-vision-protect-next-generation-vaccines>

On 8 April 2020, Federal Foreign Minister Heiko Maas announced that the Federal Foreign Office will pledge EUR10 million to the World Food Programme to deliver essential food supplies to population the Sahel Region at risk of suffering under- and malnourishment due to the Covid-19 pandemic.²⁶¹³ This will be done in partnership with the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service to reach those living in remote regions.²⁶¹⁴

On 23 April 2020, Germany announced an Emergency COVID-19 Support Programme for developing countries, although they do not specifically mention the Sahel region.²⁶¹⁵ This funding includes EUR200 million for “health and pandemic control” and EUR200 million for “food security and basic food services to prevent famines” out of EUR1.15 billion.²⁶¹⁶

It is noted that Germany supports the health sector through the West African Health Organization with regional funding. Evidence, however, cannot be found for this support from August 2019 to present and therefore was not included in this assessment.

Germany has taken action to empower individuals, families, and communities and to promote protective and preventative health services through its contribution to family planning and maternal health centres in Niger. This action has a specific focus on women’s empowerment and is specifically designed to reach the female population of Niger. Additionally, Germany has contributed to strengthening healthcare systems in the Sahel by partnering with local healthcare professionals on capacity building initiatives. However, the German government has not adopted policies that address broader determinants of health.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Katherine Power

Italy: –1

Italy has failed to comply with its commitment to pursue efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment.

On 15 October 2019, the Italian Ministry of Defence donated ten ambulances and three water tankers to the Government of Niger through the Fund for Africa and the Ministry of Defence.²⁶¹⁷ These vehicles are supposed to help mitigate human trafficking in the region and provide support to migrants.²⁶¹⁸

²⁶¹³ Statement by Foreign Minister Maas on food aid for people in the Sahel region, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-wfp-sahel/2331716>

²⁶¹⁴ Statement by Foreign Minister Maas on food aid for people in the Sahel region, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-wfp-sahel/2331716>

²⁶¹⁵ German Development Ministry presents Emergency COVID-19 Support Programme, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 23 April 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2020/april/200423_German-Development-Ministry-presents-Emergency-COVID-19-Support-Programme-We-will-either-beat-the-pandemic-worldwide-or-not-at-all/index.html

²⁶¹⁶ German Development Ministry presents Emergency COVID-19 Support Programme, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 23 April 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2020/april/200423_German-Development-Ministry-presents-Emergency-COVID-19-Support-Programme-We-will-either-beat-the-pandemic-worldwide-or-not-at-all/index.html

²⁶¹⁷ Italy donates 10 ambulances to the Niger government, Minister, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/10/l-italia-dona-10-ambulanze-al-governo-del-niger.html

²⁶¹⁸ Italy donates 10 ambulances to the Niger government, Minister, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 15 October 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/retediplomatica/2019/10/l-italia-dona-10-ambulanze-al-governo-del-niger.html

On 7 November 2019, the Italian Embassy in Niamey, Niger hosted a pizza and bread dough making workshop for women as part of Italian Cuisine Week and the Pizza for Peace project.²⁶¹⁹ The workshop was designed to teach entrepreneurial skills and promote nutritional health among women of Niamey.²⁶²⁰

On 6 December 2019, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Emanuela Del Re met with the Foreign Minister of Niger Kalla Ankourau and reaffirmed that Niger and its stabilization were a priority for Italian foreign policy and development aid.²⁶²¹ However, given that Italy did not mobilize any new resources as part of this policy, it does not count toward compliance.

Italy's contributions in Niger constitute meeting people's health needs through public health functions and the Pizza for Peace projects is a case of empowering women to optimize their health.²⁶²² However, the Italian government did not address the broader determinants of health.

Thus, Italy receives a score of -1.²⁶²³

Analyst: Katherine Power

Japan: -1

Japan has failed to comply with its commitment to pursue efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

On 28-30 August 2019, Japan hosted the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) in Yokohama, Japan. During TICAD, the Japanese government mentioned its efforts to "improve primary health care" in Africa.²⁶²⁴

On 29 August 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met with President Mahamadou Issoufou of Niger. Prime Minister Abe stated his support for supporting food security as well issues relating to "water

²⁶¹⁹ Italian Cuisine Week: 'Pizza for Peace' in Niger, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 7 November 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/rete_diplomatica/settimana-cucina-italiana-in-niger-la-pizza-per-la-pace.html.

²⁶²⁰ Italian Cuisine Week: 'Pizza for Peace' in Niger, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 7 November 2019. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/rete_diplomatica/settimana-cucina-italiana-in-niger-la-pizza-per-la-pace.html.

²⁶²¹ Med 2019: Del Re meets the Niger Foreign Minister, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 1 January 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2019/12/med-2019-del-re-incontra-il-ministro-degli-esteri-niger.html

²⁶²² No additional information was found in a search of: Press Releases, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome). Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati; Press Releases, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Rome). Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.aics.gov.it/language/en/>; Italian Ministry of Health (Rome). Access Date: 11 April 2020. http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2.html; New Releases, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.who.int/news-room/releases/2>; All News, The World Bank (Washington). Access Date: 13 January 2020. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/>; New Releases, Gavi The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva). Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gavi.org/news-resources/media-room/news-releases>; News & Stories, The Global Fund (Geneva). Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news>; Press Releases, UNICEF (New York). Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.unicef.org/media/press-releases>.

²⁶²³ Non-compliance was determined after a thorough search of the following websites: https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati; <https://www.who.int/news-room/releases/2>; <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news>; <https://www.gavi.org/news-resources/media-room/news-releases>; <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news>; <https://www.unicef.org/media/press-releases>.

²⁶²⁴ The 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>

and sanitation” in Niger.²⁶²⁵ Although this is not related directly to primary health care, these factors are part of the broader determinants of health.

On 4 October 2019, the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a grant agreement with the Government of Niger, to provide JPY1.194 billion for a Project of Reinforcement of the Capacity of the National Office of Hydro-Agricultural Development for the Promotion of Irrigated Rice Growing.²⁶²⁶ This project aims to development and maintain irrigation infrastructure and expand the quantity of agricultural product to improve food security.²⁶²⁷

On 14 October 2019, Japan donated JPY3 million to food assistance and JPY3 million to the Economic and Social Development Programme in Burkina Faso.²⁶²⁸

On 21 October 2019, Prime Minister Abe met with Nigeria’s President Issoufou and reaffirmed Japan’s commitment to the Sahel region in its New Approach for Peace and Stability (NAPSA). As part of NAPSA, Abe announced a grant aid worth JPY1.3 billion to improve equipment needed for irrigation farming, and another grant aid worth JPY300 million for food assistance.²⁶²⁹

On 12 November 2019, Japan donated JPY3 million to food assistance and JPY3 million to the Economic and Social Development Programme in Mali.²⁶³⁰

On 10 March 2020, Japan announced that it would contribute USD23.7 million in Emergency Grant Aid for services for internally displaced people in the Sahel region.²⁶³¹ This sum includes funds for healthcare, food assistance, and Water Sanitation and Hygiene.²⁶³²

On 12 March 2020, Japan pledged JPY200 million to Burkina Faso to enhance adolescent capacity to exercise their sexual and reproductive health and rights.²⁶³³

On 27 March 2020, Japan announced that, for the upcoming fiscal year, Japan will contribute USD476 to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as part of Japan’s Sixth Replenishment of the Global Fund.²⁶³⁴

²⁶²⁵ Japan-Niger Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 August 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/ne/page3e_001087.html

²⁶²⁶ Signing of Grant Agreement with Niger: Contributing to the improvement of the living of farmers and food security, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20191011_41.html

²⁶²⁷ Signing of Grant Agreement with Niger: Contributing to the improvement of the living of farmers and food security, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2019. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20191011_41.html

²⁶²⁸ Exchange of Notes in Fiscal Year 2019 Grant Aid by Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. N.d. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page22e_000878.html

²⁶²⁹ Japan-Niger Summit Meeting, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) October 21, 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af1/ne/page4e_001113.html

²⁶³⁰ Exchange of Notes in Fiscal Year 2019 Grant Aid by Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) N.d. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page22e_000878.html

²⁶³¹ Emergency Grant Aid in Response to the Humanitarian Crisis in the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html

²⁶³² Emergency Grant Aid in Response to the Humanitarian Crisis in the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html

²⁶³³ Exchange of Notes in Fiscal Year 2019 Grant Aid by Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/page22e_000878.html

Japan's initiatives in food assistance and nutrition in the Sahel region address some of the broader determinants of health. Moreover, Japan's efforts in promoting reproductive health and rights in Burkina Faso address people's health needs and empower women to be advocates of their own health.

Thus, Japan receives a score of -1.²⁶³⁵

Analysts: Lilin Tong and Clara Geddes

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom partially complied with its commitment to pursue efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

On 17 September 2019, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Baroness Sugg announced a new UK aid package of GBP220 million to help tackle five of the world's worst neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) – including lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, visceral leishmaniasis and trachoma – across southern and eastern Africa and south Asia.²⁶³⁶ This package will deliver 600 million treatments to prevent NTDs, provide treatment or care, and contribute to improving health systems and build greater capacity in governments for sustainable response to these diseases.²⁶³⁷

On 23 September 2019, UK aid pledged a GBP600 million aid package to improve women, maternal, and newborn health in the developing countries.²⁶³⁸ The package will prioritise access to family planning, fund research and development into new health technologies and diagnostic tests, ensure children have life-saving vaccines, use British and international expertise to provide technical assistance.²⁶³⁹

On 2 October 2019, the United Kingdom announced a commitment to ending preventable deaths of mothers, newborns, and children in the developing world by 2026 as a priority focus in a GBP600 aid package for millions of women and girls living in the world's poorest countries.²⁶⁴⁰ The UK

²⁶³⁴ Japan Secures \$476 Million Contribution to the Global Fund, The Global Fund (Geneva) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news/2020-03-27-japan-secures-usd476-million-contribution-to-the-global-fund/>

²⁶³⁵ No additional information was found in a search of: <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/new-info/2019.html>; <https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/index.html>; <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/news/index.html>; <https://www.who.int/news-room/releases/2>; <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news>; <https://www.gavi.org/news-resources/media-room/news-releases>; <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news>; <https://www.unicef.org/media/press-releases>.

²⁶³⁶ New UK aid support to protect 200 million people from debilitating diseases, Department for International Development (London) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-support-to-protect-200-million-people-from-debilitating-diseases>

²⁶³⁷ New UK aid support to protect 200 million people from debilitating diseases, Department for International Development (London) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-support-to-protect-200-million-people-from-debilitating-diseases>

²⁶³⁸ Alok Sharma speech to UN General Assembly on Universal Health Coverage, Department for International Development (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/alok-sharma-speech-to-un-general-assembly-on-universal-health-coverage>

²⁶³⁹ UK will step up efforts to end preventable deaths of mothers, new-born babies and children in the developing world by 2030, Department for International Development (London) 2 October 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-will-step-up-efforts-to-end-preventable-deaths-of-mothers-new-born-babies-and-children-in-the-developing-world-by-2030>

²⁶⁴⁰ UK will step up efforts to end preventable deaths of mothers, new-born babies and children in the developing world by 2030, Department for International Development (London) 2 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-will-step-up-efforts-to-end-preventable-deaths-of-mothers-new-born-babies-and-children-in-the-developing-world-by-2030>

government will use this funding to support family planning services; research into technology that addresses the medical needs of developing countries; disseminate vaccines for children; develop better diagnostic methods for developing countries; mobilize international knowledge of efficient health policy; and mobilize the private sector in ensuring access to health technology.²⁶⁴¹ The UK government will use this funding to “invest in more vaccines for deadly diseases, prioritise access to healthcare for women and girls around the world, and invest in research to diagnose and treat diseases more quickly and effectively.”²⁶⁴²

On 10 October 2019, the United Kingdom matched GBP100 million of private sector support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.²⁶⁴³ This fund will help provide mosquito nets to prevent malaria and strengthen the health systems so governments are better equipped to prevent and treat malaria.²⁶⁴⁴

On 8 February 2020, the United Kingdom pledged GBP5 million to the World Health Organization (WHO) to help developing countries to deal with COVID-19.²⁶⁴⁵ However, the United Kingdom and WHO did not specify which countries would receive aid.

On 12 April 2020, the UK Department for International Development that they would contribute an additional GBP200 million to non-governmental organizations working to reduce the effects of COVID-19.²⁶⁴⁶ GBP65 million of this sum is to go to WHO.²⁶⁴⁷

The United Kingdom has made contributions to address people’s health needs such as NTDs and those addressed by the Global Fund. The United Kingdom’s efforts in reproductive health also consists as such a policy, which is also related to women’s health. The United Kingdom’s aid for economic development and education in Africa, including the Sahel, consist of initiatives that address the broader determinants of health. However, the United Kingdom did not adopt strategies to empower local actors in healthcare policy determinations.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Areej Malik

²⁶⁴¹ UK will step up efforts to end preventable deaths of mothers, new-born babies and children in the developing world by 2030, Department for International Development (London) 2 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-will-step-up-efforts-to-end-preventable-deaths-of-mothers-new-born-babies-and-children-in-the-developing-world-by-2030>

²⁶⁴² UK will step up efforts to end preventable deaths of mothers, new-born babies and children in the developing world by 2030, Department for International Development (London) 2 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-will-step-up-efforts-to-end-preventable-deaths-of-mothers-new-born-babies-and-children-in-the-developing-world-by-2030>

²⁶⁴³ UK aid backs private sector to fight malaria, Department of International Development (London) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-backs-private-sector-to-fight-malaria>

²⁶⁴⁴ UK aid backs private sector to fight malaria, Department of International Development (London) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 3 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-backs-private-sector-to-fight-malaria>

²⁶⁴⁵ New UK aid to help stop the spread of coronavirus around the world, Department for International Development (London) 8 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-to-help-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus-around-the-world>

²⁶⁴⁶ UK Leads Global Fight to Prevent Second Wave of Coronavirus, UK Department for International Development (London) 12 April 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-global-fight-to-prevent-second-wave-of-coronavirus>

²⁶⁴⁷ UK Leads Global Fight to Prevent Second Wave of Coronavirus, UK Department for International Development (London) 12 April 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-global-fight-to-prevent-second-wave-of-coronavirus>

United States: –1

The United States has not complied with its commitment to pursue efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women's empowerment

On 10 October 2019, the House of Representatives and the Senate Appropriations Committee approved an increase of 15.6 per cent to USD1.56 billion for the 2020 fiscal year to fund of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.²⁶⁴⁸ The funding model of the Global Fund proposes that in the years 2020-2022 the Sahel region nations will receive funding of USD687 million to combat these three illnesses.²⁶⁴⁹

On 27 December 2019, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) launched the first of a series of global health awards, named MOMENTUM, for initiatives that reduce maternal, newborn and child deaths and diseases in high-burden countries.²⁶⁵⁰ This award is valued at an estimated USD100 million and supports the Journey to Self-Reliance program, a partnership model that helps low- and middle-income countries to be self-sustaining.²⁶⁵¹ Specifically, the award supports global technical leaderships and policy dialogue on improving measurement outcomes for maternal, newborn and child health.²⁶⁵² However, this project will not necessarily affect the Sahel so it cannot count toward compliance.

On 10 February 2020, USAID announced a contribution of USD1.16 billion to GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, for 2020 to 2023.²⁶⁵³ GAVI is committed to immunising an additional 300 million children in the world's poorest countries between 2021 and 2025, and strengthening the health care system to extend immunisation capacity and fortify primary health care.²⁶⁵⁴

On 18 March 2020, USAID announced that it would spend USD62 million of its Emergency Reserve Fund for Contagious Infectious-Disease Outbreaks.²⁶⁵⁵ This funding will go toward "heightened risk-communications and engagement with local communities; the prevention and control of infection in health facilities, including through the provision of personal protective

²⁶⁴⁸ With U.S. Leadership, Global Fund Raises \$14 Billion, Largest Amount Ever Pledged to an International Health Organization, Global Fund Against AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (Geneva) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.theglobalfight.org/global-fund-6th-replenishment-press-release/>

²⁶⁴⁹ The Global Fund Funding Model-Allocation, Global Fund (Geneva) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/funding-model/before-applying/allocation/>

²⁶⁵⁰ USAID announces up to \$130 million to accelerate reductions in maternal, newborn, and child deaths, USAID (Washington D.C.) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-22-2020-usaid-announces-130-million-accelerate-reductions-maternal-newborn>

²⁶⁵¹ USAID announces up to \$130 million to accelerate reductions in maternal, newborn, and child deaths, USAID (Washington D.C.) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-22-2020-usaid-announces-130-million-accelerate-reductions-maternal-newborn>

²⁶⁵² USAID announces up to \$130 million to accelerate reductions in maternal, newborn, and child deaths, USAID (Washington D.C.) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-22-2020-usaid-announces-130-million-accelerate-reductions-maternal-newborn>

²⁶⁵³ United States endorses Gavi with recommendation of US\$ 1.16 billion, four-year commitment, GAVI (Geneva) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/united-states-endorses-gavi-recommendation-us-116-billion-four-year-commitment>

²⁶⁵⁴ United States endorses Gavi with recommendation of US\$ 1.16 billion, four-year commitment, GAVI (Geneva) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/united-states-endorses-gavi-recommendation-us-116-billion-four-year-commitment>

²⁶⁵⁵ Statement by USAID Administrator Mark Green on a Second Funding Tranche of \$62 Million in Assistance to Respond to the Pandemic of COVID-19, USAID (Washington) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/mar-18-2020-statement-administrator-green-second-funding-tranche-62>

equipment and other critical commodities; increasing laboratory, disease-surveillance, and rapid-response capacity; the management of cases of COVID-19; screening at points of entry; and global and regional coordination.”²⁶⁵⁶ However, USAID did not specify which regions would receive this aid, so it cannot count toward compliance.

The United States took action to meet people’s health needs in the Sahel, through its contribution to the Global Fund, and it made an effort to address the broader determinants of health, through its partnership with Mali. However, these initiatives do not address women’s health in particular and it did not adopt policies that empower individuals in the field of health.

Thus, the United States receives a score of –1.²⁶⁵⁷

Analyst: Dorota Borovsky

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with its commitment to pursue efforts to strengthen quality primary health care in Sahel countries, with a specific focus on gender equality and women’s empowerment.

On 23 August 2019, the European Union announced at the G7 Biarritz Summit a EUR550 million pledge to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.²⁶⁵⁸ This partnership delivers therapies and preventative measures to decrease the prevalence of these diseases.²⁶⁵⁹ The funding model of the Global Fund proposes that in the years 2020-2022 the Sahel region countries will receive funding of USD687 million to combat these three illnesses.²⁶⁶⁰

On 12 November 2019, the European Commission announced an additional EUR35 million in funding for humanitarian organizations working in the Sahel region to provide these nations with improved health care centres, protection and children’s education.²⁶⁶¹ This funding is also being used to support the communities that have been displaced by ongoing conflicts in the region.²⁶⁶²

²⁶⁵⁶ Statement by USAID Administrator Mark Green on a Second Funding Tranche of \$62 Million in Assistance to Respond to the Pandemic of COVID-19, USAID (Washington) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/mar-18-2020-statement-administrator-green-second-funding-tranche-62>

²⁶⁵⁷ No additional information was found in a search of: <https://www.state.gov/press-releases/>, <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases>, <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020-news-releases/index.html>, <https://www.who.int/news-room/releases/2>; <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news>; <https://www.gavi.org/news-resources/media-room/news-releases>; <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news>; <https://www.unicef.org/media/press-releases>.

²⁶⁵⁸ EU announces record €550 million contribution to save 16 million lives from AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, European Commission (Brussels) 23 August 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_5430.

²⁶⁵⁹ EU announces record €550 million contribution to save 16 million lives from AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, European Commission (Brussels) 23 August 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_5430.

²⁶⁶⁰ The Global Fund Funding Model-Allocation, Global Fund (Geneva) 18 December 2019 <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/funding-model/before-applying/allocation/>.

²⁶⁶¹ Humanitarian aid: EU announces additional €35 million for Africa's Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6234.

²⁶⁶² Humanitarian aid: EU announces additional €35 million for Africa's Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 12 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6234

On 24 February 2020, the European Commission announced that it would contribute EUR232 “to boost global preparedness, prevention and containment” of COVID-19 for the next few months.²⁶⁶³ EUR114 million of this sum will be channeled through World Health Organization, which will use it “to boost public health emergency preparedness and response work in countries with weak health systems and limited resilience.”²⁶⁶⁴ The European Commission will also allocate EUR15 million of the EUR232 to the Institute Pasteur Dakar, Senegal.²⁶⁶⁵ The Institute Pasteur Dakar has been working on developing COVID-19 testing for African states.²⁶⁶⁶

On 25 February 2020, Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen took part in the G5 Sahel Summit to emphasize EU’s commitment to stabilizing the Sahel region.²⁶⁶⁷ In addition to a contribution of armoured vehicles to the G5 Sahel Joint Force, Urpilainen announced that the European Commission would spend EUR24 million to improve access to quality healthcare in Mauritania.²⁶⁶⁸

On 26 February 2020, the European Investment Bank officially joined the Sahel Alliance—an organization which aims to support challenges faced by the Sahel region nations.²⁶⁶⁹ In accordance with the key goals of the Sahel Alliance, the European Investment Bank aims to provide financing and support structures for projects involved in growing economic opportunities for youth and providing safe water, food security, and education opportunities.²⁶⁷⁰

On 9 March 2020, the European Commission proposed a new Africa partnership strategy.²⁶⁷¹ As part of this document’s component on decision making powers, the European Commission states that it will improve African women’s healthcare through the promotion of reproductive health and rights.²⁶⁷² The new EU-Africa partnership also aims to improve health care in remote areas and

²⁶⁶³ COVID-19: EU Working on all Fronts, €232 Million for Global Efforts to Tackle Outbreak, European Commission (Berlin) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_316

²⁶⁶⁴ COVID-19: EU Working on all Fronts, €232 Million for Global Efforts to Tackle Outbreak, European Commission (Berlin) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_316

²⁶⁶⁵ COVID-19: EU Working on all Fronts, €232 Million for Global Efforts to Tackle Outbreak, European Commission (Berlin) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_316

²⁶⁶⁶ Ten-Minute Coronavirus Test for \$1 Could be Game Changer, Bloomberg (New York) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-16/ten-minute-coronavirus-test-could-be-game-changer-for-africa>

²⁶⁶⁷ G5 Sahel Summit: Commissioner Urpilainen underlines importance of continued partnership with Sahel region, European Commission International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/g5-sahel-summit-commissioner-urpilainen-underlines-importance-continued-partnership-sahel_en

²⁶⁶⁸ G5 Sahel Summit: Commissioner Urpilainen underlines importance of continued partnership with Sahel region, European Commission International Cooperation and Development (Brussels) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/news/g5-sahel-summit-commissioner-urpilainen-underlines-importance-continued-partnership-sahel_en

²⁶⁶⁹ EIB joins Sahel Alliance, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2020-068-european-investment-bank-joins-sahel-alliance>

²⁶⁷⁰ EIB joins Sahel Alliance, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2020-068-european-investment-bank-joins-sahel-alliance>

²⁶⁷¹ EU paves the way for a stronger, more ambitious partnership with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_373

²⁶⁷² Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council: Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/communication-eu-africa-strategy-join-2020-4-final_en.pdf

provide basic health care, clean water, housing, and develop infrastructures and capacity to cope with disease outbreaks.²⁶⁷³

On 20 March 2020, the European Union announced a EUR3.2 million contribution to the World Food Programme, which will help provide food assistance to those affected by hunger and violence.²⁶⁷⁴ Specifically, the funding is for food assistance in Maradi, Diffa, Tahoua, and Tillabéri, which are areas of Niger that have recently seen an inflow of tens of thousands of refugees from conflict close to Niger's southwest border.²⁶⁷⁵

On 8 April 2020, the European Commission announced USD3.5 billion to curb the spread of the coronavirus in Africa, including the Sahel region.²⁶⁷⁶ The funding will be used for “emergency response actions,” “health and water systems,” and methods to “address the economic and social consequences.”²⁶⁷⁷

The European Union's contribution to the Global Fund consists as an effort to meet people's health needs in the Sahel. The European Union also addressed some of the broader determinants of health with its investment in various sectors of policy in the Sahel. However, neither of these policies address women's health in particular. Additionally, the European Union did not take action to empower individuals, families, or communities to advocate their health needs.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Dorota Borowsky

²⁶⁷³ Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council: Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/communication-eu-africa-strategy-join-2020-4-final_en.pdf

²⁶⁷⁴ EU funding supports WFP's lifesaving operation in Niger, World Food Programme (Rome) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.wfp.org/news/eu-funding-supports-wfps-lifesaving-operation-niger>

²⁶⁷⁵ EU funding supports WFP's lifesaving operation in Niger, World Food Programme (Rome) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.wfp.org/news/eu-funding-supports-wfps-lifesaving-operation-niger>

²⁶⁷⁶ Coronavirus: EU global response to fight the pandemic, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_604

²⁶⁷⁷ Coronavirus: EU global response to fight the pandemic, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_20_604

17. Health: Universal Health Coverage

“We recall our commitment to moving toward achieving universal health coverage according to national contexts and priorities, building resilient and sustainable health systems, in order to be able to reach the most affected communities.”

Sabel Partnership Action Plan

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+1.00 (100%)		

Background

Universal health coverage (UHC) was first mentioned in the 2000 G8 Okinawa Summit in the context of improving accessibility and affordability of drugs, vaccines, treatments and other preventative measures in developing countries.²⁶⁷⁸ Similarly, G8 members committed to developing equitable and effective health systems at the 2000 G8 Okinawa Summit.²⁶⁷⁹

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, members expressed support for African partners’ commitment according to the United Nations Millennium Declaration to ensure all children have access to basic healthcare by 2015 to reduce deaths from preventable causes amongst those most at risk, including women and children.²⁶⁸⁰ To provide support, members agreed to invest in improving health systems in partnership with African governments by helping train doctors, nurses, community health workers and other health professionals.²⁶⁸¹ In light of the aim of AIDS-free generation in Africa, members agreed to work with international organizations such as World Health Organization (WHO) to “develop and implement a package for HIV prevention, treatment and care” to strive for universal access of such packages by 2010.²⁶⁸² Financing needs for HIV/AIDS will be fulfilled by replenishment of Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.²⁶⁸³ To support the Polio Eradication Initiative, members will continue or increase contributions toward the USD829 million target; the funding gap for 2005 was met.²⁶⁸⁴ Members also agreed to contribute an additional

²⁶⁷⁸ G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G8 (Okinawa) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 10 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>.

²⁶⁷⁹ G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G8 (Okinawa) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 10 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>.

²⁶⁸⁰ Africa, G8 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 10 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

²⁶⁸¹ Africa, G8 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 10 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

²⁶⁸² Africa, G8 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 10 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

²⁶⁸³ Africa, G8 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 10 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

²⁶⁸⁴ Africa, G8 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 10 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

USD1.5 billion per year to improve access to malaria prevention interventions such as anti-malaria insecticide treated nets, adequate supplies for combination therapies, household residual spraying to reduce the burden of malaria as one of the major causes of death in sub-Saharan Africa.²⁶⁸⁵ G7 leaders took healthcare off of the agenda until the 2008 Toyako Summit.

At the 2008 Toyako Summit, members expressed that they were on track with fighting various infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and measles. However reaching toward the health Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) remained a challenge.²⁶⁸⁶ Members expressed that they were “determined to honor in full their specific commitments to fight infectious diseases, namely malaria, tuberculosis, polio and working toward the goal of universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care by 2010.”²⁶⁸⁷ Members agreed that a comprehensive approach is needed to address strengthening health systems.²⁶⁸⁸ For sustainable and equitable financing of health systems, members noted they would work with government partners, and welcome the efforts of organizations such as Providing for Health Initiative, International Health Partnership and the Catalytic Initiative to achieve the goal of providing USD60 billion to fight infectious diseases and strengthen health systems.²⁶⁸⁹ Members also stated that they would work with WHO to recruit and retain more health professionals to work toward a ratio of 2.3 health workers per 100 people.²⁶⁹⁰ Considering that MDGs were off track for child mortality and maternal health, members agreed to focus on universal reproductive care.²⁶⁹¹ Members agreed to continue to fulfil past commitments on malaria by expanding access to insecticide treated nets, with the goal of providing 100 million nets through bilateral and multilateral assistance in partnership with other stakeholders by 2010.²⁶⁹² The 2008 Toyako Summit marked the last summit to address UHC issues until the 2014 Brussels Summit.

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, commitment to improving universal access to affordable and equitable health services was made in relation to improving health of women and children.²⁶⁹³ Members stated they were committed to improving health of women and children by “ensuring universal access to affordable, quality, essential health services, strengthening health, education and child protection systems and improving nutrition and access to immunisation.”²⁶⁹⁴ Members will work with GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance to provide vaccines to 30 million children between 2016 and 2020 and to replenish GAVI with help from other public and private donors.²⁶⁹⁵ To address the threat of infectious diseases, members noted their support for Global Health Security Agenda and committed

²⁶⁸⁵ Africa, G8 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 10 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

²⁶⁸⁶ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G8 (Hokkaido Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

²⁶⁸⁷ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G8 (Hokkaido Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

²⁶⁸⁸ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G8 (Hokkaido Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

²⁶⁸⁹ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G8 (Hokkaido Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

²⁶⁹⁰ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G8 (Hokkaido Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

²⁶⁹¹ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G8 (Hokkaido Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

²⁶⁹² G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G8 (Hokkaido Toyako) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

²⁶⁹³ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7. (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

²⁶⁹⁴ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7. (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

²⁶⁹⁵ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7. (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

to “working with partner countries to strengthen compliance with WHO’s International Health Regulations (IHR) and enhance health security around the world.”²⁶⁹⁶

At the 2015 Elmau Summit, “enjoyment of highest attainable standard of health” was recognized as a fundamental human right of every being for the first time.²⁶⁹⁷ Members committed to focus on strengthening health systems, specifically through bilateral programs and multilateral structures.²⁶⁹⁸

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 members acknowledged their commitment to ensure well-being of citizens and foster inclusive economic growth by committing to promote UHC.²⁶⁹⁹ Members also expressed that they will take leadership in reinforcing response to public health emergencies and antimicrobial resistance and promote research and development in these areas, amongst others.²⁷⁰⁰

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 members committed to “advancing global health security” and “pursuing policies that advance physical and mental health improvements” across the globe.²⁷⁰¹ They recognized that healthy well-being is important to various economic, social and security gains.²⁷⁰² They committed to “strengthening health systems” to prepare for responding to public health emergencies and other long-term challenges.²⁷⁰³

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 members committed to building “strong, sustainable health systems that promote access to quality and affordable healthcare.”²⁷⁰⁴ Members recognized that this commitment will enable them to support growth and equal participation that benefits everyone and ensure that citizens lead healthy and productive lives.²⁷⁰⁵ Members recognized WHO’s role in health emergencies through avenues such as Contingency Fund for Emergencies and World Bank’s Pandemic Emergency Financing facility amongst others and emphasized their need for further development and continued and sustainable financing.²⁷⁰⁶ Furthermore, members also recommitted to support 76 partners to strengthen implementation of IHR through development of national action plans and use of diverse sources of funding and multi-stakeholder resources.²⁷⁰⁷ G7 members

²⁶⁹⁶ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7. (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 10 November 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>.

²⁶⁹⁷ G7 Leaders’ Declaration: Elmau, G7 (Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²⁶⁹⁸ G7 Leaders’ Declaration: Elmau, G7 (Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

²⁶⁹⁹ G7 Leaders’ Declaration: Ise-Shima Summit, G7 (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²⁷⁰⁰ G7 Leaders’ Declaration: Ise-Shima Summit, G7 (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>.

²⁷⁰¹ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué: Taormina Summit, G7 (Taormina) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communiqu.html>.

²⁷⁰² G7 Leaders’ Communiqué: Taormina Summit, G7 (Taormina) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communiqu.html>.

²⁷⁰³ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué: Taormina Summit, G7 (Taormina) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communiqu.html>.

²⁷⁰⁴ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué: Charlevoix Summit, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>.

²⁷⁰⁵ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué: Charlevoix Summit, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>.

²⁷⁰⁶ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué: Charlevoix Summit, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>.

²⁷⁰⁷ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué: Charlevoix Summit, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communiqu.html>.

reaffirmed their support for replenishment of Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in 2019.²⁷⁰⁸

G7 members' ongoing commitment to strengthening health systems and improving universal health coverage demonstrates their commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, also known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a resolution unanimously adopted by the UN General Assembly on 25 September 2015.²⁷⁰⁹ This commitment is in line with SDG 3, which is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages," particularly SDG 3.8 which is to ensure UHC.²⁷¹⁰

Commitment Features

The G7 committed to "moving towards achieving universal health coverage according to national contexts and priorities, building resilient and sustainable health systems, in order to be able to reach the most affected communities. This commitment is aimed at moving toward universal health coverage based on national contexts and priorities, building resilient and sustainable health systems. UHC is a key aspect of a resilient and sustainable health system. Hence, full compliance will be defined by the strength of the members' effort to move toward achieving UHC. Within the commitment, the G7 did not specify policies or instruments through which these targets can be met. As such, examples of what actions count toward partial and full compliance are guided by relevant G7 documents and WHO, the leading institution on health.

To "commit" is understood to mean to do or perform, to pledge or bind (a person or organization) to a certain course or policy.²⁷¹¹

To "move towards" is understood to mean taking additional steps to implement universal health systems and should include new initiatives in the area. It should not include past compliance efforts or continued fulfilment of old promises.

Part One: Moving Toward Universal Health Coverage

"Universal" is understood to mean all of the intended group. It should not be interpreted to mean a partial or percentage of the whole. It should not be interpreted to mean a small amount or a minority.²⁷¹²

"Coverage" is defined as the proportion of a population needing an intervention who receive it. Coverage is influenced by supply (provision of services) and by demand from people in need of services.²⁷¹³

"According to national contexts and priorities" should be understood as taking actions in line with domestic goals and policies.

The WHO definition of "universal health coverage" is that "all people and communities can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services they need, of sufficient

²⁷⁰⁸ G7 Leaders' Communiqué: Charlevoix Summit, G7 (Charlevoix) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 13 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>.

²⁷⁰⁹ Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sustainable Development UN (New York) 25 September 2015. Access date: 31 October 2017. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>.

²⁷¹⁰ Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sustainable Development UN (New York) 25 September 2015. Access date: 31 October 2017. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>.

²⁷¹¹ Appendix I: Dictionary, Reference Manual for Summit Commitment and Compliance Coding (Toronto) 2 May 2016.

²⁷¹² Appendix I: Dictionary, Reference Manual for Summit Commitment and Compliance Coding (Toronto) 2 May 2016.

²⁷¹³ Appendix I: Dictionary, Reference Manual for Summit Commitment and Compliance Coding (Toronto) 2 May 2016.

quality to be effective, while also ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship.”²⁷¹⁴ Three components of this definition are: equity in access to health services, quality of health services should be good enough to improve health of service receivers, and cost of services should not pose a risk of financial harm. These three points will be referenced to assess whether an action or initiative is considered compliant.

Examples of compliance include policies or initiatives targeted toward improving universal healthcare, donation of monetary funds or human resources to organizations for universal health coverage, providing state funding for a previous privately funded system and establishing working groups or holding cooperative meetings to ensure progress toward achieving universal healthcare. De-privatizing any component of a health system is considered to demonstrate compliance.

Part Two: Building Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems

WHO defines a “health system” as the activities, people, institutions and resources whose goals are to maintain and improve health and combat ill health under the umbrella of policy.²⁷¹⁵ Essential components of a strong health system, as defined by WHO, include “a robust financing mechanism; a well-trained and adequately paid workforce; reliable information on which to base decisions and policies; well-maintained facilities and logistics to deliver quality medicines and technologies.”²⁷¹⁶

“Sustainable” is to be understood as the ability to be maintained at a certain rate or level.²⁷¹⁷ Policies and initiatives that aim to build more sustainable health systems must specifically target one or more components of a strong health system as outlined by WHO.

“Resilient” is to be understood as the ability to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions.²⁷¹⁸ Policies and initiatives that aim to build a more resilient health system must demonstrate systemic preparedness to respond to any health crisis, i.e. a difficult situation affecting community health in one or more areas.

“Affected communities” is to be understood as communities whose access to healthcare is disproportionately limited by any geographical, environmental or financial factors. “In order to reach the most affected communities” is to be understood as recognizing the unique challenges faced by such communities and implementing policies or initiatives to target such challenges.

Example of actions that demonstrate compliance include implementation of emergency-preparedness measures, developing crisis-response funds, improving working conditions for healthcare personnel, providing state-funded benefits and/or higher wages to healthcare personnel, and investing in more efficient technology for prevention, diagnosis and treatment. Actions must be targeted toward building resilient and sustainable health systems for affected communities to achieve full compliance.

To achieve full compliance, G7 members must take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage and take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.

If only one of two thresholds or parts of this commitment is fulfilled, G7 members will receive a score of 0, or partial compliance. For instance, if a G7 member ensures that action is taken aimed at

²⁷¹⁴ What is health financing for universal coverage? WHO. Access date: https://www.who.int/health_financing/universal_coverage_definition/en/.

²⁷¹⁵ Health Systems Strengthening Glossary, WHO. Access date: 13 October 2019. http://www.who.int/healthsystems/hss_glossary/en/index5.html.

²⁷¹⁶ Health Systems, WHO. Access date: 30 October 2017. http://www.who.int/topics/health_systems/en/.

²⁷¹⁷ Lexico Oxford Dictionary. Access date: 10 November 2019. <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/sustainable>.

²⁷¹⁸ Merriam-Webster Dictionary. Access date: 10 November 2019. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/resilience>.

moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage, but does not address actions taken aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, it will earn a score of partial compliance.

A score of -1, or no compliance, will be assigned if a G7 member exemplifies no demonstrable compliance with either component of this commitment.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does NOT take any actions aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage NOR has taken action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.
0	G7 member has taken action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage OR has taken action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.
+1	G7 member has taken action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage AND has taken action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.

Compliance Director: Drishti Thakkar
Lead Analyst: Bianca Meta

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage and to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.

On 20 September 2019, Health Canada authorized the use of Lenvima (lenvatinib) and Keytruda (pembrolizumab) for women who have advanced endometrial cancer under Project Orbis.²⁷¹⁹ Project Orbis is a collaborative project where the regulators from U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Health Canada and the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration, review cancer drugs at the same time to expedite access for patients in Canada, United States of America and Australia.²⁷²⁰

On 21 November 2019, Health Canada authorized the use Calquence (acalabrutinib), a new therapy for adults with chronic lymphocytic leukemia under Project Orbis.²⁷²¹

On 21 November 2019, the federal Patented Medicine Prices Review Board (PMPRB) announced that it would launch a 60-day consultation period with stakeholders and members of the public.²⁷²²

²⁷¹⁹ International collaboration among Canadian, U.S. and Australian regulators leads to new options for the treatment of cancer, Health Canada (Ottawa) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/12/international-collaboration-among-canadian-us-and-australian-regulators-leads-to-new-options-for-the-treatment-of-cancer.html>.

²⁷²⁰ International collaboration among Canadian, U.S. and Australian regulators leads to new options for the treatment of cancer, Health Canada (Ottawa) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/12/international-collaboration-among-canadian-us-and-australian-regulators-leads-to-new-options-for-the-treatment-of-cancer.html>.

²⁷²¹ International collaboration among Canadian, U.S. and Australian regulators leads to new options for the treatment of cancer, Health Canada (Ottawa) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/12/international-collaboration-among-canadian-us-and-australian-regulators-leads-to-new-options-for-the-treatment-of-cancer.html>.

This consultation is to evaluate the earlier proposed changes to the Patented Medicines Regulations on 9 August 2019.²⁷²³ PMPRB also announced new draft guidelines outlining steps taken by PMPRB staff to assess whether a patented drug is excessively priced and information that pharmaceutical companies must provide for PMPRB staff to make that decision. The Patented Medicines Regulations regulates Canada's pricing framework for patented drugs and is meant to protect Canadians from excessively high drug costs.²⁷²⁴

On 19 December 2019, Minister of Indigenous Services Marc Miller and Chief Bobby Cameron of the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations announced funding of CAD2.5 million over the next two years to support a community-driven Youth Empowerment and Healing Wellness Investment.²⁷²⁵ This investment aids the delivery of holistic short-term and long-term solutions focused on the mental, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being of First Nations people.²⁷²⁶ Minister Miller and Chief Cameron outlined their support to build the Youth Empowerment and Healing Wellness Investment in Saskatoon, Treaty Six Territory, Saskatchewan.²⁷²⁷ Indigenous Services Canada also announced an investment of Approximately CAD425 million toward various initiatives toward life promotion and suicide prevention, including a Hope for Wellness Helpline.²⁷²⁸

On 19 December 2019, Minister Miller and Chief Cameron announced funding of CAD2.5 million over the next two years to support a community-driven Youth Empowerment and Healing Wellness Investment.²⁷²⁹ This investment aims to aid the delivery of holistic short-term and long-term solutions focused on the mental, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being of First Nations

²⁷²² Federal watchdog seeks public's opinion on how to protect Canadians from excessively priced, Patented Medicine Prices Review Board (Ottawa) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/patented-medicine-prices-review/news/2019/11/federal-watchdog-seeks-publics-opinion-on-how-to-protect-canadians-from-excessively-priced-patented-medicines.html>.

²⁷²³ Federal watchdog seeks public's opinion on how to protect Canadians from excessively priced, Patented Medicine Prices Review Board (Ottawa) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/patented-medicine-prices-review/news/2019/11/federal-watchdog-seeks-publics-opinion-on-how-to-protect-canadians-from-excessively-priced-patented-medicines.html>.

²⁷²⁴ Federal watchdog seeks public's opinion on how to protect Canadians from excessively priced, Patented Medicine Prices Review Board (Ottawa) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/patented-medicine-prices-review/news/2019/11/federal-watchdog-seeks-publics-opinion-on-how-to-protect-canadians-from-excessively-priced-patented-medicines.html>.

²⁷²⁵ Addressing stigma in Canada's health system is critical for improving health outcomes, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/12/addressing-stigma-in-canadas-health-system-is-critical-for-improving-health-outcomes.html>.

²⁷²⁶ Youth Empowerment and Healing and Wellness Investment for First Nations Communities, Indigenous Services of Canada (Saskatoon) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/12/youth-empowerment-and-healing-and-wellness-investment-for-first-nations-communities.html>.

²⁷²⁷ Youth Empowerment and Healing and Wellness Investment for First Nations Communities, Indigenous Services of Canada (Saskatoon) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/12/youth-empowerment-and-healing-and-wellness-investment-for-first-nations-communities.html>.

²⁷²⁸ Youth Empowerment and Healing and Wellness Investment for First Nations Communities, Indigenous Services of Canada (Saskatoon) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/12/youth-empowerment-and-healing-and-wellness-investment-for-first-nations-communities.html>.

²⁷²⁹ Addressing stigma in Canada's health system is critical for improving health outcomes, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/12/addressing-stigma-in-canadas-health-system-is-critical-for-improving-health-outcomes.html>.

people.²⁷³⁰ Minister Miller and Chief Cameron also outlined their support to build the Youth Empowerment and Healing Wellness Investment in Saskatoon, Treaty Six Territory, Saskatchewan.²⁷³¹ Indigenous Services Canada also announced an investment of approximately CAD425 million toward various initiatives focusing on life promotion and suicide prevention, including a Hope for Wellness Helpline.²⁷³²

On 29 January 2020, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Bill Blair and Executive Director of the Online Therapy Unit at the University of Regina Heather Hadjistavropoulos announced the launch of an Internet-delivered cognitive behavior therapy pilot project for public safety personnel.²⁷³³ This project aims to provide access to mental health care and treatment for public safety personnel, especially in rural and remote areas, who are exposed to traumatic incidents on the job.²⁷³⁴ It will be delivered by the Internet Therapy for Public Safety Personnel team in partnership with the Canadian Institute for Public Safety Research and Treatment.²⁷³⁵ The program is supported by a CAD10 million federal investment, previously announced as part of the National Action Plan on post-traumatic stress injuries.²⁷³⁶ The pilot project will be called the PSP Wellbeing course and will give access to free education and guidance on techniques for managing depression, anxiety and post-traumatic injuries.²⁷³⁷

On 2 March 2020, Minister of Seniors Deb Schulte announced a CAD9 million of investment in projects for seniors in British Columbia through the New Horizons for Seniors Program.²⁷³⁸ This

²⁷³⁰ Youth Empowerment and Healing and Wellness Investment for First Nations Communities, Indigenous Services of Canada (Saskatoon) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/12/youth-empowerment-and-healing-and-wellness-investment-for-first-nations-communities.html>.

²⁷³¹ Youth Empowerment and Healing and Wellness Investment for First Nations Communities, Indigenous Services of Canada (Saskatoon) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/12/youth-empowerment-and-healing-and-wellness-investment-for-first-nations-communities.html>.

²⁷³² Youth Empowerment and Healing and Wellness Investment for First Nations Communities, Indigenous Services of Canada (Saskatoon) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 23 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2019/12/youth-empowerment-and-healing-and-wellness-investment-for-first-nations-communities.html>.

²⁷³³ Launch of New Therapy for Post-Traumatic Stress Injuries, Public Safety Canada (Regina) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 3 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2020/01/launch-of-new-therapy-for-post-traumatic-stress-injuries.html>.

²⁷³⁴ Launch of New Therapy for Post-Traumatic Stress Injuries, Public Safety Canada (Regina) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 3 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2020/01/launch-of-new-therapy-for-post-traumatic-stress-injuries.html>.

²⁷³⁵ Launch of New Therapy for Post-Traumatic Stress Injuries, Public Safety Canada (Regina) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 3 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2020/01/launch-of-new-therapy-for-post-traumatic-stress-injuries.html>.

²⁷³⁶ Launch of New Therapy for Post-Traumatic Stress Injuries, Public Safety Canada (Regina) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 3 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2020/01/launch-of-new-therapy-for-post-traumatic-stress-injuries.html>.

²⁷³⁷ Launch of New Therapy for Post-Traumatic Stress Injuries, Public Safety Canada (Regina) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 3 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2020/01/launch-of-new-therapy-for-post-traumatic-stress-injuries.html>.

²⁷³⁸ Minister Schulte announces a \$9.3 million investment in British Columbia seniors through New Horizons for Seniors, Employment and Social Development Canada (Surrey) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 3 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/02/minister-schulte-announces-investments-of-over-9-million-for-seniors-across-british-columbia-at-pics.html>.

funding from the government will ensure that seniors can foster their social inclusion, community engagement and also support healthy aging.²⁷³⁹

On 3 March 2020, Minister of Health Patty Hajdu and Member of Parliament and Special Representative for the Prairies announced funding of approximately CAD2.9 million to improve access to care and services for people living with chronic pain in Canada.²⁷⁴⁰ CAD1.7 million of this funding will be given to the University of Saskatchewan through Health Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP).²⁷⁴¹ Through this investment, pharmacists will receive special training aimed to facilitate care for people living with chronic pain.²⁷⁴² CAD1.2 million of this funding will be invested into the Alberta Health Services (AHS) to evaluate and improve opioid prescribing practices by working in conjunction with the Alberta College of Family Physicians and the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health.²⁷⁴³

On 18 March 2020, Minister Hajdu announced that an Interim Order was signed.²⁷⁴⁴ This order allows for expedited access to COVID-19 diagnostic test kits and related medical devices for use by healthcare providers.²⁷⁴⁵ This order made two new diagnostic tests readily accessible in Canada: the Roche Molecular System Inc. cobas SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic device and the ThermoFisher Scientific TaqPath™ COVID-19 Combo Kit.²⁷⁴⁶ This interim order allows the Government of Canada to make health products available to address larger scale public health emergencies.²⁷⁴⁷

On 26 March 2020, Minister Miller announced the details of the Indigenous Community Support Fund of CAD305 million to aid and support the needs in First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation

²⁷³⁹ Minister Schulte announces a \$9.3 million investment in British Columbia seniors through New Horizons for Seniors, Employment and Social Development Canada (Surrey) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 3 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/02/minister-schulte-announces-investments-of-over-9-million-for-seniors-across-british-columbia-at-pics.html>.

²⁷⁴⁰ Government of Canada announces funding to help people living with chronic pain, Health Canada (Saskatoon) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-people-living-with-chronic-pain.html>.

²⁷⁴¹ Government of Canada announces funding to help people living with chronic pain, Health Canada (Saskatoon) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-people-living-with-chronic-pain.html>.

²⁷⁴² Government of Canada announces funding to help people living with chronic pain, Health Canada (Saskatoon) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-people-living-with-chronic-pain.html>.

²⁷⁴³ Government of Canada announces funding to help people living with chronic pain, Health Canada (Saskatoon) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-announces-funding-to-help-people-living-with-chronic-pain.html>.

²⁷⁴⁴ Health Canada expedites access to COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory test kits and other medical devices, Health Canada (Ottawa) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2020/03/health-canada-expedites-access-to-covid-19-diagnostic-laboratory-test-kits-and-other-medical-devices.html>.

²⁷⁴⁵ Health Canada expedites access to COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory test kits and other medical devices, Health Canada (Ottawa) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2020/03/health-canada-expedites-access-to-covid-19-diagnostic-laboratory-test-kits-and-other-medical-devices.html>.

²⁷⁴⁶ Health Canada expedites access to COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory test kits and other medical devices, Health Canada (Ottawa) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2020/03/health-canada-expedites-access-to-covid-19-diagnostic-laboratory-test-kits-and-other-medical-devices.html>.

²⁷⁴⁷ Health Canada expedites access to COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory test kits and other medical devices, Health Canada (Ottawa) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2020/03/health-canada-expedites-access-to-covid-19-diagnostic-laboratory-test-kits-and-other-medical-devices.html>.

communities related to the COVID-19 pandemic.²⁷⁴⁸ The Indigenous Community Support Fund is in addition to the COVID-19 Response Fund, which was announced on 11 March 2020.²⁷⁴⁹ This fund will be used for measures such as support for elders & vulnerable community members, addressing food insecurity, educational support, mental health assistance, emergency response service and general preparedness measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.²⁷⁵⁰

On 30 March 2020, Indigenous Services Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) agreed to provide and administer CAD2.6 million to help Indigenous families in the Northwest Territories on the land during the COVID-19 pandemic.²⁷⁵¹ This federal funding is a part of the “At Home on The Land” initiative and will allow families to maintain safer physical distances in cabins and camps while remaining on their land.²⁷⁵² It will also ensure that they can acquire necessary provisions such as wood, fuel, first aid equipment, transportation and other items as needed.²⁷⁵³

On 3 April 2020, the Government of Canada announced that it is awarding Amazon Canada a contract to manage the distribution of personal protective equipment such as masks, gloves and other equipment purchased by the government for healthcare workers.²⁷⁵⁴ Amazon Canada will be distributing through its Canadian delivery partners, Canada Post and Purolator, to provincial health authorities, hospitals and other government agencies across the country.²⁷⁵⁵

On 3 April 2020, Minister Miller and Chief Rudy Turtle of the Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Grassy Narrows First Nation) signed an agreement to provide federal funding and

²⁷⁴⁸ Addressing urgent needs in Indigenous communities related to COVID-19, Indigenous Services Canada (Ottawa, Algonquin territory) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/03/addressing-urgent-needs-in-indigenous-communities-related-to-covid-19.html>.

²⁷⁴⁹ Addressing urgent needs in Indigenous communities related to COVID-19, Indigenous Services Canada (Ottawa, Algonquin territory) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/03/addressing-urgent-needs-in-indigenous-communities-related-to-covid-19.html>.

²⁷⁵⁰ Addressing urgent needs in Indigenous communities related to COVID-19, Indigenous Services Canada (Ottawa, Algonquin territory) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/03/addressing-urgent-needs-in-indigenous-communities-related-to-covid-19.html>.

²⁷⁵¹ Indigenous, Territorial and Federal leaders mobilize funding to support unique northern physical distancing initiative, Indigenous Services Canada (Yellowknife, Treaty 11 Territory) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/03/indigenous-territorial-and-federal-leaders-mobilize-funding-to-support-unique-northern-physical-distancing-initiative.html>.

²⁷⁵² Indigenous, Territorial and Federal leaders mobilize funding to support unique northern physical distancing initiative, Indigenous Services Canada (Yellowknife, Treaty 11 Territory) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/03/indigenous-territorial-and-federal-leaders-mobilize-funding-to-support-unique-northern-physical-distancing-initiative.html>.

²⁷⁵³ Indigenous, Territorial and Federal leaders mobilize funding to support unique northern physical distancing initiative, Indigenous Services Canada (Yellowknife, Treaty 11 Territory) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/03/indigenous-territorial-and-federal-leaders-mobilize-funding-to-support-unique-northern-physical-distancing-initiative.html>.

²⁷⁵⁴ Government of Canada partners with Amazon to help get personal protective equipment to front-line healthcare workers, Public Services and Procurement Canada (Gatineau) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-services-procurement/news/2020/04/government-of-canada-partners-with-amazon-to-help-get-personal-protective-equipment-to-frontline-healthcare-workers.html>.

²⁷⁵⁵ Government of Canada partners with Amazon to help get personal protective equipment to front-line healthcare workers, Public Services and Procurement Canada (Gatineau) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-services-procurement/news/2020/04/government-of-canada-partners-with-amazon-to-help-get-personal-protective-equipment-to-frontline-healthcare-workers.html>.

support to construct a mercury care home in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek.²⁷⁵⁶ Through this agreement, Indigenous Services Canada will provide CAD19.5 million to construct a mercury care home to meet the needs of the community members of Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek who are living with methylmercury poisoning.²⁷⁵⁷

On 10 April 2020, the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion Carla Qualtrough issued a statement establishing the COVID-19 Disability Advisory Group (CDAG).²⁷⁵⁸ This group will consider real time lived experiences of persons with disabilities during this crisis and provide advice on how to address disability specific issues and how to address systemic gaps and challenges to Minister Qualtrough.²⁷⁵⁹

Canada fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems by addressing stigma, investing in health of First Nations communities and with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal healthcare coverage by improving access to alternative cancer therapies, maintaining costs of patented drugs and improving access to care for First Nations communities. Canada is also managing its response to COVID-19 through ensuring people have the right supports in place to treat and prevent the disease.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Arshdeep Aulakh

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage and to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.

On 19 September 2019, Prime Minister Edouard Phillipe met with pharmaceutical manufacturers in Matignon to discuss the shortages of medications in hospitals. Shortages can be attributed to problems in the supply chain.^{2760,2761}

²⁷⁵⁶ The Government of Canada and Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Grassy Narrows First Nation) sign a framework agreement to build a mercury care home, Indigenous Services Canada (Ottawa, Traditional Algonquin Territory) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/04/the-government-of-canada-and-asubpeeschoseewagong-netum-anishinabek-grassy-narrows-first-nation-sign-a-framework-agreement-to-build-a-mercury-care-.html>.

²⁷⁵⁷ The Government of Canada and Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Grassy Narrows First Nation) sign a framework agreement to build a mercury care home, Indigenous Services Canada (Ottawa, Traditional Algonquin Territory) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 5 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/04/the-government-of-canada-and-asubpeeschoseewagong-netum-anishinabek-grassy-narrows-first-nation-sign-a-framework-agreement-to-build-a-mercury-care-.html>.

²⁷⁵⁸ Statement by Minister Qualtrough on Canada's Disability-Inclusive approach to its COVID-19 pandemic response, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/04/statement-by-minister-qualtrough-on-canadas-disability-inclusive-approach-to-its-covid-19-pandemic-response.html>.

²⁷⁵⁹ Statement by Minister Qualtrough on Canada's Disability-Inclusive approach to its COVID-19 pandemic response, Employment and Social Development Canada (Gatineau) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/04/statement-by-minister-qualtrough-on-canadas-disability-inclusive-approach-to-its-covid-19-pandemic-response.html>.

²⁷⁶⁰ France medication shortage crisis prompts PM meeting, The Connexion (Paris) 20 September 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-medication-hospital-and-pharmacy-shortage-crisis-prompts-PM-meeting>.

On 15 October 2019, the National Assembly passed a bill, as part of a larger bioethics bill, that serves to legalize in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment for lesbian and single women within the country.²⁷⁶² Previously, only infertile heterosexual couple were legally qualified for the treatment.²⁷⁶³ IVF is a medically assisted reproduction method through donated sperm.²⁷⁶⁴ The bill, pending Senate approval, ensures that the costs of IVF for all women under the age of 43 are fully covered by the healthcare system.²⁷⁶⁵ However, clinicians at France's network of public sperm banks noted that the "current supply just meets the demand" and that France may face shortage.²⁷⁶⁶

On 12 November 2019, President of France Emmanuel Macron and President of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Félix Tshisekedi expressed support for the French-Congolese roadmap, developed by Professor Yves Lévy from France and Professor Muyembe from DRC, to fight against the Ebola epidemic.²⁷⁶⁷ Three components of the roadmap include: an emergency humanitarian response to provide ground-level support in DRC, strengthening the scientific partnership between French researchers and National Institute for Biomedical Research in Kinshasa and development efforts to strengthen Congolese health system.²⁷⁶⁸ France pledged EUR71 million for healthcare in DRC between 2019 and 2021 and will make resources from Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Ministry for the Armed Forces and Ministry of Solidarity and Health available to "put these efforts in practice."²⁷⁶⁹

On 20 November 2019, the French government promised to absorb approximately EUR10 billion worth of public hospital debt in order to end protests led by French medical professionals against

²⁷⁶¹ Health: French people worried about drug shortages, Franceinfo (Paris) 19 September 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. https://www.francetvinfo.fr/sante/medicament/sante-les-francais-inquiets-par-les-penuries-de-medicaments_3623847.html.

²⁷⁶² France passes bill legalizing IVF for lesbians, single women, CTV News (Toronto) 15 October 2019. Access date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/france-passes-bill-legalizing-ivf-for-lesbians-single-women-1.4638558>.

²⁷⁶³ France passes bill legalizing IVF for lesbians, single women, CTV News (Toronto) 15 October 2019. Access date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/france-passes-bill-legalizing-ivf-for-lesbians-single-women-1.4638558>.

²⁷⁶⁴ France passes bill legalizing IVF for lesbians, single women, CTV News (Toronto) 15 October 2019. Access date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/france-passes-bill-legalizing-ivf-for-lesbians-single-women-1.4638558>.

²⁷⁶⁵ France passes bill legalizing IVF for lesbians, single women, CTV News (Toronto) 15 October 2019. Access date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/france-passes-bill-legalizing-ivf-for-lesbians-single-women-1.4638558>.

²⁷⁶⁶ France may face sperm shortage under Macron plan to ease IVF rules, Reuters (Paris) 24 September 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-reform-ivf/france-may-face-sperm-shortage-under-macron-plan-to-ease-ivf-rules-idUSKBN1W917N>.

²⁷⁶⁷ Joint press release - Combating the Ebola epidemic and strengthening the healthcare system in DRC: France and the DRC step up their joint efforts. (21 November 2019) Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 21 November 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/democratic-republic-of-the-congo/events/article/joint-press-release-combating-the-ebola-epidemic-and-strengthening-the>.

²⁷⁶⁸ Joint press release - Combating the Ebola epidemic and strengthening the healthcare system in DRC: France and the DRC step up their joint efforts. (21 November 2019) Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 21 November 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/democratic-republic-of-the-congo/events/article/joint-press-release-combating-the-ebola-epidemic-and-strengthening-the>.

²⁷⁶⁹ Joint press release - Combating the Ebola epidemic and strengthening the healthcare system in DRC: France and the DRC step up their joint efforts. (21 November 2019) Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 21 November 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/democratic-republic-of-the-congo/events/article/joint-press-release-combating-the-ebola-epidemic-and-strengthening-the>.

multi-billion euro spending cuts in regards to the French healthcare system.²⁷⁷⁰ This figure represents nearly one third of total debt.²⁷⁷¹ Prime Minister Philippe also promised an additional EUR1.5 billion over for hospitals, along with an EUR800 bonus for 40,000 nurses and other caretakers who earn less than EUR 1,900 per month.²⁷⁷²

On 24 February 2020, Health Minister Olivier Véran announced plans to activate 70 new medical care facilities across the country in order to prepare for possible outbreaks of the coronavirus.²⁷⁷³ These facilities are currently used for medical care in conjunction with university hospital centers.²⁷⁷⁴ The decision was made amidst the rising number of coronavirus cases in neighboring Italy.²⁷⁷⁵

On 21 March 2020, Minister Véran announced that the government has ordered 250 million health masks to protect frontline medical workers in response to current shortages.²⁷⁷⁶ The order was placed with both French and foreign suppliers.²⁷⁷⁷ Minister Véran also announced that the government plans to launch a review into the shortage of protective gear at a later date.²⁷⁷⁸

On 21 March 2020, Prime Minister Philippe announced that the government has instructed manufacturers and researchers within the country to work on addressing current the current shortage of health masks by finding a means to multiply production lines or by developing alternative health mask prototypes, reusable or otherwise.²⁷⁷⁹

On 26 March 2020, France announced that a high-speed train will take COVID19 patients from Alsace, one of the regions experiencing a higher proportion of COVID19 cases, to hospitals in less affected regions.²⁷⁸⁰ Each train car will be staffed with a doctor, an intern, an anesthesiologist, and

²⁷⁷⁰ France promises cash, debt reduction for hospitals to quell unrest, National Post (Toronto) 20 November 2019. Access date: December 18, 2019. <https://nationalpost.com/pmn/health-pmn/france-promises-cash-debt-reduction-for-hospitals-to-quell-unrest>.

²⁷⁷¹ France promises cash, debt reduction for hospitals to quell unrest, National Post (Toronto) 20 November 2019. Access date: December 18, 2019. <https://nationalpost.com/pmn/health-pmn/france-promises-cash-debt-reduction-for-hospitals-to-quell-unrest>.

²⁷⁷² France promises cash, debt reduction for hospitals to quell unrest, National Post (Toronto) 20 November 2019. Access date: December 18, 2019. <https://nationalpost.com/pmn/health-pmn/france-promises-cash-debt-reduction-for-hospitals-to-quell-unrest>.

²⁷⁷³ France plans new medical units to handle coronavirus, Anadolu Agency (Turkey) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/france-plans-new-medical-units-to-handle-coronavirus-/1743307>.

²⁷⁷⁴ France plans new medical units to handle coronavirus, Anadolu Agency (Turkey) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/france-plans-new-medical-units-to-handle-coronavirus-/1743307>.

²⁷⁷⁵ France plans new medical units to handle coronavirus, Anadolu Agency (Turkey) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/france-plans-new-medical-units-to-handle-coronavirus-/1743307>.

²⁷⁷⁶ France orders 250 million masks to ease coronavirus shortage, National Post (Toronto) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://nationalpost.com/pmn/health-pmn/france-orders-250-million-masks-to-ease-coronavirus-shortage>.

²⁷⁷⁷ France orders 250 million masks to ease coronavirus shortage, National Post (Toronto) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://nationalpost.com/pmn/health-pmn/france-orders-250-million-masks-to-ease-coronavirus-shortage>.

²⁷⁷⁸ France orders 250 million masks to ease coronavirus shortage, National Post (Toronto) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://nationalpost.com/pmn/health-pmn/france-orders-250-million-masks-to-ease-coronavirus-shortage>.

²⁷⁷⁹ French government orders '250 million masks' against coronavirus, France 24 (Paris) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.france24.com/en/20200321-french-government-orders-250-million-masks-against-coronavirus-olivier-v%C3%A9ran-says>.

²⁷⁸⁰ France to use medicalised high-speed trains to transport Covid-19 victims to hospital, rfi (Paris) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <http://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20200326-france-to-use-medicalised-high-speed-trains-to-transport-covid-19-victims-to-hospital>.

three nurses.²⁷⁸¹ Trains will be transformed so that stretchers are laid over seats and other essential medical equipment is onboard the train.²⁷⁸²

On 8 April 2020, Minister Véran and the Secretary of State for Digital Cédric O officially announced plans to develop a smartphone application to track the spread of the coronavirus during an interview with *Le Monde*.²⁷⁸³ The “StopCovid” project has been launched in an attempt to design an application that would act to limit the spread of the virus by identifying chains of transmission.²⁷⁸⁴ The application would warn users when they have come into contact with an individual who has tested positive for the coronavirus.²⁷⁸⁵ The application would be installed on a voluntary basis.²⁷⁸⁶

On 16 April 2020, President Macron announced that healthcare workers on the frontlines of the COVID19 crisis will receive a bonus of tax-free EUR 500-EUR 1500 per person.²⁷⁸⁷ Workers from departments that were the most affected will receive more compensation than administrative workers or those in less-affected departments.²⁷⁸⁸ Overtime wages for healthcare workers will also increase by 50%; this increase will remain tax free.²⁷⁸⁹

France has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems by absorbing public hospital debts, responding to COVID19 crisis by addressing masks shortage and developing StopCovid and with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal healthcare coverage by expanding access to assisted reproductive services.

²⁷⁸¹ France to use medicalised high-speed trains to transport Covid-19 victims to hospital, rfi (Paris) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <http://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20200326-france-to-use-medicalised-high-speed-trains-to-transport-covid-19-victims-to-hospital>.

²⁷⁸² France to use medicalised high-speed trains to transport Covid-19 victims to hospital, rfi (Paris) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <http://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20200326-france-to-use-medicalised-high-speed-trains-to-transport-covid-19-victims-to-hospital>.

²⁷⁸³ “The StopCovid application will retrace the history of social relations”: the government’s tracks for the digital tracking of patients, *Le Monde* (Paris) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2020/04/08/stopcovid-l-application-sur-laquelle-travaille-le-gouvernement-pour-contrer-l-epidemie_6035927_3244.html.

²⁷⁸⁴ “The StopCovid application will retrace the history of social relations”: the government’s tracks for the digital tracking of patients, *Le Monde* (Paris) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2020/04/08/stopcovid-l-application-sur-laquelle-travaille-le-gouvernement-pour-contrer-l-epidemie_6035927_3244.html.

²⁷⁸⁵ “The StopCovid application will retrace the history of social relations”: the government’s tracks for the digital tracking of patients, *Le Monde* (Paris) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2020/04/08/stopcovid-l-application-sur-laquelle-travaille-le-gouvernement-pour-contrer-l-epidemie_6035927_3244.html.

²⁷⁸⁶ “The StopCovid application will retrace the history of social relations”: the government’s tracks for the digital tracking of patients, *Le Monde* (Paris) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2020/04/08/stopcovid-l-application-sur-laquelle-travaille-le-gouvernement-pour-contrer-l-epidemie_6035927_3244.html.

²⁷⁸⁷ France to give €150-€1500 to key staff and families, *The Connexion* (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-confirms-grants-of-150-1-500-to-key-frontline-healthcare-staff-and-low-income-families>.

²⁷⁸⁸ France to give €150-€1500 to key staff and families, *The Connexion* (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-confirms-grants-of-150-1-500-to-key-frontline-healthcare-staff-and-low-income-families>.

²⁷⁸⁹ France to give €150-€1500 to key staff and families, *The Connexion* (Paris) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-confirms-grants-of-150-1-500-to-key-frontline-healthcare-staff-and-low-income-families>.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Madison Leisk

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage and to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.

On 21 September 2019, Health Minister Jens Spahn travelled to Mexico in order to speak with healthcare workers and offer a speedy visa process to those willing to move to Germany.²⁷⁹⁰ These actions are aimed at addressing a shortage of nurses and ancillary staff within German care homes as the government faces the struggles of an aging population.²⁷⁹¹ Minister Spahn also announced that the recognition of professional qualifications would be accelerated for Mexican workers.²⁷⁹² These efforts are to meet the goal of finding 10 per cent more care workers to address the care worker crisis and growing need for care workers.²⁷⁹³

On 7 November 2019, Parliament approved the Act to Improve Healthcare Provision through Digitalisation and Innovation (Digital Healthcare Act, or DVG).²⁷⁹⁴ Physicians will be able to prescribe digital health apps, which can be covered by the statutory health insurance scheme. Plans are on track for health records for all insured persons to be completely electronic by 1 January 2021. Data for research use will be anonymized and used to gain “better insight into patients with chronic diseases,” according to Minister Spahn.²⁷⁹⁵ The DVG will invest EUR 200 million per year until 2024 in the innovation fund, making it mandatory for pharmacies and hospitals to be connected with the growing digital infrastructure, making online video consultations commonplace, mandating health insurance funds to offer members opportunities to improve their digital health skills, creating a streamlined process for information collection, storage and exchange within hospital networks, and achieving optimal conditions for patient data protection by adapting provisions of the Fifth Book of Social Code.²⁷⁹⁶

On 14 November 2019, the Bundestag passed the Measles Protection Act, which aims to increase immunization rates by instituting compulsory measles vaccinations.²⁷⁹⁷ As of 1 March 2020, all

²⁷⁹⁰ Germany looks to Mexico to help tackle nursing-care crisis, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 21 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-looks-to-mexico-to-help-tackle-nursing-care-crisis/a-50528445>.

²⁷⁹¹ Germany looks to Mexico to help tackle nursing-care crisis, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 21 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-looks-to-mexico-to-help-tackle-nursing-care-crisis/a-50528445>.

²⁷⁹² Germany looks to Mexico to help tackle nursing-care crisis, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 21 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-looks-to-mexico-to-help-tackle-nursing-care-crisis/a-50528445>.

²⁷⁹³ Germany looks to Mexico to help tackle nursing-care crisis, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 21 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-looks-to-mexico-to-help-tackle-nursing-care-crisis/a-50528445>.

²⁷⁹⁴ Digital Healthcare Act (DVG), Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/digital-healthcare-act.html>.

²⁷⁹⁵ Germany introduces Digital Supply Act to digitalise healthcare, Healthcare IT News (Chicago) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 18 November 2019. <https://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/europe/germany-introduces-digital-supply-act-digitalise-healthcare>.

²⁷⁹⁶ Digital Healthcare Act (DVG), Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/digital-healthcare-act.html>.

²⁷⁹⁷ The Bundestag adopts the Measles Protection Act (Berlin), 14 November 2019. Access date: 11 June 2020. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/press/2019/measles-protection-act.html#c16712>.

children who are at least one year old must prove that they have received the vaccine or are immune to the measles.²⁷⁹⁸ Unvaccinated children can be barred from attending child daycare facilities or school. Parents who fail to vaccinate their children can be fined up to EUR 2,500.²⁷⁹⁹ The fine can also be imposed on the management of daycare facilities that admit unvaccinated children.²⁸⁰⁰

On 18 December 2019, Parliament passed a bill that ban medical interventions aimed at deliberately changing or suppressing the sexual orientation or self-perceived gender identity of a person (so-called conversion therapies).²⁸⁰¹ The law is scheduled to go into effect in mid 2020. Violations of the ban on conversion therapies by arranging, providing or advertising such services are to be punished with a prison sentence of up to one year and a fine of up to EUR 30,000.²⁸⁰² According to Minister Spahn, the new law seeks to recognize that homosexuality is not an illness and that these misleading practices cause undo harm, particularly to those who may be struggling with their sexuality.²⁸⁰³

On 17 March 2020, the Senate of Berlin approved plans to build a new hospital in advance of an expected increase in coronavirus cases.²⁸⁰⁴ The new hospital will be equipped with 1,000 hospital beds and will be used in the event that there is a shortage elsewhere in the state and/or country.²⁸⁰⁵ It will be built with the assistance of the German armed forces.²⁸⁰⁶ No deadline was set for the completion of the new hospital.²⁸⁰⁷

On 25 March 2020, Parliament passed an aid package to mitigate the economic damage caused by COVID-19.²⁸⁰⁸ The aid package commits a total of EUR750 billion to address the current crisis in Germany.²⁸⁰⁹ Importantly, the aid package includes the COVID19 Hospital Relief Act and the Law for the Protection of the Population in an Epidemic Situation of National Importance.²⁸¹⁰ The COVID19 Hospital Relief Act aims to lessen the economic burden felt by both hospitals and other

²⁷⁹⁸ The Bundestag adopts the Measles Protection Act (Berlin), 14 November 2019. Access date: 11 June 2020. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/press/2019/measles-protection-act.html#c16712>.

²⁷⁹⁹ The Bundestag adopts the Measles Protection Act (Berlin), 14 November 2019. Access date: 11 June 2020. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/press/2019/measles-protection-act.html#c16712>.

²⁸⁰⁰ The Bundestag adopts the Measles Protection Act (Berlin), 14 November 2019. Access date: 11 June 2020. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/press/2019/measles-protection-act.html#c16712>.

²⁸⁰¹ Cabinet adopts extensive ban on so-called “conversion therapies,” Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 18 December 2019. Access date: 14 June 2020. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/en/press/2019/conversion-therapies.html#c16913>.

²⁸⁰² Cabinet adopts extensive ban on so-called “conversion therapies,” Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 18 December 2019. Access date: 14 June 2020. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/en/press/2019/conversion-therapies.html#c16913>.

²⁸⁰³ Germany moves to ban gay ‘conversion therapy’, France 24 (Paris) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.france24.com/en/20191218-germany-moves-to-ban-gay-conversion-therapy>.

²⁸⁰⁴ Berlin to build 1,000-bed coronavirus hospital, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/berlin-to-build-1000-bed-coronavirus-hospital/a-52811671>.

²⁸⁰⁵ Berlin to build 1,000-bed coronavirus hospital, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/berlin-to-build-1000-bed-coronavirus-hospital/a-52811671>.

²⁸⁰⁶ Berlin to build 1,000-bed coronavirus hospital, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/berlin-to-build-1000-bed-coronavirus-hospital/a-52811671>.

²⁸⁰⁷ Berlin to build 1,000-bed coronavirus hospital, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/berlin-to-build-1000-bed-coronavirus-hospital/a-52811671>.

²⁸⁰⁸ Coronavirus: German parliament passes historic aid package, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-german-parliament-passes-historic-aid-package/a-52908339>.

²⁸⁰⁹ Coronavirus: German aid package gets final approval, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-german-aid-package-gets-final-approval/a-52941219>.

²⁸¹⁰ Federal Council approves legislative packages to support the healthcare system in coping with the corona epidemic, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/2020/1-quartal/corona-gesetzespaket-im-bundesrat.html>.

health care facilities, such as nursing homes.²⁸¹¹ The act will enable hospitals to increase their care capacity as the number of patients with the coronavirus infection continues to rise.²⁸¹² The Law for the Protection of the Population in an Epidemic Situation of National Importance aims to improve the government's responsiveness to epidemics such as the coronavirus by granting the federal government additional competencies for a limited period of time.²⁸¹³

Germany has fully complied with their commitment to build a more resilient and sustainable health system, particularly through its efforts to digitalize healthcare services and address the coronavirus. Furthermore, Germany has also taken steps toward the achievement of universal health coverage by implementing the COVID19 Hospital Relief Act and investing to expand access of healthcare apps for patients and health service providers.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Madison Leisk

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage and to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.

On 30 August 2019, the Italy-China visit by delegations from the Italian Ministry of Health ended, with the discussions focused closely on avian influenza, swine vesicular disease and scientific cooperation as Italy expressed willingness to receive and host Chinese researchers at their institutes to collaborate on food virology research.²⁸¹⁴ Italy also noted that it aims to work with China to prevent another avian flu outbreak.²⁸¹⁵

On 17 September 2019, Minister of Health Roberto Speranza promoted patient equality, and safe use of medicines as national and global health priorities during a workshop organized by the Ministry of Health.²⁸¹⁶ Topics including National Health Service financing, training of healthcare providers and

²⁸¹¹ Federal Council approves legislative packages to support the healthcare system in coping with the corona epidemic, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020.
<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/2020/1-quartal/corona-gesetzespaket-im-bundesrat.html>.

²⁸¹² Federal Council approves legislative packages to support the healthcare system in coping with the corona epidemic, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020.
<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/2020/1-quartal/corona-gesetzespaket-im-bundesrat.html>.

²⁸¹³ Federal Council approves legislative packages to support the healthcare system in coping with the corona epidemic, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020.
<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/2020/1-quartal/corona-gesetzespaket-im-bundesrat.html>.

²⁸¹⁴ Export Italy-China, the visit of the Ministry of Health delegation ended, Ministry of Health (Rome), 30 August 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020.
http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3872.

²⁸¹⁵ Export Italy-China, the visit of the Ministry of Health delegation ended, Ministry of Health (Rome), 30 August 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020.
http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3872.

²⁸¹⁶ Security of care, Minister Speranza: "It is a priority to be tackled together", Ministry of Health (Rome), 17 September 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020.
http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3890.

involvement of citizens to work together and improve patient safety levels across the country were discussed.²⁸¹⁷

On 29 September 2019, Italy celebrated World Health Day and the Ministry of Health presented at the Cardio Race with an information to raise awareness on the importance of cardiovascular disease prevention, airway management in infants and young children and offered free electrocardiograms and ultrasound requisition for all participants.²⁸¹⁸

On 14 October 2019, the epidemiological surveillance for the 2019-2020 influenza season began through the Influnet system, with surveys and biological samples collected by a sentinel of general practitioners and pediatricians to produce weekly reports of influenza outbreaks.²⁸¹⁹ The influenza vaccination was offered actively and free of charge until the end of December 2019 to subjects aged 65 or over, children over the 6 months of age, all individuals suffering from disease with increased risk of influenza complication, pregnant woman, individual admitted to long-term care facilities, healthcare personnel and subjects who are at high risk of exposure.²⁸²⁰

On 25 January 2020, the Ministry of Health Task Force on COVID-19 met with Minister Speranza and other authorities to ensure adequate availability medical and nursing staff in hospitals and on major airports (Rome and Milan).²⁸²¹

On 1 March 2020, Economy Minister Roberto Gualtieri announced EUR3.6 billion would be “injected into the economy,” part of which will go toward funding the National Health System.²⁸²²

On 17 March 2020, University Minister Gaetano Manfredi announced that he would allow 10,000 medical students into the National Health System and scrap their final examinations to cope with the shortage of medical staff amidst the COVID-19 outbreak.²⁸²³ These graduates will be expected to work in general practitioners’ clinics and old age homes so that more experienced doctors can work in hospitals burdened with COVID-19 patients.

Italy has demonstrated efforts to fully comply with its commitment to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems by strategizing to prevent avian flu outbreak, allowing student doctors to join the workforce early and cope with staff shortage, funding National Health System to

²⁸¹⁷ Security of care, Minister Speranza: “It is a priority to be tackled together”, Ministry of Health (Rome), 17 September 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020.

http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3890.

²⁸¹⁸ World heart day 2019, the Ministry of Health at the Cardio Race, Ministry of Health (Rome), 27 September 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020.

http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3901.

²⁸¹⁹ Flu season 2019-2020, Influnet vaccination and surveillance is underway, Ministry of Health, 18 October 2019.

Access Date: 02 January 2020. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3933)

[lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3933](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3933).

²⁸²⁰ Flu season 2019-2020, Influnet vaccination and surveillance is underway, Ministry of Health (Rome), 18 October 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3933)

[lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3933](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3933).

²⁸²¹ New Coronavirus, the Ministry's task force at work, Ministry of Health (Rome) 26 January 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020.

http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=4023.

²⁸²² Italy's hospitals reach breaking point as Rome boosts funding to help virus-hit economy, CNBC (Rome) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/03/italy-to-spend-3point6-billion-euros-to-help-virus-hit-economy.html>.

²⁸²³ Italy rushes new doctors into service as coronavirus deaths rise above 2,500, Reuters (Rome) 17 March 2020.

Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-italy/italy-rushes-to-promote-new-doctors-to-relieve-coronavirus-crisis-idUSKBN214245>.

cope with COVID-19 and discussing training of healthcare providers, patient safety and patient equality. Italy has also demonstrated efforts to fully comply with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal healthcare coverage by providing free electrocardiogram and ultrasounds assessing cardiac health and free flu vaccines to vulnerable populations to avoid an outbreak.

Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of +1.

Analyst: Zixuan (Maggie) Xiao

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage and to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.

On 28 August 2019, at the 7th edition of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced that the Japanese government will support Kenya's universal health coverage.²⁸²⁴

On 29 August 2019, Prime Minister Abe also pledged JPY12 million to support the Nigerian government's public health sector.²⁸²⁵

On 1 October 2019, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare implemented major medical, nursing care and welfare related changes in response to the consumption tax hike.²⁸²⁶ The Elderly Health Bureau invested public funds to reduce insurance premiums for persons 65 years old or older who are exempt from municipal tax, with specific reduction rate prescribed by individual insurer according to regulation.²⁸²⁷ Over the full year, the government will also invest JPY100 billion to expand experienced and skilled staff for improving nursing home care.²⁸²⁸ For welfare recipients and persons with disabilities, the Social Affairs Bureau Protection Division reports a remuneration reform for disability welfare services focusing on improving the experience and skills of staff.²⁸²⁹

On 5 November 2019, a digital healthcare company MORE Health with an integrated network of physician specialists announced its collaboration with Japan's Integrity Healthcare, a government-funded company engaged with medical infrastructure, to offer international patients the best medical

²⁸²⁴ Kevin Rotich, "Japanese PM backs rollout of Kenya's universal health cover," Business Daily (Kenya). 28 August 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. <https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/news/Japanese-PM-backs-kenya-healthcare/539546-5252556-vjeadz/index.html>.

²⁸²⁵ Dennis Erezi, "Japanese PM pledges \$412,740 for Nigeria's defence college, healthcare," The Guardian (Nigeria). 29 August 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. <https://guardian.ng/news/japanese-pm-pledges-412740-for-nigerias-defence-college-healthcare/>.

²⁸²⁶ About main system change (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare relations in October, the first year of Reiwa), Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 26 September 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000198659_00005.html.

²⁸²⁷ About main system change (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare relations in October, the first year of Reiwa), Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 26 September 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000198659_00005.html.

²⁸²⁸ About main system change (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare relations in October, the first year of Reiwa), Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 26 September 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000198659_00005.html.

²⁸²⁹ About main system change (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare relations in October, the first year of Reiwa), Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 26 September 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000198659_00005.html.

resources in Japan through Co-Diagnosis, a collaborative diagnosis serviced through a cloud-based platform.²⁸³⁰

On 7 November 2019, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare released the schedule and venue for 21 free seminars, to be held in 14 cities nationwide between 6 December 2019 and 23 January 2020.²⁸³¹ The seminars will disseminate and explain the work style reform of medical staff as they shift to a non-equity medical system under the Revised Medical Law for healthcare professionals.²⁸³²

On 18 November 2019, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare held a “Skilled Medical Care” Ambassador Appointment Event to appoint “good medical care” ambassadors, following a round-table conference to address physician burnout and long wait times during weekend consultations, with aims of alleviating excessive burden on healthcare providers.²⁸³³

On 29 November 2019, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare approved of the “BRCAanalysis” genetic test to screen for breast cancer patients for Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer syndrome so as to enable earlier treatment.²⁸³⁴

On 1 December 2019, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in cooperation with the AIDS Prevention Foundation and other related non-governmental organizations held various public awareness events for “World AIDS Day” across Japan to counter discrimination and prejudice against AIDS patients and take initiative to educate health centres and relevant organizations on correct knowledge of AIDS.²⁸³⁵ The event outline included street campaigns, performances by artists who support the advocacy cause, and free HIV testing.²⁸³⁶

On 28 February 2020, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare released a summary sheet of the various efforts implemented by the relevant ministries, local governments, and related organizations to strengthen suicide prevention measures for the month of March.²⁸³⁷ Actions include the expansion of dial-in mental health counseling lines, extension of operating hours and widespread dissemination

²⁸³⁰ MORE Health Announces Collaboration with Japan's Integrity Healthcare, PR News Wire (San Mateo). 5 November 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/more-health-announces-collaboration-with-japans-integrity-healthcare-300949505.html>.

²⁸³¹ We hold "seminar about system about medical corporation" in the first year of Reiwa, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 7 November 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_07679.html.

²⁸³² We hold "seminar about system about medical corporation" in the first year of Reiwa, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 7 November 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_07679.html.

²⁸³³ Skilled Medical Care" Ambassador Appointment Event will be held on November 18, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 14 November 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_07884.html.

²⁸³⁴ Dana Dovey “Japan Approves Genetic Testing For Breast Cancer Treatment” Forbes 29 November 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/danadovey/2019/11/29/japan-approves-genetic-testing-for-breast-cancer-treatment/#4129148837f4>.

²⁸³⁵ We carry out spread enlightenment event for World AIDS Day, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000183582_00005.html.

²⁸³⁶ We carry out spread enlightenment event for World AIDS Day, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. 1 November 2019. Access Date: 02 January 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000183582_00005.html

²⁸³⁷ About main approach of suicide measures reinforcement month in the first year of Reiwa, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/jisatsutaisakugekkan2020.html>.

of information about mental health consultation and support via YouTube videos, banners, and search-linked ads.²⁸³⁸

On 4 March 2020, the Department of Economic Affairs addressed in a press release that masks will be distributed preferentially to Nakafurano Town and Kitami City, two of the most affected regions from COVID-19, within a few days to secure about 40 masks per household in order to protect as many residents as possible.²⁸³⁹

On 5 March 2020, the Food Monitoring and Safety Division held its 23rd technical review meeting on food hygiene and management, releasing draft hygiene management guidelines for brown sugar, frozen tofu, chikwabu, garlic and fuji production.²⁸⁴⁰

On 6 March 2020, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare announced that COVID-19 testing will be included under national health insurance system.²⁸⁴¹ Prior to this, individuals could only get tested when recommended by public health centres.²⁸⁴² After this announcement, patients will be able to request testing for themselves from public hospitals or private testing companies without referral from a public health centre.²⁸⁴³ The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has also announced that they will take efforts to develop faster testing kits; current testing kits deliver results within a few hours.²⁸⁴⁴

On 9 March 2020, Prime Minister Abe announced a COVID-19 aid package totalling JPY430.8 billion.²⁸⁴⁵ Part of this package will be allocated toward hospitals to improve medical facilities and stockpile on masks and other personal protective equipment.²⁸⁴⁶

On 11 March 2020, the Mental and Disability Health Division held its first meeting to discuss implementation of a community-based comprehensive care system for mental illness.²⁸⁴⁷

²⁸³⁸ About main approach of suicide measures reinforcement month in the first year of Reiwa, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 28 February 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2020. <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/jisatsutaisakugekkan2020.html>.

²⁸³⁹ About priority distribution of masks to Nakafurano Town and Kitami City, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 4 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_09967.html.

²⁸⁴⁰ About holding of the 23rd technical review meeting on food hygiene management, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 5 March 2019. Access Date: 21 April 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_09975.html.

²⁸⁴¹ Japan to include COVID-19 testing in national health insurance, Insurance Business Asia (Tokyo). 6 March 2020. Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.insurancebusinessmag.com/asia/news/breaking-news/japan-to-include-covid19-testing-in-national-health-insurance-216048.aspx>.

²⁸⁴² Japan to include COVID-19 testing in national health insurance, Insurance Business Asia (Tokyo). 6 March 2020. Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.insurancebusinessmag.com/asia/news/breaking-news/japan-to-include-covid19-testing-in-national-health-insurance-216048.aspx>.

²⁸⁴³ Japan to include COVID-19 testing in national health insurance, Insurance Business Asia (Tokyo). 6 March 2020. Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.insurancebusinessmag.com/asia/news/breaking-news/japan-to-include-covid19-testing-in-national-health-insurance-216048.aspx>.

²⁸⁴⁴ Japan to include COVID-19 testing in national health insurance, Insurance Business Asia (Tokyo). 6 March 2020. Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.insurancebusinessmag.com/asia/news/breaking-news/japan-to-include-covid19-testing-in-national-health-insurance-216048.aspx>.

²⁸⁴⁵ Japan announces \$4 billion coronavirus package, not yet eyeing extra budget, Reuters (Tokyo). 9 March 2020. Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-healthcare-coronavirus-japan-package/japan-unveils-4-billion-coronavirus-package-not-yet-eyeing-extra-budget-idUSKBN20X04B>.

²⁸⁴⁶ Japan announces \$4 billion coronavirus package, not yet eyeing extra budget, Reuters (Tokyo). 9 March 2020. Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-healthcare-coronavirus-japan-package/japan-unveils-4-billion-coronavirus-package-not-yet-eyeing-extra-budget-idUSKBN20X04B>.

²⁸⁴⁷ We will hold the 1st "Study Meeting on the Construction of Community-based Comprehensive Care System for Mental Illness, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo). 11 March 2020. Access Date: 21 April 2020. https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/newpage_10017.html.

On 24 March 2020, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry announced the launch of a free remote health consultation service with doctors in partnership with Mediplat.²⁸⁴⁸ This service will enable doctors to advise patients based on their symptoms while providing an effective way of triaging potential cases and keeping frontline medical safe unless there is an urgent need for medical treatment.²⁸⁴⁹

On 3 April 2020, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare advised local governments to accommodate COVID-19 patients with mild symptoms in hotels instead of hospitals to ease the shortage of healthcare facilities, especially in urban areas with high number of COVID-19 cases.²⁸⁵⁰

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems by addressing physician burnout and long wait times, improving diagnosis and treatment for Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer syndrome, providing training to medical professionals to reform working styles and improving access to mental health care options. Japan has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal healthcare coverage by providing free HIV testing and raising HIV awareness, investing in senior citizens' care, providing more comprehensive healthcare options to international travellers and implementing community-based comprehensive care system for mental illness.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Zixuan (Maggie) Xiao

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage and to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.

On 3 September 2019, British High Commissioner to Kenya Jane Marriott met with the President of the Republic of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta.²⁸⁵¹ Marriott indicated the UK government's support of Kenya's Big Four objectives of affordable housing, food security, manufacturing, and universal healthcare.²⁸⁵²

On 5 September 2019, Minister for Care Caroline Dinenage announced that the second phase of an adult social care recruitment campaign is underway.²⁸⁵³ The campaign, titled "When you care, every day makes a difference" aims to increase interest in adult social care as a career, given the shortage of

²⁸⁴⁸ Japanese Ministry, METI, launches free remote health consultation service to address COVID-19 related concerns, Healthcare IT News (Tokyo). 3 April 2020. Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/asia-pacific/japanese-ministry-meti-launches-free-remote-health-consultation-service-address>.

²⁸⁴⁹ Japanese Ministry, METI, launches free remote health consultation service to address COVID-19 related concerns, Healthcare IT News (Tokyo). 3 April 2020. Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/asia-pacific/japanese-ministry-meti-launches-free-remote-health-consultation-service-address>.

²⁸⁵⁰ Japan to house Covid-19 patients in hotels as hospitals feel strain, The Star (Tokyo). 3 April 2020. Access Date: 24 April 2020. <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/regional/2020/04/03/japan-to-house-covid-19-patients-in-hotels-as-hospitals-feel-strain>.

²⁸⁵¹ New British High Commissioner to Kenya presents credentials: speech by Jane Marriott, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 3 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/speech-by-the-new-british-high-commissioner>.

²⁸⁵² New British High Commissioner to Kenya presents credentials: speech by Jane Marriott, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 3 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/speech-by-the-new-british-high-commissioner>.

²⁸⁵³ Next phase of adult social care recruitment campaign begins, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-phase-of-adult-social-care-recruitment-campaign-begins>.

122,000 workers.²⁸⁵⁴ The campaign is geared toward people between ages 20 and 39 who have expressed significant interest in adult social care as a vocation through a survey administered in England.²⁸⁵⁵ The aim of the campaign is to fulfil the need of 580,000 more social care workers by 2035 to support the ageing population.²⁸⁵⁶

On 8 September 2019, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Matt Hancock announced EUR1 million funding to expand the cost-recovery team at the National Health Service (NHS).²⁸⁵⁷ Cost-recovery experts serve to reclaim debts of overseas visitors when they receive care in the UK as solely UK residents are eligible for free healthcare.²⁸⁵⁸ Experts will aide cost-recovery managers in easing administrative burden by helping identify patients that need to be charged, standardizing and implementing rules and exemptions across the country, and improving reporting of income and debt collection.²⁸⁵⁹ The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) reassures their commitment to protecting the most vulnerable people in society, including refugees, victims of modern slavery, asylum seekers and children cared for by local authorities.²⁸⁶⁰ Improved debt recollection from tourists will enable reallocation of funds to maintain delivery of high-quality front-line patient care at NHS.²⁸⁶¹ DHSC also notes that emergent care will be provided to tourists and other non-residents without full payment with debt being recollected after treatment.²⁸⁶²

On 9 September 2019, the government announced EUR130 million of funding in healthcare innovations for cancer and debilitating illnesses, such as dementia and Parkinson's.²⁸⁶³ EUR50 million will be allocated to NHS diagnostic services and artificial intelligence technology at Centres of

²⁸⁵⁴ Next phase of adult social care recruitment campaign begins, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-phase-of-adult-social-care-recruitment-campaign-begins>.

²⁸⁵⁵ Next phase of adult social care recruitment campaign begins, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-phase-of-adult-social-care-recruitment-campaign-begins>.

²⁸⁵⁶ Next phase of adult social care recruitment campaign begins, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 16 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-phase-of-adult-social-care-recruitment-campaign-begins>.

²⁸⁵⁷ £1 million to help NHS reclaim debts from overseas visitors, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 8 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-million-to-help-nhs-reclaim-debts-from-overseas-visitors>.

²⁸⁵⁸ £1 million to help NHS reclaim debts from overseas visitors, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 8 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-million-to-help-nhs-reclaim-debts-from-overseas-visitors>.

²⁸⁵⁹ £1 million to help NHS reclaim debts from overseas visitors, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 8 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-million-to-help-nhs-reclaim-debts-from-overseas-visitors>.

²⁸⁶⁰ £1 million to help NHS reclaim debts from overseas visitors, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 8 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-million-to-help-nhs-reclaim-debts-from-overseas-visitors>.

²⁸⁶¹ £1 million to help NHS reclaim debts from overseas visitors, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 8 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-million-to-help-nhs-reclaim-debts-from-overseas-visitors>.

²⁸⁶² £1 million to help NHS reclaim debts from overseas visitors, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 8 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-million-to-help-nhs-reclaim-debts-from-overseas-visitors>.

²⁸⁶³ Government to invest over £130 million in new tech to tackle cancer and debilitating illnesses, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-invest-over-130-million-in-new-tech-to-tackle-cancer-and-debilitating-illnesses>.

Excellence.²⁸⁶⁴ EUR7.5 million will be used for adult social care, while EUR14 million will be used for bioscience initiatives such as developing treatments for diseases and developing vaccines.²⁸⁶⁵ EUR69.5 million investment through UK Research and Innovation will be directed toward four British projects: Nucleic Acid Therapy Accelerator to develop genetic therapies for various diseases; the Advanced Pain Discovery Platform to better understand pain; the UK Centre of Evidence Implantation in Adult Social Care to implement innovations that enable more people to receive care at home; and tackling multimorbidity to propel drug development and enable earlier diagnosis and lesser progression.²⁸⁶⁶

On 10 September 2019, Public Health England (PHE) published a five-year infectious diseases strategy to “prevent, detect, respond to and reduce the impact of infectious diseases.”²⁸⁶⁷ PHE will be working alongside the NHS and local authorities to integrate diagnostic mechanisms and surveillance systems that enable infection prevention and control, be a global leader in tackling antimicrobial resistance by reducing use of antibiotic treatments, and strengthen England’s and global health protection systems.²⁸⁶⁸

On 10 September 2019, the Department of Health in Northern Ireland published the “Protect Life 2” suicide prevention strategy.²⁸⁶⁹ Northern Ireland has the highest suicide rates when compared to other UK nations.²⁸⁷⁰ The strategy received an additional EUR1.35 million in funding through the transformation programme and will require additional funding to be fully implemented.²⁸⁷¹

On 11 September 2019, the DHSC announced they were accepting proposals to make the pensions of doctors and nurses more flexible.²⁸⁷² The government indicated that health care professionals do not take on extra shifts due to facets of the NHS Pension Scheme and pension tax rules as they

²⁸⁶⁴ Government to invest over £130 million in new tech to tackle cancer and debilitating illnesses, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-invest-over-130-million-in-new-tech-to-tackle-cancer-and-debilitating-illnesses>.

²⁸⁶⁵ Government to invest over £130 million in new tech to tackle cancer and debilitating illnesses, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-invest-over-130-million-in-new-tech-to-tackle-cancer-and-debilitating-illnesses>.

²⁸⁶⁶ Government to invest over £130 million in new tech to tackle cancer and debilitating illnesses, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-invest-over-130-million-in-new-tech-to-tackle-cancer-and-debilitating-illnesses>.

²⁸⁶⁷ Public Health England launches new infectious disease strategy, Public Health England (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/public-health-england-launches-new-infectious-disease-strategy>.

²⁸⁶⁸ Public Health England launches new infectious disease strategy, Public Health England (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/public-health-england-launches-new-infectious-disease-strategy>.

²⁸⁶⁹ Action plan to fight suicide epidemic that claims a life in Northern Ireland every day, Belfast Telegraph (Belfast) 10 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/action-plan-to-fight-suicide-epidemic-that-claims-a-life-in-northern-ireland-every-day-38481802.html>.

²⁸⁷⁰ Suicides: Plan revealed to reduce number of deaths, BBC News (London) 10 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-49639583>.

²⁸⁷¹ Suicides: Plan revealed to reduce number of deaths, BBC News (London) 10 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-49639583>.

²⁸⁷² Seniors clinicians’ pensions: government asks for views on new proposals, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/senior-clinicians-pensions-government-asks-for-views-on-new-proposals>.

currently stand.²⁸⁷³ Changes in the pension scheme will allow healthcare professionals more flexibility to choose individual pension plans, enabling them to maximize clinical work without high taxes.²⁸⁷⁴

On 11 September 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced a new immigration route that would permit international students to remain in the UK for two years after graduation while looking for a job.²⁸⁷⁵ The intention is to encourage international talent, including individuals the science, technology, engineering, and math fields (STEM), to remain in the UK and potentially become more involved in breakthroughs in STEM fields, particularly genomics.²⁸⁷⁶ One EUR200 million project in which graduates can become involved is the world's largest whole genome sequencing project that aims to improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment of various diseases.²⁸⁷⁷ Another project by Genomics England in collaboration with NHS has enabled 25 per cent patients with rare diseases to receive a diagnosis for the first time.²⁸⁷⁸

On 12 September 2019, eight new female genital mutilation support clinics were opened in communities in England where there is the greatest need with the aim of reaching women before they reach to NHS with life-threatening complications.²⁸⁷⁹ Clinic sites include Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, and five London boroughs.²⁸⁸⁰ The clinics aim to address the physical and psychological impact of female genital mutilation through treatment, support, and education on prevention.²⁸⁸¹ Funding comes from the EUR33.9 billion the UK government invested in the NHS.²⁸⁸²

On 23 September 2019, International Development Minister Alok Sharma delivered a speech in New York at the United Nations General Assembly political declaration on universal health

²⁸⁷³ Seniors clinicians' pensions: government asks for views on new proposals, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/senior-clinicians-pensions-government-asks-for-views-on-new-proposals>.

²⁸⁷⁴ Seniors clinicians' pensions: government asks for views on new proposals, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/senior-clinicians-pensions-government-asks-for-views-on-new-proposals>.

²⁸⁷⁵ World's largest genetics research project to fight deadly diseases and new offer for international students, Prime Minister's Office (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-genetics-research-project-to-fight-deadly-diseases-and-offer-new-offer-for-international-students>.

²⁸⁷⁶ World's largest genetics research project to fight deadly diseases and new offer for international students, Prime Minister's Office (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-genetics-research-project-to-fight-deadly-diseases-and-offer-new-offer-for-international-students>.

²⁸⁷⁷ World's largest genetics research project to fight deadly diseases and new offer for international students, Prime Minister's Office (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-genetics-research-project-to-fight-deadly-diseases-and-offer-new-offer-for-international-students>.

²⁸⁷⁸ World's largest genetics research project to fight deadly diseases and new offer for international students, Prime Minister's Office (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-genetics-research-project-to-fight-deadly-diseases-and-offer-new-offer-for-international-students>.

²⁸⁷⁹ We must work together to end FGM for good, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-must-work-together-to-end-fgm-for-good>.

²⁸⁸⁰ We must work together to end FGM for good, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-must-work-together-to-end-fgm-for-good>.

²⁸⁸¹ We must work together to end FGM for good, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-must-work-together-to-end-fgm-for-good>.

²⁸⁸² We must work together to end FGM for good, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-must-work-together-to-end-fgm-for-good>.

coverage.^{2883,2884} Minister Sharma announced funding of EUR600 million over 2020-2025 toward Reproductive Health Supplies programme aimed at providing access to family planning resources to more than 20 million women and girls, preventing unplanned pregnancies and unsafe abortions and reducing pregnancy and childbirth complications.²⁸⁸⁵ Minister Sharma stated that “We cannot achieve Universal Health Coverage without Universal Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.”²⁸⁸⁶

On 23 September 2019, Minister Hancock confirmed that the UK government will fund healthcare for 180,000 UK nationals in the European Union after Brexit in a no-deal scenario.²⁸⁸⁷ Healthcare costs will be covered for six months, or up to one year for individuals who are currently undergoing treatment.²⁸⁸⁸ The UK government will also cover costs while individuals turn to local healthcare as to avoid gaps in coverage.²⁸⁸⁹

On 24 September 2019, at the 74th United Nations General Assembly, Chief Medical Officer for England Professor Dame Sally Davies announced funding to combat antimicrobial resistance and noted that universal healthcare coverage cannot be achieved without tackling antimicrobial resistance.²⁸⁹⁰ EUR6.2 million will be used to strengthen surveillance systems in Africa and Asia that can inform policy decisions and EUR12 million will be used for research collaborations between the

²⁸⁸³ Achieving Universal Health Coverage by 2030 Hinges on ‘Bold National Leadership, Secretary-General Tells General Assembly, as World Leaders Commit to Declaration, United Nations (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ga12181.doc.htm>.

²⁸⁸⁴ Healthcare for everyone must prioritise women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights, says UK at UN General Assembly, Department for International Development (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/healthcare-for-everyone-must-prioritise-womens-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights-says-uk-at-un-general-assembly>.

²⁸⁸⁵ Healthcare for everyone must prioritise women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights, says UK at UN General Assembly, Department for International Development (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/healthcare-for-everyone-must-prioritise-womens-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights-says-uk-at-un-general-assembly>.

²⁸⁸⁶ Alok Sharma speech to UN General Assembly on Universal Health Coverage, Department for International Development (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/alok-sharma-speech-to-un-general-assembly-on-universal-health-coverage>.

²⁸⁸⁷ Government takes steps to protect healthcare access for UK nationals living in the EU after 31 October, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-takes-steps-to-protect-healthcare-access-for-uk-nationals-living-in-the-eu-after-31-october>.

²⁸⁸⁸ Government takes steps to protect healthcare access for UK nationals living in the EU after 31 October, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-takes-steps-to-protect-healthcare-access-for-uk-nationals-living-in-the-eu-after-31-october>.

²⁸⁸⁹ Government takes steps to protect healthcare access for UK nationals living in the EU after 31 October, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-takes-steps-to-protect-healthcare-access-for-uk-nationals-living-in-the-eu-after-31-october>.

²⁸⁹⁰ IIVI-led Consortium Awarded Fleming Fund Regional Grant to Improve Data Sharing in Fight against Antimicrobial Resistance, International Vaccine Institute (Seoul) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.ivi.int/ivi-consortium-awarded-fleming-fund-regional-grant/>.

UK and low and middle income countries.²⁸⁹¹ Funding will be provided by the Fleming Fund and the National Institute of Health Research Global Health Research programme.²⁸⁹²

On 27 September 2019, Prime Minister Johnson pledged EUR200 million to the NHS to improve cancer screening equipment, including magnetic resonance imaging, computerized tomography scanners, and breast screening equipment, which can enable earlier diagnoses.²⁸⁹³ The investment was made in efforts to increase efficiency and patient safety.²⁸⁹⁴ On 20 October 2019, the government announced the 78 NHS trusts that will receive funding.²⁸⁹⁵

On 30 September 2019, the DHSC published the Health Infrastructure Plan.²⁸⁹⁶ The plan provides capital to build new hospitals, invest in technology, modernize facilities, and ensure the safety of estates.²⁸⁹⁷ Specifically, EUR2.8 billion was allocated to build six new hospitals by 2025 and 21 other hospitals were provided with seed funding.²⁸⁹⁸ Overall, 40 schemes for new hospitals fall under the Health Infrastructure Plan.²⁸⁹⁹

On 3 October 2019, the DHSC placed hormone replacement therapy products, which currently face shortage, on the list of medicines that face restrictions and cannot be parallel exported to tackle supply shortages.²⁹⁰⁰ Shortage protocols for the antidepressant fluoxetine were also introduced for the antidepressant fluoxetine.²⁹⁰¹ Measures were put in place to address shortages.²⁹⁰²

²⁸⁹¹ UK to invest in new research against evolving global health threats, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-invest-in-new-research-against-evolving-global-health-threats>.

²⁸⁹² UK to invest in new research against evolving global health threats, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-invest-in-new-research-against-evolving-global-health-threats>.

²⁸⁹³ Prime Minister pledges funding for cancer screening overhaul, Prime Minister's Office (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-pledges-funding-for-cancer-screening-overhaul>.

²⁸⁹⁴ Prime Minister pledges funding for cancer screening overhaul, Prime Minister's Office (London) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-pledges-funding-for-cancer-screening-overhaul>.

²⁸⁹⁵ 78 NHS trusts to receive new cancer screening machines, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/78-nhs-trusts-to-receive-new-cancer-screening-machines>.

²⁸⁹⁶ New hospital building programme announced, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 29 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-hospital-building-programme-announced>.

²⁸⁹⁷ New hospital building programme announced, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 29 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-hospital-building-programme-announced>.

²⁸⁹⁸ New hospital building programme announced, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 29 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-hospital-building-programme-announced>.

²⁸⁹⁹ New hospital building programme announced, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 29 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-hospital-building-programme-announced>.

²⁹⁰⁰ New restrictions on parallel exports to tackle HRT shortages, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-restrictions-on-parallel-exports-to-tackle-hrt-shortages>.

²⁹⁰¹ New restrictions on parallel exports to tackle HRT shortages, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-restrictions-on-parallel-exports-to-tackle-hrt-shortages>.

²⁹⁰² New restrictions on parallel exports to tackle HRT shortages, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-restrictions-on-parallel-exports-to-tackle-hrt-shortages>.

On 4 October 2019, PHE announced that 30 million people will receive the flu vaccine for free.²⁹⁰³ For the first time, all students in primary schools are eligible to receive the free vaccine.²⁹⁰⁴

On 9 October 2019, Minister Hancock delivered a speech in Manchester at the NHS Providers Annual Conference.²⁹⁰⁵ He reiterated features of the Long Term Plan Bill, Health Infrastructure Plan, and the health technology body NHSX.²⁹⁰⁶ He also discussed the upcoming release of the People Plan, which addresses the need for more health care workers.²⁹⁰⁷

On 10 October 2019, Department for International Development Ghana Director Philip Smith delivered a speech indicating UK government's support for mental health care initiatives in Ghana.²⁹⁰⁸ Specifically, Smith discussed improving access to services, and issuing a UK Aid programme aimed at reducing stigma among Ghanaian youth.²⁹⁰⁹ Mental healthcare delivery is indicated as an important component of universal health coverage.²⁹¹⁰

On 19 October 2019, Prime Minister Johnson addressed speculation regarding trade negotiations over the NHS.²⁹¹¹ In the House of Commons, Johnson stated "Our first decision, on which I believe there will be unanimity is that in any future trade negotiations with any country our NHS will not be on the table."²⁹¹²

On 19 October 2019, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Prevention, Public Health and Primary Care Jo Churchill announced the roll-out of electronic prescription services across England

²⁹⁰³ Biggest NHS flu campaign under way, BBC News (London) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-49895681>; Flu vaccination: The main things to know about the 2019 programme, Public Health England (London) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2019/10/04/flu-vaccination-the-main-things-to-know-about-the-2019-programme/>.

²⁹⁰⁴ Flu vaccination: The main things to know about the 2019 programme, Public Health England (London) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2019/10/04/flu-vaccination-the-main-things-to-know-about-the-2019-programme/>.

²⁹⁰⁵ How we build an NHS that's there for every member of society, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/how-we-build-an-nhs-thats-there-for-every-member-of-society>.

²⁹⁰⁶ How we build an NHS that's there for every member of society, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/how-we-build-an-nhs-thats-there-for-every-member-of-society>.

²⁹⁰⁷ How we build an NHS that's there for every member of society, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/how-we-build-an-nhs-thats-there-for-every-member-of-society>.

²⁹⁰⁸ DFID Ghana Director's Speech on World Mental Health Day, DFID Ghana (Accra) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dfid-ghana-directors-speech-on-world-mental-health-day-2019>.

²⁹⁰⁹ DFID Ghana Director's Speech on World Mental Health Day, DFID Ghana (Accra) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dfid-ghana-directors-speech-on-world-mental-health-day-2019>.

²⁹¹⁰ DFID Ghana Director's Speech on World Mental Health Day, DFID Ghana (Accra) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dfid-ghana-directors-speech-on-world-mental-health-day-2019>.

²⁹¹¹ PM statement in the House of Commons: 19 October 2019, Prime Minister's Office (London) 19 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-in-the-house-of-commons-19-october-2019>.

²⁹¹² PM statement in the House of Commons: 19 October 2019, Prime Minister's Office (London) 19 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-in-the-house-of-commons-19-october-2019>.

in November 2019.²⁹¹³ The electronic prescription service is intended to increase efficiency in the NHS for patients and staff.²⁹¹⁴

On 22 October 2019, the UK government awarded a EUR1.9 million Rough Sleeping Grant to projects that aim to improve access to healthcare for individuals who sleep rough, considering that people experiencing rough sleeping have poorer health than the general population.²⁹¹⁵ The six projects involved are located in Lambeth, Newcastle, West Sussex, Portsmouth, and Leeds.²⁹¹⁶ The grant aligns with the Rough Sleeping Strategy published by the UK in August 2018.²⁹¹⁷

On 22 October 2019, Minister Hancock approved a EUR184 million capital loan fund for urgent hospital upgrades.²⁹¹⁸ 13 trusts will receive funding for upgrades to areas such as equipment, infrastructure, and general safety.²⁹¹⁹

On 22 October 2019, the Women and Equalities Committee appointed by the House of Commons and chaired by Member of Parliament Maria Miller released a report indicating that LGBT health needs are not being adequately met as LGBT individuals are treated as straight and cisgender when interacting with the healthcare system.²⁹²⁰ The report recommends mandated monitoring of sexual orientation and gender identity within the next 12 months.²⁹²¹ The report also suggests that the NHS Long Term Care Plan should highlight explicit inequalities that the NHS must address.²⁹²²

On 23 October 2019, the Health and Social Care Committee released on report on drugs policy that advocates for a harm reduction approach that would benefit drug users and reduce harm and cost to

²⁹¹³ National roll-out of electronic prescription service, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 19 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-roll-out-of-electronic-prescription-service>.

²⁹¹⁴ National roll-out of electronic prescription service, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 19 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-roll-out-of-electronic-prescription-service>.

²⁹¹⁵ Grant awarded to improve the health of people sleeping rough, Public Health England (London) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/grant-awarded-to-improve-the-health-of-people-sleeping-rough>.

²⁹¹⁶ Grant awarded to improve the health of people sleeping rough, Public Health England (London) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/grant-awarded-to-improve-the-health-of-people-sleeping-rough>.

²⁹¹⁷ Grant awarded to improve the health of people sleeping rough, Public Health England (London) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/grant-awarded-to-improve-the-health-of-people-sleeping-rough>.

²⁹¹⁸ £184 million loan funding for urgent hospital upgrades, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/184-million-loan-funding-for-urgent-hospital-upgrades>.

²⁹¹⁹ £184 million loan funding for urgent hospital upgrades, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/184-million-loan-funding-for-urgent-hospital-upgrades>.

²⁹²⁰ “Unacceptable inequalities in health outcomes” for LGBT people “glare out wherever you look,” Women and Equalities Committee (London) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/women-and-equalities-committee/news-parliament-2017/lgbt-health-social-care-report-published-19-20/>.

²⁹²¹ “Unacceptable inequalities in health outcomes” for LGBT people “glare out wherever you look,” Women and Equalities Committee (London) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/women-and-equalities-committee/news-parliament-2017/lgbt-health-social-care-report-published-19-20/>.

²⁹²² “Unacceptable inequalities in health outcomes” for LGBT people “glare out wherever you look,” Women and Equalities Committee (London) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/women-and-equalities-committee/news-parliament-2017/lgbt-health-social-care-report-published-19-20/>.

surrounding communities.²⁹²³ Among their recommendations include shifting responsibility for drug policy from the Home Office to the DHSC and decriminalize drug possession for personal use so as to treat possession for personal use as a civil matter rather than a criminal one.²⁹²⁴ Decriminalization will enable the criminal justice department to reduce costs, funds of which can be reallocated to prevention and treatment programs that save lives of users and provide better protection for communities.²⁹²⁵ On 4 November 2019, the Scottish Affairs Committee published a report on 'Problem drug use in Scotland' with conclusions similar to that of the Health and Social Care committee.²⁹²⁶

On 24 October 2019, Minister Hancock delivered a speech at the Royal College of General Practitioners annual conference and stated his priorities as people, structures, and technology.²⁹²⁷ Hancock reiterated the UK government's commitments to recruit 20,000 primary care clinical staff and provide an extra EUR4.5 billion for primary and community care each year by 2023-2024.²⁹²⁸ Hancock also referenced the previous launch of the Clinical Negligence Scheme for General Practice in April 2019 that limits personal liabilities for professionals, and plans to rely on healthcare technology such as digitized paper records and electronic prescribing in the future.²⁹²⁹

On 28 October 2019, the DHSC announced that a EUR1,082,000 fund will be used for personalized bereavement support at 10 NHS areas in England.²⁹³⁰ Individuals who have lost a family member or friend can receive counselling support and mental health services.²⁹³¹

On 28 October 2019, the UK government announced a EUR3.5 million investment to treat gonorrhea globally.²⁹³² Gonorrhea particularly impacts women and vulnerable groups.²⁹³³ The

²⁹²³ Radical change needed in approach to UK drug policy, Health and Social Care Committee (London) 23 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/health-and-social-care-committee/news/drugs-policy-report-published-19-20/>.

²⁹²⁴ Radical change needed in approach to UK drug policy, Health and Social Care Committee (London) 23 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/health-and-social-care-committee/news/drugs-policy-report-published-19-20/>.

²⁹²⁵ Radical change needed in approach to UK drug policy, Health and Social Care Committee (London) 23 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/health-and-social-care-committee/news/drugs-policy-report-published-19-20/>.

²⁹²⁶ Health and Social Care Committee Chair comment on Scottish Affairs Committee report on drugs policy, Health and Social Care Committee (London) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/health-and-social-care-committee/news/drugs-policy-scottish-committee-report-chairs-comments-2019/>.

²⁹²⁷ General practice is the bedrock of the NHS, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/general-practice-is-the-bedrock-of-the-nhs>.

²⁹²⁸ General practice is the bedrock of the NHS, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/general-practice-is-the-bedrock-of-the-nhs>.

²⁹²⁹ General practice is the bedrock of the NHS, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 24 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/general-practice-is-the-bedrock-of-the-nhs>.

²⁹³⁰ Suicide bereavement support to be made available across England, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 27 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/suicide-bereavement-support-to-be-made-available-across-england>.

²⁹³¹ Suicide bereavement support to be made available across England, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 27 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/suicide-bereavement-support-to-be-made-available-across-england>.

²⁹³² Government invests in global partnership to treat gonorrhoea, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 28 October 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-invests-in-global-partnership-to-treat-gonorrhoea>.

government is working in partnership with the Global Antimicrobial Resistance Innovation Fund and the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership.²⁹³⁴

On 31 October 2019, the UK parliament laid legislation to provide personal health budgets to 10,000 individuals eligible for a wheelchair or requiring mental health support under section 117 of the Mental Health Act.²⁹³⁵ On 2 December 2019, the change in law will come into effect.²⁹³⁶ Personal health budgets are used in efforts to personalize care and provide patients with greater control over their health.²⁹³⁷

On 1 November 2019, the DHSC announced that EUR26 million in funding will be allocated to 25 trusts to support implementation of digital prescription technology.²⁹³⁸ The upgrade is in efforts to reduce medication errors, increase the speed of access, and ensure that information is stored in a single electronic record.²⁹³⁹ EUR26 million is the second installment of EUR78 million for the implementation of electronic prescribing systems over the next three years.²⁹⁴⁰

On 5 November 2019, the DHSC and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) added the measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine to the list of medications that cannot be parallel exported from the UK.²⁹⁴¹ The restriction was added in efforts to stop medication shortages for individuals that do not receive coverage from the national immunisation programme and must purchase the vaccine privately, such as overseas workers.²⁹⁴²

²⁹³³ Government invests in global partnership to treat gonorrhoea, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 28 October 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-invests-in-global-partnership-to-treat-gonorrhoea>.

²⁹³⁴ Government invests in global partnership to treat gonorrhoea, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 28 October 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-invests-in-global-partnership-to-treat-gonorrhoea>.

²⁹³⁵ 100,000 more people to be given personal health budgets, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-000-more-people-to-be-given-personal-health-budgets>.

²⁹³⁶ 100,000 more people to be given personal health budgets, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-000-more-people-to-be-given-personal-health-budgets>.

²⁹³⁷ 100,000 more people to be given personal health budgets, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/100-000-more-people-to-be-given-personal-health-budgets>.

²⁹³⁸ £26 million to help hospitals introduce digital prescriptions, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/26-million-to-help-hospitals-introduce-digital-prescriptions>.

²⁹³⁹ £26 million to help hospitals introduce digital prescriptions, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/26-million-to-help-hospitals-introduce-digital-prescriptions>.

²⁹⁴⁰ £26 million to help hospitals introduce digital prescriptions, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/26-million-to-help-hospitals-introduce-digital-prescriptions>.

²⁹⁴¹ Medicines that cannot be parallel exported from the UK, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/medicines-that-cannot-be-parallel-exported-from-the-uk#history>.

²⁹⁴² New measures to secure MMR vaccine for private patients, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-measures-to-secure-mmr-vaccine-for-private-patients>.

On 5 November 2019, Minister Hancock announced that 2,250 inpatients with learning disabilities and autism that are situated in a mental health hospital will have their cases reviewed.²⁹⁴³ This decision was made to reduce the number of patients in restrictive settings in accordance with recommendations by the Care Quality Commission.²⁹⁴⁴ Additional measures include increasing transparency regarding inpatients with mental health conditions and providing mandatory training to NHS and social care workers.²⁹⁴⁵ EUR1.4 million government funds will be used to provide the necessary training.²⁹⁴⁶

On 9 November 2019, Minister Hancock apologized to Bethany, a young girl with autism that was locked up for nearly three years based on terms set forth in the Mental Health Act.²⁹⁴⁷ He indicated that the situation is under a serious case review and recommendations will be made going forward.²⁹⁴⁸

On 16 December 2019, the Scottish government published “An Integrated Health and Social Workforce Plan for Scotland,” in partnership with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities.²⁹⁴⁹ The plan presents ideas to planners and employers in local authorities, NHS, third and independent sector to meet health and social care needs by planning resources needed to build sustainable health systems.²⁹⁵⁰

On 18 December 2019, Minister Hancock delivered a speech at Policy Exchange indicating his prioritization of prevention, people, technology, and infrastructure.²⁹⁵¹ Hancock reiterated commitments made leading up to the UK general election on 12 December 2019.²⁹⁵² Commitments included building 40 new hospitals in the next decade, establishing 50 million more general

²⁹⁴³ All inpatients with learning disability or autism to be given case reviews, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-inpatients-with-learning-disability-or-autism-to-be-given-case-reviews>.

²⁹⁴⁴ All inpatients with learning disability or autism to be given case reviews, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-inpatients-with-learning-disability-or-autism-to-be-given-case-reviews>.

²⁹⁴⁵ All inpatients with learning disability or autism to be given case reviews, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-inpatients-with-learning-disability-or-autism-to-be-given-case-reviews>.

²⁹⁴⁶ All inpatients with learning disability or autism to be given case reviews, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-inpatients-with-learning-disability-or-autism-to-be-given-case-reviews>.

²⁹⁴⁷ Bethany: Health secretary sorry over care for locked-up autistic girl, Sky News (London) 9 November 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://news.sky.com/story/autistic-bethany-will-be-moved-before-christmas-says-health-secretary-matt-hancock-11857982>; ‘My autistic daughter was held in a cell for two years’, BBC News (London) 1 November 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.bbc.com/news/education-50252079>.

²⁹⁴⁸ Bethany: Health secretary sorry over care for locked-up autistic girl, Sky News (London) 9 November 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://news.sky.com/story/autistic-bethany-will-be-moved-before-christmas-says-health-secretary-matt-hancock-11857982>.

²⁹⁴⁹ Health and social care: integrated workforce plan, Health Workforce, Leadership and Service Transformation Directorate (Edinburgh) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-health-social-care-integrated-workforce-plan/>.

²⁹⁵⁰ Health and social care: integrated workforce plan, Health Workforce, Leadership and Service Transformation Directorate (Edinburgh) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-health-social-care-integrated-workforce-plan/>.

²⁹⁵¹ What record NHS investment means for each of my priorities, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/what-record-nhs-investment-means-for-each-of-my-priorities>.

²⁹⁵² What record NHS investment means for each of my priorities, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/what-record-nhs-investment-means-for-each-of-my-priorities>.

practitioner appointments, and recruiting more healthcare professionals.²⁹⁵³ Recruitment targets include 50,000 nurses, 6,000 general practitioners, and 6,000 primary care professionals.²⁹⁵⁴ Minister Hancock also announced EUR2 billion to support trainee nurses.²⁹⁵⁵ Students will receive at least EUR5,000 extra per year and up to EUR3,000 under certain conditions.²⁹⁵⁶

On 19 December 2019, newly re-elected Prime Minister Johnson delivered the Queen's Speech.²⁹⁵⁷ Johnson promised to dedicate EUR34 billion in the new NHS Funding Bill.²⁹⁵⁸

On 4 January 2020, the UK government announced EUR40 million of funding for frontline technology in the NHS.²⁹⁵⁹ The goal is to reduce the amount of time staff spend logging into computer systems and increase the amount of time dedicated to patients.²⁹⁶⁰ Also, EUR4.5 million of funding will be directed toward digital adult social care projects to help vulnerable populations live independently.²⁹⁶¹

On 13 January 2020, Chair of NHS England Lord Prior announced a collaboration with pharmaceutical company Novartis at the J.P. healthcare conference in San Francisco.²⁹⁶² NHS England, the National Institute for Health Research, and Oxford University are involved in the partnership that aims to reduce heart disease among NHS patients.²⁹⁶³ The partnership will offer

²⁹⁵³ What record NHS investment means for each of my priorities, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/what-record-nhs-investment-means-for-each-of-my-priorities>.

²⁹⁵⁴ What record NHS investment means for each of my priorities, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/what-record-nhs-investment-means-for-each-of-my-priorities>.

²⁹⁵⁵ Nursing students to receive £5,000 payment a year, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nursing-students-to-receive-5-000-payment-a-year>.

²⁹⁵⁶ Nursing students to receive £5,000 payment a year, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nursing-students-to-receive-5-000-payment-a-year>.

²⁹⁵⁷ NHS PRIORITY Queen's Speech: Boris Johnson to enshrine in law his £34billion NHS spending pledge, The Sun (London) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/10586993/queens-speech-boris-johnson-nhs-pledge-law/>.

²⁹⁵⁸ NHS PRIORITY Queen's Speech: Boris Johnson to enshrine in law his £34billion NHS spending pledge, The Sun (London) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/10586993/queens-speech-boris-johnson-nhs-pledge-law/>.

²⁹⁵⁹ £40 million investment to reduce NHS staff login times, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 4 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/40-million-investment-to-reduce-nhs-staff-login-times>.

²⁹⁶⁰ £40 million investment to reduce NHS staff login times, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 4 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/40-million-investment-to-reduce-nhs-staff-login-times>.

²⁹⁶¹ £40 million investment to reduce NHS staff login times, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 4 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/40-million-investment-to-reduce-nhs-staff-login-times>.

²⁹⁶² New heart disease drug to be made available for NHS patients, NHS England (London) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-heart-disease-drug-to-be-made-available-for-nhs-patients>.

²⁹⁶³ New heart disease drug to be made available for NHS patients, NHS England (London) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-heart-disease-drug-to-be-made-available-for-nhs-patients>.

Inclisiran to patients at risk of heart disease which will help them reduce cholesterol levels.²⁹⁶⁴ The partnership also aims to increase the accessibility of NHS infrastructure and technology.²⁹⁶⁵

On 15 January 2020, Minister Hancock introduced the NHS Long Term Plan Funding Bill to Parliament.²⁹⁶⁶ The bill mandates that the government provide EUR33.9 billion to the NHS every year by 2024, resulting in a total of EUR148.5 billion by 2024.²⁹⁶⁷ The bill will place a “double-lock commitment,” legal obligation on Secretary of State and Treasury to uphold this minimum level of funding for the next four years.²⁹⁶⁸

On 22 January 2020, the DHSC and PHE stated there would be enhanced monitoring on direct flights from Wuhan, China, to the UK.²⁹⁶⁹ A Port Health team, composed of a port medical inspector, port health doctor, administrative support, and team leader, will be present.²⁹⁷⁰ The team will provide advice and support for travellers that feel unwell, and check for symptoms of COVID-19.²⁹⁷¹

On 3 February 2020, the UK government announced EUR20 million in funding for the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations.²⁹⁷² The funding will be used to develop vaccines and diagnostics to fight COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.²⁹⁷³ Currently, there are three new programs aimed at developing a vaccine against coronavirus.²⁹⁷⁴

On 4 February 2020, PHE scientists fully sequenced the coronavirus genome.²⁹⁷⁵ The sequence can aid the scientific community in understanding viral mutations and methods of virus transmission.²⁹⁷⁶

²⁹⁶⁴ UK Government tackles heart disease with new partnership, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-tackles-heart-disease-with-new-partnership>.

²⁹⁶⁵ UK Government tackles heart disease with new partnership, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-tackles-heart-disease-with-new-partnership>.

²⁹⁶⁶ NHS funding bill enters Parliament, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-funding-bill-enters-parliament>.

²⁹⁶⁷ NHS funding bill enters Parliament, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-funding-bill-enters-parliament>.

²⁹⁶⁸ NHS funding bill enters Parliament, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-funding-bill-enters-parliament>.

²⁹⁶⁹ DHSC and PHE statement on coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care and Public Health England (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dhsc-and-phe-statement-on-coronavirus>.

²⁹⁷⁰ DHSC and PHE statement on coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care and Public Health England (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dhsc-and-phe-statement-on-coronavirus>.

²⁹⁷¹ DHSC and PHE statement on coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care and Public Health England (London) 22 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dhsc-and-phe-statement-on-coronavirus>.

²⁹⁷² €20m announced to fund vaccines for coronavirus and other infectious diseases, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/20m-announced-to-fund-vaccines-for-coronavirus-and-other-infectious-diseases>.

²⁹⁷³ €20m announced to fund vaccines for coronavirus and other infectious diseases, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/20m-announced-to-fund-vaccines-for-coronavirus-and-other-infectious-diseases>.

²⁹⁷⁴ €20m announced to fund vaccines for coronavirus and other infectious diseases, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/20m-announced-to-fund-vaccines-for-coronavirus-and-other-infectious-diseases>.

²⁹⁷⁵ PHE reaches crucial step in fully sequencing novel coronavirus, Public Health England (London) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/phe-reaches-crucial-step-in-fully-sequencing-novel-coronavirus>.

On 6 February 2020, the UK government and NHS announced EUR1.5 billion in funding over the next four years for general practice.²⁹⁷⁷ The funding will be used to reach the government's goal of 50 million more general practice appointments by 2024.²⁹⁷⁸ The funding will be used to recruit 6,000 primary care professionals. Another goal is to develop initiatives for recruiting and retaining doctors.²⁹⁷⁹ The General Practice Contract for 2020/21 was also updated to include measures such as a greater number of check-ups for new mothers, an increase of 26,000 new staff, more health checks for vaccinations and learning disabilities, expanded referrals for social prescribing, and better safety checks for prescriptions.²⁹⁸⁰

On 8 February 2020, Minister Sharma pledged EUR5 million in funding to the World Health Organization (WHO) to support the Emergency Flash Appeal.²⁹⁸¹ The funding will be used to train medical personnel and rapid response teams to prevent the spread of COVID-19.²⁹⁸² The UK will also send experts to the WHO Regional Office for Africa to assist with the international response.²⁹⁸³

On 10 February 2020, COVID-19 diagnostic tests developed by PHE were introduced across the UK.²⁹⁸⁴ The rollout expands the number of diagnostic laboratories from one to twelve.²⁹⁸⁵ The goal is to increase testing capacity across the UK, with the number of tests in England increasing from 100 to 1,000 people each day.²⁹⁸⁶

²⁹⁷⁶ PHE reaches crucial step in fully sequencing novel coronavirus, Public Health England (London) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/phe-reaches-crucial-step-in-fully-sequencing-novel-coronavirus>.

²⁹⁷⁷ €1.5 billion to deliver Government commitment for 50 million more general practice appointments, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/15-billion-to-deliver-government-commitment-for-50-million-more-general-practice-appointments>.

²⁹⁷⁸ €1.5 billion to deliver Government commitment for 50 million more general practice appointments, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/15-billion-to-deliver-government-commitment-for-50-million-more-general-practice-appointments>.

²⁹⁷⁹ €1.5 billion to deliver Government commitment for 50 million more general practice appointments, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/15-billion-to-deliver-government-commitment-for-50-million-more-general-practice-appointments>.

²⁹⁸⁰ €1.5 billion to deliver Government commitment for 50 million more general practice appointments, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/15-billion-to-deliver-government-commitment-for-50-million-more-general-practice-appointments>.

²⁹⁸¹ New UK aid to help stop the spread of coronavirus around the world, Department for International Development (London) 8 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-to-help-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus-around-the-world>.

²⁹⁸² New UK aid to help stop the spread of coronavirus around the world, Department for International Development (London) 8 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-to-help-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus-around-the-world>.

²⁹⁸³ New UK aid to help stop the spread of coronavirus around the world, Department for International Development (London) 8 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-to-help-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus-around-the-world>.

²⁹⁸⁴ PHE novel coronavirus diagnostic test rolled out across UK, Public Health England (London) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/phe-novel-coronavirus-diagnostic-test-rolled-out-across-uk>.

²⁹⁸⁵ PHE novel coronavirus diagnostic test rolled out across UK, Public Health England (London) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/phe-novel-coronavirus-diagnostic-test-rolled-out-across-uk>.

²⁹⁸⁶ PHE novel coronavirus diagnostic test rolled out across UK, Public Health England (London) 7 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/phe-novel-coronavirus-diagnostic-test-rolled-out-across-uk>.

On 10 February 2020, Minister Hancock announced that the Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020 were in effect to reduce the spread of COVID-19.²⁹⁸⁷ The regulations state that individuals can be restricted if they are deemed a public health threat by health professionals.²⁹⁸⁸ Regulation 3 indicates that COVID-19 is a serious public health threat.²⁹⁸⁹ In accordance with Regulation 2, Hancock also designated Arrowe Park Hospital and Kents Hill Park as isolation facilities.²⁹⁹⁰ On 25 February 2020, Heathrow Ariel Hotel was added as an isolation facility.²⁹⁹¹

On 11 February 2020, the DHSC announced that the impact of coronavirus on medical supply will be monitored.²⁹⁹² The government asked medical suppliers to conduct business risk assessments to indicate the level of impact.²⁹⁹³ Also, companies were urged to hold existing medical supplies when possible to ensure an adequate supply upon leaving the European Union.²⁹⁹⁴

On 13 February 2020, the Medicines and Medical Devices Bill was introduced for NHS hospitals.²⁹⁹⁵ The bill permits a greater range of professionals to prescribe low risk medicines and introduces new safety regulations for medical devices.²⁹⁹⁶ Also, the bill allows hospitals to personalize treatments for patients with unique diseases.²⁹⁹⁷

²⁹⁸⁷ Health Secretary announces strengthened legal powers to bolster public health protections against coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-secretary-announces-strengthened-legal-powers-to-bolster-public-health-protections-against-coronavirus>.

²⁹⁸⁸ Health Secretary announces strengthened legal powers to bolster public health protections against coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-secretary-announces-strengthened-legal-powers-to-bolster-public-health-protections-against-coronavirus>.

²⁹⁸⁹ Secretary of State makes new regulations on coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/secretary-of-state-makes-new-regulations-on-coronavirus#history>.

²⁹⁹⁰ Secretary of State makes new regulations on coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/secretary-of-state-makes-new-regulations-on-coronavirus#history>.

²⁹⁹¹ Secretary of State makes new regulations on coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/secretary-of-state-makes-new-regulations-on-coronavirus#history>.

²⁹⁹² Government to monitor impact of coronavirus on UK medicine supply, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-monitor-impact-of-coronavirus-on-uk-medicine-supply>.

²⁹⁹³ Government to monitor impact of coronavirus on UK medicine supply, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-monitor-impact-of-coronavirus-on-uk-medicine-supply>.

²⁹⁹⁴ Government to monitor impact of coronavirus on UK medicine supply, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-monitor-impact-of-coronavirus-on-uk-medicine-supply>.

²⁹⁹⁵ New bill gives hospitals power to develop personalised treatment, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 13 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-bill-gives-hospitals-power-to-develop-personalised-treatment>.

²⁹⁹⁶ New bill gives hospitals power to develop personalised treatment, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 13 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-bill-gives-hospitals-power-to-develop-personalised-treatment>.

²⁹⁹⁷ New bill gives hospitals power to develop personalised treatment, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 13 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-bill-gives-hospitals-power-to-develop-personalised-treatment>.

On 17 February 2020, the MHRA launched a social media awareness campaign regarding polypharmacy.²⁹⁹⁸ Individuals can report suspected side effects using the Yellow Card Scheme to inform safe medication usage and regulation.²⁹⁹⁹

On 20 February 2020, the UK government announced EUR10 million in funding for medical research.³⁰⁰⁰ Life Sciences Minister Nadhim Zahawi launched the Innovation Scholars Scheme to generate new technologies and treatments for NHS patients.³⁰⁰¹ UK researchers and businesses can use the funding to develop treatments for life-threatening conditions.³⁰⁰²

On 26 February 2020, PHE and the NHS launched a new COVID-19 surveillance system to prevent the spread of coronavirus.³⁰⁰³ The system will be implemented in some NHS hospital intensive care units and severe respiratory failure centres.³⁰⁰⁴ The goal of the surveillance strategy is to quickly detect the spread of coronavirus across England.³⁰⁰⁵

On 3 March 2020, Prime Minister Johnson announced the coronavirus action plan.³⁰⁰⁶ An official document was published online to highlight the government's plans as well as preventative measures citizens can implement.³⁰⁰⁷ The plan has four stages: contain, delay, research, and mitigate.³⁰⁰⁸ The plan also discusses measures that should be implemented in the case that the virus becomes a pandemic.³⁰⁰⁹

²⁹⁹⁸ Taking multiple medicines? Support the Yellow Card scheme by reporting suspected side effects, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/taking-multiple-medicines-support-the-yellow-card-scheme-by-reporting-suspected-side-effects>.

²⁹⁹⁹ Taking multiple medicines? Support the Yellow Card scheme by reporting suspected side effects, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/taking-multiple-medicines-support-the-yellow-card-scheme-by-reporting-suspected-side-effects>.

³⁰⁰⁰ €10 million boost to improve patient care with new technologies, Office for Life Sciences (London) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/10-million-boost-to-improve-patient-care-with-new-technologies>.

³⁰⁰¹ €10 million boost to improve patient care with new technologies, Office for Life Sciences (London) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/10-million-boost-to-improve-patient-care-with-new-technologies>.

³⁰⁰² €10 million boost to improve patient care with new technologies, Office for Life Sciences (London) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/10-million-boost-to-improve-patient-care-with-new-technologies>.

³⁰⁰³ New surveillance system for early detection of COVID-19, Public Health England (London) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-surveillance-system-for-early-detection-of-covid-19>.

³⁰⁰⁴ New surveillance system for early detection of COVID-19, Public Health England (London) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-surveillance-system-for-early-detection-of-covid-19>.

³⁰⁰⁵ New surveillance system for early detection of COVID-19, Public Health England (London) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-surveillance-system-for-early-detection-of-covid-19>.

³⁰⁰⁶ Coronavirus action plan launched, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-action-plan-launched>.

³⁰⁰⁷ Coronavirus action plan launched, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-action-plan-launched>.

³⁰⁰⁸ Coronavirus action plan launched, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-action-plan-launched>.

³⁰⁰⁹ Coronavirus action plan launched, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-action-plan-launched>.

On 2 March 2020, the MHRA implemented changes to import restrictions on cannabis-based medicines.³⁰¹⁰ The changes will allow licensed wholesalers to import larger quantities and hold supplies.³⁰¹¹ These changes will ensure that treatment is not delayed for individuals with rare and serious epilepsy or multiple sclerosis.³⁰¹²

On 2 March 2020, the UK, France and Germany committed EUR3 million to Iran through WHO or United Nations agencies.³⁰¹³ The financial support will be used to aid Iran in their fight against the coronavirus.³⁰¹⁴ The three countries also committed material support, such as equipment for laboratory tests, protective body suits, and gloves.³⁰¹⁵

On 3 March 2020, the DHSC announced the next phase of the “We Are The NHS” multimedia recruitment campaign, aimed at recruiting healthcare professionals to the NHS.³⁰¹⁶ The latest phase aims to recruit paramedics, radiographers, and nurses.³⁰¹⁷ Efforts are aligned with the government’s goal of recruiting 50,000 more nurses and 26,000 primary care professionals to the NHS by 2024/25.³⁰¹⁸

On 3 March 2020 to 10 March 2020, the MHRA Enforcement Team and UK Border Force participated in Operation Pangea XIII which spanned 90 countries.³⁰¹⁹ Police and health authorities

³⁰¹⁰ Faster access to cannabis-based medicines as import restrictions are changed, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/faster-access-to-cannabis-based-medicines-as-import-restrictions-are-changed>.

³⁰¹¹ Faster access to cannabis-based medicines as import restrictions are changed, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/faster-access-to-cannabis-based-medicines-as-import-restrictions-are-changed>.

³⁰¹² Faster access to cannabis-based medicines as import restrictions are changed, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/faster-access-to-cannabis-based-medicines-as-import-restrictions-are-changed>.

³⁰¹³ €5 million to help fight coronavirus in Iran: E3 statement, Department for International Development (London) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/e3-statement-on-5-million-to-help-fight-coronavirus-in-iran-02-march-2020>.

³⁰¹⁴ €5 million to help fight coronavirus in Iran: E3 statement, Department for International Development (London) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/e3-statement-on-5-million-to-help-fight-coronavirus-in-iran-02-march-2020>.

³⁰¹⁵ €5 million to help fight coronavirus in Iran: E3 statement, Department for International Development (London) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/e3-statement-on-5-million-to-help-fight-coronavirus-in-iran-02-march-2020>.

³⁰¹⁶ National recruitment campaign for paramedics, radiographers and nurses begins, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-recruitment-campaign-for-paramedics-radiographers-and-nurses-begins>.

³⁰¹⁷ National recruitment campaign for paramedics, radiographers and nurses begins, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-recruitment-campaign-for-paramedics-radiographers-and-nurses-begins>.

³⁰¹⁸ National recruitment campaign for paramedics, radiographers and nurses begins, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-recruitment-campaign-for-paramedics-radiographers-and-nurses-begins>.

³⁰¹⁹ Coronavirus: global crackdown sees a rise in unlicensed medical products related to COVID-19, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-global-crackdown-sees-a-rise-in-unlicensed-medical-products-related-to-covid-19>.

took part in Operation Pangea XIII which aimed to stop online sales of medical and hygiene products to prevent exploitation of high market demand.³⁰²⁰

On 5 March 2020, Universal Mental Health Day, the DHSC announced EUR1 million in funding for innovative student mental health projects.³⁰²¹ The funding will be focused on reaching students at risk of mental health concerns, as well as individuals that face barriers in accessing resources.³⁰²²

On 5 March 2020, the UK government listed COVID-19 as a notifiable disease, requiring general practitioners to report any cases to PHE by law.³⁰²³

On 11 March 2020, Chancellor Rishi Sunak announced EUR5 billion for the COVID-19 fund.³⁰²⁴ EUR1.6 billion will be directed to local authorities to assist with the COVID-19 response.³⁰²⁵ Funds will support adult social care workers and services for vulnerable individuals.³⁰²⁶ EUR1.3 billion will support a safe and fast NHS discharge process for patients that no longer require urgent care.³⁰²⁷ Such actions will help vacate 15,000 NHS beds in England.³⁰²⁸

On 15 March 2020, the DHSC announced EUR16 million in funding in 2020/21 to increase the availability of the drug PrEP across England.³⁰²⁹ The goal is to provide PrEP at sexual health clinics for individuals at high risk of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).³⁰³⁰ Such actions align with the government's aim to end HIV transmission by 2030.³⁰³¹

³⁰²⁰ Coronavirus: global crackdown sees a rise in unlicensed medical products related to COVID-19, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-global-crackdown-sees-a-rise-in-unlicensed-medical-products-related-to-covid-19>.

³⁰²¹ €1 million for innovative student mental health projects, Department of Health and Social Care and Department for Education (London) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-million-for-innovative-student-mental-health-projects>.

³⁰²² €1 million for innovative student mental health projects, Department of Health and Social Care and Department for Education (London) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1-million-for-innovative-student-mental-health-projects>.

³⁰²³ Coronavirus (COVID-19) listed as a notifiable disease, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-covid-19-listed-as-a-notifiable-disease>.

³⁰²⁴ Support for those affected by COVID-19, HM Treasury (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/support-for-those-affected-by-covid-19>.

³⁰²⁵ €2.9 billion funding to strengthen care for the vulnerable, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-9-billion-funding-to-strengthen-care-for-the-vulnerable>.

³⁰²⁶ €2.9 billion funding to strengthen care for the vulnerable, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-9-billion-funding-to-strengthen-care-for-the-vulnerable>.

³⁰²⁷ €2.9 billion funding to strengthen care for the vulnerable, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-9-billion-funding-to-strengthen-care-for-the-vulnerable>.

³⁰²⁸ €2.9 billion funding to strengthen care for the vulnerable, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/2-9-billion-funding-to-strengthen-care-for-the-vulnerable>.

³⁰²⁹ HIV drug PrEP to be available across England, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hiv-drug-prep-to-be-available-across-england>.

³⁰³⁰ HIV drug PrEP to be available across England, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hiv-drug-prep-to-be-available-across-england>.

³⁰³¹ HIV drug PrEP to be available across England, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 15 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hiv-drug-prep-to-be-available-across-england>.

On 16 March 2020, Prime Minister Johnson called on leading manufacturers in the UK to increase production of ventilators among other vital medical equipment to help the NHS.³⁰³² Contributions can be made on several levels, including: design, procurement, assembly, testing, and shipping.³⁰³³ On 26 March 2020, Prime Minister Johnson asked suppliers and manufacturers to increase ventilator production.³⁰³⁴

On 17 March 2020, the UK government announced new ministerial structures to combat COVID-19 across the government.³⁰³⁵ Prime Minister Johnson was to chair daily C-19 meetings that involve four new implementation committees.³⁰³⁶ The Health Secretary chairs the healthcare committee, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster chairs the general public sector committee, the Chancellor chairs the economic and business committee, and the Foreign Secretary chairs the international committee.³⁰³⁷

On 17 March 2020, NHS England announced efforts to free up 20,000 of 100,000 hospital beds to cope with COVID-19 patients burdening hospitals.³⁰³⁸ Efforts include postponing non-urgent operations and greater reliance on community care.³⁰³⁹

On 18 March 2020, Prime Minister Johnson outlined UK foreign aid during a press conference on COVID-19.³⁰⁴⁰ He stated that the UK pledged EUR91 million to international efforts, and EUR150 million to the International Monetary Fund's "Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust" to stop transmission and aid countries in managing the effects of the outbreak.³⁰⁴¹

On 18 March 2020, the UK government announced plans to increase PHE COVID-19 testing to 25,000 hospital patients each day.³⁰⁴² Point-of-care swab tests will be developed to test suspected patients outside of the hospital.³⁰⁴³

³⁰³² PM call with UK's leading manufacturers, Prime Minister's Office (London) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-uks-leading-manufacturers-16-march-2020>.

³⁰³³ PM call with UK's leading manufacturers, Prime Minister's Office (London) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-uks-leading-manufacturers-16-march-2020>.

³⁰³⁴ PM call with ventilator manufacturers and suppliers, Prime Minister's Office (London) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-ventilator-manufacturers-and-suppliers-26-march-2020>.

³⁰³⁵ New government structures to coordinate response to coronavirus, Prime Minister's Office (London) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-government-structures-to-coordinate-response-to-coronavirus>.

³⁰³⁶ New government structures to coordinate response to coronavirus, Prime Minister's Office (London) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-government-structures-to-coordinate-response-to-coronavirus>.

³⁰³⁷ New government structures to coordinate response to coronavirus, Prime Minister's Office (London) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-government-structures-to-coordinate-response-to-coronavirus>.

³⁰³⁸ Coronavirus: Thousands of extra hospital beds and staff, BBC News (London) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-51989183>.

³⁰³⁹ Coronavirus: Thousands of extra hospital beds and staff, BBC News (London) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-51989183>.

³⁰⁴⁰ UK takes drastic measures to tackle COVID-19, British Embassy Beijing (Beijing) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-takes-drastic-measures-to-tackle-covid-19>.

³⁰⁴¹ UK takes drastic measures to tackle COVID-19, British Embassy Beijing (Beijing) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-takes-drastic-measures-to-tackle-covid-19>.

³⁰⁴² Testing for coronavirus (COVID-19) will increase to 25,000 a day, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/testing-for-coronavirus-covid-19-will-increase-to-25-000-a-day>.

On 20 March 2020, the UK government announced a parallel export ban for more than eighty medicines relevant to COVID-19.³⁰⁴⁴ The ban will ensure that there is no shortage for coronavirus patients.³⁰⁴⁵ Companies that violate the ban can face consequences by the MHRA.³⁰⁴⁶

On 20 March 2020, the United States Food and Drug Administration awarded PHE scientists USD500,000 for vaccine and treatment development.³⁰⁴⁷ The funding supports the international response to COVID-19.³⁰⁴⁸

On 20 March 2020, schools, colleges, and early year settings were closed to reduce the spread of COVID-19 to all students except children of key workers and vulnerable children.³⁰⁴⁹ Entertainment, hospitality, and indoor leisure premises were also closed across England.³⁰⁵⁰ Measures were implemented to reduce the spread of COVID-19.³⁰⁵¹

On 21 March 2020, Minister Hancock enacted the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Business Closure) (England) Regulations 2020.³⁰⁵² The measures include prohibition of food and drink sales on various premises.³⁰⁵³

On 21 March 2020, the NHS made a deal with private hospitals to provide 8,000 extra hospital beds in England, 1,200 ventilators, and 20,000 staff to aid the coronavirus response.³⁰⁵⁴

On 23 March 2020, the UK government announced EUR20 million in funding for the COVID-19 Genomics UK Consortium.³⁰⁵⁵ The NHS, PHE, UK Research and Innovation, Wellcome Sanger

³⁰⁴³ Testing for coronavirus (COVID-19) will increase to 25,000 a day, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/testing-for-coronavirus-covid-19-will-increase-to-25-000-a-day>.

³⁰⁴⁴ Crucial medicines protected for coronavirus (COVID-19) patients, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/crucial-medicines-protected-for-coronavirus-covid-19-patients>.

³⁰⁴⁵ Crucial medicines protected for coronavirus (COVID-19) patients, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/crucial-medicines-protected-for-coronavirus-covid-19-patients>.

³⁰⁴⁶ Crucial medicines protected for coronavirus (COVID-19) patients, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/crucial-medicines-protected-for-coronavirus-covid-19-patients>.

³⁰⁴⁷ PHE plays crucial role in hunt for COVID-19 vaccine, Public Health England (London) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/phe-plays-crucial-role-in-hunt-for-covid-19-vaccine>.

³⁰⁴⁸ PHE plays crucial role in hunt for COVID-19 vaccine, Public Health England (London) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/phe-plays-crucial-role-in-hunt-for-covid-19-vaccine>.

³⁰⁴⁹ Schools, colleges and early years settings to close, Department of Education (Manchester) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/schools-colleges-and-early-years-settings-to-close>.

³⁰⁵⁰ Government announces further measures on social distances, Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (London) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-further-measures-on-social-distancing>.

³⁰⁵¹ Government announces further measures on social distances, Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (London) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-further-measures-on-social-distancing>.

³⁰⁵² New regulations created by Secretary of State for business closure (COVID-19), Department of Health and Social Care (London) 22 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-regulations-created-by-secretary-of-state-for-business-closure-covid-19>.

³⁰⁵³ New regulations created by Secretary of State for business closure (COVID-19), Department of Health and Social Care (London) 22 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-regulations-created-by-secretary-of-state-for-business-closure-covid-19>.

³⁰⁵⁴ Coronavirus: Thousands of extra hospital beds and staff, BBC News (London) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-51989183>.

Institute, and other institutions, will work together to facilitate whole genome sequencing of COVID-19 in order to understand spreading patterns and mutations.³⁰⁵⁶

On 23 March 2020, the NHSX launched the Techforce19 challenge which can award EUR500,000 in funding overall for technology companies.³⁰⁵⁷ The goal is to provide digital solutions for individuals who must remain at home due to COVID-19.³⁰⁵⁸

On 23 March 2020, Minister Sharma announced EUR20 million of government investment in six coronavirus research projects aimed at vaccine development and treatment.³⁰⁵⁹ Other projects involve repurposing existing therapies, using antibodies to target the virus, drug testing, and collecting data regarding infected patients.³⁰⁶⁰

On 24 March 2020, Minister Hancock stated that the government is seeking 250,000 volunteers to aid the NHS during COVID-19.³⁰⁶¹ The NHS Volunteer Responders will help 1.5 million people with tasks such as medicine delivery.³⁰⁶²

On 24 March 2020, Minister Hancock stated that the ExCel center will be converted to an intensive care unit named NHS Nightingale.³⁰⁶³ The temporary hospital will have 4,000 available beds for potential COVID-19 patients.³⁰⁶⁴

On 25 March 2020 the Coronavirus Bill became an Act of Parliament.³⁰⁶⁵ The bill allows the UK government to implement emergency measures in response to COVID-19 for two years.³⁰⁶⁶ The bill

³⁰⁵⁵ UK launches whole genome sequence alliance to map spread of coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-whole-genome-sequence-alliance-to-map-spread-of-coronavirus>.

³⁰⁵⁶ UK launches whole genome sequence alliance to map spread of coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-whole-genome-sequence-alliance-to-map-spread-of-coronavirus>.

³⁰⁵⁷ New technology challenge to support people who are isolating, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-technology-challenge-to-support-people-who-are-isolating>.

³⁰⁵⁸ New technology challenge to support people who are isolating, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-technology-challenge-to-support-people-who-are-isolating>.

³⁰⁵⁹ Vaccine trials among recipients of €20 million coronavirus research investment, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/vaccine-trials-among-recipients-of-20-million-coronavirus-research-investment>.

³⁰⁶⁰ Vaccine trials among recipients of €20 million coronavirus research investment, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/vaccine-trials-among-recipients-of-20-million-coronavirus-research-investment>.

³⁰⁶¹ UK asks for 250,000 volunteers to help its health service cope with the coronavirus outbreak, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 24 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/24/uk-asks-for-250000-volunteers-to-help-its-health-service-cope-with-the-coronavirus-outbreak.html>.

³⁰⁶² UK asks for 250,000 volunteers to help its health service cope with the coronavirus outbreak, CNBC (Englewood Cliffs) 24 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/24/uk-asks-for-250000-volunteers-to-help-its-health-service-cope-with-the-coronavirus-outbreak.html>.

³⁰⁶³ UK races to convert a convention hall into hospital for coronavirus patients, CNN (London) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/01/health/nightingale-hospital-london-coronavirus-intl-gbr/index.html>.

³⁰⁶⁴ UK races to convert a convention hall into hospital for coronavirus patients, CNN (London) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/01/health/nightingale-hospital-london-coronavirus-intl-gbr/index.html>.

³⁰⁶⁵ Lords examines emergency Covid-19 legislation, UK Parliament (London) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/news/2020/march/lords-debates-emergency-covid-19-legislation/>.

forbids group gatherings and allows the government to order suspected COVID-19 cases to self-isolate, among other measures.³⁰⁶⁷

On 25 March 2020, the UK government launched the free coronavirus Information Service on WhatsApp.³⁰⁶⁸ The service is designed to offer information to the public regarding COVID-19, reducing the burden for the NHS.³⁰⁶⁹ The service will include information about prevention and symptoms, latest statistics, and general advice.³⁰⁷⁰

On 25 March 2020, the Defence and Security Accelerator (DASA) announced an Open Call for Innovation for industry members interested in developing sanitizing technology for ambulances and other settings.³⁰⁷¹ Such measures would reduce the amount of time required to clean ambulances after attending to an individual suspected of COVID-19.³⁰⁷² DASA is working with the Welsh Government, the Small Business Research Initiative Centre of Excellence, the Welsh Ambulance Service, Innovate UK, and the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory.³⁰⁷³

On 26 March 2020, Minister Hancock announced that 15,266 former professionals in England offered to help the NHS with COVID-19.³⁰⁷⁴ Also, 5,750 final year medics and 17,000 final year nursing students would be approached to consider assisting the NHS in the following week.³⁰⁷⁵

On 27 March 2020, the UK government pledged EUR210 million to find a vaccine for the coronavirus.³⁰⁷⁶ The announcement was made following a virtual summit of G20 leaders.³⁰⁷⁷ The

³⁰⁶⁶ Emergency coronavirus legislation passed by MPs without opposition, The Guardian (London) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/23/mps-to-review-coronavirus-emergency-laws-every-six-months>.

³⁰⁶⁷ Emergency coronavirus legislation passed by MPs without opposition, The Guardian (London) 23 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/23/mps-to-review-coronavirus-emergency-laws-every-six-months>.

³⁰⁶⁸ Government launches Coronavirus Information Service on WhatsApp, Cabinet Office (London) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-coronavirus-information-service-on-whatsapp>.

³⁰⁶⁹ Government launches Coronavirus Information Service on WhatsApp, Cabinet Office (London) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-coronavirus-information-service-on-whatsapp>.

³⁰⁷⁰ Government launches Coronavirus Information Service on WhatsApp, Cabinet Office (London) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-coronavirus-information-service-on-whatsapp>.

³⁰⁷¹ COVID-19: Call for rapid sanitising technology for ambulances, Defence and Security Accelerator (London) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-call-for-rapid-sanitising-technology-for-ambulances>.

³⁰⁷² COVID-19: Call for rapid sanitising technology for ambulances, Defence and Security Accelerator (London) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-call-for-rapid-sanitising-technology-for-ambulances>.

³⁰⁷³ COVID-19: Call for rapid sanitising technology for ambulances, Defence and Security Accelerator (London) 25 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-call-for-rapid-sanitising-technology-for-ambulances>.

³⁰⁷⁴ Health and Social Care Secretary responds to NHS workforce statistics, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-and-social-care-secretary-responds-to-nhs-workforce-statistics>.

³⁰⁷⁵ Health and Social Care Secretary responds to NHS workforce statistics, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-and-social-care-secretary-responds-to-nhs-workforce-statistics>.

³⁰⁷⁶ UK pledges €544 million to find coronavirus vaccine, British High Commission New Delhi (New Delhi) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-544-million-to-find-coronavirus-vaccine>.

funds were allocated for the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, bringing the UK total to EUR544 million.³⁰⁷⁸ The total funding involves EUR210 million for vaccine development, EUR40 million for treatment development, and EUR23 million for testing devices.³⁰⁷⁹

On 27 March 2020, the DHSC launched the new COVID-19 testing program for frontline NHS workers.³⁰⁸⁰ The program will involve both government and industry to increase COVID-10 testing.³⁰⁸¹ Involved parties include Thermo Fisher Scientific, Amazon, Boots, Royal Mail and Randox, Wellcome Trust, and UK universities.³⁰⁸² The goal is to inform NHS staff whether they need to self-isolate.³⁰⁸³

On 28 March 2020, Minister Sharma temporarily suspended regulations to bring personal protective equipment and hand sanitizers to NHS staff more quickly.³⁰⁸⁴ The intention is to protect healthcare workers on the frontline.³⁰⁸⁵

On 28 March 2020, Prime Minister Johnson wrote a letter to every household in the UK.³⁰⁸⁶ The intention advised individuals to stay home to protect the NHS and help the public at large.³⁰⁸⁷ The letters will be delivered to 30 million households across the UK to remind individuals to maintain social distancing to limit the spread of COVID-19.³⁰⁸⁸

³⁰⁷⁷ UK pledges €544 million to find coronavirus vaccine, British High Commission New Delhi (New Delhi) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-544-million-to-find-coronavirus-vaccine>.

³⁰⁷⁸ UK pledges €544 million to find coronavirus vaccine, British High Commission New Delhi (New Delhi) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-544-million-to-find-coronavirus-vaccine>.

³⁰⁷⁹ UK pledges €544 million to find coronavirus vaccine, British High Commission New Delhi (New Delhi) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-544-million-to-find-coronavirus-vaccine>.

³⁰⁸⁰ Government launches new drive on coronavirus tests for frontline NHS staff, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-drive-on-coronavirus-tests-for-frontline-nhs-staff>.

³⁰⁸¹ Government launches new drive on coronavirus tests for frontline NHS staff, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-drive-on-coronavirus-tests-for-frontline-nhs-staff>.

³⁰⁸² Government launches new drive on coronavirus tests for frontline NHS staff, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-drive-on-coronavirus-tests-for-frontline-nhs-staff>.

³⁰⁸³ Coronavirus: Health workers on frontline to be tested in England, BBC News (London) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-52070199>.

³⁰⁸⁴ Regulations temporarily suspended to fast-track supplies of PPE to NHS staff and protect companies hit by COVID-19, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 28 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/regulations-temporarily-suspended-to-fast-track-supplies-of-ppe-to-nhs-staff-and-protect-companies-hit-by-covid-19>.

³⁰⁸⁵ Regulations temporarily suspended to fast-track supplies of PPE to NHS staff and protect companies hit by COVID-19, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 28 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/regulations-temporarily-suspended-to-fast-track-supplies-of-ppe-to-nhs-staff-and-protect-companies-hit-by-covid-19>.

³⁰⁸⁶ PM letter to nation on coronavirus, Prime Minister's Office (London) 28 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pm-letter-to-nation-on-coronavirus>.

³⁰⁸⁷ PM letter to nation on coronavirus, Prime Minister's Office (London) 28 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pm-letter-to-nation-on-coronavirus>.

³⁰⁸⁸ PM letter to nation on coronavirus, Prime Minister's Office (London) 28 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pm-letter-to-nation-on-coronavirus>.

On 29 March 2020, Communities Secretary Robert Jenrick announced that the UK government delivered the first of 50,000 free food boxes along with medications supplied by community pharmacies to vulnerable populations.³⁰⁸⁹

On 29 March 2020, Mental Health Minister Nadine Dorries announced that the PHE published mental health guidance for individuals during the COVID-19 outbreak.³⁰⁹⁰ Mental health charities donated EUR5 million to help expand service and the guidance is supported by the NHS.³⁰⁹¹

On 30 March 2020, Minister Hancock temporarily approved two measures for early medical abortions: early abortion pills up to ten weeks without the need to visit a hospital or clinic, and prescription of pills by registered medical practitioners.³⁰⁹² The measures were introduced to encourage individuals to stay at home during the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁰⁹³

On 31 March 2020, the MHRA approved a breathing aid for COVID-19 patients.³⁰⁹⁴ The MHRA guided the University College London and Mercedes Formula One in the development of an adapted Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) device.³⁰⁹⁵ The device functions by providing the lungs with oxygen, reducing the need for a ventilator.³⁰⁹⁶ Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster Michael Gove stated that the 10,000 CPAP devices will be provided to patients.³⁰⁹⁷

On 31 March 2020, Chancellor Rishi Sunak removed import taxes on medical equipment such as ventilators, coronavirus testing kits, face masks, protective garments, and eye protectors.³⁰⁹⁸ The

³⁰⁸⁹ First food parcels delivered to clinically vulnerable people, Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (London) 29 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-food-parcels-delivered-to-clinically-vulnerable-people>.

³⁰⁹⁰ New advice to support mental health during coronavirus outbreak, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 29 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-advice-to-support-mental-health-during-coronavirus-outbreak>.

³⁰⁹¹ New advice to support mental health during coronavirus outbreak, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 29 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-advice-to-support-mental-health-during-coronavirus-outbreak>.

³⁰⁹² Temporary approval of home use for both stages of early medical abortion, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/temporary-approval-of-home-use-for-both-stages-of-early-medical-abortion--2>.

³⁰⁹³ Temporary approval of home use for both stages of early medical abortion, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/temporary-approval-of-home-use-for-both-stages-of-early-medical-abortion--2>.

³⁰⁹⁴ MHRA approves new life-saving breathing aid to help keep coronavirus (COVID-19) patients out of intensive care, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-approves-new-life-saving-breathing-aid-to-help-keep-coronavirus-covid-19-patients-out-of-intensive-care>.

³⁰⁹⁵ MHRA approves new life-saving breathing aid to help keep coronavirus (COVID-19) patients out of intensive care, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-approves-new-life-saving-breathing-aid-to-help-keep-coronavirus-covid-19-patients-out-of-intensive-care>.

³⁰⁹⁶ MHRA approves new life-saving breathing aid to help keep coronavirus (COVID-19) patients out of intensive care, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-approves-new-life-saving-breathing-aid-to-help-keep-coronavirus-covid-19-patients-out-of-intensive-care>.

³⁰⁹⁷ Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster opens the coronavirus press conference, Cabinet Office (London) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/chancellor-of-the-duchy-of-lancaster-opens-the-coronavirus-press-conference-31-march-2020>.

³⁰⁹⁸ Chancellor waives duties and VAT on vital medical imports, HM Treasury (London) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-waives-duties-and-vat-on-vital-medical-imports>.

items will not be taxed according to customs duty or import VAT to increase the import of essential items during the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁰⁹⁹

On 31 March 2020, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster Michael Gove announced the first Penlon ventilators from the government's challenge will be delivered to the NHS in the following week.³¹⁰⁰ More ventilators are expected in the coming weeks.³¹⁰¹

On 1 April 2020, the UK government provided EUR200 million to community pharmacies.³¹⁰² An additional EUR100 million will be provided on 1 May 2020.³¹⁰³ The funding will be used to help pharmacies continue delivering essential services during the COVID-19 pandemic.³¹⁰⁴

On 2 April 2020, Minister Hancock pledged that 100,000 COVID-19 tests will take place each day by the end of April.³¹⁰⁵ This pledge was part of the 5-pillar plan to increase testing capacity, which states the intention to increase swab testing, deliver increased commercial swab testing, develop blood testing, conduct UK wide surveillance, and create a national testing effort.³¹⁰⁶

On 2 April 2020, Minister Hancock announced EUR13.4 billion of NHS debt will be written off.³¹⁰⁷ This intention is to provide the NHS with financial support to maintain services and improve infrastructure during the COVID-19 pandemic.³¹⁰⁸

On 3 April 2020, the DHSC announced the Randomised Evaluation of COVID-19 Therapy (RECOVERY).³¹⁰⁹ RECOVERY will be the largest randomized clinical trial project in the world.³¹¹⁰

³⁰⁹⁹ Chancellor waives duties and VAT on vital medical imports, HM Treasury (London) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-waives-duties-and-vat-on-vital-medical-imports>.

³¹⁰⁰ First new ventilators to roll off production line this weekend as industry answers call to step up manufacturing, Cabinet Office (London) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-new-ventilators-to-roll-off-production-line-this-weekend-as-industry-answers-call-to-step-up-manufacturing>.

³¹⁰¹ First new ventilators to roll off production line this weekend as industry answers call to step up manufacturing, Cabinet Office (London) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/first-new-ventilators-to-roll-off-production-line-this-weekend-as-industry-answers-call-to-step-up-manufacturing>.

³¹⁰² €300 million announced for community pharmacies to support them during coronavirus outbreak, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/300-million-announced-for-community-pharmacies-to-support-them-during-coronavirus-outbreak>.

³¹⁰³ €300 million announced for community pharmacies to support them during coronavirus outbreak, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/300-million-announced-for-community-pharmacies-to-support-them-during-coronavirus-outbreak>.

³¹⁰⁴ €300 million announced for community pharmacies to support them during coronavirus outbreak, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/300-million-announced-for-community-pharmacies-to-support-them-during-coronavirus-outbreak>.

³¹⁰⁵ Health Secretary sets out plan to carry out 100,000 coronavirus tests a day, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-secretary-sets-out-plan-to-carry-out-100000-coronavirus-tests-a-day>.

³¹⁰⁶ Health Secretary sets out plan to carry out 100,000 coronavirus tests a day, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-secretary-sets-out-plan-to-carry-out-100000-coronavirus-tests-a-day>.

³¹⁰⁷ NHS to benefit from €13.4 billion debt write-off, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-to-benefit-from-13-4-billion-debt-write-off>.

³¹⁰⁸ NHS to benefit from €13.4 billion debt write-off, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 2 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-to-benefit-from-13-4-billion-debt-write-off>.

³¹⁰⁹ World's largest trial of potential coronavirus treatments rolled out across the UK, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-trial-of-potential-coronavirus-treatments-rolled-out-across-the-uk>.

³¹¹⁰ World's largest trial of potential coronavirus treatments rolled out across the UK, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-trial-of-potential-coronavirus-treatments-rolled-out-across-the-uk>.

1,000 patients across 132 hospitals were recruited thus far to test treatments including Lopinavir-Ritonavir, Dexamethasone, and Hydroxychloroquine.³¹¹¹ The project received EUR2.1 million from the EUR20 million dedicated for research.³¹¹² Funding sources include the UK Research and Innovation and the DHSC.³¹¹³

On 4 April 2020, Minister Hancock launched the Coronavirus Status Checker on the NHS website.³¹¹⁴ People with coronavirus symptoms can fill out the status checker and answer a questionnaire about their experience with the NHS.³¹¹⁵ The purpose of the Coronavirus Status Checker is to collect information that can inform improvements to the NHS coronavirus response.³¹¹⁶

On 5 April 2020, the UK government pledged EUR200 million for global COVID-19 response efforts.³¹¹⁷ Of the EUR200 million, EUR130 million is for the United Nations, EUR65 million is for the World Health Organization, and EUR50 million is for the Red Cross.³¹¹⁸ The goal is to minimize the spread of COVID-19 during the second wave.³¹¹⁹

On 9 April 2020, Minister Hancock launched a diagnostic lab network in Milton Keynes.³¹²⁰ The lab is the largest in British history and will work to increase national testing.³¹²¹ Two other Lighthouse Labs will open in Alderley Park and Glasgow.³¹²²

³¹¹¹ World's largest trial of potential coronavirus treatments rolled out across the UK, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-trial-of-potential-coronavirus-treatments-rolled-out-across-the-uk>.

³¹¹² World's largest trial of potential coronavirus treatments rolled out across the UK, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-trial-of-potential-coronavirus-treatments-rolled-out-across-the-uk>.

³¹¹³ World's largest trial of potential coronavirus treatments rolled out across the UK, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/worlds-largest-trial-of-potential-coronavirus-treatments-rolled-out-across-the-uk>.

³¹¹⁴ NHS asks people to share their coronavirus symptoms to help others, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 4 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-asks-people-to-share-their-coronavirus-symptoms-to-help-others>.

³¹¹⁵ NHS asks people to share their coronavirus symptoms to help others, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 4 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-asks-people-to-share-their-coronavirus-symptoms-to-help-others>.

³¹¹⁶ NHS asks people to share their coronavirus symptoms to help others, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 4 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-asks-people-to-share-their-coronavirus-symptoms-to-help-others>.

³¹¹⁷ UK pledges 200 million pounds in aid to help stop second coronavirus wave, New York Times (London) 11 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2020/04/11/world/europe/11reuters-health-coronavirus-britain-aid.html>.

³¹¹⁸ UK pledges 200 million pounds in aid to help stop second coronavirus wave, New York Times (London) 11 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2020/04/11/world/europe/11reuters-health-coronavirus-britain-aid.html>.

³¹¹⁹ UK pledges 200 million pounds in aid to help stop second coronavirus wave, New York Times (London) 11 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2020/04/11/world/europe/11reuters-health-coronavirus-britain-aid.html>.

³¹²⁰ Health Secretary launches biggest diagnostic lab network in British history to test for coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-secretary-launches-biggest-diagnostic-lab-network-in-british-history-to-test-for-coronavirus>.

³¹²¹ Health Secretary launches biggest diagnostic lab network in British history to test for coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-secretary-launches-biggest-diagnostic-lab-network-in-british-history-to-test-for-coronavirus>.

On 9 April 2020, the UK government launched a campaign advising the public to remain at home over the Easter weekend.³¹²³ The multimedia campaign aims to minimize the spread of COVID-19.³¹²⁴

On 10 April 2020, Minister Hancock published a plan regarding personal protective equipment with three strands: guidance, distribution, and future supply.³¹²⁵ The purpose is to ensure that the equipment reaches individuals who are most in need.³¹²⁶ Other existing measures include a 24-hour helpline for emergency equipment drops to healthcare providers and military intervention to help supply equipment.³¹²⁷ There is also an impending website to aid healthcare providers.³¹²⁸

On 10 April 2020, the British Medical Association called on the government to investigate the disproportionate death of black, Asian, and minority ethnic doctors.³¹²⁹ The first ten doctors who died from the virus in the UK were black, Asian or minority ethnic doctors, in addition to three of six nurses who have died.³¹³⁰

On 13 April 2020, Chancellor Sunak announced that EUR14 billion will be allocated to public services from the coronavirus emergency response fund.³¹³¹ The NHS and local authorities will receive funding.³¹³²

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems through investments in personnel, infrastructure, technology, research, as well as introducing unique strategies, programs, and funding for affected communities. The United Kingdom has also fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal healthcare coverage through providing aid to overseas British

³¹²² Health Secretary launches biggest diagnostic lab network in British history to test for coronavirus, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-secretary-launches-biggest-diagnostic-lab-network-in-british-history-to-test-for-coronavirus>.

³¹²³ Coronavirus: Government launches campaign urging people to stay at home this easter, Prime Minister's Office (London) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-government-launches-campaign-urging-people-to-stay-at-home-this-easter>.

³¹²⁴ Coronavirus: Government launches campaign urging people to stay at home this easter, Prime Minister's Office (London) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-government-launches-campaign-urging-people-to-stay-at-home-this-easter>.

³¹²⁵ Coronavirus (COVID-19): personal protective equipment (PPE) plan, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-ppe-plan>.

³¹²⁶ Government sets out plan for national effort on PPE, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-plan-for-national-effort-on-ppe>.

³¹²⁷ Government sets out plan for national effort on PPE, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-plan-for-national-effort-on-ppe>.

³¹²⁸ Government sets out plan for national effort on PPE, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-plan-for-national-effort-on-ppe>.

³¹²⁹ UK government urged to investigate coronavirus deaths of BAME doctors, The Guardian (London) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/apr/10/uk-coronavirus-deaths-bame-doctors-bma>.

³¹³⁰ UK government urged to investigate coronavirus deaths of BAME doctors, The Guardian (London) 10 April 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/apr/10/uk-coronavirus-deaths-bame-doctors-bma>.

³¹³¹ Chancellor provides over €14 billion for our NHS and vital public services, HM Treasury (London) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-provides-over-14-billion-for-our-nhs-and-vital-public-services>.

³¹³² Chancellor provides over €14 billion for our NHS and vital public services, HM Treasury (London) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-provides-over-14-billion-for-our-nhs-and-vital-public-services>.

nationals and international citizens, increasing access to vaccines and treatments, introducing supportive services for the public, and contributing additional funding to the National Health Service.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jessica Saini

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage and to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.

On 3 September 2019, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) will award USD170 million to Emergent BioSolutions of Gaithersburg, Maryland to purchase the smallpox vaccine for people at high risk for smallpox infection over the next decade.³¹³³ This will build and replenish the Strategic National Stockpile in order to enhance biodefense preparedness.³¹³⁴ ASPR remains committed to the commitment of developing two additional vaccines and treatments for smallpox; Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), a component of ASPR, is still continuing to collaborate with federal and private partners to develop additional smallpox vaccines that can be administered to people at a high risk of infection or reaction to traditional vaccines and to develop antiviral drugs.³¹³⁵

On 3 September 2019, the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at HHS issued guidance on how to ensure equal access to services for all segments of the community during emergency circumstances, particularly Hurricane Dorian.³¹³⁶ OCR has also declared a public health emergency and waived certain provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act within disaster areas for 72 hours so that patient information can be shared with family members and friends who may assist in their care and between covered entities for treatment purposes, public health activities and to prevent or lessen serious threat to health and safety.³¹³⁷

³¹³³ HHS Purchase Smallpox Vaccine to Enhance Biodefense Preparedness (Washington) 3 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/03/hhs-purchases-smallpox-vaccine-to-enhance-biodefense-preparedness.html>.

³¹³⁴ HHS Purchase Smallpox Vaccine to Enhance Biodefense Preparedness (Washington) 3 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/03/hhs-purchases-smallpox-vaccine-to-enhance-biodefense-preparedness.html>.

³¹³⁵ HHS Purchase Smallpox Vaccine to Enhance Biodefense Preparedness (Washington) 3 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/03/hhs-purchases-smallpox-vaccine-to-enhance-biodefense-preparedness.html>.

³¹³⁶ OCR Issues Guidance to Help Ensure Equal Access to Emergency Services and the Appropriate Sharing of Medical Information during Hurricane Dorian (Washington) 3 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/03/ocr-issues-guidance-to-help-ensure-equal-access-during-hurricane-dorian.html>

³¹³⁷ OCR Issues Guidance to Help Ensure Equal Access to Emergency Services and the Appropriate Sharing of Medical Information during Hurricane Dorian (Washington) 3 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/03/ocr-issues-guidance-to-help-ensure-equal-access-during-hurricane-dorian.html>.

On 4 September 2019, HHS announced USD1.8 billion in funding would be going toward states so that they are able to expand access to treatment for the opioid crisis and support gathering of real-time overdose data.³¹³⁸

On 10 September 2019, the HHS Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology provided funding for two Leading Edge Acceleration Projects in Health Information Technology to improve health care for all Americans. Projects aim to develop health information technology infrastructure to focus on consent management, population health research, enhancement of engagement with health research and care amongst underrepresented populations, appropriate data sharing between patients, researchers and clinicians and patient security and privacy.³¹³⁹

On 10 September 2019, HHS through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awarded almost USD9 million to launch Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies pilot program. This program aims to improve access to and continuity of maternal obstetric care in rural communities specifically Missouri, New Mexico and Texas.³¹⁴⁰ The unique aspect of this program is that network requirements provide a detailed outline of specific stakeholder involvement to focus on developing sustainable strategies at a regional level by focusing on financial stability in care, introducing telehealth and a network-based approach to ensure continuum of care.³¹⁴¹

On 11 September 2019, HHS through the HRSA awarded USD50 million for funding 77 health centres to support new organizations and existing health centres in improving access to quality healthcare in both rural and urban communities for vulnerable populations where financial, geographical or cultural barriers to affordable health care exist.³¹⁴²

On 12 September 2019, HHS allocated USD351 million to states, territories and non-profit organizations through the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Visiting Program, that provides voluntary, evidence-based home visiting to pregnant women and parents with young children up to kindergarten to enable many families, especially families considered at-risk, raise healthy children.³¹⁴³ An additional USD18.7 million funding toward State Maternal Health Innovation through nine cooperative agreements will aid states to improve maternal health outcomes, particularly reduce maternal mortality.³¹⁴⁴ USD2.6 million will be allocated to Supporting Maternal Health Innovation to aid HRSA maternal health grantees and stakeholders in developing innovative and evidence-based

³¹³⁸ Trump Administration Announces \$1.8 Billion in Funding to States to Continue Combating Opioid Crisis (Washington) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/04/trump-administration-announces-1-8-billion-funding-states-combating-opioid.html>.

³¹³⁹ HHS Announces Health IT Awardees Focused on Innovative Interoperability Solutions (Washington) 10 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/10/hhs-announces-health-it-awardees-innovative-interoperability-solutions.html>.

³¹⁴⁰ HHS Awards \$9 Million to Develop New Models to Improve Obstetrics Care in Rural Communities (Washington) 10 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/10/hhs-awards-9-million-new-models-obstetrics-care-rural-communities.html>.

³¹⁴¹ HHS Awards \$9 Million to Develop New Models to Improve Obstetrics Care in Rural Communities (Washington) 10 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/10/hhs-awards-9-million-new-models-obstetrics-care-rural-communities.html>.

³¹⁴² HHS Awards More than \$50 Million to Establish New Health Center Sites (Washington) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/11/hhs-awards-more-than-50-million-establish-new-health-center-sites.html>.

³¹⁴³ HHS Awards \$374 Million to Programs Supporting Maternal and Child Health (Washington) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/12/hhs-awards-374-million-programs-supporting-maternal-child-health.html>.

³¹⁴⁴ HHS Awards \$374 Million to Programs Supporting Maternal and Child Health (Washington) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/12/hhs-awards-374-million-programs-supporting-maternal-child-health.html>.

strategies to reduce maternal mortality.³¹⁴⁵ USD1.8 million will be allocated to Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) to build upon AIM's foundational work to expand reach by addressing preventable maternal mortality outside of hospital and birthing facility settings.³¹⁴⁶

On 18 September 2019, HHS through the HRSA awarded USD85 million to 298 health centres for affordable and accessible oral health services to be used toward the support of new infrastructure which includes equipment purchases, mobile units for inaccessible communities and training of staff to integrate oral health within overall systemic health services.³¹⁴⁷

On 24 September 2019, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that on average premiums would decline 23 per cent from 2018 for Medicare Advantage while benefits and enrollment are expected to increase.³¹⁴⁸ Secretary Alex Azar of HHS indicated that this would mean "lower costs, more options and benefits tailored to patients' needs."³¹⁴⁹

On 30 September 2019, HHS through the Office of Population Affairs (OPA) allocated USD33.6 million to 50 current Title X grantees for the supplementation of family services through prioritizing unserved and underserved areas and low-income individuals.³¹⁵⁰ Grantees that did not comply with statutory and regulatory requirements that did not allow federal funding to be used toward abortion services as a method of family planning relinquished funds.³¹⁵¹ OPA aided in mitigating interruption of services due to voluntary relinquishment of funds.³¹⁵²

On 2 October 2019, HHS through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention awarded USD13.5 million for community involvement for the federal initiative "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for Americans," which aims to reduce new HIV infections through investing in locally tailored plans for each community and increasing local health department capacity.³¹⁵³

³¹⁴⁵ HHS Awards \$374 Million to Programs Supporting Maternal and Child Health (Washington) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/12/hhs-awards-374-million-programs-supporting-maternal-child-health.html>.

³¹⁴⁶ HHS Awards \$374 Million to Programs Supporting Maternal and Child Health (Washington) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/12/hhs-awards-374-million-programs-supporting-maternal-child-health.html>

³¹⁴⁷ HHS Awards over \$85 Million to Help Health Centers Expand Access to Oral Health Care (Washington) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/18/hhs-awards-over-85-million-help-health-centers-expand-access-oral-healthcare.html>.

³¹⁴⁸ HHS Secretary Azar Statement on 2020 Medicare Advantage Rate Decrease (Washington) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/24/secretary-azar-statement-2020-medicare-advantage-rate-decrease.html>.

³¹⁴⁹ HHS Secretary Azar Statement on 2020 Medicare Advantage Rate Decrease (Washington) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/24/secretary-azar-statement-2020-medicare-advantage-rate-decrease.html>.

³¹⁵⁰ HHS Issues Supplemental Grant Awards to Title X Recipients (Washington) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/30/hhs-issues-supplemental-grant-awards-to-title-x-recipients.html>.

³¹⁵¹ HHS Issues Supplemental Grant Awards to Title X Recipients (Washington) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/30/hhs-issues-supplemental-grant-awards-to-title-x-recipients.html>.

³¹⁵² HHS Issues Supplemental Grant Awards to Title X Recipients (Washington) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/30/hhs-issues-supplemental-grant-awards-to-title-x-recipients.html>.

³¹⁵³ HHS Awards \$13.5 Million to Accelerate State and Local Planning Efforts for Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America (Washington) 2 October 2019. Date Access: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/02/hhs-awards-13.5-million-dollars-to-accelerate-state-and-local-planning-efforts.html>.

On 10 October 2019, HHS published “Guide for Clinicians on the Appropriate Dosage Reduction or Discontinuation of Long-Term Opioid Analgesics” to provide clinicians with a guide when contemplating or initiating a change in opioid dosage.³¹⁵⁴ HHS recommends clinicians to not suddenly discontinue or rapidly decrease dosage due to significant risks of opioid withdrawal barring life-threatening circumstances.³¹⁵⁵ The guide includes issues to consider when changing dosage that include need to treat symptoms of withdrawal and provide behavioural support.³¹⁵⁶

On 16 October 2019, Secretary Azar stated that the all-time high approval of generic drugs by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) contributed to lower drug prices, promoting health and improved access to prescription to drugs.³¹⁵⁷

On 22 October 2019, HHS through the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality announced USD16 million for initiatives to enable over 700 primary care practices to address patients’ unhealthy alcohol use.³¹⁵⁸

On 23 October 2019, HHS through the HRSA announced USD319 million for awards to clinicians and students through the National Health Service Corps, to provide quality care to Americans in rural, urban and tribal communities.³¹⁵⁹ Secretary Azar said that there is a particular focus on improving healthcare in rural communities through building “a strong, sustainable rural healthcare workforce.”³¹⁶⁰

On 25 October 2019, HHS through the HRSA announced USD2.27 billion for Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program grants to support HIV primary medical care, medication, and essential support services to Americans to increase access to treatment and medical advances, especially for low income people in hard-to-reach areas.³¹⁶¹

³¹⁵⁴ HHS Announces Guide for Appropriate Tapering or Discontinuation of Long-Term Opioid Use (Washington) 10 October 2019. Date Accessed: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/10/hhs-announces-guide-appropriate-tapering-or-discontinuation-long-term-opioid-use.html>.

³¹⁵⁵ HHS Announces Guide for Appropriate Tapering or Discontinuation of Long-Term Opioid Use (Washington) 10 October 2019. Date Accessed: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/10/hhs-announces-guide-appropriate-tapering-or-discontinuation-long-term-opioid-use.html>.

³¹⁵⁶ HHS Announces Guide for Appropriate Tapering or Discontinuation of Long-Term Opioid Use (Washington) 10 October 2019. Date Accessed: 22 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/10/hhs-announces-guide-appropriate-tapering-or-discontinuation-long-term-opioid-use.html>.

³¹⁵⁷ Secretary Azar Statement on FDA’s 2019 Generic Drug Approval Record (Washington) 16 October 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/16/secretary-azar-statement-on-fda-2019-generic-drug-approval-record.html>.

³¹⁵⁸ HHS Awards \$16 Million to Help Primary Care Practices Address Patients’ Unhealthy Alcohol Use (Washington) 22 October 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/22/hhs-awards-16-million-help-primary-care-practices-address-unhealthy-alcohol-use.html>.

³¹⁵⁹ HHS Awards \$319 Million to Support Health Workforce Providers Caring for the Underserved (Washington) 23 October 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/23/hhs-awards-319-million-support-health-workforce-providers-caring-underserved.html>.

³¹⁶⁰ HHS Awards \$319 Million to Support Health Workforce Providers Caring for the Underserved (Washington) 23 October 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/23/hhs-awards-319-million-support-health-workforce-providers-caring-underserved.html>.

³¹⁶¹ HHS Awards \$2.27 Billion in Grants to Help Americans Access HIV/AIDS Care, Support Services and Medication (Washington) 25 October 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/25/hhs-awards-2-billion-grants-help-americans-access-hiv-care-services-medications.html>.

On 30 October 2019, HHS and Mental Health Services Administration launched “FindTreatment.gov” to connect Americans with substance abuse treatment locations to improve access to treatment, prevention and recovery.³¹⁶²

On 1 November 2019, the CMS finalized Medicare policies to increase choice through eliminating payment differences between services, encouraging medical innovation and increasing access of them, and empowering senior patients.³¹⁶³

On 4 November 2019, HHS, the American Society of Nephrology, and National Kidney Foundation signed a memorandum of understanding to create a campaign on kidney disease to increase education, awareness and prevention of chronic kidney disease to improve health.³¹⁶⁴

On 14 November 2019, the HHS will provide advanced development support from the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority to test diagnostic technology that distinguishes between viral and bacterial infection through reading gene expressions under a USD6 million contract with Inflammatrix Inc.³¹⁶⁵ Funding will also enable Inflammatrix Inc. to apply for FDA clearance.³¹⁶⁶ Development of this rapid diagnostic tool will allow clinicians to make a decision on whether antibiotics are required to treat the infection based on identification of the infection as bacterial.³¹⁶⁷ Tests will also enable clinicians to determine the risk of death from organ failure and identify susceptibility to antibiotics, ultimately promoting antimicrobial stewardship and tackling antimicrobial resistance.³¹⁶⁸

On 15 November 2019, the HHS announced that CMS issued two rules to increase healthcare price transparency to the public, empowering patients and increasing competition between health providers and health coverage to decrease healthcare costs for Americans.³¹⁶⁹ The Transparency in Coverage Rule will require health plans to provide consumers access to cost-sharing information such as an estimation of liability and disclose rates for in-network providers and amounts paid to out-

³¹⁶² HHS Secretary Azar, SAMHSA Assistant Secretary McCance-Katz Statements on Launch of FindTreatment.Gov (Washington) 30 October 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019.

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/30/statements-on-launch-of-findtreatment-gov.html>.

³¹⁶³ CY 2020 Medicare Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment System Final Rule (CMS-1717-FC) (Washington) 1 November 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/cy-2020-medicare-hospital-outpatient-prospective-payment-system-and-ambulatory-surgical-center-0>.

³¹⁶⁴ HHS Secretary Azar Statment on Step Forward in President Trump’s Kidney Health Initiative (Washington) 4 November 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/11/04/hhs-secretary-azar-statement-step-forward-president-trump-s-kidney-health-initiative.html>.

³¹⁶⁵ HHS Advances Development of Tests to Distinguish Bacterial from Viral Infections across Multiple Healthcare Settings (Washington) 14 November 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/11/14/hhs-advances-development-tests-distinguish-bacterial-viral-infections.html>.

³¹⁶⁶ HHS Advances Development of Tests to Distinguish Bacterial from Viral Infections across Multiple Healthcare Settings (Washington) 14 November 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/11/14/hhs-advances-development-tests-distinguish-bacterial-viral-infections.html>.

³¹⁶⁷ HHS Advances Development of Tests to Distinguish Bacterial from Viral Infections across Multiple Healthcare Settings (Washington) 14 November 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/11/14/hhs-advances-development-tests-distinguish-bacterial-viral-infections.html>.

³¹⁶⁸ HHS Advances Development of Tests to Distinguish Bacterial from Viral Infections across Multiple Healthcare Settings (Washington) 14 November 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/11/14/hhs-advances-development-tests-distinguish-bacterial-viral-infections.html>.

³¹⁶⁹ Trump Administration Announces Historic Price Transparency Requirements to Increase Competition and Lower Healthcare Costs for All Americans (Washington) 15 November 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/11/15/trump-administration-announces-historic-price-transparency-and-lower-healthcare-costs-for-all-americans.html>.

of-network providers.³¹⁷⁰ The other rule will require hospitals to make all hospital standard charges and the minimum and maximum amounts chargeable for common shoppable services, such as X-rays, publicly accessible.³¹⁷¹ CMS will also be provided with enforcement tools such as monitoring, auditing and corrective action plans and the ability to impose a civil fine of USD300.³¹⁷² The rules will be finalized by 2021.³¹⁷³

On 3 December 2019, HHS launched “Ready, Set, PrEP,” a national program that makes medications for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), taken daily to prevent HIV, available at no cost to people without prescription drug insurance coverage.³¹⁷⁴ This program is a component of ‘Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America’ that aims to reduce the number of new HIV infections by 90% in the next ten years.³¹⁷⁵

On 5 December 2019, the Indian Health Services (IHS) and the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Native American Child Health released clinical recommendations for IHS, tribal, and urban Indian organizations for neonatal opioid withdrawal syndrome and standards of care for screening, diagnosing, and treatment at health care facilities.³¹⁷⁶ These standards will improve the quality of care for mothers and their infants that are impacted by the opioid crisis.³¹⁷⁷

On 17 December 2019, HHS through CMS proposed removing financial disincentives to living organ donors through expanding reimbursable expenses for living donors including lost wages, as well as child or elder care so that recipients can receive better quality organs.³¹⁷⁸ This measure was

³¹⁷⁰ Trump Administration Announces Historic Price Transparency Requirements to Increase Competition and Lower Healthcare Costs for All Americans (Washington) 15 November 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/11/15/trump-administration-announces-historic-price-transparency-and-lower-healthcare-costs-for-all-americans.html>.

³¹⁷¹ Trump Administration Announces Historic Price Transparency Requirements to Increase Competition and Lower Healthcare Costs for All Americans (Washington) 15 November 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/11/15/trump-administration-announces-historic-price-transparency-and-lower-healthcare-costs-for-all-americans.html>.

³¹⁷² Trump Administration Announces Historic Price Transparency Requirements to Increase Competition and Lower Healthcare Costs for All Americans (Washington) 15 November 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/11/15/trump-administration-announces-historic-price-transparency-and-lower-healthcare-costs-for-all-americans.html>.

³¹⁷³ Trump Administration Announces Historic Price Transparency Requirements to Increase Competition and Lower Healthcare Costs for All Americans (Washington) 15 November 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/11/15/trump-administration-announces-historic-price-transparency-and-lower-healthcare-costs-for-all-americans.html>.

³¹⁷⁴ Ready, Set, PrEP Expands Access to Medication to Prevent HIV, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/12/03/ready-set-prep-expands-access-to-medication-to-prevent-hiv.html>.

³¹⁷⁵ Ready, Set, PrEP Expands Access to Medication to Prevent HIV, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/12/03/ready-set-prep-expands-access-to-medication-to-prevent-hiv.html>.

³¹⁷⁶ IHS and AAP Release Clinical Recommendations to Improve Care of American Indian, Alaska Native Women and Infants Impacted by Prenatal Opioid Exposure (Washington) 5 December 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/12/05/ihs-and-aap-release-clinical-recommendations-to-improve-care-of-american-indian-alaska-native-women-and-infants-impacted-by-prenatal-opioid-exposure.html>.

³¹⁷⁷ IHS and AAP Release Clinical Recommendations to Improve Care of American Indian, Alaska Native Women and Infants Impacted by Prenatal Opioid Exposure (Washington) 5 December 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/12/05/ihs-and-aap-release-clinical-recommendations-to-improve-care-of-american-indian-alaska-native-women-and-infants-impacted-by-prenatal-opioid-exposure.html>.

³¹⁷⁸ Trump Administration Proposes New Rules to Increase Accountability and Availability of the Organ Supply (Washington) 17 December 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/12/17/trump-administration-proposes-new-rules-increase-accountability-availability-organ-supply.html>.

taken in response to the shortage in available kidney donors considering the national waiting list consists of 96,000 people.³¹⁷⁹ Proposed changes will be in effect starting 2022.³¹⁸⁰

On 18 December 2019, HHS, the FDA, and President Donald Trump proposed allowing certain prescription drugs to be imported from Canada.³¹⁸¹ This would allow for lower U.S. drug prices and improve access to medication for Americans.³¹⁸²

On 4 February 2020, HHS and Office of Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), announced that they are collaborating with Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc. to expand on a previous agreement to develop treatment for COVID19.³¹⁸³

On 10 February 2020, HHS started the first foundry for American Biotechnology in the nation, which serves to protect and respond to health security threats through the production of technological solutions.³¹⁸⁴ This will also enable biotechnologies to become a part of daily medical care and emergency response more efficiently and increase the bioeconomy in the United States.³¹⁸⁵ A commercialization program that will be developed and managed by the Foundry will enable for private sector industries to more efficiently adopt technologies while reducing the need of stockpiling medical equipment, supplies and medications for federal and state governments.³¹⁸⁶

On 11 February 2020, HHS and the Office of ASPR announced that they are collaborating with Janssen Research and Development to expand the existing partnership to accelerate the development of a vaccine for COVID19 to assist with public health response.³¹⁸⁷

On 18 February 2020, BARDA announced that it will provide expertise and allocate funding to Sanofi Pasteur to support a licensed vaccine for the COVID19 vaccine using Sanofi's recombinant DNA platform, with the aim to ensure health security and prevent future outbreaks.³¹⁸⁸

³¹⁷⁹ Trump Administration Proposes New Rules to Increase Accountability and Availability of the Organ Supply (Washington) 17 December 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/12/17/trump-administration-proposes-new-rules-increase-accountability-availability-organ-supply.html>.

³¹⁸⁰ Trump Administration Proposes New Rules to Increase Accountability and Availability of the Organ Supply (Washington) 17 December 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/12/17/trump-administration-proposes-new-rules-increase-accountability-availability-organ-supply.html>.

³¹⁸¹ Trump Administration Takes Historic Steps to Lower U.S. Prescription Drug Prices (Washington) 18 December 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/12/18/trump-administration-takes-historic-steps-to-lower-us-prescription-drug-prices.html>.

³¹⁸² Trump Administration Takes Historic Steps to Lower U.S. Prescription Drug Prices (Washington) 18 December 2019. Date Access: 23 December 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/12/18/trump-administration-takes-historic-steps-to-lower-us-prescription-drug-prices.html>.

³¹⁸³ HHS, Regeneron Collaborate to Develop 2019-nCoV Treatment, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/02/04/hhs-regeneron-collaborate-to-develop-2019-ncov-treatment.html>.

³¹⁸⁴ HHS Pioneers First Foundry For American Bioethnology, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/02/10/hhs-pioneers-first-foundry-for-american-biotechnology.html>.

³¹⁸⁵ HHS Pioneers First Foundry For American Bioethnology, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/02/10/hhs-pioneers-first-foundry-for-american-biotechnology.html>.

³¹⁸⁶ HHS Pioneers First Foundry For American Bioethnology, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/02/10/hhs-pioneers-first-foundry-for-american-biotechnology.html>.

³¹⁸⁷ HHS, Janssen Join Forces On Coronavirus Vaccin, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/02/11/hhs-janssen-join-forces-on-coronavirus-vaccine.html>.

On 18 February 2020, HHS and BARDA announced that they are collaborating with Janssen Research and Development through an existing partnership to develop treatments for coronavirus that reduce the severity of symptoms as well as treat the infection.³¹⁸⁹ BARDA is also collaborating with Janssen to develop a vaccine for COVID19, and has worked with Janssen in the past to develop vaccines for infectious diseases such as Ebola and influenza.³¹⁹⁰

On 26 February 2020, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the HHS awarded USD 117 million as part of the “Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America (EHE)” initiative toward expanding access to care, treatment, medication, and prevention services for HIV.³¹⁹¹ The aim of EHE is to reduce the number of new HIV infections in the United States by 90 per cent.³¹⁹²

On 4 March 2020, HHS planned to purchase 500 million N95 respirators to protect healthcare workers through the upcoming 18 months to ensure the Strategic National Stockpile can meet the needs during the COVID19 outbreak.³¹⁹³

On 4 March 2020, HHS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced funding to support states and local jurisdictions in their COVID-19 response.³¹⁹⁴ USD 25 million will be awarded to the states and local jurisdictions with the largest burden of response and preparedness and USD10 million for coronavirus surveillance across the United States.³¹⁹⁵

On 6 March 2020, President Donald Trump signed Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act 2020 which consists of USD 8.3 billion of federal funding for states and territories to aid them in preparing to respond to COVID-19 outbreak and in streamlining efforts for more efficient communication between state and federal public health departments.³¹⁹⁶

³¹⁸⁸ HHS Engages Sanofi’s Recombinant Technology for 2019 Novel Coronavirus Vaccine, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 18 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/02/18/hhs-engages-sanofis-recombinant-technology-for-2019-novel-coronavirus-vaccine.html>.

³¹⁸⁹ HHS, Janssen Collaborate to Develop Coronavirus Therapeutics, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 18 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/02/18/hhs-janssen-collaborate-to-develop-coronavirus-therapeutics.html>.

³¹⁹⁰ HHS, Janssen Collaborate to Develop Coronavirus Therapeutics, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 18 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/02/18/hhs-janssen-collaborate-to-develop-coronavirus-therapeutics.html>.

³¹⁹¹ HHS Awards \$117 Million to End the HIV Epidemic in the United States, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/02/26/hhs-awards-117-million-to-end-hiv-epidemic-in-the-united-states.html>.

³¹⁹² HHS Awards \$117 Million to End the HIV Epidemic in the United States, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/02/26/hhs-awards-117-million-to-end-hiv-epidemic-in-the-united-states.html>.

³¹⁹³ HHS to Procure N95 Respirators to Support Healthcare Workers in COVID-19 Outbreaks, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/04/hhs-to-procure-n95-respirators-to-support-healthcare-workers-in-covid-19-outbreaks.html>.

³¹⁹⁴ HHS Announces Initial Funding to Jurisdictions Supporting COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/04/hhs-announces-initial-funding-jurisdictions-supporting-covid-19-response.html>.

³¹⁹⁵ HHS Announces Initial Funding to Jurisdictions Supporting COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/04/hhs-announces-initial-funding-jurisdictions-supporting-covid-19-response.html>.

³¹⁹⁶ CDC to Award Over \$560 Million to State and Local Jurisdictions in Support of COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 11 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/11/cdc-to-award-over-560-million-to-state-local-jurisdictions-in-support-of-covid-19-response.html>.

On 9 March 2020, HHS finalized two rules to provide patients with their health data in order for them to make informed decisions and manage their care.³¹⁹⁷ These rules will enable patients to access information within their electronic health records integrated with their health insurance through a smartphone app of their choice and will require more aspects of clinical data, as outlined in US Core Data for Interoperability, to be a part of electronic health records for more efficient transmission of information between different healthcare facilities.³¹⁹⁸

On 9 March 2020, HHS announced that they will support Hologic in developing high-throughput COVID-19 diagnostic tests to detect the SARS-CoV-2 genetic material and have results ready for clinicians in under three hours.³¹⁹⁹ According to BARDA Director Rick Bright, early detection and rapid testing will enable clinicians to properly treat infections, ultimately mitigating the spread of COVID-19.³²⁰⁰

On 11 March 2020, CDC announced that it will provide over USD 560 million to state and local health departments to support COVID-19 preparedness and response.³²⁰¹

On 13 March 2020, HHS announced that it will support DiaSorin Molecular with USD 679,000 and Qiagen with USD 598,000 to aid them in developing diagnostic tests for COVID-19 to detect the virus in approximately one hour.³²⁰²

On 17 March 2020, HHS and the Trump Administration announced that Medicare coverage for telehealth visits would be expanded to include telehealth services during the COVID-19 outbreak in order for Americans to access care remotely.³²⁰³

On 18 March 2020, HHS, through the HRSA, announced that they will be collecting information from HRSA-funded health centres to assess their involvement in COVID-19 response and support the overall response to the pandemic.³²⁰⁴

³¹⁹⁷ HHS Finalizes Historic Rules to Provide Patients More Control of Their Health Data, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/09/hhs-finalizes-historic-rules-to-provide-patients-more-control-of-their-health-data.html>.

³¹⁹⁸ HHS Finalizes Historic Rules to Provide Patients More Control of Their Health Data, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/09/hhs-finalizes-historic-rules-to-provide-patients-more-control-of-their-health-data.html>.

³¹⁹⁹ HHS Supports Development of First High-Throughput COVID-19 Diagnostic Test, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 9 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/09/hhs-supports-development-of-first-high-throughput-covid-19-diagnostic-test.html>.

³²⁰⁰ HHS Supports Development of First High-Throughput COVID-19 Diagnostic Test, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 9 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/09/hhs-supports-development-of-first-high-throughput-covid-19-diagnostic-test.html>.

³²⁰¹ CDC to Award Over \$560 Million to State and Local Jurisdictions in Support of COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 11 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/11/cdc-to-award-over-560-million-to-state-local-jurisdictions-in-support-of-covid-19-response.html>.

³²⁰² HHS funds development of COVID-19 diagnostic tests, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 13 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/13/hhs-funds-development-covid-19-diagnostic-tests.html>

³²⁰³ Secretary Azar Announces Historic Expansion of Telehealth Access to Combat COVID-19, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 17 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/17/secretary-azar-announces-historic-expansion-of-telehealth-access-to-combat-covid-19.html>.

On 18 March 2020, HHS announced that it will support Mesa Bioetech with technical expertise and USD 561,330 to develop rapid diagnostic test for COVID-19 in order to detect, and reduce the spread of the virus.³²⁰⁵

On 18 March 2020, HHS announced that it is working toward developing high-volume emergency drug packaging and awarded Apject Systems America with USD 456 million toward research development to ensure low-cost prefilled syringes for a consortium for Rapid Aseptic Packaging of Injectable Drugs (RAPID) to deliver vaccines and therapeutic drugs.³²⁰⁶

On 20 March 2020, HHS announced that the CDC would be providing funding of USD 80 million to tribes, tribal organizations, and Urban Indian Organizations to increase public health capacities in order to support COVID19 outbreak management efforts.³²⁰⁷

On 24 March 2020, HHS awarded USD 100 million across 1,381 health centres for screening, testing, medical supplies, and improving telehealth capacities in response to COVID-19.³²⁰⁸

On 24 March 2020, HHS provided USD 100 million for healthcare systems in response to increasing COVID-19 patients to benefit the National Special Pathogen System.³²⁰⁹ The National Special Pathogen System leverages a pre-established infrastructure to manage the Ebola outbreak and will apply that approach to treat trauma, burn, cardiac and stroke patients.³²¹⁰ The National Special Pathogen System includes ten regional Ebola facilities amongst other healthcare facilities, one in each HHS region, which have enhanced capability to treat patients infected with special pathogens such as coronavirus and will use training and curriculum provided by National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Centre to help other health centres prepare to respond to the COVID19 outbreak.³²¹¹

³²⁰⁴ HHS Takes New Action to Cut Red Tape to Support COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 18 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/18/hhs-takes-new-action-to-cut-red-tape-to-support-covid-19-response.html>

³²⁰⁵ HHS Supports Mesa Biotech to Develop a Rapid Diagnostic to Detect Novel Coronavirus Infections, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 18 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/18/hhs-supports-mesa-biotech-develop-rapid-diagnostic-detect-novel-coronavirus-infections.html>

³²⁰⁶ HHS Announces New Public-Private Partnership to Develop U.S.-Based, High-Speed Emergency Drug Packaging Solutions, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 18 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/18/hhs-announces-new-public-private-partnership-to-develop-us-based-high-speed-emergency-drug-packaging-solutions.html>

³²⁰⁷ HHS announces upcoming action to provide funding to tribes for COVID-19 response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 20 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/20/hhs-announces-upcoming-action-to-provide-funding-to-tribes-for-covid-19-response.html>

³²⁰⁸ HHS Awards \$100 Million to Health Centres for COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 24 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/24/hhs-awards-100-million-to-health-centers-for-covid-19-response.html>

³²⁰⁹ HHS Provides \$100 Million to Help U.S. Healthcare System Prepare for COVID-19 Patients, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 24 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/24/hhs-provides-100-million-to-help-us-healthcare-systems-prepare-for-covid-19-patients.html>

³²¹⁰ HHS Provides \$100 Million to Help U.S. Healthcare System Prepare for COVID-19 Patients, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 24 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/24/hhs-provides-100-million-to-help-us-healthcare-systems-prepare-for-covid-19-patients.html>

³²¹¹ HHS Provides \$100 Million to Help U.S. Healthcare System Prepare for COVID-19 Patients, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 24 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/24/hhs-provides-100-million-to-help-us-healthcare-systems-prepare-for-covid-19-patients.html>

On 24 March 2020, HHS announced USD 250 million funding toward providing meals for older adults in the community through grants from the Administration for Community Living as older adults are more vulnerable to COVID-19.³²¹²

On 27 March 2020, President Trump signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, with investments in over USD 100 billion for hospitals and healthcare providers, in addition to USD 27 billion for vaccines, therapeutics, and personal protective equipment.³²¹³

On 2 April 2020, HHS and the Department of Justice announced that approximately 192,000 N95 respirator masks would be distributed from those who were hoarding the masks and price gouging previously to frontline workers in New York and New Jersey for the COVID-19 efforts.³²¹⁴

On 6 April 2020, HHS announced the CDC would provide USD 186 million to state and local jurisdictions to support COVID-19 response.³²¹⁵ This will go toward supplementing existing agreements with lab equipment, supplies, staffing, shipping, infection control, monitoring individuals, and data management in areas that have the highest reported COVID-19 cases.³²¹⁶ The funding will also go toward supplementing the Emerging Infections Program with increasing surveillance capabilities.³²¹⁷

On 6 April 2020, HHS announced that they will support the state, territorial and tribal public health labs in all places, including remote and rural populations with “ID NOW COVID-19 rapid point of care test,” which provides results in under 13 minutes.³²¹⁸ On 8 April 2020, HHS announced a contract with General Motors for USD 489 million for 30,000 ventilators under the Defense Production Act to combat COVID-19.³²¹⁹

On 8 April 2020, HHS announced an agreement with DuPont for 450,000 TYVEK® suits to be delivered to frontline healthcare workers that week to protect them from COVID-19, with an

³²¹² HHS Announces Grants to Provide Meals for Older Adults, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 24 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/24/hhs-announces-grants-to-provide-meals-for-older-adults.html>.

³²¹³ Secretary Azar Statement on President Trump’s Signing of the CARES Act, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 27 March 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/03/27/secretary-azar-statement-on-president-trumps-signing-of-the-cares-act.html>.

³²¹⁴ DOJ and HHS Partner to Distribute More than Half a Million Medical Supplies Confiscated from Price Gougers, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 2 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/02/doj-and-hhs-partner-to-distribute-more-than-half-a-million-medical-supplies-confiscated-from-price-gougers.html>.

³²¹⁵ HHS Announces Upcoming Funding Action to Provide \$186 Million for COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 6 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/06/hhs-announces-upcoming-funding-action-provide-186-million-covid19-response.html>.

³²¹⁶ HHS Announces Upcoming Funding Action to Provide \$186 Million for COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 6 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/06/hhs-announces-upcoming-funding-action-provide-186-million-covid19-response.html>.

³²¹⁷ HHS Announces Upcoming Funding Action to Provide \$186 Million for COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 6 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/06/hhs-announces-upcoming-funding-action-provide-186-million-covid19-response.html>.

³²¹⁸ HHS Supports State, Territorial and Tribal Public Health Labs with COVID-19 Rapid Point-of-Care Tests, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 6 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/06/hhs-supports-state-territorial-and-tribal-public-health-labs-with-covid-19-rapid-point-of-care-test.html>.

³²¹⁹ HHS Announces Ventilator Contract with GM under Defense Production Act, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 8 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/08/hhs-announces-ventilator-contract-with-gm-under-defense-production-act.html>.

additional 2.25 million in the upcoming five weeks, with the option of purchasing up to 4.5 million.³²²⁰

On 8 April 2020, HHS awarded USD 1.3 billion to 1,387 health centres to be used toward detection, prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of COVID-19 in addition to maintaining or increasing health capacity and staffing in response to the pandemic.³²²¹

On 8 April 2020, Indian Health Services (IHS) announced they would be expanding telehealth for American Indians and Alaska Natives to access healthcare from home during the COVID-19 pandemic across IHS federal facilities.³²²²

On 8 April 2020, HHS announced a contract with Philips for USD 646.7 million for 43,000 ventilators under the Defense Production Act to combat COVID-19.³²²³

On 8 April 2020, HHS announced that licensed pharmacists could administer COVID-19 tests to make them more accessible, under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act.³²²⁴

On 10 April 2020, HHS will begin to deliver relief funding from the CARES Act, with USD 30 billion going toward supporting healthcare-related expenses or lost revenue from coronavirus, such as testing and treatment for uninsured Americans.³²²⁵

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems through improving transparency of hospital costs, proposing programs to combat health crises such as HIV/AIDS, maternal mortality, opioid overuse and antimicrobial resistance. The United States has also demonstrated efforts to fully comply with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal healthcare coverage through providing free or lower cost medication, investing in rural healthcare, and reducing Medicaid premiums. The United States has worked toward providing access to care for all during the COVID-19 pandemic through the allocation of funding for testing, research and development, telehealth options to receive healthcare, and purchasing personal protective equipment.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sophia DiNicolo

³²²⁰ HHS to Provide Millions of TYVEK Protective Suits for U.S. Healthcare Workers, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 8 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/08/hhs-provide-millions-tyvek-protective-suits-us-healthcare-workers.html>.

³²²¹ HHS Awards \$1.3 Billion to Health Centers in Historic U.S. Response to COVID-19, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/08/hhs-awards-billion-to-health-centers-in-historic-covid19-response.html>.

³²²² Indian Health Service Expands Telehealth Services During COVID-19 Response, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 8 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/08/indian-health-service-expands-telehealth-services-during-covid-19-response.html>.

³²²³ HHS Announces Ventilator Contract with Philips under Defense Production Act, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 8 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/08/hhs-announces-ventilator-contract-with-philips-under-defense-production-act.html>.

³²²⁴ HHS Statements on Authorizing Licensed Pharmacists to Order and Administer COVID-19 Tests, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 8 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/08/hhs-statements-on-authorizing-licensed-pharmacists-to-order-and-administer-covid-19-tests.html>.

³²²⁵ HHS to Begin Immediate Delivery of Initial \$30 Billion of CARES Act Provider Relief Funding, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 10 April 2020. Access Date 13 April 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/10/hhs-to-begin-immediate-delivery-of-initial-30-billion-of-cares-act-provider-relief-funding.html>.

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal health coverage and to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems, especially aimed at reaching the most affected communities.

On 12 September 2019, the European Commission partnered with the World Health Organization (WHO) to host a Global Vaccination Summit, in order to spread awareness about the efficacy of vaccines in fighting against preventable diseases.³²²⁶ They specifically targeted vaccine misinformation, and the inequity in vaccine coverage rates, as threats to universal health coverage.³²²⁷

On 23 September 2019, the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Vytenis Andriukaitis released a statement emphasizing the necessity of increasing efforts toward universal health coverage, if the European Union is to reach the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.³²²⁸ In order to do so, the European Union must support partner countries in building resilient health systems and continue to support in improvement of primary healthcare services.³²²⁹ Vytenis Andriukaitis also noted the EU aims to promote a ‘health in all policies’ approach to ensure that all determinants of health are addressed beyond the health sector including water, sanitation, gender equality and nutrition education. The Commissioner also promoted an investment of EUR100 million into the WHO’s Partnership Programme made in June 2019, which aims to both strengthen health systems and universal health coverage.³²³⁰

On 10 October 2019, the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations released a statement in support of the United Nations’ resolution to realize universal health coverage.³²³¹ They emphasized the European Union’s rights-based approach to health by protecting human rights, including sexual and reproduction rights and affirmed their commitment to striving for universal health coverage in Europe and beyond.³²³²

On 17 October 2019, the European Union’s Health Policy Platform hosted its annual meeting focused on establishing the health priorities within Europe.³²³³ Various health stakeholders and

³²²⁶ Global Vaccination Summit, World Health Organization (Brussels) 12 September 2019. Access date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2019/09/12/default-calendar/global-vaccination-summit>.

³²²⁷ Global Vaccination Summit, World Health Organization (Brussels) 12 September 2019. Access date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2019/09/12/default-calendar/global-vaccination-summit>.

³²²⁸ EU Statement by Commissioner Andriukaitis – United Nations General Assembly: High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage, EU External Action (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67764/eu-statement-commissioner-andriukaitis-%E2%80%93-united-nations-general-assembly-high-level-meeting_en.

³²²⁹ EU Statement by Commissioner Andriukaitis – United Nations General Assembly: High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage, EU External Action (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67764/eu-statement-commissioner-andriukaitis-%E2%80%93-united-nations-general-assembly-high-level-meeting_en.

³²³⁰ EU Statement by Commissioner Andriukaitis – United Nations General Assembly: High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage, EU External Action (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/67764/eu-statement-commissioner-andriukaitis-%E2%80%93-united-nations-general-assembly-high-level-meeting_en.

³²³¹ EU Explanation of Position – United Nations General Assembly Universal Health Coverage, EU External Action (New York) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/68759/eu-explanation-position-%E2%80%93-united-nations-general-assembly-universal-health-coverage_en.

³²³² EU Explanation of Position – United Nations General Assembly Universal Health Coverage, EU External Action (New York) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/68759/eu-explanation-position-%E2%80%93-united-nations-general-assembly-universal-health-coverage_en.

³²³³ EU Health Policy Platform annual meeting, European Commission (Brussels) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/health/policies/events/ev_20191017_en.

interest groups attended the meeting which consisted of award presentations to cities, non-governmental organizations and schools for efforts in prevention and reduction of obesity, interactive roundtable discussing promotion of healthy weight in young adults, joint statements by stakeholder organizations discussing various health priorities and thematic network proposals to rally support for projects in the upcoming year. The joint statement of one of the stakeholder groups, Nobody Left Outside, focused on the need to expand coverage to reach the most vulnerable and marginalized groups in Europe.³²³⁴

On 10 November 2019, the European Union provided Yemen with EUR79 million in order to sustain their health services amidst a violent conflict.³²³⁵ This includes access to sanitation, food, water, and healthcare centres.³²³⁶ This is part of a wider European Union project in Yemen, which has to date provided EUR440 million in funds to address the ongoing humanitarian crisis.³²³⁷

On 28 November 2019, the European Commission published health reports analyzing the health systems of its thirty Member States.³²³⁸ The reports outline how vaccination hesitance, lack of access to mobile health services, and continued healthcare inequities are the main challenges faced by the EU member states.³²³⁹ The reports demonstrate that health systems of member states have been shifting preventive healthcare and health promotion.³²⁴⁰ Furthermore, a key finding noted that task shifting, by enhancing the roles of health professionals such as nurses and pharmacists, have demonstrated strong potential in improving the resilience of health systems.³²⁴¹ Results of the reports will be used to “encourage mutual learning and exchange of good practices.”³²⁴²

³²³⁴ EU Health Policy Platform annual meeting, European Commission (Brussels) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/health/policies/events/ev_20191017_en.

³²³⁵ EU supports Yemen with €79 million to sustain public services and generate job opportunities, EU External Action (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/70193/eu-supports-yemen-%E2%82%AC79-million-sustain-public-services-and-generate-job-opportunities_en.

³²³⁶ EU supports Yemen with €79 million to sustain public services and generate job opportunities, EU External Action (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/70193/eu-supports-yemen-%E2%82%AC79-million-sustain-public-services-and-generate-job-opportunities_en.

³²³⁷ EU supports Yemen with €79 million to sustain public services and generate job opportunities, EU External Action (Brussels) 10 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/70193/eu-supports-yemen-%E2%82%AC79-million-sustain-public-services-and-generate-job-opportunities_en.

³²³⁸ State of Health in the EU: shift to prevention and primary care is the most important trend across countries, European Commission (Brussels) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6336.

³²³⁹ State of Health in the EU: shift to prevention and primary care is the most important trend across countries, European Commission (Brussels) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6336.

³²⁴⁰ State of Health in the EU: shift to prevention and primary care is the most important trend across countries, European Commission (Brussels) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6336.

³²⁴¹ State of Health in the EU: shift to prevention and primary care is the most important trend across countries, European Commission (Brussels) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6336.

³²⁴² State of Health in the EU: shift to prevention and primary care is the most important trend across countries, European Commission (Brussels) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6336.

On 5 December 2019, EU provided a EUR 297 million assistance package to refugees in Jordan and Lebanon.³²⁴³ EUR 70 million of these funds are to be used for improving healthcare for vulnerable populations in Lebanon, and EUR 39 million are to be dedicated to improving waste management and health conditions for Syrian refugee camps in Jordan.³²⁴⁴

On 10 December 2019, EU Health and Safety Commissioner Stella Kyriakides announced a plan, entitled the Europe Beats Cancer Plan to tackle access to cancer treatment for 2020.³²⁴⁵ This strategy will rely on emphasis on preventative measures, an expansion in screening processes, increased access to treatments, and e-health data expansion to optimize healthcare delivery.³²⁴⁶

On 18 December 2019, the European Investment Bank granted the biotech company MolMed with a line of credit up to EUR 15 million to spur research and innovation in cancer and rare disease treatments.³²⁴⁷

On 31 January 2020, the EU launched a EUR10 million funding program for COVID-19 research projects, specifically relating to public health preparedness and resilience.³²⁴⁸ This was part of their Horizons 2020 research and innovation programming.³²⁴⁹

On 4 February 2020, the European Commission launched a consultation on Europe's Beating Cancer Plan.³²⁵⁰ The next steps entail consultations with stakeholders until July, and the plan is expected to be unveiled by the end of 2020.³²⁵¹

On 1 March 2020, the EU provided EUR 30 million in assistance to Sudan, specifically targeting the expansion of emergency healthcare services, nutrition, and access to clean water.³²⁵²

On 6 March 2020, the EU increased funding (an additional EUR37.5 million) from the Horizons 2020 Research and Innovation programming to be used for vaccine development, treatment, and public health preparedness and resilience, to effectively manage the COVID-19 crisis.³²⁵³

³²⁴³ The EU adopted 297 million in concrete actions for refugees and local communities in Jordan and Lebanon, European Commission (Brussels) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6659.

³²⁴⁴ The EU adopted 297 million in concrete actions for refugees and local communities in Jordan and Lebanon, European Commission (Brussels) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 16 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6659.

³²⁴⁵ Keynote speech by Commissioner Kyriakides at the conference on "Better Access to Cancer Treatment," European Commission (Brussels) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_19_6737.

³²⁴⁶ Keynote speech by Commissioner Kyriakides at the conference on "Better Access to Cancer Treatment," European Commission (Brussels) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 8 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/speech_19_6737.

³²⁴⁷ Italy: the EIB supports MolMed investment in research, development, and manufacturing for cancer and rare diseases innovative treatments, European Commission (Milan) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6807.

³²⁴⁸ Coronavirus: EU mobilises 10 million for research, European Commission (Brussels) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/coronavirus-eu-mobilises-eur10-million-for-research-2020-jan-31_en.

³²⁴⁹ Coronavirus: EU mobilises 10 million for research, European Commission (Brussels) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/coronavirus-eu-mobilises-eur10-million-for-research-2020-jan-31_en.

³²⁵⁰ European Commission launches EU-wide public consultation on Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_154.

³²⁵¹ European Commission launches EU-wide public consultation on Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_154.

³²⁵² Sudan: European Union provides 30 million in humanitarian assistance, European Commission (Brussels) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_359.

On 19 March 2020, the European Commission announced the creation of a stockpile of medical supplies (masks, ventilators, vaccines, medicine), financed up to 90 per cent by the EU.³²⁵⁴ This stockpile is in response to supply shortages due to the COVID-19 pandemic.³²⁵⁵

On 3 April 2020, the EU put forth guidelines to facilitate cross-border treatments and medical services in response to the extra burden on the healthcare system due to COVID-19.³²⁵⁶ In order to provide support to healthcare systems of its member states, the EU will be reimbursing all costs of health travel and initiating a Clinical Management Support System as a forum for the distribution of information amongst healthcare professionals.³²⁵⁷

On 8 April 2020, the European Commission requested that its member states ensure the availability of medications, by avoiding national stockpiles and rationing supplies to essential uses, in response to COVID-19.³²⁵⁸

On 8 April 2020, the EU put forth their plan for addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.³²⁵⁹ Part of this plan permits the delivery of funds to partner countries in order to strengthen health systems to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, allocating EUR15.6 billion to these actions.³²⁶⁰

On 17 April 2020, the EU allocated EUR2.7 billion in order to strengthen the healthcare sector in the face of COVID-19.³²⁶¹ These funds are to be allocated to building emergency health services, such as mobile health units, in addition to funding for medical supplies (masks, ventilators).³²⁶² Additionally, EUR 3.6 million will be allocated to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control to enhance their abilities to identify health threats.³²⁶³

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to take action aimed at building resilient and sustainable health systems through investments in strengthening health systems by

³²⁵³ COVID-19: Commission steps up research funding and selects 17 projects in vaccine development, treatment, and diagnostics, European Commission (Brussels) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_386.

³²⁵⁴ COVID-19: Commission creates first ever rescEU stockpile of medical equipment, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_476.

³²⁵⁵ COVID-19: Commission creates first ever rescEU stockpile of medical equipment, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_476.

³²⁵⁶ Coronavirus: Commission encourages and facilitates cross-border treatment of patients and deployment of medical staff, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_590.

³²⁵⁷ Coronavirus: Commission encourages and facilitates cross-border treatment of patients and deployment of medical staff, European Commission (Brussels) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_590.

³²⁵⁸ Coronavirus: Commission calls on Member States to optimise supply and availability of medicines, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_622.

³²⁵⁹ Coronavirus: EU global response to fight the pandemic, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_604.

³²⁶⁰ Coronavirus: EU global response to fight the pandemic, European Commission (Brussels) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_604.

³²⁶¹ Coronavirus: Commission welcomes Parliament's quick green light for proposed new resources to protect lives and livelihoods, European Commission (Brussels) April 17 2020. Access Date: April 17 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_685.

³²⁶² Coronavirus: Commission welcomes Parliament's quick green light for proposed new resources to protect lives and livelihoods, European Commission (Brussels) April 17 2020. Access Date: April 17 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_685.

³²⁶³ Coronavirus: Commission welcomes Parliament's quick green light for proposed new resources to protect lives and livelihoods, European Commission (Brussels) April 17 2020. Access Date: April 17 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_685.

improving primary care services and investments within partner countries and globally. It has also taken efforts to strengthen the healthcare services of its member states in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The European Union has also demonstrated efforts to fully comply with its commitment to take action aimed at moving toward the achievement of universal healthcare coverage through committing to spread awareness about vaccines, supporting partner countries in expanding universal health coverage, discussing health policy priorities through reflection and goal setting.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nora Moidu

18. Health: Mental Health

“We will continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological and social needs while making those responsible accountable.”

Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada	-1		
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy	-1		
Japan	-1		
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	0 (50%)		

Background

At Biarritz in 2019, G7 leaders, in their Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, committed to “support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological and social needs while making those responsible accountable.”³²⁶⁴ They made this commitment in the context of the Dinard Declaration on Women, Peace and Security from the Foreign Ministers’ meeting of that year.³²⁶⁵ The Dinard Declaration promoted a “victim-centered approach” to the “justice” and the “relief” component of the response to sexual violence in conflict (SVC).³²⁶⁶ Both documents place particular emphasis on the contribution of non-state actors such as Nobel Peace Prize Winners Nadia Murad and Denis Mukwege, who are in the process of creating the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.³²⁶⁷

In the past few decades, in conflict-ridden regions such as Myanmar, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, and South Sudan, we have witnessed the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and terrorism, often against particular ethnic and religious groups.³²⁶⁸ In these cases, SVC often contributed to conflict-driven migration crises.³²⁶⁹ These atrocities are nothing new. There is a long history of states or armed groups using sexual violence to “punish, terrorize and destroy populations,” “pursue (strategic) objectives,” or reward soldiers.³²⁷⁰ Usually, the victims of conflict-based sexual

³²⁶⁴ Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, 2019 Biarritz Summit (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>

³²⁶⁵ Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, 2019 Biarritz Summit (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>

³²⁶⁶ Dinard Declaration on Women, Peace and Security, 2019 Biarritz Summit (Saint Malo) 6 April 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/190406-women.html>

³²⁶⁷ Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, 2019 Biarritz Summit (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>; Dinard Declaration on Women, Peace and Security, 2019 Biarritz Summit (Saint Malo) 6 April 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/190406-women.html>

³²⁶⁸ Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, UN Security Council (New York) 23 March 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/N1808325-1.pdf>

³²⁶⁹ Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, UN Security Council (New York) 23 March 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/N1808325-1.pdf>

³²⁷⁰ Rape as a Weapon of War, Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) n.d. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/the-problem/rape-as-a-weapon-of-war/>

violence are “politically and economically marginalized women and girls.”³²⁷¹ However, in 2008, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1820, a landmark decision to treat SVC as central to issues of peace and security³²⁷² which stated that SVC “constitute[s] a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide.”³²⁷³

As the international community increasingly recognized the severity of SVC, the G7 added the issue to the agenda in a major way in 2013 in Aylesbury when the G7 Foreign Ministers adopted the Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict.³²⁷⁴ In the Declaration, there was a clear dual concern with holding perpetrators to account as well as providing a wide variety of services for victims such as “health, psychosocial, legal and economic support.”³²⁷⁵

However, in the leaders’ declaration of the summit in the following year, there was little mention of SVC, with only a general commitment from the Foreign Ministers in Aylesbury to empower women in conflict zones and the statement that they “look[ed] forward to the [upcoming] Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict.”³²⁷⁶

At their meeting in 2015 in Lübeck, however, the G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict.³²⁷⁷ In Elmau in 2015, the G7 leaders “condemn[ed] in the strongest terms all forms of sexual violence in conflict.”³²⁷⁸

Preventing and responding to SVC was also a key component of the Ise-Shima Summit of 2016. In Hiroshima that year, the Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the G7 Report on the Implementation of the G8 Declaration on the Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflict, paying special attention to their dual responsibility of “supporting victims while holding perpetrators to account.”³²⁷⁹ In the Leaders’ Declaration of that summit, the G7 condemned “gender-based violence ... including sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations,” with a focus on “holding perpetrators to account” including UN personnel. G7 leaders framed this commitment in the context of the UN’s Women, Peace and Security Agenda which is largely associated with UN Security Council Resolution 1325 from 2000³²⁸⁰ that promotes greater responsiveness in peacebuilding operations to women affected by conflict in a particular region.³²⁸¹ Of particular emphasis at that summit was strengthening peacekeepers’ abilities to respond to sexual violence in regions where they

³²⁷¹ Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, UN Security Council (New York) 23 March 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/N1808325-1.pdf>

³²⁷² Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, UN Security Council (New York) 23 March 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/N1808325-1.pdf>

³²⁷³ Resolution 1820, UN Security Council (New York) 19 June 2008. Access Date: 15 October 2019. [https://undocs.org/S/RES/1820\(2008\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/1820(2008))

³²⁷⁴ Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, G8 Foreign Ministers Meeting (Aylesbury) 11 April 2013. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin130411-psvi.html>

³²⁷⁵ Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, G8 Foreign Ministers Meeting (Aylesbury) 11 April 2013. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin130411-psvi.html>

³²⁷⁶ G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Brussels Summit (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

³²⁷⁷ G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Communiqué, G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting (Lübeck) 15 April 2015. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin150415.html>

³²⁷⁸ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, 2015 Elmau Summit (Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

³²⁷⁹ Joint Communiqué, G7 Foreign Ministers at Hiroshima (Hiroshima) 11 April 2016. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin160411-communique.html>

³²⁸⁰ Women, Peace and Security, United Nations n.d. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://dppa.un.org/en/women-peace-and-security>

³²⁸¹ Resolution 1325, UN Security Council (New York) 31 October 2000. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/1325%282000%29>

are operating.³²⁸² Notably, they also committed to support “increasing access to protection and to justice for those affected by sexual and gender-based violence, enhancing the full range of medical, legal and psychosocial and livelihood services, and strengthening their abilities and economic self-reliance through education and training for refugees of conflict regions.”³²⁸³

At the Charlevoix Summit of 2018, SVC was also discussed in the context of including women in regional security deliberations, with the assertion that “gender-sensitive measures that include women’s participation and perspectives to prevent and eradicate terrorism are vital to effective and sustainable results, protection from sexual and gender-based violence, and preventing other human rights abuses and violations.”³²⁸⁴ They stated that they needed to “work together to address sexual violence in conflict zones.”³²⁸⁵ At the Foreign Ministers’ Meeting of that year, the G7 also expressed concern over “sexual and gender-based violence,” especially minority victims.³²⁸⁶ The G7 Foreign Ministers placed particular emphasis on “(coordinating) efforts” to assist victims of sexual violence in Myanmar and holding UN personnel accountable for “sexual exploitation” in conflict areas.³²⁸⁷

Commitment Features

G7 members agreed to “continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.”

The key part of this commitment is the promise “to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological and social needs.” Based on the verb “continue,” continued support of past initiatives is included as evidence of compliance. “Support” is defined to mean a contribution of resources, which can include an increase in government funding or the establishment of a new initiative that is related to one that a G7 member has supported in the past. Verbal affirmations are not counted as support. “Efforts” can come from previous domestic policy, the policy of foreign governments, international organizations, or civil society. Notably, these must also be efforts to “promptly respond.” “Respond” is interpreted broadly, as any initiative relevant to “ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social needs.” However, given the use of the adverb “promptly” and the phrase “ongoing cases,” compliance requires that these responses be attempts to intensify or supplement efforts responding to instances of SVC that are currently occurring. The UN has identified the “conflict-affected settings” as Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan (Darfur), the Syrian Arab Republic, and Yemen.³²⁸⁸ The UN has also identified post-conflict areas in which victims’ needs are also a concern. These are Bosnia

³²⁸² G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, 2016 Ise-Shima Summit Documents (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

³²⁸³ G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, 2016 Ise-Shima Summit Documents (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

³²⁸⁴ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, 2018 Charlevoix Summit (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

³²⁸⁵ Building a More Peaceful and Secure World: G7 Public Engagement Paper, 2018 Charlevoix Summit n.d. Access Date: 15 October 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/G7_public_engagement_paper_peace_security.pdf

³²⁸⁶ G7 Foreign Ministers Joint Communiqué, 2018 Charlevoix Summit (Toronto) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/180423-communique.html>

³²⁸⁷ G7 Foreign Ministers Joint Communiqué, 2018 Charlevoix Summit (Toronto) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/180423-communique.html>

³²⁸⁸ Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

and Herzegovina, Côte d'Ivoire, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Burundi, and Nigeria.³²⁸⁹ Efforts in all of these regions will count as compliance. Others may also count based on changing regional conditions.

Victims of SVC are anyone who has suffered one of the eight forms of sexual violence agreed upon by the UN and other international legal bodies: “rape; sexual slavery; forced pregnancy; forced abortion; enforced sterilization; forced marriage; and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity.”³²⁹⁰ Those responsible are to be defined as individuals, who could have acted on behalf of a state or an non-state militant group during the conflict.

This commitment has four distinctive elements: victims’ medical needs, victims’ psychological needs, victims’ social needs, and making those responsible accountable. To support efforts in any of these four elements, a G7 member must either commit to an initiative that addresses these issues in a conflict area or contribute additional funds to a project that does so.

1. Medical needs can be seen as the impacts caused by SVC on victims’ physical health. According to the Mukwege Foundation, most medical needs will involve fistula repair, sexually transmitted diseases, or other injuries sustained during other injuries from SVC.³²⁹¹ The UN also reports unwanted pregnancy and HIV prevention as key to medical treatment for SVC victims.³²⁹²
2. Psychological needs can be seen as policies that ease the emotional distress of victims. The UN notes that psychological support can also be “life-saving” in cases of SVC.³²⁹³ The Mukwege Foundation lists the two main types of psychological treatment as psychotherapy and “psychological support activities,” which can be either as part of a group or one-on-one.³²⁹⁴ In addition to the provision of medical and psychological services specifically designed for SVC victims, the UN notes that there now exists “sensitization training” for “medical and psychosocial professionals.”³²⁹⁵ Intensification of such training as well as increases in services counts as compliance.
3. Social needs can be seen as needs related to the way SVC changes their victims’ position within their community. The UN notes that victims are often ostracized by their communities and families.³²⁹⁶ In particular, they note the challenges faced by survivors of wartime rape and their

³²⁸⁹ Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

³²⁹⁰ Rape as a Weapon of War, Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) n.d. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/the-problem/rape-as-a-weapon-of-war/>

³²⁹¹ Handbook: Holistic Care for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Conflict, dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/Handbook-Care_for_SV_Survivors-ENG-screen.pdf
³²⁹² Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

³²⁹³ Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

³²⁹⁴ Handbook: Holistic Care for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Conflict, dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/Handbook-Care_for_SV_Survivors-ENG-screen.pdf

³²⁹⁵ Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

³²⁹⁶ 9 Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

children, which include “risk of abuse, abandonment and marginalization.”³²⁹⁷ In response to these social needs, the Mukwege Foundation proposes initiatives such as support for educating survivors; training to assist rehabilitation; and economic measures such as “emergency grant, vocational training, job placement, or access to micro-finance programmes.”³²⁹⁸

4. Making those responsible accountable is an action that strengthens efforts at legal prosecution against the perpetrators of SVC in a current conflict area (as listed above). Complying to this part of the commitment could include leadership within the UN and the International Criminal Court to prosecute perpetrators of SVC; initiatives to improve the mechanisms for monitoring and prosecuting SVC, either by regional actors or UN personnel; or support of domestic law enforcement and the judicial system as concerns SVC.

In order for a G7 member to achieve a full compliance score, it must either continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of at least two of the four components of victims’ specific medical needs, victims’ psychological needs, victims’ social needs, or making those responsible accountable, or it must continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of all three of victims’ specific medical needs, psychological needs and social needs.

To earn a partial compliance score, the G7 member either needs to address only two components of victims’ specific medical needs, victims’ psychological needs or victims’ social needs, or continues to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of one of victims’ specific medical needs, psychological needs, or social needs while making those responsible accountable.

Non-compliance refers to a G7 member that has acted on only one of the four components of victims’ specific medical needs, victims’ psychological needs, victims’ social needs or making those responsible accountable.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member took efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of one or none of the following components: victims’ medical needs, psychological needs or social needs or holding those responsible accountable.
0	G7 member took efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ medical needs and/or psychological needs and/or social needs and making those responsible accountable, OR took no action to make those responsible accountable but continued to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases in two of the following components: victims’ medical needs, psychological needs or social needs.
+1	G7 member continued to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases in making those responsible accountable and in at least two of the following components: victims’ medical needs, psychological needs or social needs OR the G7 member continued to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases in all three of victims’ medical needs, psychological needs and social needs.

Compliance Director: Clara Geddes
Lead Analyst: Jae Yoon Mary Nob

³²⁹⁷ Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

³²⁹⁸ Handbook: Holistic Care for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Conflict, dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/Handbook-Care_for_SV_Survivors-ENG-screen.pdf

Canada: –1

Canada has not complied with its commitment to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims' specific medical, psychological, and social issues while making those responsible accountable.

In September 2019, the Canadian embassy in Côte d'Ivoire, along with the Côte d'Ivoire Chapter of the Women's Peace and Security Network in the Economic Community of West African States, organized a panel discussion on the implementation of United Nations Resolution 1325, that emphasized protecting women from gender-based violence in conflict and providing support to victims.³²⁹⁹

On 29 October 2019, the Government of Canada delivered a statement to the United Nations Security Council, where it supported the full implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. It emphasized sexual and reproductive health rights in fighting global gender-based violence and discrimination.³³⁰⁰ The Canadian government also announced that it will co-chair the Women, Peace and Security Focal Points Network with Uruguay in 2020.³³⁰¹

On 30 October 2019, the Canadian government delivered a statement on the anniversary of the UN's Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, where it condemned sexual violence as a weapon of war and asserted that, "that survivors must have access to comprehensive support."³³⁰²

On 4 November 2019, at the 4th Committee of the UN General Assembly's review of peacekeeping operations, the Canadian delegation highlighted the need to "(address) cases of sexual exploitation" on the part of UN personnel.³³⁰³

On 11 November 2019, the Canadian government expressed its support of Gambia's application to the International Court of Justice to hold the government of Myanmar accountable for "sexual and gender-based violence," among other genocidal acts.³³⁰⁴

On 25 November 2019, the Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Canadian Minister of International Development delivered a statement for the International Day for the Elimination of

³²⁹⁹ Women at the table: Peace and security in Côte d'Ivoire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/stories-histoires/2019/cotedivoire-peace-paix.aspx?lang=eng>

³³⁰⁰ Canada National Statement - Women, Peace and Security Open Debate UN Security Council, Government of Canada (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 23 March 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng

³³⁰¹ Canada National Statement - Women, Peace and Security Open Debate UN Security Council, Government of Canada (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 23 March 2020. https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng

³³⁰² Member-States Statements at the 10-Year Anniversary Event to Commemorate the Establishment of the Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, 30 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/member-states-statements-10-year-anniversary-event-to-commemorate-the-establishment-of-the-mandate-on-sexual-violence-in-conflict/>

³³⁰³ Top Officials Highlight Progress of United Nations African Union Partnership, as Fourth Committee Starts General Debate on Peacekeeping Operations, United Nations General Assembly (New York) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gaspd706.doc.htm>

³³⁰⁴ Joint Statement of Canada and the Kingdom of the Netherlands Regarding the Gambia's Action to Address Accountability in Myanmar, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/12/joint-statement-of-canada-and-the-kingdom-of-the-netherlands-regarding-the-gambias-action-to-address-accountability-in-myanmar.html>

Violence Against Women where they declared that “sexual assault, also used in too many instances as a weapon of war, is a violation of human rights and one of the main barriers to achieving gender equality” and that “too often, the victims are silenced while the perpetrators go unpunished.”³³⁰⁵

The Canadian government has delivered several statements affirming its resolve to support victims of sexual violence in conflict and ensure accountability for those responsible. However, it has not provided any resources to address the medical, psychological, or social services for victims. It has also not taken any concrete action to bring the perpetrators to justice.³³⁰⁶

Thus, Canada receives a score of -1.

Analysts: Suthandira Arulkumar and Sheeriza Azeez

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social issues while making those responsible accountable.

On 11 October 2019, in its statement on the International Day of the Girl Child, the French government acknowledged that girls often suffer sexual exploitation and are particularly affected by regional conflicts.³³⁰⁷

On 29 October 2019, the Mukwege Foundation announced that the French government was contributing EUR6 million to its International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence within a three-year time frame.³³⁰⁸

On 29 October 2019, the French government announced its support for the United Nations Security Council’s Women Peace, and Security agenda.³³⁰⁹ The French government reaffirmed its support of the UN Secretary-General’s “zero tolerance policy” toward sexual exploitation in conflict settings and argued that the process of involving women in peace-building should address issues relating to the “medical, psychological and social support provided to victims of sexual violence.”³³¹⁰

³³⁰⁵ Statement to Mark International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/statement-to-mark-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women.html>

³³⁰⁶ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <https://www.canada.ca/en/news.html>, <https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/index.aspx?lang=eng>, <https://cfc-swc.gc.ca/med/news-nouvelles/index-en.html>, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusca>, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusma>, <https://monusco.unmissions.org/en>, <https://unamid.unmissions.org/>, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/>, <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>, <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/>, <https://www.cbc.ca/>, <https://globalnews.ca/>, <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/>

³³⁰⁷ International Day of the Girl Child, French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/article/international-day-of-the-girl-child-11-oct-19>

³³⁰⁸ On the 30th October, Dr. Denis Mukwege and Ms. Nadia Murad, 2018 Corecipients of the Nobel Peace Prize will Officially Launch the Global Survivors Fund in New York City at UN Headquarters at the Commemoration of the 10- year Anniversary of the Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/SurvivorsFUNDlaunch-30th-October.pdf>

³³⁰⁹ Women, Peace and Security, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/Women-Peace-and-Security-10451>

³³¹⁰ Women, Peace and Security, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/Women-Peace-and-Security-10451>

On 25 November 2019, the French government reaffirmed its commitment for the Dinard Declaration on Women, Peace and Security.³³¹¹ It commended the European Union for taking action to comply with the Dinard Declaration, especially as concerns the development of a universal framework for response to sexual violence in conflict.³³¹²

On 29 November 2019, upon the adoption of UN Resolution 2493, the French delegation declared that the UN Security Council needed to “act more vigorously to combat conflict-related sexual violence.”³³¹³ The delegation commended the Sudanese army and the “Group of Five for the Sahel” in working to hold perpetrators accountable.³³¹⁴ The French delegation also committed to “(continuing) to support a wide range of health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health services, for victims of sexual and gender-based violence.”³³¹⁵

France’s contribution to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence consists of an effort to support the medical, psychological, and social needs of victims. Therefore, France has fulfilled three of the four requirements from the commitment.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavlina Faltynek

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.

On 23 September 2019, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Denis Mukwege confirmed to the United Nations General Assembly that Germany was to contribute EUR400,000 to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence within a two-year time frame.³³¹⁶

On 25 September 2019, at the General Debate of the 74th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas condemned sexual violence in conflict and reaffirmed the need for better support for survivors.³³¹⁷

On 29 October 2019, upon the adoption of UN Resolution 2493, the German delegation declared that Germany was complying with 10 out of the 12 points on the Women, Peace, and Security

³³¹¹ France Committed to Fighting Violence Against Women Internationally, Embassy of France in Washington, D.C. (Washington) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9448>

³³¹² France Committed to Fighting Violence Against Women Internationally, Embassy of France in Washington, D.C. (Washington) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9448>

³³¹³ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2493, United Nations Security Council (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13998.doc.htm>

³³¹⁴ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2493, United Nations Security Council (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13998.doc.htm>

³³¹⁵ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2493, United Nations Security Council (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13998.doc.htm>

³³¹⁶ Nobel laureate seeks backing for new funds to aid women raped in war, REUTERS (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-women-violence-fund/nobel-laureate-seeks-backing-for-new-fund-to-aid-women-raped-in-war-idUSKBN1W82PF>

³³¹⁷ Speech by Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the General Debate of the 74th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-general-assembly/2250142>

agenda, particularly with regards to the fact that “survivors of sexual violence receive little or no psychosocial care, counselling or health care.”³³¹⁸

On 24 November 2019, in his speech for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the German Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Assistance acknowledged that conflict can dramatically exacerbate violence against women and reaffirmed Germany’s commitment to holding perpetrators accountable.³³¹⁹

Germany’s contribution to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence consists of an effort to support the medical, psychological, and social needs of victims. Furthermore, their prosecution of Raslan and al-Gharib represent efforts to hold those responsible for sexual violence in conflict accountable.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Maria Anna Staszkievicz

Italy: –1

Italy has not complied with its commitment to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.

Italy has not promoted ongoing efforts in responding to the needs of the victims of sexual violence in conflict by condemning acts of sexual violence in conflict. It has also not made an effort to make perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict responsible.

Thus, Italy receives a score of –1.³³²⁰

Analyst: Micaela (Mica) Pacheco

Japan: –1

Japan has not complied with its commitment to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.

On 24 September 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe exchanged a call with Nadia Murad at the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.³³²¹ Prime Minister Abe outlined Japan’s support to rebuild regions emancipated by ISIL in Iraq, with an emphasis on victims of

³³¹⁸ Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2493, United Nations Security Council (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13998.doc.htm>

³³¹⁹ Statement by Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 24 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020.

³³²⁰ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <https://www.esteri.it/mae/en>, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusca>, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusma>, <https://monusco.unmissions.org/en>, <https://unamid.unmissions.org/>, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/>, <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>, <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/>, <https://www.agi.it/>, <https://www.ilmessaggero.it/ricerca/sexual-violence/>, <https://www.repubblica.it/>.

³³²¹ Prime Minister Abe Attends the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 28 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp_a/page3e_001114.html

sexual violence.³³²² In this context, Prime Minister Abe committed Japan to supplying Iraq's Sinjar Hospital with medical equipment.³³²³

On 27 September 2019, the Japanese government submitted the second edition of its National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security, which outlines the government's plans to protect women and girls for 2019-2022.³³²⁴ In it, the Japanese government presents its goal to "provide victims of sexual and gender-based violence under humanitarian crisis with comprehensive support, including physical, medical, psychosocial, legal, and economic assistance."³³²⁵ It plans to accomplish this goal by reinforcing the mechanisms that currently support victims of sexual violence in conflict; providing training to Japanese officials and peacekeepers in regions of humanitarian crises; contributing to efforts in "rehabilitation and empowerment" for victims; and supporting international organizations that aim to achieve this goal.³³²⁶ The report also outlines the Japanese government's goal to hold perpetrators of sexual exploitation and gender-based violence accountable, with particular emphasis on atrocities committed by aid workers and dispatched personnel.³³²⁷ The Japanese government intends to achieve this goal by implementing a prosecution and punishment mechanism in the event of sexual violence committed during deployment; participating in initiatives by the international community for ending sexual and gender-based violence; and "(providing) human resource and financial contributions to UN Women, UN Secretary General's Special Envoy on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and the International Criminal Court."³³²⁸ If the Japanese government does follow through with some of these actions and applies them to current conflicts, such policies will count toward compliance. However, the report as it is now will not as it does not consist of any new initiatives nor does it consist of a contribution toward ongoing initiatives.

On 8 October 2019, Japan attended the United Nations Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee meeting, and participated in a discussion among members on the topic of sexual violence experienced by children in conflict situations.³³²⁹ In this discussion, Japan reinforced the urgency that the committee must take to end violence against children, and that a "comprehensive approach and collaboration among various sections" is the way to achieve this.³³³⁰ Akane Miyazaki, Special Advisor to the Government of Japan, outlined that 2019 is the 25th anniversary of Japan's ratification of

³³²² Prime Minister Abe Attends the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 28 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp_a/page3e_001114.html

³³²³ Prime Minister Abe Attends the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 28 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp_a/page3e_001114.html

³³²⁴ 8 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521395.pdf>

³³²⁵ 8 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521395.pdf>

³³²⁶ 8 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521395.pdf>

³³²⁷ 8 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521395.pdf>

³³²⁸ 8 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521395.pdf>

³³²⁹ Children Exposed to 'Unimaginable' Violence during Conflict, Expert Tells Third Committee as Delegates Call for Accountability, Legal Reforms, United Nations – Meetings Coverage and Press Releases (New York) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gashc4263.doc.htm>

³³³⁰ Children Exposed to 'Unimaginable' Violence during Conflict, Expert Tells Third Committee as Delegates Call for Accountability, Legal Reforms, United Nations – Meetings Coverage and Press Releases (New York) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gashc4263.doc.htm>

Conventions on the Rights of the Child.³³³¹ Mr. Miyazaki continues to outline the country's intention to implement a National Action Plan to end violence against children and intends on releasing it in 2020, and re-iterates Japan's enactment of the Child Welfare Act, its contribution of \$5.9 million to the End Violence Fund – which supported humanitarian projects in Uganda and Nigeria – to end sexual violence against children in conflict.³³³²

On 30 October 2019, Yasuhisa Kawamura, the Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, made a statement at the 10th Anniversary of the Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict.³³³³ He outlined Japan's consistent efforts to enhance the work of the Special Representative. Ambassador Kawamura reinforced Japan's efforts by announcing its support for the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, and Prime Minister Abe's direct communication with Nobel Laureates linked to this initiative, Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad.³³³⁴

On 23 March 2019, Japan hosted the World Assembly for Women (WAW! W20), which included a panel on "Women's Participation in Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Post Conflict Recovery" that included input from Japanese and British government officials, UN officials, and members of civil society.³³³⁵ The Panel on Women's Participation in Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding, and Post-Conflict Recovery included discussion on the role of legal systems in reparations for victims of sexual violence in conflict.³³³⁶ Japan also confirmed that it had updated its National Action Plan on Women to promote the role of women in peacebuilding.³³³⁷

On 15 January 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs published "Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and People-centered Development," as part of their White Paper on Development Cooperation 2018, on Japan's initiatives relating to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. It reaffirmed Japan's strong working relationship with the United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and intention to "secure women's participation in all stages of conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and peace building."³³³⁸

Japan's commitment to contribute to the Sinjar Hospital constitutes an effort to meet the medical needs of victims. However, the Japanese government has not taken efforts to address survivors'

³³³¹ Children Exposed to 'Unimaginable' Violence during Conflict, Expert Tells Third Committee as Delegates Call for Accountability, Legal Reforms, United Nations – Meetings Coverage and Press Releases (New York) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gashc4263.doc.htm>

³³³² Children Exposed to 'Unimaginable' Violence during Conflict, Expert Tells Third Committee as Delegates Call for Accountability, Legal Reforms, United Nations – Meetings Coverage and Press Releases (New York) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gashc4263.doc.htm>

³³³³ Statement by H.E. Ambassador Yasuhisa Kawamura, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, at the Event to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/kawamura103019.html

³³³⁴ Statement by H.E. Ambassador Yasuhisa Kawamura, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, at the Event to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/kawamura103019.html

³³³⁵ World Assembly for Women, WAW!/W20, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000547076.pdf>

³³³⁶ World Assembly for Women, WAW!/W20, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000547076.pdf>

³³³⁷ World Assembly for Women, WAW!/W20, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000547076.pdf>

³³³⁸ Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and People-Centered Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000554948.pdf>

psychological or social needs nor has it taken efforts to hold those responsible accountable, despite making statements affirming Japan's support of such actions.³³³⁹

Thus, Japan receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Margaret de Leon

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims' specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.

On 11 September 2019, the British Embassy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo released an application for projects aimed at responding to sexual violence in the region.³³⁴⁰ The United Kingdom announced that it would provide between USD10,000 and USD309,000 for initiatives aimed at either improving the legal process in holding perpetrators accountable or challenging the stigma faced by survivors of sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.³³⁴¹

On 18 September 2019, at the United Nations Security Council briefing on South Sudan, the UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Jonathan Allen insisted that the international community needed to take action to end impunity for perpetrators of sexual violence in this conflict.³³⁴²

On 25 September 2019, at the 42nd session of the UN Human Rights Council, the British Ambassador for Human Rights Rita French commended the government for the Democratic Republic of the Congo for its "efforts to combat impunity and sexual violence."³³⁴³

On 25 September 2019, at the 42nd session of the UN Human Rights Council, the British Ambassador to the UN Julian Braithwaite condemned "sexual and gender-based violence" in the current conflict in Libya.³³⁴⁴

³³³⁹ Non-compliance was determined after reviewing www.mofa.go.jp, <https://www.mod.go.jp/e/press/>, http://www.gender.go.jp/english_contents/, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusca>, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusma>, <https://monusco.unmissions.org/en>, <https://unamid.unmissions.org/>, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/>, <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>, <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/>, <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/>, <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/>, <https://mainichi.jp/english/>.

³³⁴⁰ DRC: Call for Bids to do Projects on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/call-for-bids-preventing-sexual-violence-in-drc-in-201920>

³³⁴¹ DRC: Call for Bids to do Projects on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/call-for-bids-preventing-sexual-violence-in-drc-in-201920>

³³⁴² Boosting the efforts of the South Sudanese people's push for peace, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/boosting-the-efforts-of-the-south-sudanese-peoples-push-for-peace>

³³⁴³ UN Human Rights Council 42: Interactive Dialogue on the Democratic Republic of Congo, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-42-interactive-dialogue-on-the-democratic-republic-of-congo>

³³⁴⁴ UN Human Rights Council 42 - Interactive Dialogue with the UN High Commissioner on Libya, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-42-interactive-dialogue-with-the-un-high-commissioner-on-libya>

On 5 November 2019, at a UN Security Council briefing on Bosnia and Herzegovina, UK Permanent Representative to the UN Karen Pierce expressed the United Kingdom's support for Trial International's efforts to "secure justice for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence."³³⁴⁵

On 17 October 2019, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office selected the first Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Survivor Champions.³³⁴⁶ The Survivor Champions will lead a network for survivors and members of the government to adequately tackle the issue of sexual violence in conflict.³³⁴⁷ The Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Lord Ahmad, promoted this initiative, stating that "survivors must remain at the heart of international efforts to end sexual violence in conflict."³³⁴⁸ However, the United Kingdom created this position before the compliance period began.³³⁴⁹ As such, this action cannot count toward compliance.

On 29 October 2019, at the UN Security Council briefing on Women, Peace and Security, Pierce expressed the UK's support of Resolution 1325 and insisted that the UN needed to take more action to ensure that it can deliver "an effective response to conflict-related sexual violence."³³⁵⁰

On 31 October 2019, at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Mission in Kosovo, UK Political Coordinator at the UN David Clay commended the joint declaration of religious groups in Kosovo on the topic of "survivors of sexual violence."³³⁵¹ He also expressed the UK's commitment to "supporting victims" of sexual violence from regional conflict in Kosovo, specifying that this applied to victims of all ethnic backgrounds.³³⁵²

On 4 November 2019, at the Security Council briefing on Peace and Security in Africa, Ambassador Pierce highlighted the importance of "[addressing] sexual and gender-based violence" in Somalia.³³⁵³

³³⁴⁵ Securing justice and maintaining peace for Bosnian citizens, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/securing-justice-and-maintaining-peace-for-bosnian-citizens>

³³⁴⁶ UK announces Survivor Champions to help end sexual violence in conflict, GOV.UK (London) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-survivor-champions-to-help-end-sexual-violence-in-conflict>

³³⁴⁷ UK announces Survivor Champions to help end sexual violence in conflict, GOV.UK (London) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-survivor-champions-to-help-end-sexual-violence-in-conflict>

³³⁴⁸ UK announces Survivor Champions to help end sexual violence in conflict, GOV.UK (London) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-survivor-champions-to-help-end-sexual-violence-in-conflict>

³³⁴⁹ UK announces PSVI Survivor Champion role to end sexual violence in conflict, GOV.UK (London) 19 June 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-psvi-survivor-champion-role-to-end-sexual-violence-in-conflict>

³³⁵⁰ Pushing for real implementation of women in the peace and security agenda, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pushing-for-real-implementation-of-women-in-the-peace-and-security-agenda>

³³⁵¹ Commitment to peace in Kosovo for future generations, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-to-peace-in-kosovo-for-future-generations>

³³⁵² Commitment to peace in Kosovo for future generations, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-to-peace-in-kosovo-for-future-generations>

³³⁵³ Placing women's rights and representation at the heart of peacemaking in Africa, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/placing-womens-rights-and-representation-at-the-heart-of-peacemaking-in-africa>

On 18 February 2020, Ambassador Pierce referred to “instances of intimidation and sexual violence against women in Houthi-controlled areas (of Yemen)” as “deeply troubling” when she spoke at the Security Council briefing on Yemen.³³⁵⁴

On 20 February 2020, the UK government responded to the Independent Commission for Aid Impact’s recommendations on the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative.³³⁵⁵ The UK fully accepted three of the four proposals including one to “ensure that its work on preventing conflict-related sexual violence is founded on survivor-led design, which has clear protocols in place founded in ‘do no harm’ principles.”³³⁵⁶

On 27 February 2020, Ambassador French delivered a statement at the Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner on Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar in which she expressed the UK’s disapproval of “the Tatmadaw’s culture of impunity for acts of sexual violence” among other concerns.³³⁵⁷

On 3 March 2020, the UK announced it will spend GBP110 million on aid to Syrian refugee camps, including the building of “facilities where women and girls can be protected from sexual attacks.”³³⁵⁸ However, this action does not address survivors of sexual violence in conflict and, thus, does not count toward compliance.

On 4 March 2020, Ambassador Allen, in his speech at the Security Council briefing on South Sudan, listed “sexual and gender based violence used as a weapon of war” as one of the reasons the UK is committed to supporting humanitarian efforts in South Sudan.³³⁵⁹

On 9 March 2020, Ambassador French listed “ongoing sexual and gender-based violence” as one of the UK’s concerns at the Interactive Dialogue with the UN Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan.³³⁶⁰

On 11 March 2020, at the Security Council Debate on peace and security in Africa: countering terrorism and extremism in Africa, Allen expressed the UK’s support for the UN’s “holistic approach” that addressed “the use of sexual violence as a tactic of terrorism and that tackling that,

³³⁵⁴ Violence and Suffering in Yemen Must Stop if Peace is to Thrive, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 18 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/violence-and-suffering-in-yemen-must-stop-if-peace-is-to-thrive>

³³⁵⁵ HMG Response, HM Government and UK Aid (London) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/867067/Independent_Commission_for_Aid_Impact_review_on_PSVI.pdf

³³⁵⁶ HMG Response, HM Government and UK Aid (London) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/867067/Independent_Commission_for_Aid_Impact_review_on_PSVI.pdf

³³⁵⁷ UN Human Rights Council 43: UK Statement for the Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner on Rohingya and Other Minorities in Myanmar, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 27 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-43-uk-statement-for-the-interactive-dialogue-with-the-high-commissioner-on-rohingya-and-other-minorities-in-myanmar>

³³⁵⁸ UK Aid Protects Victims of Violence as Syrian Regime Increases Attacks in Idlib, Department for International Development and Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-protects-victims-of-violence-as-syrian-regime-increases-attacks-in-idlib>

³³⁵⁹ Ensuring Genuine Change and Implementation of Commitments in South Sudan, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ensuring-genuine-change-and-implementation-of-commitments-in-south-sudan>

³³⁶⁰ UN Human Rights Council 43: UK Statement for the Interactive Dialogue with the UN Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-43-uk-statement-for-the-interactive-dialogue-with-the-un-commission-on-human-rights-in-south-sudan>

and the importance of building inclusive and meaningful partnerships to counter-terrorism to bring perpetrators to justice and prevent violent extremism.”³³⁶¹

On 24 April 2020, Ambassador Clay stated that the UK commended the Government of Kosovo’s prosecution of some cases of sexual violence as a war crime and the work of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo in “supporting survivors to share their stories and encouraging the Government of Kosovo to prioritise addressing sexual violence.” The UK reaffirmed its support to provide services to victims of sexual violence using its ‘Be My Voice Campaign’ in Kosovo as an example.³³⁶²

The UK’s initiative in the Democratic Republic of the Congo does consist of an effort to support the social needs of victims as well as to hold those responsible to account. However, the UK did not address the medical and psychological needs of survivors of sexual violence in conflict.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Janine Albadidi

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.

On 25 November 2019, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, delivered a press statement on International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.³³⁶³ Secretary Pompeo reinforced the government’s commitment to protecting the rights of women and girls against sexual and gender-based violence – “for the sake of national security, global prosperity, and the rights and dignity of women and girls worldwide.”³³⁶⁴

On 29 October 2019, Ambassador Cherith Norman Chalet, U.S. Representative for United Nations Management and Reform, delivered remarks at the United Nations Security Council Open Debate on the 10-Year Anniversary of the Sexual Violence and Conflict Mandate.³³⁶⁵ Ambassador Chalet stated that the U.S. government was committed to “preventing conflict-related sexual violence, holding perpetrators accountable, and supporting survivors.” Ambassador Chalet also stated that the United States contributed USD1.7 million in September 2019 to the UN’s Office of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict in support of “treatment and restorative programs for survivors of sexual violence and conflict, and funding for further research.”³³⁶⁶ Ambassador Chalet

³³⁶¹ Countering Terrorism and Extremism in Africa, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/countering-terrorism-and-extremism-in-africa>

³³⁶² Delivering on Health, Safety and Justice in Kosovo, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 24 April 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/delivering-on-health-safety-and-justice-in-kosovo>

³³⁶³ On International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.state.gov/on-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women/?fbclid=IwAR3fGDOS8MhT4XfG5L7opSKUQJh_mXT5FgOVE1JVvIKtN8IBFT-0hY5YUog

³³⁶⁴ On International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. https://www.state.gov/on-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women/?fbclid=IwAR3fGDOS8MhT4XfG5L7opSKUQJh_mXT5FgOVE1JVvIKtN8IBFT-0hY5YUog

³³⁶⁵ Remarks at UN Security Council Open Debate on the 10 Year Anniversary of the Sexual Violence in Conflict Mandate, United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-open-debate-on-the-10-year-anniversary-of-the-sexual-violence-in-conflict-mandate/>

³³⁶⁶ Remarks at UN Security Council Open Debate on the 10 Year Anniversary of the Sexual Violence in Conflict Mandate, United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-open-debate-on-the-10-year-anniversary-of-the-sexual-violence-in-conflict-mandate/>

reinforced the implementation of U.S. government policies and programs to support sexual violence prevention, including the U.S. Strategy on Women, Peace, and Security announced by President Donald Trump in June of 2019.³³⁶⁷ The strategy acknowledges that women and girls experience distinct and disproportionate atrocities in situations of conflict, and calls for the government to discover the innate causes of sexual violence in order to achieve effective implementation.³³⁶⁸

The United States has promoted ongoing efforts in responding to the needs of the victims of sexual violence in conflict by condemning acts of sexual violence in conflict by contributing to the United Nations' Office of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict. However, it has not made an effort to make perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict responsible.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Margaret de Leon

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims' specific medical, psychological, and social issues while making those responsible accountable.

On 23 September 2019, the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica announced that the European Union will contribute EUR2 million to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.³³⁶⁹

On 29 November 2019, at the United Nations Security Council Open Debate, Towards the Implementation of the Women, Peace, Security agenda, EU Ambassador Mara Marinaki stressed the need for "the urgency of ensuring full access to comprehensive, coordinated and quality services, including sexual and reproductive health care, psychological support, legal counselling" in the context of "sexual and gender-based violence."³³⁷⁰ She also insisted that further action is required to ensure perpetrators are brought to justice, including through the enforcement of a "zero tolerance policy" toward sexual abuse on the part of UN personnel.³³⁷¹

On 3 December 2019, the Nigerien Prime Minister Brigi Rafini announced the beginning of the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative.³³⁷² The EU-UN Spotlight Initiative is to focus on "eliminating all forms of

³³⁶⁷ Remarks at UN Security Council Open Debate on the 10 Year Anniversary of the Sexual Violence in Conflict Mandate, United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-open-debate-on-the-10-year-anniversary-of-the-sexual-violence-in-conflict-mandate/>

³³⁶⁸ Remarks at UN Security Council Open Debate on the 10 Year Anniversary of the Sexual Violence in Conflict Mandate, United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-open-debate-on-the-10-year-anniversary-of-the-sexual-violence-in-conflict-mandate/>

³³⁶⁹ European Union supports survivors of Sexual Violence in conflict, European Commission (Brussels) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_5791.

³³⁷⁰ EU Statement – United Nations Security Council: Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security, European Commission (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/69606/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-united-nations-security-council-open-debate-women-peace-and-security_en

³³⁷¹ EU Statement – United Nations Security Council: Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security, European Commission (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/69606/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-united-nations-security-council-open-debate-women-peace-and-security_en

³³⁷² Niger, the European Union and the United Nations Join Forces to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://wcaro.unfpa.org/en/news/niger-european-union-and-united-nations-join-forces-eliminate-violence-against-women-and-girls>

violence against women and girls, with a focus on ending sexual violence and harmful practices that have a negative impact on women's sexual and reproductive health" and "[protecting] the rights of women and girls through a multisectoral approach including education, justice, health."³³⁷³ The EU also intends for the Initiative to "[strengthen] the legal framework to adequately address Gender Based Violence ... and harmful practices." The EU is investing USD17 million in the project.³³⁷⁴

On 19 December 2019, the European Union External Action issued a statement stressing the need for further action regarding the sexual abuse of children in Afghanistan.³³⁷⁵ The EU spokesperson stated that European Union External Action had recently held a policy debate on this topic and currently has a Policy Advisory Project on the subject of "cases of abuses (of minors) inside the armed forces," with particular attention paid to the gender component of the issue.³³⁷⁶

The European Union contributed to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, which addresses the medical, psychological, and social needs of survivors. As well, the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative in Niger includes an effort to make those responsible for sexual violence accountable in the context of an ongoing conflict. Therefore, the EU has taken efforts to address the medical, psychological, and social needs of victims and make those responsible accountable.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Micaela (Mica) Pacheco

³³⁷³ Niger, the European Union and the United Nations Join Forces to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://wcaro.unfpa.org/en/news/niger-european-union-and-united-nations-join-forces-eliminate-violence-against-women-and-girls>

³³⁷⁴ Niger, the European Union and the United Nations Join Forces to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://wcaro.unfpa.org/en/news/niger-european-union-and-united-nations-join-forces-eliminate-violence-against-women-and-girls>

³³⁷⁵ Afghanistan: Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the European Parliament Plenary Session Debate on Violations of Human Rights, European External Action Service (Strasbourg) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72400/afghanistan-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-european-parliament_en

³³⁷⁶ Afghanistan: Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the European Parliament Plenary Session Debate on Violations of Human Rights, European External Action Service (Strasbourg) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72400/afghanistan-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-european-parliament_en

19. Environment: Biodiversity

“Leaders endorsed the G7 Metz Charter on Biodiversity and committed to take swift action on biodiversity, either individually or jointly, in the run up to COP15 [15th Conference of the Parties] of the Convention on Biological Diversity.”

Metz Charter on Biodiversity

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.63 (81%)		

Background

Biodiversity loss is amongst the most serious risks facing the globe today due to land-use change, over-exploitation of natural resources, pollution, invasive alien species and climate change. Between 2010 and 2015, natural forests declined by 6.5 million hectares per year, and natural wetlands declined by 35 per cent between 1970 and 2015.³³⁷⁷ In addition, over 30 per cent of corals are now at risk from bleaching, and 60 per cent of vertebrate populations have disappeared since 1970.³³⁷⁸ The Germany Presidency in 2007 elevated biodiversity on the G8 agenda through the Potsdam Initiative – Biological Diversity 2010, which outlined specific activities concerning science, industry, trade, funding and marine protection to reduce significantly the loss of biodiversity to 2010. This initiative developed and implemented national targets and strategies to achieve the 2010 target and beyond.³³⁷⁹

In 2008 the Japanese G8 Presidency ensured, through its Kobe Call for Action, that biodiversity remained high on the political agenda. Building on this, G8 Environment Ministers released the Carta di Siracusa on Biodiversity during their meeting in Sicily in 2009, which pledged to consider investments in green infrastructure and highlighted the initial elements for a post-2010 biodiversity target.³³⁸⁰

In May 2019, G7 members acknowledged the importance of biodiversity in “playing a vital role in maintaining life-sustaining systems” and released the Metz Charter on Biodiversity, building upon previous initiatives, including the outcomes of 14th Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Sharm El Sheik in 2018 and the Sharm El Sheik Declaration. It

³³⁷⁷ Biodiversity: Finance and the Economic and Business Case for Action, OECD (2019), Report prepared for the G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting, 5-6May 2019. Access Date: 24 November 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/environment/resources/biodiversity/G7-report-Biodiversity-Finance-and-the-Economic-and-Business-Case-for-Action.pdf>

³³⁷⁸ Biodiversity: Finance and the Economic and Business Case for Action, OECD (2019), Report prepared for the G7 Environment Ministers’ Meeting, 5-6May 2019. Access Date: 24 November 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/environment/resources/biodiversity/G7-report-Biodiversity-Finance-and-the-Economic-and-Business-Case-for-Action.pdf>

³³⁷⁹ Potsdam Initiative – Biological Diversity 2010, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety, Government of Germany, March 2007. Access Date: 24 November 2019. https://www.bmu.de/fileadmin/bmu-import/files/english/pdf/application/pdf/potsdam_initiative_en.pdf

³³⁸⁰ A boost for biodiversity from the G8, International Union for Conservation for Nature, 27 April 2009. Access Date: 24 November 2019. <https://www.iucn.org/content/boost-biodiversity-g8>

noted that most of the CBD's Aichi Biodiversity Targets were not on track to be achieved by 2020, and would jeopardize the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and the UN 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals, emphasizing that urgent action was required.³³⁸¹

Commitment Feature

The Metz Charter is a broad document that incorporates a number of aspects linked to pressures on biodiversity. This includes habitat change, deforestation and forest degradation, the spread of invasive alien species, terrestrial and marine pollution (including by microplastics and nutrients), over exploitation of natural resources (including overfishing, illegal logging, poaching and illegal trade in wildlife) and climate change.³³⁸² Given this, there are numerous policies and actions related to the above that can be counted toward compliance for this commitment such as efforts at reforestation and habitat protection. Actions can also be within the scope of the Paris climate agreement to address climate mitigation and resilience, the G7 Oceans Plastics Charter to address marine litter or any others seen to address biodiversity loss through nature or science-based solutions, governance and law enforcement, planning, conservation policies, ecosystem-based management and knowledge development and sharing.³³⁸³

Swift implementation denotes actions and tools that are implemented in an ambitious manner that are in line with 2030 Agenda and take into account the speed and scale of biodiversity loss, climate change, natural disasters and threats to the ecosystem. These actions can be taken in partnership with other countries and stakeholders or individually in order to be considered compliant.³³⁸⁴ Actions that count toward compliance can be a policy framework, or a policy working group aimed at biodiversity policy implementation. Individual or joint financial, or policy implementation efforts to take swift action to enhance, or improve current biodiversity strategies, policies, action plans and research programs. Financial allocation, and fiscal policy action is also able to count toward compliance. For compliance efforts toward policies that offer co-benefits to other global challenges are included, such as those regarding climate change, ecosystem protection and disaster risk reduction.

To achieve a score of +1 or full compliance, G7 members must take action in three main areas. The first is to take efforts to strengthen and improve current biodiversity strategies. The second is to take efforts to address the main pressures of biodiversity. The final area is to take efforts that offer co-benefits to another global challenge, such as climate change, ecosystem degradation and natural disasters.

To achieve a score of 0, or partial compliance, G7 members must take action toward two of the three aforementioned areas of strengthening and improving current biodiversity strategies, taking efforts to address the main pressures of biodiversity, and taking efforts that offer co-benefits to another global challenge, such as climate change, ecosystem degradation and natural disasters

A score of -1 or non-compliance will be assigned to a G7 member who takes action in one of the three aforementioned areas. A score of non-compliance will also be assigned if a G7 member fails to take any action toward any of the three aforementioned areas.

³³⁸¹ Metz Charter on Biodiversity, 6 May 2019. Access Date: 14 October 2019. https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/2019.05.06_EN_Biodiversity_Charter.pdf

³³⁸² Metz Charter on Biodiversity, 6 May 2019. Access Date: 14 October 2019. https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/2019.05.06_EN_Biodiversity_Charter.pdf

³³⁸³ Metz Charter on Biodiversity, 6 May 2019. Access Date: 14 October 2019. https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/2019.05.06_EN_Biodiversity_Charter.pdf

³³⁸⁴ Metz Charter on Biodiversity, 6 May 2019. Access Date: 14 October 2019. https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/2019.05.06_EN_Biodiversity_Charter.pdf

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member has taken action in only one of the three components of strengthening and improving current biodiversity strategies, addressing the main pressures of biodiversity offering co-benefits to another global challenge.
0	G7 member has taken action in two of the three components of strengthening and improving current biodiversity strategies, addressing the main pressures of biodiversity offering co-benefits to another global challenge.
+1	G7 member has taken action in all three components of strengthening and improving current biodiversity strategies, addressing the main pressures of biodiversity offering co-benefits to another global challenge.

Compliance Director: Laila Kanji
Lead Analyst: Vibhor Rohatgi

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to take swift action on biodiversity in the run-up to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

On 4 September 2019, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna announced CAD3 million in funding for the Centre de Traitement de la Biomasse de la Montérégie Inc.³³⁸⁵ The funding will enable the company to implement new equipment to transform waste into biofertilizer and renewable energy.³³⁸⁶ The funding comes from the Government of Canada's Low Carbon Economy Fund which supports projects that contribute to generate jobs, fuel clean growth and reduce emissions in Canada and is part of Canada's Climate Action Plan.³³⁸⁷

In October 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau committed to plant two billion trees and reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.³³⁸⁸ To attain and measure progress toward the latter, Prime Minister Trudeau said that his government would enact five-year targets.³³⁸⁹

From December 2 to 13, at COP25 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Jonathan Wilkinson announced CAD5 million to support World Bank's Partnership for Market Implementation.³³⁹⁰ This funding will

³³⁸⁵ News Release: Government of Canada supports climate action by the Centre de Traitement de la Biomasse de la Montérégie Inc, Government of Canada (Saint-Pie) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/09/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-the-centre-de-traitement-de-la-biomasse-de-la-monteregie-inc.html>.

³³⁸⁶ News Release: Government of Canada supports climate action by the Centre de Traitement de la Biomasse de la Montérégie Inc, Government of Canada (Saint-Pie) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/09/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-the-centre-de-traitement-de-la-biomasse-de-la-monteregie-inc.html>.

³³⁸⁷ News Release: Government of Canada supports climate action by the Centre de Traitement de la Biomasse de la Montérégie Inc, Government of Canada (Saint-Pie) 4 September 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/09/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-the-centre-de-traitement-de-la-biomasse-de-la-monteregie-inc.html>

³³⁸⁸ The Carbon Brief Profile: Canada, The Carbon Brief (London) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.carbonbrief.org/the-carbon-brief-profile-canada>

³³⁸⁹ The Carbon Brief Profile: Canada, The Carbon Brief (London) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.carbonbrief.org/the-carbon-brief-profile-canada>

³³⁹⁰ News Release: Canada announces support for new carbon-pricing initiative at COP25, Government of Canada (Madrid) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-announces-support-for-new-carbon-pricing-initiative-at-cop25.html>

support developing countries in the development and implementation of carbon pricing tools.³³⁹¹ This funding is part of Canada's CAD2.65 billion commitment to help developing countries adapt to climate change.³³⁹²

On 10 December 2019, at COP25, Minister Wilkinson welcomed six new members to the Powering Past Coal Alliance, including governments from the Philippine Province of Ilocos Norte, Greece and New Taipei City, and financial-sector actors.³³⁹³ The Powering Past Coal Alliance aims to encourage the phase out of traditional coal power.³³⁹⁴

On 11 December 2019, at COP25, Minister Wilkinson welcomed the newest endorsees of the Ocean's Plastic Charter Chile, Finland, Rwanda, and Sitra, the Finnish Innovation Fund.³³⁹⁵ The Plastics Charter brings together businesses, civil society organizations, and governments who are committed to take action against plastic pollution.³³⁹⁶

On 16 December 2019, the Government of Canada announced funding of CAD1.4 million to support efforts to safeguard the threatened Eastern Hemlock forests in the Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site.³³⁹⁷

On 20 December 2019, Minister Wilkinson, in collaboration with Natural Resources Minister Seamus O'Regan, announced plans for a strategic assessment process for new thermal coal mine projects under the Impact Assessment Act.³³⁹⁸

In January 2020, Canada has protected approximately 12 percent of inland waters and terrestrial areas has exceeded the target of protecting 10 percent of coastal and marine areas.³³⁹⁹ Thus, Canada is close to fulfilling Target 1 of the 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets set in 2015 in response to the

³³⁹¹ News Release: Canada announces support for new carbon-pricing initiative at COP25, Government of Canada (Madrid) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-announces-support-for-new-carbon-pricing-initiative-at-cop25.html>

³³⁹² News Release: Canada announces support for new carbon-pricing initiative at COP25, Government of Canada (Madrid) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-announces-support-for-new-carbon-pricing-initiative-at-cop25.html>

³³⁹³ News Release: Canada welcomes new members to the Powering Past Coal Alliance at COP25, Government of Canada (Madrid) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-welcomes-new-members-to-the-powering-past-coal-alliance-at-cop25.html>

³³⁹⁴ News Release: Canada welcomes new members to the Powering Past Coal Alliance at COP25, Government of Canada (Madrid) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-welcomes-new-members-to-the-powering-past-coal-alliance-at-cop25.html>

³³⁹⁵ News Release: Canada spearheads global action to reduce plastic pollution at COP25, Government of Canada (Madrid) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-spearheads-global-action-to-reduce-plastic-pollution-at-cop25.html>

³³⁹⁶ News Release: Canada spearheads global action to reduce plastic pollution at COP25, Government of Canada (Madrid) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-spearheads-global-action-to-reduce-plastic-pollution-at-cop25.html>

³³⁹⁷ News Release: Government of Canada invests to protect Eastern Hemlock forests in Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site, Government of Canada (Maitland Bridge) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/parks-canada/news/2019/12/government-of-canada-invests-to-protect-eastern-hemlock-forests-in-kejimikujik-national-park-and-national-historic-site.html>

³³⁹⁸ News Release: Canada launches strategic assessment of thermal coal mining, Government of Canada (Gatineau) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/12/canada-launches-strategic-assessment-of-thermal-coal-mining.html>

³³⁹⁹ Meeting Canada's 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets, National Environmental Treasure (Ottawa) n.d. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.oursafetynet.org/2020/01/27/meeting-canadas-biodiversity-goals-and-targets/>

Aichi Biodiversity Targets and United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.³⁴⁰⁰

On 18 January 2020, the Government of Canada announced an investment of CAD16.1 million to enable the Purcell Mountain Range to become a protected area by 2022-2023.³⁴⁰¹ The funding is part of the Government of Canada's Canada Nature Fund that supports Indigenous organizations, not for profits, territories and provinces that are protecting Canada's landscapes, ecosystems and biodiversity such as Species at Risk.³⁴⁰²

On 20 January 2020, Minister Wilkinson announced a funding of CAD100,000 for Assiniboine Park Conservancy and CAD100,000 for Eco-West Canada.³⁴⁰³ The funding will enable youth to raise develop skills and raise awareness of climate change and will allow small and medium sized enterprises to support communities in developing climate action plans.³⁴⁰⁴ The funding is part of the Government of Canada's Climate Action Fund which annually provides up to CAD3 million to fund climate action and climate awareness projects by youth, students, indigenous peoples and organizations, small and medium sized-organizations and not for profits.³⁴⁰⁵

On 10 February 2020, Minister Wilkinson announced CAD200,000 to finance the inception of the FutureXChange program that supports 15 young Canadians to develop climate projects featuring climate policy and Indigenous Traditional Knowledge.³⁴⁰⁶ The funding is part of the Government of Canada's Climate Action Fund to the Youth Climate Lab.³⁴⁰⁷

On 11 February 2020, Minister Wilkinson announced funding of up to CAD6 million that will finance the development of a composting centre in the City of Peterborough.³⁴⁰⁸ The composting

³⁴⁰⁰ 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada, biodivcanada (Ottawa) n.d. Access Date: 16 April 2020.

<https://biodivcanada.chm-cbd.net/2020-biodiversity-goals-and-targets-canada>

³⁴⁰¹ News Release: BC's Central Purcell Mountains part of Canada's largest investment in nature in Canadian history, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 January 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/01/bcs-central-purcell-mountains-part-of-canadas-largest-investment-in-nature-in-canadian-history.html>

³⁴⁰² Canada Nature Fund, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/nature-legacy/fund.html>

³⁴⁰³ News Release: New Climate Action Funding Announced for Youth and Businesses in Manitoba, Government of Canada (Winnipeg) 20 January 2020. Access date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/01/new-climate-action-funding-announced-for-youth-and-businesses-in-manitoba.html>

³⁴⁰⁴ News Release: New Climate Action Funding Announced for Youth and Businesses in Manitoba, Government of Canada (Winnipeg) 20 January 2020. Access date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/01/new-climate-action-funding-announced-for-youth-and-businesses-in-manitoba.html>

³⁴⁰⁵ News Release: New Climate Action Funding Announced for Youth and Businesses in Manitoba, Government of Canada (Winnipeg) 20 January 2020. Access date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/01/new-climate-action-funding-announced-for-youth-and-businesses-in-manitoba.html>

³⁴⁰⁶ News Release: Government of Canada Announces Support for Youth Climate Lab, Government of Canada (Vancouver) 10 February 2020. Access date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-youth-climate-lab.html>

³⁴⁰⁷ News Release: Government of Canada Announces Support for Youth Climate Lab, Government of Canada (Vancouver) 10 February 2020. Access date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-youth-climate-lab.html>

³⁴⁰⁸ News Release: Government of Canada announces support for the City of Peterborough's Climate Action Initiatives, Government of Canada (Peterborough) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-the-city-of-peterboroughs-climate-action-initiatives.html>

centre will divert 32,000 tonnes of organic debris and create jobs in the city.³⁴⁰⁹ The funding is part of Government of Canada's Low Carbon Economy Fund.³⁴¹⁰

On 18 February 2020, Minister Wilkinson announced funding of CAD250,000 that will enable the Assembly of First Nations Yukon Region convene a meeting to raise awareness among and empower First Nations to lead climate action efforts in Yukon.³⁴¹¹ The funding is part of the Climate Action Fund.³⁴¹²

On 20 February 2020, Minister Wilkinson and Prince Edward Island's Minister of Environment, Water and Climate Change Brad Trivers announced an investment of CAD1.4 million to conserve the 4400 hectares of forests, wetlands and other important habitat, expand protected areas and create more conservation areas in Prince Edward Island.³⁴¹³ Notably, the funding will go toward protecting the province's old-growth forest that is home to many species at risk such as rusty blackbird and Canada warbler.³⁴¹⁴ The funding is part of the Government of Canada's Canada Nature Fund.³⁴¹⁵

On 21 February 2020, Minister Wilkinson announced signed two agreements with the province of British Columbia and the West Moberly and Saulteau First Nations that will enables measures such as recreational management, habitat restoration and protection, and maternal penning to be implemented to recover and stabilize populations of the Southern Mountain Caribou.³⁴¹⁶ The

³⁴⁰⁹ News Release: Government of Canada announces support for the City of Peterborough's Climate Action Initiatives, Government of Canada (Peterborough) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-the-city-of-peterboroughs-climate-action-initiatives.html>

³⁴¹⁰ News Release: Government of Canada announces support for the City of Peterborough's Climate Action Initiatives, Government of Canada (Peterborough) 11 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-the-city-of-peterboroughs-climate-action-initiatives.html>

³⁴¹¹ News Release: Government of Canada supports climate action by the Assembly of First Nations Yukon Region, Government of Canada (Whitehorse) 18 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-the-assembly-of-first-nations-yukon-region.html>

³⁴¹² News Release: Government of Canada supports climate action by the Assembly of First Nations Yukon Region, Government of Canada (Whitehorse) 18 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-the-assembly-of-first-nations-yukon-region.html>

³⁴¹³ News Release: The Government of Canada invests in protected areas in Prince Edward Island, Government of Canada (Charlottetown) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/the-government-of-canada-invests-in-protected-areas-in-prince-edward-island.html>

³⁴¹⁴ News Release: The Government of Canada invests in protected areas in Prince Edward Island, Government of Canada (Charlottetown) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/the-government-of-canada-invests-in-protected-areas-in-prince-edward-island.html>

³⁴¹⁵ News Release: The Government of Canada invests in protected areas in Prince Edward Island, Government of Canada (Charlottetown) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/the-government-of-canada-invests-in-protected-areas-in-prince-edward-island.html>

³⁴¹⁶ News Release: New conservation agreements signed to protect Southern Mountain Caribou in British Columbia, Government of Canada (Vancouver) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/new-conservation-agreements-signed-to-protect-southern-mountain-caribou-in-british-columbia.html>

agreements are part of Section 11 of the Species at Risk Act and establish cooperation between Canada and British Columbia to recover the Southern Mountain Caribou.³⁴¹⁷

On 21 February 2020, the Minister of Health Patty Hajdu, on behalf of the Minister Wilkinson, announced CAD100,000 in funding to enable 2900 students to attend events and participate in school programs that increase understanding and awareness of climate change.³⁴¹⁸ The funding is part of the Government of Canada's Climate Action Fund to Science North.³⁴¹⁹

On 4 March 2020, Member of Parliament (MP) for Windsor-Tecumseh Irek Kusmierczyk, on behalf of the Minister Wilkinson, announced funding of CAD125,000 to enable University of Windsor law students to organize two conferences in which members of the community and youth will learn legal features of climate change mitigation in municipalities.³⁴²⁰ The funding is part of the Government of Canada's Climate Action Fund.³⁴²¹

On 4 March 2020, MP for Saint John-Rochester Wayne Long, on behalf of Minister Wilkinson, announced an investment of CAD4 million that will fund the development of a heating and cooling system that uses renewable energy in a commercial complex in Saint John and enable energy retrofits to take place in 50 municipal buildings.³⁴²² The funding is part of the Government of Canada's Low Carbon Economy Fund.³⁴²³

On 4 March 2020, Minister Wilkinson announced funding of up to CAD2.3 million that will enable the expansion of a biomass heating system to two additional buildings.³⁴²⁴ The funding is part of the Government of Canada's Low Carbon Economy Fund.³⁴²⁵

³⁴¹⁷ News Release: New conservation agreements signed to protect Southern Mountain Caribou in British Columbia, Government of Canada (Vancouver) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/new-conservation-agreements-signed-to-protect-southern-mountain-caribou-in-british-columbia.html>

³⁴¹⁸ News Release: New Climate Action Funding Announced for Science North, Government of Canada (Thunder Bay) 21 February 2020. Access date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/new-climate-action-funding-announced-for-science-north.html>

³⁴¹⁹ News Release: New Climate Action Funding Announced for Science North, Government of Canada (Thunder Bay) 21 February 2020. Access date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/02/new-climate-action-funding-announced-for-science-north.html>

³⁴²⁰ News Release: New climate action funding announced for Windsor law students, Government of Canada (Windsor) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/03/new-climate-action-funding-announced-for-windsor-law-students.html>

³⁴²¹ News Release: New climate action funding announced for Windsor law students, Government of Canada (Windsor) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/03/new-climate-action-funding-announced-for-windsor-law-students.html>

³⁴²² News Release: Government of Canada announces support for the City of Saint John and Saint John Energy's Climate Change Initiatives, Government of Canada (Saint John) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-the-city-of-saint-john-and-saint-john-energys-climate-change-initiatives.html>

³⁴²³ News Release: Government of Canada announces support for the City of Saint John and Saint John Energy's Climate Change Initiatives, Government of Canada (Saint John) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-announces-support-for-the-city-of-saint-john-and-saint-john-energys-climate-change-initiatives.html>

³⁴²⁴ News Release: Government of Canada supports climate action by the Government of Yukon, Government of Canada (Whitehorse) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-the-government-of-yukon.html>

³⁴²⁵ News Release: Government of Canada supports climate action by the Government of Yukon, Government of Canada (Whitehorse) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-supports-climate-action-by-the-government-of-yukon.html>

On 6 March 2020, the Government of Canada announced an investment of CAD2 million to enable the Tłıchǫ Government to establish more than 22,000 km² of conservation land between Great Slave Lake and Great Bear Lake in the Northwest Territories that is home to 16 species at risk including boreal caribou.³⁴²⁶ The funding is part of the Government of Canada's Canada Nature Fund that supports Indigenous organizations, not for profits, territories and provinces that are protecting Canada's landscapes, ecosystems and biodiversity such as Species at Risk.³⁴²⁷

On 11 May 2020, the Government of Canada announced the Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility (LEEFF) to provide loans to employers with annual revenues of more than CAD300 million to enable them to pay employees through the pandemic.³⁴²⁸ In order to qualify for this program, companies need to disclose sustainability goals and climate action plans.³⁴²⁹

Canada has strengthened and improved current biodiversity strategies through efforts to safeguard the threatened Eastern Hemlock forests in the Kejimikujik National Park and has taken efforts to address the main pressures of biodiversity through the Oceans Plastic Charter and Canada Nature Fund. Canada has also taken efforts that offer co-benefits to the global challenge of climate change through, for instance, proposing targets for net-zero emissions by 2050, announcing federal funding for World Bank's Partnership for Market Implementation, and supporting projects through the Climate Action Fund.

Thus, Canada has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Mavis Han

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to take swift action on biodiversity in the run-up to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties [COP] to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

On 1 October 2019, France's Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Frédérique Vidal, and the German Minister of Education and Research, Anja Karliczek, announced the French-German version of the "Make our Planet Great Again" initiative at Musée du Quai Branly – Jacques Chirac.³⁴³⁰ The initiative enables researchers, entrepreneurs and members of civil society to cooperate and combat systemic challenges related to climate change.³⁴³¹

On 2-5 December 2019, at the 21st COP to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), France joined the European Union and 20 Mediterranean Coastal States to commit to making the Mediterranean

³⁴²⁶ News Release: Government of Canada Partners with Tłıchǫ First Nation to Protect Culturally Important Land in the Northwest Territories, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 March 2020. Access date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2020/03/government-of-canada-partners-with-tcho-first-nation-to-protect-culturally-important-land-in-the-northwest-territories.html>

³⁴²⁷ Canada Nature Fund, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 February 2020. Access Date: 16 April 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/nature-legacy/fund.html>

³⁴²⁸ Federal government offers bridge loans — not 'bailouts' — for big businesses hit by COVID-19, CBC (Toronto) 11 May 2020. Access Date: 30 May 2020. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/bridge-financing-big-business-1.5564218>

³⁴²⁹ Federal government offers bridge loans — not 'bailouts' — for big businesses hit by COVID-19, CBC (Toronto) 11 May 2020. Access Date: 30 May 2020. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/bridge-financing-big-business-1.5564218>

³⁴³⁰ Climate: new international projects, the Government of France (Paris) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/climate-new-international-projects>

³⁴³¹ Climate: new international projects, the Government of France (Paris) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/climate-new-international-projects>

Sea an Emission Control Area Zone.³⁴³² Under this commitment, the Government of France will only allow ships in the Mediterranean to use fuel with 0.1 per cent sulphur and will develop ports that use electricity and alternative fuels.³⁴³³

On 2-5 December 2019, at COP21, signatories, including France, adopted new and updated strategies for the protection of monk seal, rays, and sharks in the Mediterranean.³⁴³⁴ The signatories also established “Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI)” in France, Italy, Spain, and Slovenia.³⁴³⁵ The SPAMI sites also include a corridor for the movement of Cetaceans.³⁴³⁶

On 19 December 2019, the ministers of agriculture of France, Germany and Spain issued a joint statement regarding the critical role of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in the context of the European Green Deal.³⁴³⁷ The joint statement made a reference to the deteriorating biodiversity in Europe and in response urged for the creation of a fixed minimum threshold for areas of ecological interest (GAEC 9).³⁴³⁸ The CAP is the EU’s partnership between society and farmers in Europe and supports agriculture, livelihoods of farmers and promotes sustainable farming.³⁴³⁹

On 20 January 2020, the Government of France opened public consultations for the National Low-Carbon Strategy (SNBC) and the Multiannual Energy Programme (PPE), which are France’s strategic plan for achieving the country’s carbon neutrality goal by 2050 and France’s trajectory of energy usage and consumption for the next decade, respectively.³⁴⁴⁰ The draft SNBC and PPE have incorporated newest developments into their policy framework, notably including the adoption of the Energy-Climate Act in September 2019 and the Anti-Waste Act on 8 January 2020.³⁴⁴¹ The SNBC and PPE

³⁴³² France welcomes the commitment of all Mediterranean countries to ensure low pollution from ships in the Mediterranean, the Government of France (Paris) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/france-welcomes-the-commitment-of-all-mediterranean-countries-to-ensure-low-pollution-from-ships>.

³⁴³³ France welcomes the commitment of all Mediterranean countries to ensure low pollution from ships in the Mediterranean, the Government of France (Paris) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/france-welcomes-the-commitment-of-all-mediterranean-countries-to-ensure-low-pollution-from-ships>.

³⁴³⁴ Barcelona Convention - COP21 (Naples, 2-5 December 2019), United Nations Environment Programme (Naples) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <http://web.unep.org/unepmap/barcelona-convention-cop21-naples-2-5-december-2019>.

³⁴³⁵ Barcelona Convention - COP21 (Naples, 2-5 December 2019), United Nations Environment Programme (Naples) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <http://web.unep.org/unepmap/barcelona-convention-cop21-naples-2-5-december-2019>

³⁴³⁶ Barcelona Convention - COP21 (Naples, 2-5 December 2019), United Nations Environment Programme (Naples) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <http://web.unep.org/unepmap/barcelona-convention-cop21-naples-2-5-december-2019>

³⁴³⁷ Future CAP in the context of the European Green Deal, Government of France (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/future-cap-in-the-context-of-the-european-green-deal>

³⁴³⁸ Future CAP in the context of the European Green Deal, Government of France (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/future-cap-in-the-context-of-the-european-green-deal>

³⁴³⁹ The common agricultural policy at a glance, European Commission (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/cap-glance_en

³⁴⁴⁰ French Strategy for Energy and the Climate: launch of public consultations, Government of France (Paris) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/french-strategy-for-energy-and-the-climate-launch-of-public-consultations>

³⁴⁴¹ French Strategy for Energy and the Climate: launch of public consultations, Government of France (Paris) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/french-strategy-for-energy-and-the-climate-launch-of-public-consultations>

are part of the French Strategy for Energy and the Climate which was presented in November 2018.³⁴⁴²

On 3 February 2020, the plans to establish a European EV Battery Sector and give rise to a French-German EV battery manufacturing facility were set in motion.³⁴⁴³ The plans will support a low carbon economy, generate high-skilled jobs and revive France's manufacturing sector.³⁴⁴⁴

On 6 March 2020, the Governments of France, Germany, Belgium, Finland, Denmark, Italy, Netherlands, Greece, Lithuania, Latvia, Sweden, Portugal, Spain, and Slovenia, along with non-governmental organizations and companies, signed a European Pact that takes action against plastic waste and promotes a low-plastic and circular economy.³⁴⁴⁵ Notably, the pact includes goals such as increasing the capacity of recycling by 25 per cent by 2025 and ensuring single-use plastics and plastic packaging include at least 30 per cent recycled plastic by 2025.³⁴⁴⁶

On 18 May 2020, the Governments of France and Germany put forward a series of actions intended to support the sustainable recovery of the European Union from the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁴⁴⁷ Among these actions, the two nations propose an increase in the stringency of EU's 2030 emission reduction goals, an expansion of the EU ETS to all sectors of the economy and a minimum carbon price on the EU ETS, a recovery that prioritizes climate and the environment, and important consideration to biodiversity conservation.^{3448,3449}

France has taken efforts to strengthen and improve current biodiversity strategies through COP21 of the Barcelona Convention and has taken efforts to address the main pressures of biodiversity through its commitments to tackle pollution in the Mediterranean, minimize the environmental impact of sporting events through the Charter 15 of eco-responsible commitments, and by the signing of the European Pact on plastic pollution. France has also taken efforts to offer co-benefits to the global challenge of climate change through the "Make Our Planet Green Again" initiative and the French Strategy for Energy and the Climate.

³⁴⁴² French Strategy for Energy and the Climate: launch of public consultations, Government of France (Paris) 20 January 2020. Access Date: 13 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/french-strategy-for-energy-and-the-climate-launch-of-public-consultations>

³⁴⁴³ "Airbus-style consortium" for batteries: ambitious European plans are up and running, Government of France (Paris) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/airbus-style-consortium-for-batteries-ambitious-european-plans-are-up-and-running>

³⁴⁴⁴ "Airbus-style consortium" for batteries: ambitious European plans are up and running, Government of France (Paris) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/airbus-style-consortium-for-batteries-ambitious-european-plans-are-up-and-running>

³⁴⁴⁵ A European Pact to control use of plastic and promote a circular economy, Government of France (Paris) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/a-european-pact-to-control-use-of-plastic-and-promote-a-circular-economy>

³⁴⁴⁶ A European Pact to control use of plastic and promote a circular economy, Government of France (Paris) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/a-european-pact-to-control-use-of-plastic-and-promote-a-circular-economy>

³⁴⁴⁷ France and Germany united for the sustainable recovery of the European Union, Government of France (Paris) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/france-and-germany-united-for-the-sustainable-recovery-of-the-european-union>

³⁴⁴⁸ France and Germany united for the sustainable recovery of the European Union, Government of France (Paris) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/france-and-germany-united-for-the-sustainable-recovery-of-the-european-union>

³⁴⁴⁹ Climate protection at the heart of the Covid-19 post crisis, Government of France (Paris) 22 May 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/climate-protection-at-the-heart-of-the-covid-19-post-crisis>

Thus, France has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Minghan Sun

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to take swift action on biodiversity in the run-up to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties [COP] to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

On 4 September 2019, the German Cabinet adopted the Federal Action Programme for Insect Protection, aiming to reverse the trend of decline in insect biodiversity in Germany in a comprehensive manner.³⁴⁵⁰ The programme defines the government's goals and measures in various fields of action.³⁴⁵¹ Key measures include the investment of EUR100 million annually for the promotion of insect protection, e.g. in the agricultural landscape, and for research on insects, protection and restoration of insect habitats in all landscape areas, revised guidelines for the use of pesticides, enhancement of insect-friendly light sources, as well as promoting the engagement for insects in all areas of the society.³⁴⁵²

In September 2019, the German Cabinet passed the Climate Action Programme 2030, a national strategy that aims to get Germany on track to reach its 2030 target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 55 per cent of the 1990 levels.³⁴⁵³ Notable elements of the Climate Action Programme include a carbon pricing scheme on emissions from the heating and transport sectors, promotion programmes such as subsidies and grants to spur development of energy-efficient technology, increased federal investment in public transport and railways, and the phasing out of coal-fired power stations.³⁴⁵⁴

On 1 October 2019, France's Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Frédérique Vidal, and the German Minister of Education and Research, Anja Karliczek, announced the French-German version of the "Make Our Planet Great Again" initiative at Musée du Quai Branly – Jacques Chirac.³⁴⁵⁵ The initiative enables researchers, entrepreneurs and members of civil society to cooperate and combat systemic challenges related to climate change.³⁴⁵⁶

On 11 November 2019, the Federal Environment Ministry launched a global competition to find ideas for climate action in order to support developing and emerging countries in reducing

³⁴⁵⁰ Information Material Issues by the Federal Government, The Federal Government (translated) (Berlin), 4 September 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/service/gesetzesvorhaben/aktionsprogramm-insektenschutz-1581358>.

³⁴⁵¹ Information Material Issues by the Federal Government, The Federal Government (translated) (Berlin), 4 September 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/service/gesetzesvorhaben/aktionsprogramm-insektenschutz-1581358>.

³⁴⁵² Information Material Issues by the Federal Government, The Federal Government (translated) (Berlin), 4 September 2019. Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/service/gesetzesvorhaben/aktionsprogramm-insektenschutz-1581358>.

³⁴⁵³ Climate Action Programme 2030, Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/issues/climate-action/klimaschutzprogramm-2030-1674080>

³⁴⁵⁴ Climate Action Programme 2030, Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/issues/climate-action/klimaschutzprogramm-2030-1674080>

³⁴⁵⁵ Climate: new international projects, the Government of France (Paris) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/climate-new-international-projects>

³⁴⁵⁶ Climate: new international projects, the Government of France (Paris) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/climate-new-international-projects>

greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to climate change and conserve biodiversity.³⁴⁵⁷ Applications are invited in 13 topic areas, including international forest conservation and a range of topics relating to the conservation of biodiversity. A total of EUR 240 million have been made available from International Climate Initiative (IKI) funds for projects implementing the Paris Agreement and on biological diversity.³⁴⁵⁸

On 13 November 2019, Germany's Bundestag adopted the Gesetzentwurf Direktzahlungen-Durchführungsgesetz, a law on direct payments. This law makes more investment available for climate, environment and animal protection through the EU-Common Agricultural Policy.³⁴⁵⁹

On 15 November 2019, the Climate Action Programme was enshrined into legislation when it passed the vote in the lower house of the German Parliament.³⁴⁶⁰ The decision however was criticized by opposition party members and scientists as not being ambitious enough to allow Germany to achieve its 2030 targets.³⁴⁶¹

On 3 December 2019, the Federal Environment Ministry announced that Germany had been accepted as a member of the International Coral Protection Initiative, and that Germany is committed to the conservation and sustainable use of coral reefs.³⁴⁶²

On 7 December 2019, the Federal Environment Ministry, with the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), launched a support program for local projects that protect the climate and biodiversity, with a focus on supporting small non-profit organisations and initiatives in developing countries.³⁴⁶³ The goal is to select, by 2025, more than 100 small projects through international calls for proposals that will be awarded a grant of up to EUR 100,000 each, provided by the International Climate Initiative.³⁴⁶⁴

On 18 December 2019, the German Cabinet adopted the Federal Government of Germany's Energy Efficiency Strategy 2050 that aims to limit the consumption of energy derived from fossil fuels.³⁴⁶⁵ Specifically, the Strategy aims at reducing primary energy consumption in the industrial sector, creating tax incentives for household energy-saving measures, pursuing a national decarbonisation

³⁴⁵⁷ Launch of international competition on climate action and biological diversity (BMU), 11 November 2019. Access date: 14 June 2020. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/launch-of-international-competition-on-climate-action-and-biological-diversity>.

³⁴⁵⁸ Launch of international competition on climate action and biological diversity (BMU), 11 November 2019. Access date: 14 June 2020. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/launch-of-international-competition-on-climate-action-and-biological-diversity>.

³⁴⁵⁹ Gesetzentwurf Direktzahlungen-Durchführungsgesetz (Bundestag), 13 November 2013. Access date: 14 June 2020. <https://www.bundestag.de/parlament/plenum/abstimmung/abstimmung?id=631>.

³⁴⁶⁰ Germany Passes Climate-Protection Law to Ensure 2030 Goals, the New York Times (New York) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/15/world/europe/germany-climate-law.html>

³⁴⁶¹ Germany Passes Climate-Protection Law to Ensure 2030 Goals, the New York Times (New York) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 31 December 2019. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/15/world/europe/germany-climate-law.html>

³⁴⁶² Bundesumweltministerium unterstützt die Internationale Korallenschutzinitiative (Berlin), 3 December 2019. Access date: 14 June 2020. <https://www.bmu.de/pressemitteilung/bundesumweltministerium-unterstuetzt-die-internationale-korallenschutzinitiative>.

³⁴⁶³ New support programme for local small-scale projects in developing countries (BMU), 7 December 2019. Access date: 14 June 2020. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/new-support-programme-for-local-small-scale-projects-in-developing-countries>.

³⁴⁶⁴ New support programme for local small-scale projects in developing countries (BMU), 7 December 2019. Access date: 14 June 2020. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/new-support-programme-for-local-small-scale-projects-in-developing-countries>.

³⁴⁶⁵ The More Energy-efficient, the More Sustainable, Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/neue-energieeffizienzstrategie-1708646>

programme by investing in clean technology, and managing traffic more efficiently through increased usage of rail and electric vehicles.³⁴⁶⁶

On 19 December 2019, the ministers of agriculture of Germany, France and Spain issued a joint statement regarding the critical role of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in the context of the European Green Deal.³⁴⁶⁷ The joint statement made a reference to the deteriorating biodiversity in Europe and in response urged for the creation of a fixed minimum threshold for areas of ecological interest (GAEC 9).³⁴⁶⁸ The CAP is the EU's partnership between society and farmers in Europe and supports agriculture, livelihoods of farmers and promotes sustainable farming.³⁴⁶⁹

On 15 January 2020, the German Cabinet adopted the National Bioeconomy Strategy, an umbrella strategy that provides a coherent framework for the transition toward a biobased sustainable economic system.³⁴⁷⁰ This model of bioeconomy aimed at spreading the use of biological resources and eco-friendly production procedures to every aspect of the German economy.³⁴⁷¹

On 29 January 2020, the German Cabinet adopted the Act to Reduce and End Coal-Fired Power Generation, the draft legislation which outlined the Coal Commission's goal of completely ending coal-generated power in Germany by 2038.³⁴⁷² The Coal Commission laid out a steady reduction plan distinguishing between an anthracite and lignite phase-out by 2030 and a coal-fired power phase-out by the end of 2038.³⁴⁷³

On 3 February 2020, the plans to establish a European EV Battery Sector and give rise to a French-German EV battery manufacturing facility were set in motion.³⁴⁷⁴ The plans will support a low carbon economy and generate high skilled jobs.³⁴⁷⁵

On 6 March 2020, the Governments of France, Germany, Belgium, Finland, Denmark, Italy, Netherlands, Greece, Lithuania, Latvia, Sweden, Portugal, Spain, and Slovenia, along with non-governmental organizations and companies, signed a European Pact that takes action against plastic

³⁴⁶⁶ The More Energy-efficient, the More Sustainable, Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/neue-energieeffizienzstrategie-1708646>

³⁴⁶⁷ Future CAP in the context of the European Green Deal, Government of France (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/future-cap-in-the-context-of-the-european-green-deal>

³⁴⁶⁸ Future CAP in the context of the European Green Deal, Government of France (Paris) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/future-cap-in-the-context-of-the-european-green-deal>

³⁴⁶⁹ The common agricultural policy at a glance, European Commission (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 17 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/cap-glance_en

³⁴⁷⁰ For An Economy Based On Resource Cycle Management, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/biooekonomie-1712668>

³⁴⁷¹ For An Economy Based On Resource Cycle Management, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/biooekonomie-1712668>

³⁴⁷² Spelling Out the Coal Exit – Germany's Phase-out Plan, Clean Energy Wire (Berlin) 31 January 2020. Access Date: April 15, 2020. <https://www.cleanenergywire.org/factsheets/spelling-out-coal-phase-out-germanys-exit-law-draft>

³⁴⁷³ Ending coal-generated power, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin). Access Date: 15 April 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/kohleausstiegsgesetz-1717014>

³⁴⁷⁴ "Airbus-style consortium" for batteries: ambitious European plans are up and running, Government of France (Paris) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/airbus-style-consortium-for-batteries-ambitious-european-plans-are-up-and-running>

³⁴⁷⁵ "Airbus-style consortium" for batteries: ambitious European plans are up and running, Government of France (Paris) 3 February 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/airbus-style-consortium-for-batteries-ambitious-european-plans-are-up-and-running>

waste and promotes a low-plastic and circular economy.³⁴⁷⁶ Notably, the pact includes goals such as increasing the capacity of recycling by 25 per cent by 2025 and ensuring single-use plastics and plastic packaging include at least 30 per cent recycled plastic by 2025.³⁴⁷⁷

On 13 May 2020, Germany announced it had joined the Global Ocean Alliance, an international initiative to place at least 30 per cent of the world's seas and oceans under marine protection measures by 2030.³⁴⁷⁸

On 18 May 2020, the Governments of France and Germany put forward a series of actions intended to support the sustainable recovery of the European Union from the COVID-19 pandemic.^{3479,3480} Among these actions, the two nations propose an increase in the stringency of EU's 2030 emission reduction goals, an expansion of the EU ETS to all sectors of the economy and a minimum carbon price on the EU ETS, a recovery that prioritizes climate and the environment, and important consideration to biodiversity conservation.^{3481,3482,3483}

On 19 May 2020, the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation released its Natural Nature report which stated that one-third of the biodiversity in Germany is in poor condition, with insect species such as dragonflies, butterflies and beetles declining significantly.³⁴⁸⁴ With the findings of the report, Federal Environment Minister Svenja Schulze wants to pass insect protection legislation in late 2020 that will focus on pesticide use and other agricultural practices.³⁴⁸⁵

Germany has taken efforts that offer co-benefits to the global challenge of climate change through the Act to Reduce and End Coal-Fired Power Generation and Energy Efficiency Strategy 2050, as well as tackle a main pressure to biodiversity through its Climate Action Programme. However, it has not taken any efforts to strengthen and improve current biodiversity strategies.

³⁴⁷⁶ A European Pact to control use of plastic and promote a circular economy, Government of France (Paris) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/a-european-pact-to-control-use-of-plastic-and-promote-a-circular-economy>

³⁴⁷⁷ A European Pact to control use of plastic and promote a circular economy, Government of France (Paris) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/a-european-pact-to-control-use-of-plastic-and-promote-a-circular-economy>

³⁴⁷⁸ Germany joins Global Ocean Alliance for marine protection (BMU), 13 May 2020. Access date: 14 June 2020. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/germany-joins-global-ocean-alliance-for-marine-protection/>

³⁴⁷⁹ France and Germany united for the sustainable recovery of the European Union, Government of France (Paris) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/france-and-germany-united-for-the-sustainable-recovery-of-the-european-union>

³⁴⁸⁰ Emerging stronger from the crisis, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/dt-franz-initiative-1753890>

³⁴⁸¹ France and Germany united for the sustainable recovery of the European Union, Government of France (Paris) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/france-and-germany-united-for-the-sustainable-recovery-of-the-european-union>

³⁴⁸² Climate protection at the heart of the Covid-19 post crisis, Government of France (Paris) 22 May 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/climate-protection-at-the-heart-of-the-covid-19-post-crisis>

³⁴⁸³ Emerging stronger from the crisis, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 18 May 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/dt-franz-initiative-1753890>

³⁴⁸⁴ One-third of animal species in Germany in bad shape, says new government report, Euractiv (Brussels) 19 May 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/one-third-of-animal-species-in-germany-are-in-bad-shape-says-new-government-report/>

³⁴⁸⁵ One-third of animal species in Germany in bad shape, says new government report, Euractiv (Brussels) 19 May 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/one-third-of-animal-species-in-germany-are-in-bad-shape-says-new-government-report/>

Thus, Germany has received a score of 0.

Analyst: Minghan Sun

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to take swift action on biodiversity in the run-up to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties [COP] to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

On 5 November 2019, the Italian Minister of Education Lorenzo Fioramonti announced that, starting in the 2020-2021 school year, Italian students in every grade will learn about climate change and sustainability.³⁴⁸⁶ Each year, teachers at all grade levels will be required to include 33 hours of education about climate change and related topics.³⁴⁸⁷ This policy has made Italy the first country to mandate education on climate change in schools.³⁴⁸⁸

On 2-5 December 2019, at the 21st COP to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), Italy joined the other signatories to the Convention in committing to making the Mediterranean Sea an Emission Control Area) Zone for sulphur oxide.³⁴⁸⁹

On 2-5 December 2019, at COP21 signatories, including Italy, adopted new and updated strategies for the protection of monk seal, rays, and sharks in the Mediterranean.³⁴⁹⁰ The signatories also established “Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI)” in France, Italy, Spain, and Slovenia.³⁴⁹¹ The SPAMI sites also include a corridor for the movement of Cetaceans.³⁴⁹²

On 16 December 2019, the Senate of the Republic of Italy voted on the 2020 Budget Law which includes a EUR 0.45/kg tax on single-use plastic packaging that is produced or imported to Italy.³⁴⁹³ The plastic tax aims to discourage the consumption and production of plastic and is set to be effective will on 1 July 2020.^{3494,3495}

³⁴⁸⁶ Italy Mandates Climate Change Education for All Students, Hunter College New York City Food Policy Center (New York) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.nycfoodpolicy.org/italy-mandates-climate-change-education-for-all-students/>.

³⁴⁸⁷ Italy Mandates Climate Change Education for All Students, Hunter College New York City Food Policy Center (New York) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.nycfoodpolicy.org/italy-mandates-climate-change-education-for-all-students/>.

³⁴⁸⁸ Italy Mandates Climate Change Education for All Students, Hunter College New York City Food Policy Center (New York) 2 December 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.nycfoodpolicy.org/italy-mandates-climate-change-education-for-all-students/>.

³⁴⁸⁹ Barcelona Convention - COP21 (Naples, 2-5 December 2019), United Nations Environment Programme (Naples) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <http://web.unep.org/unepmap/barcelona-convention-cop21-naples-2-5-december-2019>.

³⁴⁹⁰ Barcelona Convention - COP21 (Naples, 2-5 December 2019), United Nations Environment Programme (Naples) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <http://web.unep.org/unepmap/barcelona-convention-cop21-naples-2-5-december-2019>.

³⁴⁹¹ Barcelona Convention - COP21 (Naples, 2-5 December 2019), United Nations Environment Programme (Naples) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <http://web.unep.org/unepmap/barcelona-convention-cop21-naples-2-5-december-2019>.

³⁴⁹² Barcelona Convention - COP21 (Naples, 2-5 December 2019), United Nations Environment Programme (Naples) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 30 December 2019. <http://web.unep.org/unepmap/barcelona-convention-cop21-naples-2-5-december-2019>.

³⁴⁹³ Italy to introduce plastic tax in 2020, ENDS Europe (London) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2020 <https://www.ends europe.com/article/1669495/italy-introduce-plastic-tax-2020>

³⁴⁹⁴ Italy to introduce plastic tax in 2020, ENDS Europe (London) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 13 April 2020 <https://www.ends europe.com/article/1669495/italy-introduce-plastic-tax-2020>

On 9 April, the Government of Italy was one of the original 10 signatories, in addition to Austria, Finland, Denmark, Portugal, Sweden, Spain, Latvia, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands, in a letter that calls for the European Green Deal to be a central aspect of the EU's economic recovery from COVID-19.^{3496,3497}

Italy has taken some actions to strengthen and improve current biodiversity strategies and address the main pressures of biodiversity through the Barcelona Convention but has not taken efforts that offer co-benefits to another global challenge.

Thus, Italy has received a score of 0.

Analyst: Maris Han

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to take swift action on biodiversity in the run-up to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties [COP] to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

On 25 November 2019, Japan announced a contribution of USD1.5 billion to replenish the Green Climate Fund (GCF) over the next four years, at its first high-level pledging conference.^{3498,3499} This funding is part of a wider pledge of USD9.78 billion provided by 27 countries in the first replenishment of the fund.³⁵⁰⁰ The resources from the fund will help developing countries mitigate the impacts of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to global warming.³⁵⁰¹

On 28 November 2019, the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) designed a roadmap to develop a Regional Action Plan on Marine and Coastal Marine Biodiversity in Chiba, Japan.³⁵⁰² The proposed plan will support Japan, China, the Russian Federation, and the Republic of Korea, the NOWPAP Member States, in the conservation and international cooperation of marine

³⁴⁹⁵ Italy to introduce proportional tax on plastic items, EY Global (London) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 14 April 2020. https://www.ey.com/en_gl/tax-alerts/ey-italy-to-introduce-proportional-tax-on-plastic-items

³⁴⁹⁶ Four more EU nations back a green post-coronavirus recovery, Climate Home News (London) 20 April 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2020/04/20/four-eu-nations-back-green-post-coronavirus-recovery/>

³⁴⁹⁷ European Green Deal must be central to a resilient recovery after Covid-19, Climate Home News (London) 9 April 2020. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2020/04/09/european-green-deal-must-central-resilient-recovery-covid-19/>

³⁴⁹⁸ Countries step up ambition: Landmark boost to coffers of the world's largest climate fund, Green Climate Fund (Paris) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/countries-step-up-ambition-landmark-boost-to-coffers-of-the-world-s-largest-climate-fund>

³⁴⁹⁹ First Replenishment of the Green Climate Fund Summary Pledge Table (in millions), Green Climate Fund (Paris) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. https://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/24868/First_replenishment_of_the_Green_Climate_Fund__Summary_pledge_table.pdf/96ea94f9-d8f7-1ce1-198c-3f7fe1f47c30

³⁵⁰⁰ Countries step up ambition: Landmark boost to coffers of the world's largest climate fund, Green Climate Fund (Paris) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/countries-step-up-ambition-landmark-boost-to-coffers-of-the-world-s-largest-climate-fund>

³⁵⁰¹ Countries step up ambition: Landmark boost to coffers of the world's largest climate fund, Green Climate Fund (Paris) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/news/countries-step-up-ambition-landmark-boost-to-coffers-of-the-world-s-largest-climate-fund>

³⁵⁰² Press Release: Designing a roadmap to develop the Regional Action Plan on Marine and Coastal Marine Biodiversity Conservation, Northwest Pacific Action Plan (Chiba) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.unenvironment.org/nowpap/news/press-release/designing-roadmap-develop-regional-action-plan-marine-and-coastal-marine>

biodiversity.³⁵⁰³ It will be ensured that the plan is adopted by the Member States up until the end of 2021, thereby meeting targets of the NOWPAP and Convention of Biological Diversity.³⁵⁰⁴

On 10 December 2019, the NOWPAP announced high priority actions for the future conservation of marine biodiversity that include conserving biological habitats, plankton species, and environmental DNA.³⁵⁰⁵ To enable progress toward these actions, scientists from the NOWPAP member states will develop distribution maps of coastal habitat to determine causes of habitat decline, databases of species and natural ecosystems and tools to monitor coastal habitat.³⁵⁰⁶ Overall, these techniques will help countries meet their marine biodiversity conservation targets, their Aichi Biodiversity Targets and a number of Sustainable Development Goals.³⁵⁰⁷

On 24 January 2020, the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) announced their fourth selection of ten projects for their Financing Programme.³⁵⁰⁸ These projects are based in seven partner countries, including Ethiopia, Viet Nam, Indonesia, Cambodia, Chile, Thailand, and the Philippines and are focused on renewable energy and energy efficiency improvement.³⁵⁰⁹ The JCM was established in 2013 to disseminate Japan's low carbon technologies to developing countries around the world.³⁵¹⁰ Through the JCM, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in partner countries generates credits that Japan can use for the achievement of their own emission reduction targets.³⁵¹¹

On 21 February 2020, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed an official development assistance (ODA) loan agreement with the Government of the Republic of Fiji.³⁵¹² The agreement will provide Fiji with a loan of up to JPY5 billion to support the country's Stand-by Loan

³⁵⁰³ Designing a roadmap to develop the Regional Action Plan on Marine and Coastal Marine Biodiversity Conservation, Northwest Pacific Action Plan (Chiba) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019.

<https://www.unenvironment.org/nowpap/news/press-release/designing-roadmap-develop-regional-action-plan-marine-and-coastal-marine>

³⁵⁰⁴ Designing a roadmap to develop the Regional Action Plan on Marine and Coastal Marine Biodiversity Conservation, Northwest Pacific Action Plan (Chiba) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019.

<https://www.unenvironment.org/nowpap/news/press-release/designing-roadmap-develop-regional-action-plan-marine-and-coastal-marine>

³⁵⁰⁵ High priority activities identified for future marine biodiversity conservation, Northwest Pacific Action Plan (Chiba) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.unenvironment.org/nowpap/news/press-release/high-priority-activities-identified-future-marine-biodiversity-conservation>

³⁵⁰⁶ High priority activities identified for future marine biodiversity conservation, Northwest Pacific Action Plan (Chiba) 10 December 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.unenvironment.org/nowpap/news/press-release/high-priority-activities-identified-future-marine-biodiversity-conservation>

³⁵⁰⁷ High priority activities identified for future marine biodiversity conservation, Northwest Pacific Action Plan (Chiba) 10 December 2019. Date of Access: 20 December 2019. <https://www.unenvironment.org/nowpap/news/press-release/high-priority-activities-identified-future-marine-biodiversity-conservation>

³⁵⁰⁸ Preliminary Selection Result for Financing Programme for JCM Model Projects in FY2019 (4th Selection), The Joint Crediting Mechanism (Osaka) 24 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <http://gec.jp/jcm/kobo/mp200124/>

³⁵⁰⁹ Preliminary Selection Result for Financing Programme for JCM Model Projects in FY2019 (4th Selection), The Joint Crediting Mechanism (Osaka) 24 January 2020. Access Date: 9 April 2020. <http://gec.jp/jcm/kobo/mp200124/>

³⁵¹⁰ Overview of the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM), The Joint Crediting Mechanism (Osaka). Date of Access: 18 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <http://gec.jp/jcm/about/>

³⁵¹¹ Preliminary Selection Result for Financing Programme for JCM Model Projects in FY2019 (1st Selection), The Joint Crediting Mechanism (Osaka) 27 June 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <http://gec.jp/jcm/kobo/mp190405/>

³⁵¹² Press Release: Signing of Japanese ODA Loan with Fiji: Contributing to immediate recovery from natural disasters, together with mainstreaming disaster risk reduction, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo), 21 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200221_11_en.html

for Disaster Recovery and Rehabilitation.³⁵¹³ The loan finance post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation initiatives and support disaster risk reduction policies in Fiji.³⁵¹⁴

On 21 February 2020, the JCM issued credits between Cambodia and Japan for the first time.³⁵¹⁵ The supported project will increase energy efficiency through the installation of ultra-lightweight solar panels at an International School in Cambodia.³⁵¹⁶

On 5 March 2020, the JCM issued credits between Saudi Arabia and Japan for the first time.³⁵¹⁷ The project supported by these credits will help reduce energy consumption in the Chlor-Alkali Production Plant through the installation of a high efficiency electrolyzer.³⁵¹⁸

On 30 March 2020, the Ministry of the Environment (MOEJ) updated their “Practical Guide for Scenario Analysis in line with TCFD [Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures] Recommendations” to support companies in assessing their climate-related opportunities.³⁵¹⁹ This updated guide now includes Key Points of Practice, Practical Examples from twelve companies that the MOEJ supports, and additional materials that can be used for scenario analysis.³⁵²⁰

On 30 March 2020, the Global Warming Prevention Headquarters announced Japan’s Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for the Paris Agreement.³⁵²¹ The NDC includes Japan’s target to reduce emissions by 26 per cent below 2013 levels by 2030.³⁵²² The target is unchanged from the one submitted in 2015 for the Paris Agreement.³⁵²³

³⁵¹³ Press Release: Signing of Japanese ODA Loan with Fiji: Contributing to immediate recovery from natural disasters, together with mainstreaming disaster risk reduction, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo), 21 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200221_11_en.html

³⁵¹⁴ Press Release: Signing of Japanese ODA Loan with Fiji: Contributing to immediate recovery from natural disasters, together with mainstreaming disaster risk reduction, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo), 21 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2019/20200221_11_en.html

³⁵¹⁵ Press Release: 1st issuance of credits from the Joint Crediting Mechanism between Cambodia and Japan, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2438.html>

³⁵¹⁶ Press Release: 1st issuance of credits from the Joint Crediting Mechanism between Cambodia and Japan, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2438.html>

³⁵¹⁷ Press Release: 1st issuance of credits from the Joint Crediting Mechanism between Saudi Arabia and Japan, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2437.html>

³⁵¹⁸ Press Release: 1st issuance of credits from the Joint Crediting Mechanism between Saudi Arabia and Japan, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2437.html>

³⁵¹⁹ Press Release: MOEJ updates "Practical guide for Scenario Analysis in line with TCFD recommendations", Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Tokyo) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2439.html>

³⁵²⁰ Press Release: MOEJ updates "Practical guide for Scenario Analysis in line with TCFD recommendations", Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Tokyo) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 8 April 2020. <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2439.html>

³⁵²¹ Press Release: About the Global Warming Countermeasures Promotion Headquarters of "Japan's NDC (contribution decided by the country)", Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Tokyo) 30 March 2020. Access Date: <https://www.env.go.jp/press/107941.html>

³⁵²² Press Release: About the Global Warming Countermeasures Promotion Headquarters of "Japan's NDC (contribution decided by the country)", Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Tokyo) 30 March 2020. Access Date: <https://www.env.go.jp/press/107941.html>

³⁵²³ Climate Action Tracker Japan: Japan, Climate Action Tracker (Berlin) 22 July 2015. Access Date: 15 April 2020. https://climateactiontracker.org/media/documents/2018/4/CAT_2015-07-22_CountryAssessment_Japan.pdf

On 30 March 2020, JICA signed an ODA loan with the Government of the Republic of the Philippines.³⁵²⁴ The agreement will provide the Philippines up to JPY4.409 billion to support the Metro Manila Priority Bridges Seismic Improvement Project (II).³⁵²⁵ This project will strengthen resilience to and speed-up recovery from large-scale earthquakes in the Metro Manila transportation network, specifically by replacing the Guadalupe and Lambingan bridges with bridges that have improved seismic design specifications.³⁵²⁶

On 31 March 2020, JICA signed ODA loan agreements with the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.³⁵²⁷ The first agreement provides JPY57.061 billion to support the Jakarta Sewerage Development Project that includes the construction of a sewer network and wastewater treatment plant in Jakarta.³⁵²⁸ Among other objectives, this will help conserve the aquatic environment of the city.³⁵²⁹ The second agreement provides JPY7.299 billion to improve urban flood control systems in selected cities in Indonesia to enhance flood disaster prevention.³⁵³⁰

On 31 March 2020, JICA signed a loan agreement with Brazilian pulp and paper manufacture company Klabin S.A.³⁵³¹ The USD72 million will expand Klabin S.A.'s existing factory in Paraná State and promote planned forest management to develop sustainable forest industry in Brazil and strengthen its supply chains.³⁵³² Klabin S.A. supports reforestation and conserves more than 40 per cent of its forests as natural forests.³⁵³³

³⁵²⁴ Press Release: Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreements with the Philippines: Contributing to the reduction of the disaster risk in Metro Manila with Japanese technology, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200403_21.html

³⁵²⁵ Press Release: Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreements with the Philippines: Contributing to the reduction of the disaster risk in Metro Manila with Japanese technology, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200403_21.html

³⁵²⁶ Press Release: Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreements with the Philippines: Contributing to the reduction of the disaster risk in Metro Manila with Japanese technology, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200403_21.html

³⁵²⁷ Press Release: Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreements with Indonesia: Supporting the construction of a large-scale wastewater treatment plant for Jakarta and efforts for flood disaster prevention measures, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo), 1 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200401_21.html

³⁵²⁸ Press Release: Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreements with Indonesia: Supporting the construction of a large-scale wastewater treatment plant for Jakarta and efforts for flood disaster prevention measures, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo), 1 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200401_21.html

³⁵²⁹ Press Release: Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreements with Indonesia: Supporting the construction of a large-scale wastewater treatment plant for Jakarta and efforts for flood disaster prevention measures, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo), 1 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200401_21.html

³⁵³⁰ Press Release: Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreements with Indonesia: Supporting the construction of a large-scale wastewater treatment plant for Jakarta and efforts for flood disaster prevention measures, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo), 1 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200401_21.html

³⁵³¹ Press Release: Signing of loan agreement for sustainable forest industry support project in Brazil (Private Sector Investment and Finance): First co-financing with IDB Invest, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200401_10_en.html

³⁵³² Press Release: Signing of loan agreement for sustainable forest industry support project in Brazil (Private Sector Investment and Finance): First co-financing with IDB Invest, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200401_10_en.html

³⁵³³ Press Release: Signing of loan agreement for sustainable forest industry support project in Brazil (Private Sector Investment and Finance): First co-financing with IDB Invest, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 7 April 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200401_10_en.html

On 24 April 2020, the MOEJ launched a pilot program that aims to increase the number of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that are achieved through the Ministry's projects.³⁵³⁴ In addition to the achievement of SDGs in disaster risk reduction and climate change, the pilot program will ensure projects achieve other socioeconomic SDGs.³⁵³⁵

On 25 May 2020, JICA signed a grant agreement with the Government of Nepal that will provide funding of up to JPY1.17 billion to develop a Digital Elevation Model and Orthophoto in an attempt to mitigate damages from natural disasters in Southern Nepal.³⁵³⁶

Japan has taken efforts to strengthen and improve current biodiversity strategies through the NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine and Coastal Marine Biodiversity. Japan has also taken efforts that offer co-benefits to the global challenges of climate change and disaster risk reduction by, for instance, providing financial support to developing countries through the JCM, funding the GCF, and providing ODA loans through JICA.

Thus, Japan has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Maryam Rehman

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to take swift action on biodiversity in the run-up to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties [COP] to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

On 26 August 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced GBP10 million to help tackle deforestation in the Amazon.³⁵³⁷ As part of a series of announcements, the Prime Minister also announced an increase in UK's contribution to the Green Climate Fund and funding of GBP7 million to protect marine ecosystems around Britain's overseas territories.³⁵³⁸

On 23 September 2019, Prime Minister Johnson launched a GBP220 million fund to save the endangered species as the snow leopard, Sumatran tiger, black rhino and African elephant from extinction.³⁵³⁹ This funding is part of UK's International Biodiversity Fund that will provide financial

³⁵³⁴ Press Release: MOEJ Launches Innovative Pilot Program for Mainstreaming SDGs into its Project Cycle, Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Tokyo) 24 April 2020. Access Date: 29 May 2020.

<https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2444.html>

³⁵³⁵ Press Release: MOEJ Launches Innovative Pilot Program for Mainstreaming SDGs into its Project Cycle, Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan (Tokyo) 24 April 2020. Access Date: 29 May 2020.

<https://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2444.html>

³⁵³⁶ Press Release: Signing of Grant Agreement with Nepal: Providing a Digital Elevation Model and Orthophoto and contributing to the strengthening of disaster resilience, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 25 May 2020. Access Date: May 29 2020. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2020/20200525_31_en.html

³⁵³⁷ Press Release: PM steps up UK efforts to protect the Amazon rainforest, Government of UK (London) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-efforts-to-protect-the-amazon-rainforest>

³⁵³⁸ Press Release: PM steps up UK efforts to protect the Amazon rainforest, Government of UK (London) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-steps-up-uk-efforts-to-protect-the-amazon-rainforest>

³⁵³⁹ Press Release: PM launches new action plan to save the natural world, Government of UK (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-new-action-plan-to-save-the-natural-world>

assistance to projects aimed at strengthening law enforcement and discourage poaching and the consumption of illegally traded products.³⁵⁴⁰

On 24 September 2019, Prime Minister Johnson announced at the United Nations General Assembly that the British scientists will be able to utilize GBP1 billion funding to support the development and testing of new technology targeted at tackling climate change in developing countries.³⁵⁴¹

On 24 September 2019, UK Prime Minister Johnson announced an International Biodiversity Fund.³⁵⁴² This International Biodiversity Fund will support a tripling for Defra's renowned Darwin Initiative, increased funding for work to tackle the illegal wildlife trade, including the illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund, and a new GBP100m Biodiverse Landscapes Fund to tackle the main drivers of biodiversity loss in up to five global biodiversity hotspots.³⁵⁴³ The International Biodiversity Fund also includes a GBP30 million extension to the Forest Governance Markets and Climate Programme to help stop deforestation by tackling illegal logging and helping promote the legal timber trade.³⁵⁴⁴

On 24 September 2019, the Government of UK announced the creation of the Global Ocean Alliance to protect wildlife in the world's ocean.³⁵⁴⁵ This alliance, consisting of 10 countries, seeks to address issues such as warming sea temperatures, plastic pollution and extinction of marine species.³⁵⁴⁶ The Global Ocean Alliance will push for the strengthening of existing globally agreed targets and call for the 30by30 initiative, an initiative that aims to increase the proportion of Marine Protected Areas to increase to 30 per cent of the global ocean by 2030, to be adopted at COP15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity conference and introduced into international law through the High Seas Treaty in 2020.³⁵⁴⁷

On 2 November 2019, the Government of UK announced an investment of GBP315 million as part of the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund (IETF) to support heavy industry reduce carbon emissions through the adoption of energy efficient technology.³⁵⁴⁸

On 4 November 2019, the Government of UK launched the Woodland Carbon Guarantee Scheme to increase tree planting rates in an attempt to boost carbon sequestration.³⁵⁴⁹ As part of this scheme,

³⁵⁴⁰ Press Release: PM launches new action plan to save the natural world, Government of UK (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-launches-new-action-plan-to-save-the-natural-world>

³⁵⁴¹ Press Release: British scientists to help tackle climate change through new £1 billion fund, Government of UK (London) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-scientists-to-help-tackle-climate-change-through-new-1-billion-fund>

³⁵⁴² UK Aid to double efforts to tackle climate change, Relief Web (New York) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/uk-aid-double-efforts-tackle-climate-change>.

³⁵⁴³ UK Aid to double efforts to tackle climate change, Relief Web (New York) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/uk-aid-double-efforts-tackle-climate-change>.

³⁵⁴⁴ UK Aid to double efforts to tackle climate change, Relief Web (New York) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 1 June 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/uk-aid-double-efforts-tackle-climate-change>.

³⁵⁴⁵ Press Release: UK creates global alliance to help protect the world's ocean, Government of UK (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-creates-global-alliance-to-help-protect-the-worlds-ocean>

³⁵⁴⁶ Press Release: UK creates global alliance to help protect the world's ocean, Government of UK (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-creates-global-alliance-to-help-protect-the-worlds-ocean>

³⁵⁴⁷ Press Release: UK creates global alliance to help protect the world's ocean, Government of UK (London) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-creates-global-alliance-to-help-protect-the-worlds-ocean>

³⁵⁴⁸ Press Release: Heavy industry to cut 2 million tonnes of carbon emissions with new tech, Government of UK (London) 2 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/heavy-industry-to-cut-2-million-tonnes-of-carbon-emissions-with-new-tech>

GBP50 million will be used to provide landowners and farmers an incentive to plant more trees and create new woodland.³⁵⁵⁰

On 16 January 2020, the Environment Minister Rebecca Pow announced that the UK government established and extended Special Protection Areas (SPAs) to protect rare and vulnerable seabirds.³⁵⁵¹ The SPAs, to be established in Solent and Middlesbrough, will safeguard seabirds from recreational human activities.³⁵⁵²

On 21 January 2020, Prime Minister Johnson and Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta agreed on a strategic partnership focused on economic prosperity, security, sustainable development and climate change between 2020 and 2025.³⁵⁵³ Both the UK and Kenya are committed to demonstrating global leadership, tackling climate change and environmental issues such as climate finance and biodiversity.³⁵⁵⁴

On 19 February 2020, the Prime Minister Johnson announced GBP220 million International Biodiverse Landscapes Fund at the 2019 UN General Assembly.³⁵⁵⁵ The fund includes an allotment of GBP100 million that will support conservation and restoration projects in five global biodiversity hotspots.³⁵⁵⁶

On 4 March 2020, the Government of the UK invested GBP37 million to develop electric machines in UK's most polluting industries, contributing to the UK's zero-emission goal by 2050.³⁵⁵⁷ GBP30 million will be used to establish research and development centres in Nottingham, Sunderland, Newport, and Strathclyde.³⁵⁵⁸ The remaining funding will enable automotive manufacturers to obtain parts to design the electric machines.³⁵⁵⁹

³⁵⁴⁹ Press Release: Government launches new scheme to boost tree planting, Government of UK (London) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-scheme-to-boost-tree-planting>

³⁵⁵⁰ Press Release: Government launches new scheme to boost tree planting, Government of UK (London) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 12 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-scheme-to-boost-tree-planting>

³⁵⁵¹ Press Release: New protections for thousands of seabirds, Government of UK (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-protections-for-thousands-of-seabirds--2>

³⁵⁵² Press Release: New protections for thousands of seabirds, Government of UK (London) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-protections-for-thousands-of-seabirds--2>

³⁵⁵³ Press Release: UK-Kenya Strategic Partnership 2020 to 2025: joint statement, Government of UK (London) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-kenya-strategic-partnership-2020-2025>

³⁵⁵⁴ Press Release: UK-Kenya Strategic Partnership 2020 to 2025: joint statement, Government of UK (London) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-kenya-strategic-partnership-2020-2025>

³⁵⁵⁵ Press Release: UK Biodiverse landscapes fund 2021-2026, Government of UK (London) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-biodiverse-landscapes-fund-2021-2026>

³⁵⁵⁶ Press Release: UK Biodiverse landscapes fund 2021-2026, Government of UK (London) 19 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-biodiverse-landscapes-fund-2021-2026>

³⁵⁵⁷ Press Release: Government backs cleaner planes, ships and automobile with GBP 37 million boost, Government of UK (London) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-backs-cleaner-planes-ships-and-automobiles-with-37-million-boost>

³⁵⁵⁸ Press Release: Government backs cleaner planes, ships and automobile with GBP 37 million boost, Government of UK (London) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-backs-cleaner-planes-ships-and-automobiles-with-37-million-boost>

³⁵⁵⁹ Press Release: Government backs cleaner planes, ships and automobile with GBP 37 million boost, Government of UK (London) 21 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-backs-cleaner-planes-ships-and-automobiles-with-37-million-boost>

On 20 March 2020, the Government of the UK announced that the UK became the first co-chair of the Governing Council of the Coalition of Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).³⁵⁶⁰ The CDRI is a partnership between private sector organizations, governments, academia, banks and UN agencies and aims to develop climate and disaster resilient infrastructure.³⁵⁶¹

On 21 April 2020, the Government of the UK implemented new import regulations to protect the UK's forestry and horticulture industries from plant pests and diseases such as Emerald Ash Borer, Xylella, and plane tree wilt.³⁵⁶²

On 4 May 2020, the Government of the UK launched a GBP14 million fund to enable licensed zoos and aquariums to continue animal welfare and conservation efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁵⁶³

On 21 May 2020, the Government of the UK launched a GBP40 million Clean Growth Fund to support the development of clean, low-carbon technologies such as biofuels, renewable heating and energy storage systems.³⁵⁶⁴ The funding will support the Government of UK's plan to reach Net Zero emissions by 2050.

On 22 May 2020, the Government of the UK announced GBP3.4 million to fund conservation projects that will tackle jaguar poaching in Bolivia, improve cooperation among enforcement agencies to safeguard elephants, pangolins, and chimpanzees in Nigeria and support enforcement and communities in Indonesia, Guatemala and Nepal.³⁵⁶⁵ The funding is part of the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge (IWT) Fund that supports international projects that tackle illegal wildlife trade.³⁵⁶⁶

The UK has taken efforts to strengthen and improve current biodiversity strategies and address the main pressures of biodiversity through the ban on plastic straws and stirrers, the Global Ocean Alliance, and GBP220 million fund to save the endangered species as the snow leopard, Sumatran tiger, black rhino and African elephant from extinction. The UK has also taken efforts that offer co-benefits to the global challenges of climate change, ecosystem degradation and disaster risk reduction through the Industrial Strategy and IETF, the Urban Tree Challenge, funding of GBP10 million to help tackle deforestation in the Amazon and co-chairing the Coalition of Disaster Risk infrastructure.

³⁵⁶⁰ Press Release: UK becomes co-chair of India-led global climate initiative, Government of UK (London) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-becomes-co-chair-of-india-led-global-climate-initiative>

³⁵⁶¹ Press Release: UK becomes co-chair of India-led global climate initiative, Government of UK (London) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-becomes-co-chair-of-india-led-global-climate-initiative>

³⁵⁶² Press Release: Strict new controls to protect the UK's trees and plants against damaging threats, Government of UK (London) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 31 May 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/strict-new-controls-to-protect-the-uks-trees-and-plants-against-damaging-threats>

³⁵⁶³ Press Release: £14 million financial support for England's zoos unveiled, Government of UK (London) 4 May 2020. Access Date: 31 May 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/14-million-financial-support-for-englands-zoos-unveiled>

³⁵⁶⁴ Press Release: Government launches new £40 million Clean Growth Fund to supercharge green start-ups, Government of UK (London) 21 May 2020. Access Date: 31 May 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-40-million-clean-growth-fund-to-supercharge-green-start-ups>

³⁵⁶⁵ Press Release: Funding boost to crack down on the Illegal Wildlife Trade, Government of UK (London) 22 May 2020. Access Date: 31 May 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-boost-to-crack-down-on-the-illegal-wildlife-trade>

³⁵⁶⁶ Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund, Government of UK (London) 4 August 2015. Access Date: 31 May 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/illegal-wildlife-trade-iwt-challenge-fund>

Thus, UK has received a score of +1.

Analyst: April Mu

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to take swift action on biodiversity in the run-up to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties [COP] to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

On 10 September 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the “Climate Stewardship Act of 2019,” which provided incentives for agricultural producers to carry out climate stewardship practices and to provide for increased reforestation across the United States, among other purposes.³⁵⁶⁷ The bill includes amendments to the “Reforestation Trust Fund” and “Reforest America Grant Program” that demand reforestation practices enhance forest health, resilience, and biodiversity.³⁵⁶⁸

On 19 September 2019, President Donald Trump’s Administration announced a revoke of California’s vehicle emission standards.³⁵⁶⁹ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Andrew Wheeler states that the decision will enable “much-needed regulatory certainty for the automotive industry.”³⁵⁷⁰ California’s vehicle emission standards are considered to be more stringent than those of many other states.³⁵⁷¹

On 22 October 2019, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced habitat and water management measures for the San Francisco Bay Delta, effectively diverting large amounts of water from the Delta for irrigation.³⁵⁷² The Delta is a fragile ecosystem and is home to the Delta Smelt, a threatened species for California Fish.³⁵⁷³

On 4 November 2019, the United States submitted formal notification to the United Nations to begin the withdrawal process from the Paris Agreement.³⁵⁷⁴ The withdrawal will be complete one year after the date of delivery of the notification.³⁵⁷⁵ The notification follows President Trump’s

³⁵⁶⁷ Climate Stewardship of Act, Congress.Gov, 10 September 2019. Access Date: 10 January 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4269/text>

³⁵⁶⁸ Climate Stewardship of Act, Congress.Gov, 10 September 2019. Access Date: 10 January 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4269/text>

³⁵⁶⁹ California vows fightback after Trump voids state’s right to set emissions rule, The Guardian, 19 September 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/sep/19/california-trump-vehicle-emissions-standards-cars>

³⁵⁷⁰ California vows fightback after Trump voids state’s right to set emissions rule, The Guardian, 19 September 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/sep/19/california-trump-vehicle-emissions-standards-cars>

³⁵⁷¹ California vows fightback after Trump voids state’s right to set emissions rule, The Guardian, 19 September 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/sep/19/california-trump-vehicle-emissions-standards-cars>

³⁵⁷² Trump Administration Moves to Lift Protections for Fish and Divert Water to Farms, The New York Times, 22 October 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/22/climate/trump-delta-smelt.html>

³⁵⁷³ Trump Administration Moves to Lift Protections for Fish and Divert Water to Farms, The New York Times, 22 October 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/22/climate/trump-delta-smelt.html>

³⁵⁷⁴ Paris climate accords: US notifies UN of intention to withdraw, BBC News, 5 November 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-50297029>

³⁵⁷⁵ Paris climate accords: US notifies UN of intention to withdraw, BBC News, 5 November 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-50297029>

decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement in June 2017 due to the economic impacts of the Agreement on national businesses.³⁵⁷⁶

On 5 November 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the “Green Climate Fund Authorization Act of 2019” which proposed to authorize appropriations for climate financing, especially in regard to the commitments the United States made to the Green Climate Fund and the Paris climate agreement.³⁵⁷⁷ The act highlights that the Green Climate Fund ensures conservation of biodiversity and critical habitats.³⁵⁷⁸

On 18 November 2019, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation announced the allocation of USD30 million toward grants to support coastal resilience projects that reduce the impact of rising sea levels and extreme weather by strengthening natural ecosystems.³⁵⁷⁹

On 9 December 2019, the NOAA announced the project “Mission: Iconic Reefs,” which provides resources to revitalize the reefs of the Florida Keys and their diverse marine ecosystem.³⁵⁸⁰ The program also specifically allows for the removal of invasive species from the reefs.³⁵⁸¹

On 20 December 2019, President Trump signed into law the “Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020,” which authorized an extensive list of appropriations for government agencies and branches.³⁵⁸² The Act allocated USD315 million for biodiversity conservation programs and detailed that the funds cannot be used to support the expansion of industrial scale extractive activity into tropical forests.³⁵⁸³ The act also allocated USD100 million to combat wildlife poaching and trafficking and sets aside USD151 million for aquatic ecosystem restoration.³⁵⁸⁴

On 6 January 2020, the Senate introduced the “Native Plant Species Pilot Program Act of 2020,” which proposed to establish a pilot program to protect the biodiversity of native plant species in several National Park Service regions.³⁵⁸⁵

³⁵⁷⁶ Paris climate accords: US notifies UN of intention to withdraw, BBC News, 5 November 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-50297029>

³⁵⁷⁷ Green Climate Fund Authorization Act of 2019, Congress.Gov, 5 November 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4986/text?r=46&s=1>

³⁵⁷⁸ Green Climate Fund Authorization Act of 2019, Congress.Gov, 5 November 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4986/text?r=46&s=1>

³⁵⁷⁹ NOAA, NFWF announce \$30million in grants to support coastal resilience efforts across nation, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, 18 November 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/noaa-nfwf-announce-30-million-in-grants-to-support-coastal-resilience-efforts-across>

³⁵⁸⁰ NOAA, partners announce launch groundbreaking Florida Keys coral reef restoration effort, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, 9 December 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://floridakeys.noaa.gov/coral-disease/>

³⁵⁸¹ NOAA, partners announce launch groundbreaking Florida Keys coral reef restoration effort, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, 9 December 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://floridakeys.noaa.gov/coral-disease/>

³⁵⁸² Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, Congress.gov, 20 December 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1865/text>

³⁵⁸³ Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, Congress.gov, 20 December 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1865/text>

³⁵⁸⁴ Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, Congress.gov, 20 December 2019. Access Date: 12 January 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1865/text>

³⁵⁸⁵ Native Plant Species Pilot Program Act of 2020, Congress.Gov, 6 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3150/text>

On 23 January 2020, the Environmental Protection Agency announced the “Navigable Waters Protection Rule,” which cut back federal limits on pollution in wetlands and smaller waterways with the goal of providing new, clear definitions on what bodies of water are under federal control.^{3586, 3587} The rule states that bodies of water which are considered ephemeral, such as waste treatment systems and groundwater, are not subject to federal regulation.^{3588, 3589}

On 12 February 2020, the House of Representatives introduced the “Trillion Trees Act,” which proposed to establish forest management, reforestation, and utilization practices which enable the capture and storage of greenhouse gases in accordance with the United Nations Environment Programme’s Trillion Trees Initiative.³⁵⁹⁰ The act authorizes the prioritization of reforestation or prevention programs in developing regions whose biodiversity would be significantly impacted by deforestation.³⁵⁹¹

On 10 March 2020, the House of Representatives introduced the “Moving Towards a Safe Climate Act,” which proposed a national strategic action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector with the intent to adhere to the commitments of the U.S. under the Paris Agreement.³⁵⁹² The action plan includes measures to promote public and low-carbon transport and the development of clean fuels and transport systems.³⁵⁹³

On 17 March 2020, the NOAA and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation announced the allocation of USD43 million toward grants to support the coastal resilience of local communities and wildlife habitats that faced natural disasters in 2018.³⁵⁹⁴ The funding will support natural infrastructure projects that increase resilience from future disasters.³⁵⁹⁵

On 30 March 2020, the Environmental Protection Agency announced the finalization of the “Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule,” which weakened auto emissions standards for the

³⁵⁸⁶ News Release: EPA and Army Deliver on President Trump’s Promise to Issue the Navigable Waters Protection Rule – A New Definition of WOTUS, Environmental Protection Agency (Pittsburgh) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-deliver-president-trumps-promise-issue-navigable-waters-protection-rule-1>

³⁵⁸⁷ Trump Administration Cuts Back Federal Protections for Streams and Wetlands, NPR, 23 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.npr.org/2020/01/23/798809951/trump-administration-is-rolling-back-obama-era-protections-for-smaller-waterways>

³⁵⁸⁸ Trump Administration Cuts Back Federal Protections for Streams and Wetlands, NPR, 23 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.npr.org/2020/01/23/798809951/trump-administration-is-rolling-back-obama-era-protections-for-smaller-waterways>

³⁵⁸⁹ News Release: EPA and Army Deliver on President Trump’s Promise to Issue the Navigable Waters Protection Rule – A New Definition of WOTUS, Environmental Protection Agency (Pittsburgh) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-and-army-deliver-president-trumps-promise-issue-navigable-waters-protection-rule-1>

³⁵⁹⁰ Trillion Trees Act, Congress.Gov, 12 February 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5859/text>

³⁵⁹¹ Trillion Trees Act, Congress.Gov, 12 February 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5859/text>

³⁵⁹² Moving Towards a Safe Climate Act, Congress.Gov, 10 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6171/text>

³⁵⁹³ Moving Towards a Safe Climate Act, Congress.Gov, 10 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/6171/text>

³⁵⁹⁴ More than \$43 million in coastal resilience grants announced, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, 17 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/more-than-43-million-in-coastal-resilience-grants-announced>

³⁵⁹⁵ More than \$43 million in coastal resilience grants announced, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, 17 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.noaa.gov/media-release/more-than-43-million-in-coastal-resilience-grants-announced>

purpose of making vehicles more affordable for customers.³⁵⁹⁶ Carbon dioxide emissions standards will increase 1.5 per cent per year as opposed to the former increase of 5 per cent per year.³⁵⁹⁷

On 19 May 2020, the Environmental Protection Agency announced a grant of USD1,834,555 to the Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) to reduce flooding and enhance fish and aquatic wildlife habitat at Colonial Park and Venoy Dorsey Park along the Lower Rouge River, Michigan.³⁵⁹⁸ The funding is part of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) that aims to protect and restore the Great Lakes.³⁵⁹⁹

On 21 May 2020, the Environmental Protection Agency issued draft ambient water quality criteria as that states and authorized tribes can use to reduce excess nutrients in lakes and reservoirs and ensure the protection of public health and aquatic biodiversity from algal blooms.³⁶⁰⁰

The US has taken efforts to address the main pressures of biodiversity through the Climate Stewardship Act of 2019 and Mission: Iconic Reefs. The U.S. has also taken efforts that offer co-benefit another challenge such as climate change and disaster risk reduction through the Green Climate Fund Authorization Act of 2019, the Trillion Trees Act, and grants provided by NOAA. However, the U.S. has not strengthened or improved current biodiversity strategies and has also given formal notification of its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, are weakening vehicle emission standards, and threatening fish and other wildlife to increase irrigation for farms in California.

Thus, the United States has received a score of 0.

Analyst: Kiayla Amos-Flom

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to take swift action on biodiversity in the run-up to the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties [COP] to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

On 14 October 2019, the Agrifish Council agreed that six of the ten most commercially important fish stocks in the Baltic sea will be managed through the maximum sustainability yields principle, although the European Commission had initially put forward proposals for reductions in eight stocks.³⁶⁰¹ On the other hand, in the Atlantic and North Sea, limits to fishing quotas that enable the

³⁵⁹⁶ Trump Administration Weakens Auto Emissions Standards, NPR, 31 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.npr.org/2020/03/31/824431240/trump-administration-weakens-auto-emissions-rolling-back-key-climate-policy>

³⁵⁹⁷ Trump Administration Weakens Auto Emissions Standards, NPR, 31 March 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.npr.org/2020/03/31/824431240/trump-administration-weakens-auto-emissions-rolling-back-key-climate-policy>

³⁵⁹⁸ News Release: EPA announces over \$1.8 million for habitat restoration work at Rouge River Area of Concern, Environmental Protection Agency (Detroit) 19 May 2020. Access Date: 29 May 2020. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-over-18-million-habitat-restoration-work-rouge-river-area-concern>

³⁵⁹⁹ About, Great Lakes Restoration, United States Government (Washington), n.d. Access Date: 29 May 2020. <https://www.glri.us/node/256>

³⁶⁰⁰ News Release: EPA Releases Draft Criteria to Help Protect Lakes and Reservoirs, Environmental Protection Agency (Washington) 21 May 2020. Access Date: 29 May 2020. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-releases-draft-criteria-help-protect-lakes-and-reservoirs>

³⁶⁰¹ EU Council follows Commission's Line, Trims Baltic Fishing Quota, Euractiv (Brussels) 15 October 2019. Accessed: 20 December 2019. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/news/eu-council-follows-commissions-line-trims-baltic-fishing-quota/>

EU to meet its pledge to end overfishing by 2020 have not been enacted, with some species' quotas such as Haddock in the North Sea being increased.^{3602,3603}

On 14 November 2019, the European Investment Bank committed to a new strategy for environmental sustainability and climate action.³⁶⁰⁴ This includes EUR1 trillion of investment in climate and environmental action from 2021 to 2030, an increase in the share of financial support to climate action, and alignment of all European Investment Bank financial activities with the goals of the Paris Agreement.³⁶⁰⁵ The bank will also end financial support for fossil fuel energy projects after 2020.³⁶⁰⁶

On 28 November 2019, the European Parliament declared a climate and environmental emergency in the European Union and globally.³⁶⁰⁷ The declaration calls for all future legislative and budgetary proposals to align with objective of limiting global warming to under 1.5°C, to reach climate neutrality by 2050 at the latest and reduce global emissions from shipping and aviation.³⁶⁰⁸

On 2-5 December 2019, at the 21st COP to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), the European Union and 21 Mediterranean Coastal States committed to making the Mediterranean Sea an Emission Control Area Zone for Sulphur Oxides.^{3609,3610}

On 12 December 2019, the European Council endorsed the “European Green Deal,” a broad growth strategy that includes the objective of achieving a climate-neutral European Union by 2050.³⁶¹¹ Significant commitments under the Green Deal include the European “Climate Law” to enshrine the neutrality objective in legislation by March 2020, a plan for an increase in the ambition

³⁶⁰² EU ministers opt to continue overfishing, despite 2020 deadline, The Guardian (London) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/dec/18/eu-ministers-opt-to-continue-overfishing-despite-2020-deadline>

³⁶⁰³ Hagglings begins as EU prepares to set 2020 fishing quotas, The Guardian (London) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/dec/16/eu-2020-fishing-quotas>

³⁶⁰⁴ Press Release: EU Bank launches ambitious new climate strategy and Energy Lending Policy, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg) 14 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-313-eu-bank-launches-ambitious-new-climate-strategy-and-energy-lending-policy>

³⁶⁰⁵ Press Release: EU Bank launches ambitious new climate strategy and Energy Lending Policy, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg) 14 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-313-eu-bank-launches-ambitious-new-climate-strategy-and-energy-lending-policy>

³⁶⁰⁶ Press Release: EU Bank launches ambitious new climate strategy and Energy Lending Policy, European Investment Bank (Kirchberg) 14 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2019-313-eu-bank-launches-ambitious-new-climate-strategy-and-energy-lending-policy>

³⁶⁰⁷ Press Release: The European Parliament declares climate emergency, European Parliament (Brussels) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20191121IPR67110/the-european-parliament-declares-climate-emergency>

³⁶⁰⁸ Press Release: The European Parliament declares climate emergency, European Parliament (Brussels) 28 November 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20191121IPR67110/the-european-parliament-declares-climate-emergency>

³⁶⁰⁹ France welcomes the commitment of all Mediterranean countries to ensure low pollution from ships in the Mediterranean, the Government of France (Paris) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/en/france-welcomes-the-commitment-of-all-mediterranean-countries-to-ensure-low-pollution-from-ships>

³⁶¹⁰ Barcelona Convention – COP21 (Naples, 2-5 December 2019), UN Environment (Nairobi) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2020. <https://web.unep.org/unepmap/barcelona-convention-cop21-naples-2-5-december-2019>

³⁶¹¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the European Green New Deal, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019 https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication_en.pdf

of the European Union's greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, and a EUR100 billion 'Just Transition Mechanism' fund to help countries and sectors dependent on fossil fuels and "carbon-intensive processes" to move to renewable energy sources.³⁶¹² Poland did not commit to the neutrality objective but will have the opportunity to do so in June 2020 once the European Commission has published Climate law.^{3613,3614}

The Green Deal also includes commitments to present a biodiversity strategy for 2030, to be presented in March 2020 in preparation for COP15 of the Convention of Biological Diversity.³⁶¹⁵ The deal also includes a zero-tolerance approach to unreported and illegal fishing, that will be based and new product labelling rules to encourage the consumption of deforestation-free agricultural products.³⁶¹⁶

On 18 December 2019, the European parliament voted for a resolution to strengthen the European Union Pollinators Initiative adopted in 2018 to further protect pollinators from the numerous causes of their decline including industrial farming, habitat loss, pesticide usage and invasive species.³⁶¹⁷ As part of this resolution, the Members of the European Parliament called on the European Commission to introduce EU-wide pesticides reduction targets and more financial support for research on the causes of bee decline.³⁶¹⁸

On January 1 2020, the European Union formalized Switzerland's membership of the Union's emissions trading system (EU ETS), making Switzerland the first country from outside the European Union to join the cap and trade scheme.³⁶¹⁹ The EU ETS aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

³⁶¹² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the European Green New Deal, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication_en.pdf.

³⁶¹³ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the European Green New Deal, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication_en.pdf.

³⁶¹⁴ European Green Deal to press ahead despite Polish targets opt-out, The Guardian (Brussels) 13 December 2019. Access Date: 22 December 2019. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/dec/13/european-green-deal-to-press-ahead-despite-polish-targets-opt-out>.

³⁶¹⁵ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the European Green New Deal, European Commission (Brussels) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication_en.pdf.

³⁶¹⁶ EU Commission unveils 'European Green Deal': Key points, Euractiv (Brussels) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/eu-commission-unveils-european-green-deal-the-key-points/1410205/>.

³⁶¹⁷ Parliament urges cuts in pesticide use to save Europe's pollinators, Euractiv (Brussels) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/news/parliament-urges-cuts-in-pesticide-use-to-save-europes-pollinators/>.

³⁶¹⁸ Parliament urges cuts in pesticide use to save Europe's pollinators, Euractiv (Brussels) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/news/parliament-urges-cuts-in-pesticide-use-to-save-europes-pollinators/>.

³⁶¹⁹ Press Release: Linking of Switzerland to the EU emissions trading system - entry into force on 1 January 2020, European Council (Brussels) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/12/09/linking-of-switzerland-to-the-eu-emissions-trading-system-entry-into-force-on-1-january-2020>.

from power generation and carbon-intensive industries and allows links to other comparable, mandatory emission trading systems.³⁶²⁰

On 15 January 2020, the European Parliament adopted its position to support the European Green Deal and called for more ambitious 2030 emission reduction targets.³⁶²¹ The Parliament also voted in support of the Sustainable Europe Investment Plan that will generate investments to finance a just transition for fossil fuel dependent regional economies' Europe.^{3622,3623} The resolution also included a call for a World Trade Organization-compliant mechanism that prevents carbon leakage.³⁶²⁴

On 16 January 2020, the European Parliament adopted a resolution supporting the European Commission's political guidelines calling for the EU's global efforts to reduce biodiversity loss in the next five years.³⁶²⁵ Notably, the resolution calls on the Commission to make the protection of nature a priority in the Green Deal, integrate biodiversity into climate policies, and develop the EU 2030 Biodiversity Strategy that sets binding targets to combat the main causes of biodiversity loss in EU and globally by 2030.^{3626,3627}

On 23 January 2020, the European Parliament adopted a resolution pushing for climate change to be a central consideration for the review of monetary policy by the European Central Bank (ECB), citing that ECB policies must comply with the Paris agreement.^{3628,3629} The resolution also highlighted that a significant proportion of ECB's bond purchases occur in carbon-intensive sectors.³⁶³⁰

³⁶²⁰ Press Release: Linking of Switzerland to the EU emissions trading system - entry into force on 1 January 2020, European Council (Brussels) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/12/09/linking-of-switzerland-to-the-eu-emissions-trading-system-entry-into-force-on-1-january-2020>.

³⁶²¹ Press Release: Parliament supports European Green Deal and pushes for even higher ambitions, European Parliament (Brussels) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 15 January 2020. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20200109IPR69902/parliament-supports-european-green-deal-and-pushes-for-even-higher-ambitions>.

³⁶²² Press Release: Parliament supports European Green Deal and pushes for even higher ambitions, European Parliament (Brussels) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 15 January 2020. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20200109IPR69902/parliament-supports-european-green-deal-and-pushes-for-even-higher-ambitions>.

³⁶²³ Financing the green transition: The European Green Deal Investment Plan and Just Transition Mechanism, European Commission (Brussels) 14 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2020/01/14-01-2020-financing-the-green-transition-the-european-green-deal-investment-plan-and-just-transition-mechanism

³⁶²⁴ Press Release: Parliament supports European Green Deal and pushes for even higher ambitions, European Parliament (Brussels) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 15 January 2020. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20200109IPR69902/parliament-supports-european-green-deal-and-pushes-for-even-higher-ambitions>.

³⁶²⁵ European Parliament resolution of 16 January 2020 on the 15th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity, European Parliament (Brussels) 09 January 2020. Access Date 12 April 2020. https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2020-0015_EN.pdf.

³⁶²⁶ European Parliament resolution of 16 January 2020 on the 15th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity, European Parliament (Brussels) 09 January 2020. Access Date 12 April 2020. https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2020-0015_EN.pdf.

³⁶²⁷ European Parliament shows determination on biodiversity protection, WWF European Policy Office (Brussels) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. <https://www.wwf.eu/?uNewsID=358331>

³⁶²⁸ Parliament urges ECB to put climate at heart of strategy review, Euractiv (Brussels) 13 February 2020. Access Date 11 April 2020. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/parliament-urges-ecb-to-put-climate-at-heart-of-strategy-review>.

³⁶²⁹ Report on the European Central Bank Annual Report for 2018, European Parliament (Brussels) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/A-9-2020-0016_EN.html#title2

³⁶³⁰ Parliament urges ECB to put climate at heart of strategy review, Euractiv (Brussels) 13 February 2020. Access Date 11 April 2020. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/parliament-urges-ecb-to-put-climate-at-heart-of-strategy-review>.

On 17 February 2020, the European Commission announced funding of EUR101.2 million to support 10 environmental projects in Greece, Ireland, France, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Spain, Slovakia, and Czech Republic.³⁶³¹ The projects will foster climate resilience, restore ecosystems and promote sustainable finance as part of the European Green Deal.³⁶³² The funding is part of the LIFE Programme that supports climate action in the EU.³⁶³³

On 26 February 2020, the European Commission released its “Winter Package” of 28 country reports highlighting the how member states have used economic and employment policies to meet the UN Sustainable Development Goals.³⁶³⁴ The country reports also areas of support that the Just Transition Fund can support.³⁶³⁵

On 4 March 2020, the European Commission proposed the legislation of the European Climate Law and therefore set a target to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050 as part of the European Green Deal.³⁶³⁶ The European Climate Law also includes pathways to reach the target and tools measure progress.³⁶³⁷

On 26 March 2020, the 27 EU heads of state issued a call to the European Commission to consider the Green Deal, sustainable growth, and digital aspects as part of the recovery plan from the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁶³⁸

On 20 May 2020, the European Commission adopted a new Biodiversity Strategy and a Farm to Fork Strategy aligned with the European Green Deal.³⁶³⁹ The Biodiversity Strategy is part of EU’s recovery plan from the COVID-19 pandemic and will set binding targets to restore degraded habitats, improve the condition of European forests and restore pollinators on agriculture land.³⁶⁴⁰ The Farm to Fork Strategy aims to transform the EU food system through a minimum 20 per cent

³⁶³¹ EU invests more than €100 million in new LIFE Programme projects to promote a green and climate-neutral Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-invests-more-100-million-new-life-programme-projects-promote-green-and-climate-neutral_en

³⁶³² EU invests more than €100 million in new LIFE Programme projects to promote a green and climate-neutral Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-invests-more-100-million-new-life-programme-projects-promote-green-and-climate-neutral_en

³⁶³³ EU invests more than €100 million in new LIFE Programme projects to promote a green and climate-neutral Europe, European Commission (Brussels) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 14 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/eu-invests-more-100-million-new-life-programme-projects-promote-green-and-climate-neutral_en

³⁶³⁴ Press Release: Winter Package competitive sustainability at the heart of the European Semester, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_320.

³⁶³⁵ Press Release: Winter Package competitive sustainability at the heart of the European Semester, European Commission (Brussels) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_320.

³⁶³⁶ Communication from the Europe Commission (Brussels) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_335.

³⁶³⁷ Press Release: Committing to climate-neutrality by 2050: Commission proposes European Climate Law and consults on the European Climate Pact, European Commission (Brussels) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_335.

³⁶³⁸ EU Leaders back ‘Green Transition’ in Pandemic Recovery Plan, Euractiv (Brussels) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 11 April 2020. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/eu-leaders-back-green-transition-in-pandemic-recovery-plan>.

³⁶³⁹ Press Release: Reinforcing Europe’s resilience: halting biodiversity loss and building a healthy and sustainable food system, European Commission (Brussels) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 30 May 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_884

³⁶⁴⁰ Press Release: Reinforcing Europe’s resilience: halting biodiversity loss and building a healthy and sustainable food system, European Commission (Brussels) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 30 May 2020. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_884

reduction in the use of fertilizers, a 50 per cent reduction in antimicrobial sales and a 50 per cent reduction in pesticide use.³⁶⁴¹

On 28 May 2020, the European Commission presented a proposal for a public sector loan facility that will provide EUR25-30 billion in funding to support the transition to a climate-neutral economy.³⁶⁴² The facility is part of the Just Transition Mechanism.³⁶⁴³

The EU has taken efforts to strengthen and improve current biodiversity strategies through proposing the EU 2030 Biodiversity strategy and implementing the maximum sustainability yield principle in the Baltic Sea and has taken efforts to address the main pressures of biodiversity through the single-use plastic ban and European Union Pollinators Initiative. The EU has also taken efforts that offer co-benefits to the global challenges of climate change, through for instance, the Green Deal and the European Investment Bank strategy for environmental sustainability and climate action, and ecosystem degradation through the EU Communication on Stepping up EU Action to Protect and Restore the World's Forests.

Thus, EU has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Sam Bowers

³⁶⁴¹ Press Release: Reinforcing Europe's resilience: halting biodiversity loss and building a healthy and sustainable food system, European Commission (Brussels) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 30 May 2020.
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_884

³⁶⁴² Press Release: Commission proposes a public loan facility to support green investments together with the European Investment Bank, European Commission (Brussels) 28 May 2020. Access Date: 30 May 2020.
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_930

³⁶⁴³ Press Release: Commission proposes a public loan facility to support green investments together with the European Investment Bank, European Commission (Brussels) 28 May 2020. Access Date: 30 May 2020.
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_930

20. Crime and Corruption: Procurement

“We support enhancing public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.”

Biarritz Declaration for a G7 and Africa Partnership

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada	-1		
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.63 (81%)		

Background

During the G7 Biarritz Summit, as part of the agenda to focus on the recent developments in Africa, leaders of the G7, Egypt (current chair of the African Union), Rwanda (former chair of the African Union), South Africa (future chair of the African Union), Senegal (chair of the New Partnership for Africa's Development [NEPAD]), Burkina Faso (chair of the G5 Sahel), and the African Union Commission produced the Biarritz Declaration for a G7 and Africa Partnership.³⁶⁴⁴

The Declaration highlighted three areas that the leaders, together with international and regional organizations, and the private sector, would focus on women's entrepreneurship in Africa, digital transformation in Africa, and public procurement transparency.³⁶⁴⁵

The commitment on public procurement transparency is further explained in the annex document titled Transparency in Public Procurement and the Common Fight Against Corruption.³⁶⁴⁶ The document entails five points with regards to this commitment.

First, the leaders acknowledged that “enhancing transparency and eliminating corruption” are common challenges and are necessary to build trust.

Second, the leaders referenced the work in international fora and by the G20 regarding transparency, namely through the G20 Principles for Promoting Integrity in Public Procurement, the endorsement of the Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment, the G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan 2019-2021, and the G20 Compendium of Good Practices for Promoting Integrity and Transparency in Infrastructure Development.

³⁶⁴⁴ Biarritz Summit Official Documents, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz>.

³⁶⁴⁵ Biarritz Declaration for a G7 & Africa Partnership, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 25 August 2019. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/biarritz-declaration-africa-partnership.html>.

³⁶⁴⁶ Transparency in Public Procurement and the Common Fight Against Corruption, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 25 August 2019. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/transparency-public-procurement.html>.

The G20 Principles for Promoting Integrity in Public Procurement was produced as an annex document at the 2015 G20 Antalya Summit as part of the growth and resilience agenda during Turkey's G20 Presidency.³⁶⁴⁷ The guideline outlines practices that promote integrity and competition through information and communication technologies, as well as open data.³⁶⁴⁸

The G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan 2019-2021 sprung from the 2018 Argentina G20 Presidency, where leaders agreed on the Plan in the Communiqué.³⁶⁴⁹ The Action Plan recognizes the importance of anti-corruption and integrity measures and lists out the goals of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group. It also highlights the partnerships with international organizations such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, World Bank, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Financial Action Task Force and International Monetary Fund.³⁶⁵⁰

Both the Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment and the G20 Compendium of Good Practices for Promoting Integrity and Transparency in Infrastructure Development were products of the 2019 Japanese G20 Presidency. The former was endorsed on 9 June 2019 during the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting in Fukuoka, Japan.³⁶⁵¹ The latter was agreed in the G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration.³⁶⁵²

Third, the leaders called for actions by multilateral development banks (MDBs) and development finance institutions (DFIs) to promote "fair and equitable procurement." MDBs are defined as international institutions that provide financial assistance to developing countries while DFIs are government-backed institutions that invest in private sector projects in low- and middle-income countries.

Furthermore, the leaders recognized initiatives such as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), which is an international standard for openness around the revenues from natural resources, as well as the Open Government Partnership, which works toward creating "more transparent, more accountable, and more responsive" governments.^{3653,3654}

Finally, the leaders highlighted the importance of the implementation of the UN Convention Against Corruption and the Africa Union Convention Against Corruption to fight corruption and money laundering. They also acknowledged the first African Anti-Corruption Forum held in Egypt in June 2019.

³⁶⁴⁷ 2015 G20 Antalya Summit Leaders' Communique, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communique.html>.

³⁶⁴⁸ G20 Principles for Promoting Integrity in Public Procurement, 2015 G20 Antalya Summit (Antalya) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <http://www.seffaflik.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/G20-PRINCIPLES-FOR-PROMOTING-INTEGRITY-IN-PUBLIC-PROCUREMENT.pdf>.

³⁶⁴⁹ G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Action Plan 2019-2021 and Extract from G20 Leaders' Communique, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development 11 December 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2019. [https://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DAF/WGB/RD\(2018\)10&docLanguage=En](https://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DAF/WGB/RD(2018)10&docLanguage=En).

³⁶⁵⁰ G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Action Plan 2019-2021 and Extract from G20 Leaders' Communique, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development 11 December 2018. Access Date: 8 October 2019. [https://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DAF/WGB/RD\(2018\)10&docLanguage=En](https://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DAF/WGB/RD(2018)10&docLanguage=En).

³⁶⁵¹ Communique Annex, G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting, Ministry of Finance (Fukuoka) 9 June 2019. Access Date: 8 October 2019. https://www.mof.go.jp/english/international_policy/convention/g20/annex.htm.

³⁶⁵² 2019 G20 Osaka Summit Leaders' Declaration, G20 Research Group (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>.

³⁶⁵³ Who We Are, The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (Oslo). Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://eiti.org/who-we-are>.

³⁶⁵⁴ About Open Government Partnership, Open Government Partnership. Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/about/>.

Commitment Features

The G7 commitment is to “support enhancing public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.”

Public procurement refers to the “purchase by governments and state-owned enterprises of goods, services and works.”³⁶⁵⁵ Examples include buying computers for a police station and building public hospitals. The commitment aims to support the enhancement of the transparency and standards of such purchases, which is understood to mean that the purchases are more “open to public scrutiny” and the “principles of conduct” are to be improved in terms of “quality, value, or extent.”^{3656,3657,3658}

The form of the support and the “constructive involvement” are not explicitly defined by the G7. In general, “support” is understood to refer to any “action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”³⁶⁵⁹ As the commitment stems from the Biarritz Declaration for a G7 and Africa Partnership, such support by the G7 member needs to be related to Africa, either for or in partnership with, in order to count for compliance. “Constructive involvement” means that the participation needs to “have or intend to have a useful or beneficial purpose.”^{3660, 3661} The commitment does not necessitate the implementation or creation of a new effort, due to the language “enhance” being defined as “to heighten or intensify.”³⁶⁶²

“Business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability” are understood as results that are achieved through improved public procurement transparency and standards but “fight against corruption” remains the goal of the commitment. As a result, actions should aim to “reduce the abuse of entrusted power for private gain.”³⁶⁶³

To achieve full compliance, G7 members need to provide tangible or verbal declaration of support to at least two African Union governments, businesses and/or civil societies to enhance public procurement transparency and standards to help fight against corruption.

Tangible or verbal declaration of support to only one African Union government, business or civil society only counts as partial compliance.

The G7 member will receive a score of –1 if there is no compliance.

³⁶⁵⁵ Public Procurement, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris). Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.oecd.org/gov/public-procurement/>.

³⁶⁵⁶ Transparent, Oxford Dictionary (Oxford). Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/transparent>.

³⁶⁵⁷ Standard, Oxford Dictionary (Oxford). Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/standard>.

³⁶⁵⁸ Enhance, Oxford Dictionary (Oxford). Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/enhance>.

³⁶⁵⁹ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 September 2016. Access Date: 1 April 2020 http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2019.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0XmJMsN01E5BntQvBHD1v0f1EDkj9m63jjNI72TFb-nBpsr9QeGjhXCbg.

³⁶⁶⁰ Constructive, Oxford Dictionary (Oxford). Access Date: 1 April 2020. <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/constructive>

³⁶⁶¹ Involve, Oxford Dictionary (Oxford). Access Date: 1 April 2020. <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/involve>.

³⁶⁶² Enhance, Oxford Dictionary (Oxford). Access Date: 8 October 2019. <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/enhance>.

³⁶⁶³ What is Corruption, Transparency International. Access Date: 1 April 2020. <https://www.transparency.org/what-is-corruption>.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does not provide support to any African Union government, business nor civil society to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, thus does not contribute to the fight against corruption
0	G7 member provides tangible or verbal declaration of support to one African Union government, business or civil society to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, thus contributing to the fight against corruption
+1	G7 member provides tangible or verbal declaration of support to at least two African Union governments, businesses, and/or civil societies to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, thus contributing to the fight against corruption

Compliance Director: Tacye Hong

Lead Analyst: Isabel Davis

Canada: -1

Canada has not complied with its commitment to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.

To date, there is no evidence of Canada taking steps to improve the public procurement standards nor transparency of members of the African Union.

Thus, Canada has received a score of -1.³⁶⁶⁴

Analyst: Isabel Davis

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.

On 15 November 2019, the French Agency of Anticorruption signed a corruption protocol with the Egyptian Administrative Control Authority.³⁶⁶⁵ The protocol ensures continuing bilateral cooperation between both authorities in anti-corruption missions.³⁶⁶⁶ This action counts toward compliance

³⁶⁶⁴ This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites:

<https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/index.aspx?lang=eng>, <https://impacttransform.org/en/>,
https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/africa-afrique/index.aspx?lang=eng, <https://cacha.ca/>, <http://www.bankofcanada.ca>, <http://www.fin.gc.ca>,
<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/>, <http://www.dnd.ca/>, <http://www.ec.gc.ca/?lang=En>, <https://pm.gc.ca/>,
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/start>, <https://www.oecd.org/>, <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/index.html>,
<https://www.fatf-gafi.org/>, <https://www.imf.org/en/News>, <https://eiti.org/>, <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/>,
<http://ida.worldbank.org/news>, <https://au.int/>.

³⁶⁶⁵ Signature d'un protocole de coopération avec L'Autorité anticorruption égyptienne, Agence Française Anticorruption (France) 22 November 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.agence-francaise-anticorruption.gouv.fr/fr/signature-dun-protocole-cooperation-avec-lautorite-anticorruption-egyptienne>.

³⁶⁶⁶ Signature d'un protocole de coopération avec L'Autorité anticorruption égyptienne, Agence Française Anticorruption (France) 22 November 2019. Access Date: 26 December 2019. <https://www.agence-francaise-anticorruption.gouv.fr/fr/signature-dun-protocole-cooperation-avec-lautorite-anticorruption-egyptienne>.

because it is a verbal declaration of support to one African Union government to fight against corruption.

On 11 February 2020, a Paris court fined Equatorial Guinea's Vice President Teodorin Obiang €30 million and gave him a three-year suspended jail term for corruption and embezzlement of public funds.³⁶⁶⁷ Vice President Obiang was found guilty for laundering €150 million in France, and had his assets seized.³⁶⁶⁸ This action counts toward partial compliance because the Government of France directly prosecuted the leader of one African Union member state, assisting in the fight against corruption in Equatorial Guinea, and preventing the future misuse of public resources.

France has launched tangible actions to enhance public procurement standards, therefore contributing to the fight against corruption, in at least two African Union member states.

Thus, France has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Aline Nayir

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.

On 19 September 2019, the German Embassy, KfW Development Bank, Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Tunisian-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce, and the World Bank Group hosted a Reform Partnership Festival in Tunis, Tunisia.³⁶⁶⁹ The festival was held to celebrate their collaborative efforts to improve the investment climate in Tunisia.³⁶⁷⁰ Germany has provided funding and targeted support to assist Tunisia's reform efforts, and as a result, Tunisia has successfully adopted reforms and expanded its anti-corruption agency.³⁶⁷¹ The cooperation priorities of the two countries are sustainable economic development, modernization of the public administration, and resource protection.³⁶⁷² This action counts toward compliance because it reaffirms Germany's commitment to improving the transparency and effectiveness of Tunisia's governance structures.

On 19 November 2019, Chancellor Angela Merkel invited the twelve participating African countries of the G20 Compact with Africa to Berlin for a conference on the encouragement and enhancement

³⁶⁶⁷ French court fines Equatorial Guinea vice president 30m euros, Al Jazeera (Africa) 11 Feb 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2020. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/02/french-court-fines-equatorial-guinea-vice-president-30m-euros-200211051730620.html>.

³⁶⁶⁸ French court fines Equatorial Guinea vice president 30m euros, Al Jazeera (Africa) 11 Feb 2020. Access Date: 15 March 2020. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/02/french-court-fines-equatorial-guinea-vice-president-30m-euros-200211051730620.html>.

³⁶⁶⁹ Reform Partnership Festival, KfW Development Bank (Frankfurt) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_544384.html.

³⁶⁷⁰ Reform Partnership Festival, KfW Development Bank (Frankfurt) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_544384.html.

³⁶⁷¹ Reform Partnership Festival, KfW Development Bank (Frankfurt) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_544384.html.

³⁶⁷² Reform Partnership Festival, KfW Development Bank (Frankfurt) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_544384.html.

of investment conditions in Africa.³⁶⁷³ In her opening speech, Chancellor Merkel explained that the Compact initiative prompts African countries “to improve the transparency of their financial systems, to improve their tax systems, and to improve debt management,” overall contributing to “better governance.”³⁶⁷⁴ Chancellor Merkel reaffirmed her commitment to greater transparency and the belief that it was crucial for attracting European investors.³⁶⁷⁵ Finally, she announced that Germany had entered bilateral reform partnerships with Ghana, Tunisia, Côte d’Ivoire, Senegal, and Ethiopia, and was open to partnering with the remaining Compact countries.³⁶⁷⁶ This action counts toward full compliance as it signifies tangible supports to enhancing the transparency of public procurement processes in multiple African Union member states.

On 19 January 2020, Chancellor Merkel invited the governments of Algeria, China, Egypt, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, Turkey, the Republic of the Congo, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, as well as High Representatives of the United Nations, the African Union, the European Union, and the League of Arab States, to attend the Berlin Conference on Libya.³⁶⁷⁷ Participating countries called for the “transparent, accountable, fair and equitable distribution of public wealth and resources between different Libyan geographical areas.”³⁶⁷⁸ Participants also made a verbal commitment to providing, upon request from Libyan authorities, “technical assistance to improve transparency, accountability and effectiveness” of Libyan sovereign institutions to “bring [them] into conformity with international standards.”³⁶⁷⁹ The sovereign institutions specified were the Central Bank of Libya, the Libya Investment Authority, the National Oil Corporation and the Audit Bureau.³⁶⁸⁰ This action counts toward partial compliance as it signifies a verbal commitment to improving public procurement transparency and standards in Libya.

Germany has made tangible and verbal commitments in support of transparent and effective governance regarding public procurement in Libya. They have also provided funding and

³⁶⁷³ Encouraging Investors - Enhancing Conditions, Die Bundesregierung (Berlin) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/compact-with-africa-2019-1695282>.

³⁶⁷⁴ Address by Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel at the Investment Summit of the G20 Compact with Africa, Federal Chancellery (Berlin) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-at-the-investment-summit-of-the-g20-compact-with-africa-in-berlin-on-19-november-2019-1695668>.

³⁶⁷⁵ Address by Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel at the Investment Summit of the G20 Compact with Africa, Federal Chancellery (Berlin) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-at-the-investment-summit-of-the-g20-compact-with-africa-in-berlin-on-19-november-2019-1695668>.

³⁶⁷⁶ Address by Federal Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel at the Investment Summit of the G20 Compact with Africa, Federal Chancellery (Berlin) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 27 December 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/speech-by-federal-chancellor-dr-angela-merkel-at-the-investment-summit-of-the-g20-compact-with-africa-in-berlin-on-19-november-2019-1695668>.

³⁶⁷⁷ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions, The Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713882>.

³⁶⁷⁸ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions, The Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713882>.

³⁶⁷⁹ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions, The Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713882>.

³⁶⁸⁰ The Berlin Conference on Libya: Conference Conclusions, The Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (Berlin) 19 January 2020. Access Date: 10 March 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/the-berlin-conference-on-libya-1713882>.

personalized support for reform and development to improve the investment climate in Tunisia, therefore contributing to the fight against corruption in multiple African Union member states.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Angelina Zhang

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.

From 11 to 13 November 2019 the Africa Regional Workshop on Designing and Implementing Sustainable Public Food Procurement for Home Grown School Meals Programmes (HGSF) was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.³⁶⁸¹ Ambassador Giuseppe Berlendi, Representative of Italy to the African Union, stressed that his country has been keen to support HGSF initiatives, as it brings together public procurement for schools and local farmers for increased food security.³⁶⁸² This workshop was also financially supported by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation.³⁶⁸³ This action counts toward full compliance as it pertains to Italy's goals in achieving greater public procurement standards with multiple member states in the African Union.

Italy has demonstrated a verbal commitment of support to enhancing public procurement standards in multiple African Union member states, therefore contributing to the fight against corruption.

Thus, Italy has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Paul Huang

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.

From 28 to 30 August 2019, the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development was held in Yokohama, Japan.³⁶⁸⁴ Over 10,000 people participated in this conference including 42 African leaders from 53 different African states as well as members of the Japanese government and private sector.³⁶⁸⁵ The focus of the conference was the promotion of business in African states, in particular

³⁶⁸¹ FAO, AUC to promote school feeding, while boosting smallholders' productivity, FAO Regional Office for Africa (Addis Ababa) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <http://www.fao.org/africa/news/detail-news/en/c/1251782>.

³⁶⁸² FAO, AUC to promote school feeding, while boosting smallholders' productivity, FAO Regional Office for Africa (Addis Ababa) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <http://www.fao.org/africa/news/detail-news/en/c/1251782/>.

³⁶⁸³ FAO, AUC to promote school feeding, while boosting smallholders' productivity, FAO Regional Office for Africa (Addis Ababa) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 25 December 2019. <http://www.fao.org/africa/news/detail-news/en/c/1251782/>.

³⁶⁸⁴ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 9 January 2019. https://www.mofa.go.jp/af/af2/page25e_000274.html.

³⁶⁸⁵ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development Summary of Results, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 9 January 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>.

“advancing Africa’s development through people, trade, and technology.”³⁶⁸⁶ Issues that were discussed include, the necessity of sound fiscal management and debt sustainability, economic diversification and industrialization, health, and climate change initiatives.³⁶⁸⁷ In addition, Prime minister Abe announced that the private sector would initiate JPY20,000 billion over three years to support “investment, innovation, enterprise and entrepreneurship” in African states with support from Japan’s government institutions.³⁶⁸⁸ This action counts toward partial compliance because Japan is providing a tangible and verbal declaration of support to multiple African Union member states to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, however they are not directly related to the fight against corruption.

Japan has taken steps to indirectly improve the public procurement standards of multiple members of the African Union, for projects that it provides aid or grants toward. However, the actions are not directly related to the fight against corruption.

Thus, Japan has received a score of 0.

Analyst: Hongyu Xiao

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.

On 9 October 2019, the United Kingdom signed the Economic Partnership Agreement with Mozambique and the Southern African Customs Union Member States, which are Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, and South Africa.³⁶⁸⁹ Article 17 of the Agreement provides inter alia that the parties reaffirm their commitment to transparent and predictable public procurement system in accordance with international laws, recognize the importance of continuing to publish laws, regulations and administrative rulings that are readily accessible to the public, and may consider negotiations on public procurement in the future.³⁶⁹⁰ The agreement aims to provide trade continuity amongst the parties when the United Kingdom is no longer a member of the European Union.³⁶⁹¹ This action counts toward full compliance because the United Kingdom is providing

³⁶⁸⁶ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development Summary of Results, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 9 January 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>.

³⁶⁸⁷ The Seventh Tokyo International Conference on African Development Summary of Results, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 9 January 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>.

³⁶⁸⁸ Japan has a plan to challenge China’s influence in Africa, Quartz Africa (New York) 2 September 2019. Access Date: 9 January 2019. <https://qz.com/africa/1700181/japan-promises-20-billion-private-sector-investment-in-africa/>.

³⁶⁸⁹ The Economic Partnership Agreement with Mozambique and the African Customs Union Member States, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/844509/MS_34.2_019_v1_pt1_UK_SACU_Mozambique_EPA.pdf.

³⁶⁹⁰ The Economic Partnership Agreement with Mozambique and the African Customs Union Member States, Government of the United Kingdom (London). 9 October 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/844509/MS_34.2_019_v1_pt1_UK_SACU_Mozambique_EPA.pdf.

³⁶⁹¹ Joint Communiqué on the Occasion of the Signature of the Economic Partnership Agreement, SACU Member States, Mozambique and The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (London) 10 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2019. <https://www.sacu.int/docs/pr/2019/pr0223.pdf>.

tangible support to multiple African Union member states to enhance public procurement transparency and standards.

On 19 December 2019, the United Kingdom's Prosperity Fund of the Foreign and Commonwealth office partnered with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Civil (UNODC) Society Team to host an event to showcase civil society anti-corruption champions.³⁶⁹² In particular, the event focused on civil society's contribution to four UNODC regional platforms to fast-track the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which covers Latin America, Southern Africa, Eastern Africa, and Southeast Asia. This action counts toward full compliance because the United Kingdom is providing a verbal declaration of support, through the promotion of public procurement transparency and standards, to multiple African Union member state civil society organizations.

The United Kingdom has committed to enhancing public procurement transparency and standards in multiple African Union member states through both verbal and tangible declarations of support.

Thus, the United Kingdom has received a score of +1.

Analysts: Isabel Davis and Hongyu Xiao

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.

From 20 to 22 November 2019, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Regional Office for Southern Africa and the Southern African Development Community organized a three-day workshop on "Fostering International Cooperation in addressing Illicit Financial Flows and on Asset Forfeiture."³⁶⁹³ This workshop saw operational officers from the Southern African Development Community member states representing anti-corruption agencies, asset forfeiture units and Financial Intelligence Units, as well as experts from the United States.³⁶⁹⁴ This action counts toward full compliance as it improves transparency standards in anti-corruption agencies for multiple African Union member states with the assistance of the United States.

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to supporting the African Union through enhanced anti-corruption mechanisms and improved governance relations with multiple African Union member states.

Thus, the United States has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Paul Huang

³⁶⁹² UNODC-UK event showcases civil society initiatives for implementing UN Convention against Corruption. 9 January 2020 (Abu Dhabi). Access Date: 17 April 2020. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2020/January/unodc-uk-event-showcases-civil-society-initiatives-for-implementing-un-convention-against-corruption.html>.

³⁶⁹³ UNODC holds event on Illicit Financial Flows and Asset Forfeiture with Southern African Development Community, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Pretoria) 4 December 2019. Access Date: 24 December 2019. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2019/December/unodc-hosts-event-on-illicit-financial-flows-and-asset-forfeiture-with-southern-african-development-community.html>.

³⁶⁹⁴ UNODC holds event on Illicit Financial Flows and Asset Forfeiture with Southern African Development Community, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Pretoria) 4 December 2019. Access Date: 24 December 2019. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2019/December/unodc-hosts-event-on-illicit-financial-flows-and-asset-forfeiture-with-southern-african-development-community.html>.

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to enhance public procurement transparency and standards, in order to improve the business and investment climate, transparency, accountability and debt sustainability through the constructive involvement of governments, businesses and civil society organizations, thus contributing to the fight against corruption.

On 9 October 2019, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), and its African allies met to strengthen their cooperative ties.³⁶⁹⁵ OLAF is an investigative body tasked with supervising the spending of EU funds – this meeting focused on reinforcing OLAF’s mandate and ensuring adequate cooperation from domestic authorities in OLAF’s anti-corruption activities in regards to foreign aid and public spending in Africa.³⁶⁹⁶ This action counts toward full compliance because the European Union is providing a verbal declaration of their support to enhance public procurement transparency in multiple African Union member states.

On 21 November 2019, the European Union organized the second Zimbabwe-European Union Political Dialogue Meeting.³⁶⁹⁷ Both sides agreed on the importance of reforms to the benefit of the Zimbabwean people, especially applauding the work of the Zimbabwean Anti-Corruption commission.³⁶⁹⁸ The meeting provided for a wide-ranging engagement on issues of economic development, human rights, rule of law and good governance.³⁶⁹⁹ This action counts toward partial compliance because the European Union is providing a verbal declaration of their support to enhance public procurement transparency in one African Union member state.

The European Union has fully complied in enhancing public procurement by increasing cooperation, primarily with verbal agreements, in the realm of anti-corruption with multiple African Union member states.

Thus, the European Union has received a score of +1

Analyst: Qaasim Karim

³⁶⁹⁵ OLAF and partners strengthen EU–Africa cooperation in fighting fraud against the EU budget, European Anti-Fraud Office (Brussels) 9 October 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/media-corner/news/09-10-2019/olaf-and-partners-strengthen-eu-africa-cooperation-fighting-fraud_en.

³⁶⁹⁶ OLAF and partners strengthen EU–Africa cooperation in fighting fraud against the EU budget, European Anti-Fraud Office (Brussels) 9 October 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/media-corner/news/09-10-2019/olaf-and-partners-strengthen-eu-africa-cooperation-fighting-fraud_en.

³⁶⁹⁷ Joint press statement: second formal political dialogue meeting between EU and Zimbabwe, European Union External Affairs (Harare) 21 November 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/zimbabwe_es/70809/Joint%20press%20statement:%20second%20formal%20political%20dialogue%20meeting%20between%20EU%20and%20Zimbabwe.

³⁶⁹⁸ Joint press statement: second formal political dialogue meeting between EU and Zimbabwe, European Union External Affairs (Harare) 21 November 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/zimbabwe_es/70809/Joint%20press%20statement:%20second%20formal%20political%20dialogue%20meeting%20between%20EU%20and%20Zimbabwe.

³⁶⁹⁹ Joint press statement: second formal political dialogue meeting between EU and Zimbabwe, European Union External Affairs (Harare) 21 November 2019. Access date: 27 December 2019. https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/zimbabwe_es/70809/Joint%20press%20statement:%20second%20formal%20political%20dialogue%20meeting%20between%20EU%20and%20Zimbabwe.

21. Education: G5 Sahel

“[We] will encourage partner countries’ governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing our coordination and our political and financial support to education, including basic education.”

Sabel Partnership Action Plan

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.13 (56%)	

Background

Education has long been a focus of the G8 and G7 members, with a more recent emphasis on education in Africa.³⁷⁰⁰

In 1990, at the World Conference on Education for All in Jomtien, Thailand, representatives of 155 governments and 170 organizations committed to developing universal primary education and reducing illiteracy before 2000.³⁷⁰¹ At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 members reaffirmed their commitment to support the Education for All agenda, with a focus on Africa.³⁷⁰² In 2006, at the St. Petersburg Summit, three important commitments were made in relation to education. The first on academic mobility, second on improving education qualification systems through sharing best practices, and the final on eliminating gender disparities in education by 2015.³⁷⁰³ At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 members once again reaffirmed their commitment to Education For All in Africa.³⁷⁰⁴ In 2008 and 2009 education was once again a focus of the G8.³⁷⁰⁵

From 14 to 15 May 2016, the G7 Education Ministers met in Kurashiki, Japan, to discuss education policy from a global perspective. They stressed the idea that education should “promote the fundamental values of respect for one’s own and others’ lives, freedom, democracy, pluralism, tolerance, the rule of law, respect for human rights, social inclusion and non-discrimination, gender

³⁷⁰⁰ St. Petersburg Final Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 5 June 2007. Access Date: 15 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2006compliance_final/2006_g8compliance_final.pdf.

³⁷⁰¹ World Declaration on Education For All and Framework For Action to Meet Basic Learning Needs, UNESCO (New York) April 1990. Access Date: 15 November 2019. http://www.unesco.org/education/pdf/JOMTIE_E.PDF.

³⁷⁰² Gleneagles Final Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 12 June 2006. Access Date: 15 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_final/2005-g8compliance-final.pdf.

³⁷⁰³ St. Petersburg Final Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 5 June 2007. Access Date: 15 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2006compliance_final/2006_g8compliance_final.pdf.

³⁷⁰⁴ 2007 Heiligendamm G8 Summit Final Compliance Report (Toronto) 23 June 2008. Access Date: 15 November 2019. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2007compliance_final/07-final.pdf/.

³⁷⁰⁵ 2008 Hokkaido-Toyako G8 Summit Final Compliance Report (Toronto) 30 June 2009. Access Date: 15 November 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2008compliance-final/2008-g8compliance.pdf>; 2009 L’Aquila G8 Summit Final Compliance Report (Toronto) 4 July 2010. Access Date: 15 November 2019.

equality as well as active citizenship education.”³⁷⁰⁶ There were three areas agreed to at this meeting: the new role of education, how to improve and enhance teaching and learning, and the new paradigm for international cooperation.³⁷⁰⁷

The first area on the new role of education specified social inclusion and harmonious coexistence through education, competencies required in the new era, international collaboration, and prioritizing educational policy. Through the sharing of knowledge and good practices, G7 Education Ministers agreed to support cross-cultural dialogue, mutual understanding, respecting common values, inclusive, equitable and quality education. Education practices should be based on knowledge, competency, and knowing how to engage with and live in society.³⁷⁰⁸

The second area on improving and enhancing teaching and learning is expanded on through diversity education; promoting girls’ and women’s empowerment for sustainable, inclusive and equitable growth; focusing on the links between education, employment and society; education that accommodates technological advance; enhancing and supporting the teaching profession; and evidence-based education policy. The G7 Education Ministers acknowledged the importance and need for promoting an educational environment which values individuality, diversity, and gender differences and equips students with the rights skills and knowledge for the ever-changing future.³⁷⁰⁹

The third and final area of education, the new paradigm for international cooperation, focuses on internationalizing education and achieving the 2030 Agenda’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The G7 Education Ministers recognize the need for collaboration between members to learn the best practices, promoting international educational experiences and advocating for study abroad programs. As well, the ministers reaffirmed their commitment to achieving the SDGs through education for sustainable development.³⁷¹⁰

At the 2016 G7 Education Minister’s meeting in Kurashiki, Japan, the Guiding Principles of G7 Education Ministers were agreed to. The guiding principles include social inclusion and harmonious coexistence through education; promoting girls’ and women’s empowerment for sustainable, inclusive and equitable growth; building links between education, employment and society; promoting education that accommodates technological advance; enhancing and supporting teaching professions; promoting evidence-based education policy; internationalizing education; and supporting the sustainable development goals.³⁷¹¹ All these goals are to be undertaken in close cooperation with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, among other relevant organizations and stakeholders.³⁷¹²

On 9 June 2018, the G7 leaders committed to ensuring better access to education in conflict and crisis situations and ensuring schools are a safe space. Specifically, during conflict and crisis, for

³⁷⁰⁶ G7 Kurashiki Education Ministers’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 May 2016. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/education/education2016.html>.

³⁷⁰⁷ 8 G7 Kurashiki Education Ministers’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 May 2016. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/education/education2016.html>.

³⁷⁰⁸ G7 Kurashiki Education Ministers’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 May 2016. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/education/education2016.html>.

³⁷⁰⁹ G7 Kurashiki Education Ministers’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 May 2016. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/education/education2016.html>.

³⁷¹⁰ G7 Kurashiki Education Ministers’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 May 2016. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/education/education2016.html>.

³⁷¹¹ G7 Kurashiki Education Ministers’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 May 2016. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/education/education2016.html>.

³⁷¹² G7 Kurashiki Education Ministers’ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 May 2016. Access Date: 10 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/education/education2016.html>.

refugees and internally displaced, and improving coordination between humanitarian assistance and development cooperation. As well, the G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to improving education for girls and women in developing countries through better access to quality postsecondary education and opportunities; utilizing various learning tools to promote knowledge and skills building for girls and women; increasing statistical knowledge of girls and women's progress in education; encouraging governments to provide continuing education for all; supporting innovative education; ensuring access to at least 12 years of safe, quality education that promotes gender equality; and eliminating barriers to gender equality and to quality primary and secondary education.³⁷¹³

On 5 July 2019, the G7 Development and Education Ministers held a joint meeting in Paris, France, for the first time. They expressed the importance of education for sustainable development and its qualification as a human right. Building on previous declarations, the G7 ministers reiterated their commitment toward closing the gap in education in developing countries through collaborative, sustainable and gender-responsive education policies.³⁷¹⁴

Commitment Features

This commitment to “encourage partner countries’ governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing our coordination and our political and financial support to education, including basic education” comes from the Sahel Partnership Action Plan agreed to at the G7 Biarritz Summit on 26 August 2019.³⁷¹⁵ It refers specifically to strengthen education systems in the Sahel as “3 million children are still deprived of access to primary school ... due in particular to the closure of schools in conflict-affected areas, and that the quality of teaching remains a significant issue.”³⁷¹⁶

The Sahel region includes Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso and Chad.³⁷¹⁷ The G5 Sahel was created on 16 February 2014, as an intergovernmental cooperation framework to fight insecurity and support development. In 2017, the Sahel Alliance, initiated by France and Germany, was created to encourage cooperation between major development partners and G5 countries. The Sahel Alliance includes the main multilateral and bilateral development partners of the Sahel countries; France, Germany, the European Union, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Finland.³⁷¹⁸ The purpose of the Sahel Alliance is to improve the coordination of partners to deliver faster, more effective and better targeted assistance to vulnerable areas. More than 600 projects worth more than

³⁷¹³ Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2019.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/education-commitment.html>.

³⁷¹⁴ Joint communiqué of the G7 Ministers of Education and International Development, France Diplomatie (Paris) 5 July 2019. Access Date: 10 October 2019. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/g7_ministerial_communique-5th_july-education-development_cle016bef.pdf.

³⁷¹⁵ Sahel Partnership Action Plan, Elysee G7 Biarritz (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/admin/upload/default/0001/05/a47d34992ae172f71af981698f05524ffed81b24.pdf>.

³⁷¹⁶ Sahel Partnership Action Plan, Elysee G7 Biarritz (Biarritz) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <https://www.elysee.fr/admin/upload/default/0001/05/a47d34992ae172f71af981698f05524ffed81b24.pdf>.

³⁷¹⁷ G5 Sahel Joint Force and the Sahel Alliance, France Diplomatie (Paris). Access Date: 12 October 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/crises-andconflicts/g5-sahel-joint-force-and-the-sahel-alliance/>.

³⁷¹⁸ G5 Sahel Joint Force and the Sahel Alliance, France Diplomatie (Paris). Access Date: 12 October 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/crises-andconflicts/g5-sahel-joint-force-and-the-sahel-alliance/>.

EUR9 billion are funded by the Sahel Alliance donors, with the Agence Française de Développement playing a key role.³⁷¹⁹

There are three main types of support a G7 member may engage in to strengthen education systems in the Sahel: coordination, political support and financial support to education. With an emphasis on basic education, which “comprises primary education (first stage of basic education) and lower secondary education (second stage). It also covers a wide variety of non-formal and informal public and private activities intended to meet the basic learning needs of people of all ages.”³⁷²⁰

Coordination refers to “the process of organizing people or groups so that they work together properly and well,”³⁷²¹ therefore, a G7 member would have to encourage coordination of groups to work together with the G7 member on improving education systems in the Sahel region.

Political support would come in the form of supporting government actions, the actions of politicians, policy making and policy changes in relation to education systems. This could be in the form of supporting a government in one of the Sahel countries in order to implement a better curriculum, support teacher training programs, and/or sharing knowledge and best practices on improving education systems.

Financial support would be any form of monetary donation or pledge of a donation for any Sahel country or organizations which work in the Sahel region on education systems.

This commitment has a strong focus on working with other governments and donors, therefore acting alone would not be considered compliance. However, the term encourage does not refer to robust measurability. “It should be taken as a soft commitment where no concrete actions [needs] to be taken.”³⁷²² Other governments and donors refer to African governments, other G7 members, international organizations (e.g. World Bank, International Monetary Fund, UN, etc.), and other key stakeholders working in supporting education systems in the Sahel, such as non-governmental organizations.

Regarding the term “education systems,” this refers to all systems (whether formal or informal) which teach people of all ages, giving them skills, which can help improve their lives and further their education. Strengthening these systems could include expanding their capacity and ability to take on more students, offering more opportunities to learn different skills, and improving students test scores.

This commitment is also measured by a depth analysis. A G7 member can partially or fully encourage partner countries’ governments and other donors to join in a collective effort to strengthen education systems. A G7 member “fully encouraging” partner countries’ governments and donors would take the initiative and organize the collective effort, officially announce it, and actively seek out partnerships with other governments and donors to implement the efforts. A G7 member “partially encouraging” partner countries’ governments and donors would agree to collective efforts put forward by other G7 members, governments or donors and contribute to said effort, but not take their own initiative.

³⁷¹⁹ G5 Sahel Joint Force and the Sahel Alliance, France Diplomatie (Paris). Access Date: 12 October 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/security-disarmament-and-non-proliferation/crises-andconflicts/g5-sahel-joint-force-and-the-sahel-alliance/>.

³⁷²⁰ World Conference on EFA: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, UNESCO (Jomtien) 1990. Access Date: 12 October 2019. http://www.unesco.org/education/pdf/11_93.pdf.

³⁷²¹ Coordination, Merriam-Webster Dictionary. Access Date: 12 October 2019. <https://www.merriamwebster.com/dictionary/coordination>.

³⁷²² Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 1 April 2020. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/compliance-coding-manual-2016.pdf>.

For full compliance, a G7 member would have to encourage at least one partner country's government and another donor (any international organization or non-government organization) to work together to increase coordination, political and financial support to education systems in the Sahel region. An action which may be considered compliance could be initiating a joint agreement with another country or donor to strengthen education systems in the Sahel, as well as signing and implementing such agreement. Other actions could include, but are not limited to, multilateral financial assistance, working with another country or government to provide technical assistance for schools, teachers, or education policy development, supporting the government of a country in the Sahel region to implement and/or improve education policies.

Partial compliance would be if a G7 member only worked with partner countries' governments or donors, but not both, and strengthened education systems in the Sahel region through one of increased coordination, or political support, or financial support.

No compliance would be if a country did not engage with any partner countries' government or donors to strengthen education systems in the Sahel region in any way.

Note: Actions taken between 13 April and 3 June 2020 have been included in this report but were not included in the version sent out for stakeholder feedback.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	G7 member does not encourage partner countries' governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus does not increase coordination and political and financial support to education.
0	G7 member does encourage partner countries' governments OR other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems and increases coordination OR political OR financial support to education, including basic education.
+1	G7 member does encourage partner countries' governments AND other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing coordination AND political AND financial support to education, including basic education.

Compliance Director: Sonja Dobson

Lead Analyst: Nicole Vucemilo

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to encourage partner countries' governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing G7 members' coordination and their political and financial support to education, including basic education.

On 26 August 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced an investment of CAD20.3 million toward the education of adolescent girls in Mali.³⁷²³ This funding will specifically support "quality and gender responsive education for 90,000 young and adolescent girls in 11 communities in Segou and Mopti conflict-affected regions."³⁷²⁴

³⁷²³ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada Website (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

³⁷²⁴ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada Website (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

On 26 August 2019, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that the Government of Canada will pledge CAD14 million for conflict-affected regions of Burkina Faso.³⁷²⁵ The goal of this initiative is to “to ensure the right of girls and boys aged 6 to 16 to obtain a safe and gender-sensitive education.”³⁷²⁶

On 18 September 2019, as a contributor to a United Nations Population Fund project,³⁷²⁷ the Sahel Women’s Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD), Canada further confirmed its commitment to gender equality education initiatives.³⁷²⁸ SWEDD announced it has facilitated development of 1,640 “husband schools” to educate men in the Sahel on how to properly treat women and provided 102,600 basic knowledge education and mentorship to young girls.³⁷²⁹

On 25 October 2019, the Government of Canada donated CAD7 million to the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in support of girls’ education in Niger.³⁷³⁰ This donation aims to reduce gender disparities that limit access to quality education.³⁷³¹ UNICEF seeks to implement gender sensitive curriculum and teaching in all educational centres, both formal and non-formal.³⁷³² As well, this donation will accelerate efforts to support the continuity of women and girls’ education in crisis areas and is directed toward more than 220,000 girls from the regions of Maradi, Zinder, Dosso, Diffa, Tahoua, and Tillabéry.³⁷³³

Canada has partially complied with its commitment to encourage expanded collective effort in support of education in the Sahel region. While Canada’s partial commitment is evident through monetary donations to UNICEF, Plan International Canada, Save the Children Canada, and World Vision Canada, Canada has not worked directly with or encouraged partner countries’ governments.

Thus, Canada receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Veronika Zabelle Nayi

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to encourage partner countries’ governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing G7 members’ coordination and their political and financial support to education, including basic education.

³⁷²⁵ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada Website (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

³⁷²⁶ Creating a better future, Prime Minister of Canada Website (Ottawa) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 7 December 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/backgrounders/2019/08/26/creating-better-future>.

³⁷²⁷ Donor Contributions, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.unfpa.org/data/donor-contributions>.

³⁷²⁸ France, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.unfpa.org/data/donor-contributions/france>.

³⁷²⁹ Coming Together to Help African Girls Create a Brighter Future, The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/immersive-story/2019/09/18/comingtogether-to-help-african-girls-create-a-brighter-future>.

³⁷³⁰ Closing the Gaps: Canada donates \$7 million (Cdn) to support girls’ education in Niger, UNICEF (New York) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 4 December 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/niger/stories/closing-gaps>.

³⁷³¹ Closing the Gaps: Canada donates \$7 million (Cdn) to support girls’ education in Niger, UNICEF (New York) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 4 December 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/niger/stories/closing-gaps>.

³⁷³² Closing the Gaps: Canada donates \$7 million (Cdn) to support girls’ education in Niger, UNICEF (New York) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 4 December 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/niger/stories/closing-gaps>.

³⁷³³ Closing the Gaps: Canada donates \$7 million (Cdn) to support girls’ education in Niger, UNICEF (New York) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 4 December 2019. <https://www.unicef.org/niger/stories/closing-gaps>.

On 18 September 2019, as a contributor to a United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) project,³⁷³⁴ the Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD), France further confirmed its commitment to gender equality education initiatives.³⁷³⁵ SWEDD announced it has facilitated development of 1,640 "husband schools" to educate men in the Sahel on how to properly treat women and provided 102,600 basic knowledge education and mentorship to young girls.³⁷³⁶

On 20 September 2019, France participated in the Gender at the Centre Initiative by donating EUR2.5 million.³⁷³⁷ The goal of the Gender at the Centre Initiative is enhancing the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) role on issues of gender and education, mobilization of education on gender equality in developing countries and encourage international cooperation on said issue.³⁷³⁸

On 18 October 2019, the EU Emergency Fund Archipelago program announced 11 new projects.³⁷³⁹ The new projects have a budget of EUR6.5 million, partially funded by France, and include projects which help train young men and women to be employable in Sahel region countries.³⁷⁴⁰

On 24 February 2020, the Agence Française de Développement (AfD) pledged EUR10 million to the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) with a focus on African countries.³⁷⁴¹ IIEP's primary goals are focused on facilitating gender equality and education worldwide.³⁷⁴² The AfD emphasized in its press release this development working toward France's Gender at the Centre Initiative and UNESCO's multilateral goals.³⁷⁴³

France has partially complied with its commitment to expanding education systems in the Sahel region by encouraging other governments and donors to support education through financial contributions. France has provided financial contributions to UNFPA, UNESCO, IIEP, the Global Partnership for Education, and the EU Emergency Fund, whom have all helped facilitate building various educational systems, schools, or infrastructures in the Sahel region. However, despite being a

³⁷³⁴ Donor Contributions, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.unfpa.org/data/donor-contributions>.

³⁷³⁵ France, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019.

<https://www.unfpa.org/data/donor-contributions/france>

³⁷³⁶ Coming Together to Help African Girls Create a Brighter Future, The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/immersive-story/2019/09/18/comingtogether-to-help-african-girls-create-a-brighter-future>

³⁷³⁷ Gender at the Centre Initiative, French Diplomatie (Paris) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism63158/article/gender-at-the-centre-initiative>.

³⁷³⁸ Gender at the Centre Initiative, French Diplomatie (Paris) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism63158/article/gender-at-the-centre-initiative>.

³⁷³⁹ Archipelago About Us, Archipelago Program (Brussels) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 9 December 2019. <https://www.archipelago-eutf.eu/about-us/>.

³⁷⁴⁰ Archipelago Program, Results of the First Call for Proposals, CPCA (Paris) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 9 December 2019.

³⁷⁴¹ France to Support IIEP-UNESCO in Improving Educational Planning Worldwide, AFD (Paris) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communique-de-presse/france-support-iiep-unesco-improving-educational-planning-worldwide?origin=/en/actualites/communique-de-presse>.

³⁷⁴² France to Support IIEP-UNESCO in Improving Educational Planning Worldwide, AFD (Paris) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communique-de-presse/france-support-iiep-unesco-improving-educational-planning-worldwide?origin=/en/actualites/communique-de-presse>.

³⁷⁴³ France to Support IIEP-UNESCO in Improving Educational Planning Worldwide, AFD (Paris) 24 February 2020. Access Date: 10 April 2020. <https://www.afd.fr/en/actualites/communique-de-presse/france-support-iiep-unesco-improving-educational-planning-worldwide?origin=/en/actualites/communique-de-presse>.

member of the Sahel Alliance,³⁷⁴⁴ France has not encouraged or joined efforts to increase coordination or political support for education.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Luc Maschino

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to encourage partner countries' governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing G7 members' coordination and their political and financial support to education, including basic education.

On 18 September 2019, as a contributor to a United Nations Population Fund project,³⁷⁴⁵ the Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD), Germany further confirmed its commitment to gender equality education initiatives.³⁷⁴⁶ SWEDD announced it has facilitated development of 1,640 "husband schools" to educate men in the Sahel on how to properly treat women and provided 102,600 basic knowledge education and mentorship to young girls.³⁷⁴⁷

On 20 September 2019, Germany participated in the Gender at the Centre Initiative by donating EUR1.3 million.³⁷⁴⁸ The goal of the Gender at the Centre Initiative is enhancing the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's role on issues of gender and education, mobilization of education on gender equality in developing countries and encourage international cooperation on said issue.³⁷⁴⁹

On 25 September 2019, Germany pledged EUR10 million to Education Cannot Wait (ECW), a global fund which expands access to inclusive quality education for children and youth in emergencies and on the move in countries including those of the Sahel region.³⁷⁵⁰ On 18 December 2019, Germany pledged an additional EUR16 million to ECW.³⁷⁵¹

It is noted that Germany pledged EUR28 million for the Global Partnership for Education in 2019. Evidence for this pledge has not been found from August 2019 onwards, and thus has not be included in this assessment.

³⁷⁴⁴ The Sahel Alliance, Alliance Sahel. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance/>.

³⁷⁴⁵ Donor Contributions, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.unfpa.org/data/donor-contributions>.

³⁷⁴⁶ France, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.unfpa.org/data/donor-contributions/france>.

³⁷⁴⁷ Coming Together to Help African Girls Create a Brighter Future, The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/immersive-story/2019/09/18/comingtogether-to-help-african-girls-create-a-brighter-future>.

³⁷⁴⁸ Gender at the Centre Initiative, French Diplomatie (Paris) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism63158/article/gender-at-the-centre-initiative>.

³⁷⁴⁹ Gender at the Centre Initiative, French Diplomatie (Paris) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism63158/article/gender-at-the-centre-initiative>.

³⁷⁵⁰ World Leaders Pledge a Record US\$216 million to Education Cannot Wait During United Nations General Assembly, Education Cannot Wait (New York) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/unga-2019-pledges/>.

³⁷⁵¹ Pledges and Contributions, UNHCR (Geneva) Access Date: 4 June 2020. <https://globalcompactrefugees.org/channel/pledges-contributions>.

Germany has partially complied with its commitment by joining a collective effort with the SWEDD and donating to the Gender at the Centre Initiative to strengthen education systems through financial support to education. However, despite being a member of the Sahel Alliance, Germany has not encouraged or joined efforts to increase coordination or political support for education.³⁷⁵²

Thus, Germany has been awarded score of 0.

Analyst: Jacky Luo

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied in its commitment to encourage partner countries' governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing G7 members' coordination and their political and financial support to education, including basic education.

On 18 September 2019, as a contributor to a United Nations Population Fund project,³⁷⁵³ the Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD), Italy further confirmed its commitment to gender equality education initiatives.³⁷⁵⁴ SWEDD announced it has facilitated development of 1,640 "husband schools" to educate men in the Sahel on how to properly treat women and provided 102,600 basic knowledge education and mentorship to young girls.³⁷⁵⁵

On 18 October 2019, the Archipelago program, funded by the EU Emergency Fund,³⁷⁵⁶ announced 11 new projects, some of which help train young men and women to be employable in Sahel region countries.³⁷⁵⁷ The 11 new projects have a budget of EUR6.5 million. Italy is explicitly mentioned as financial contributors.³⁷⁵⁸

Italy has partially complied with its commitment by joining collective efforts to strengthening education systems, thus increasing financial support, through involvement with the SWEDD and the Archipelago program. Despite Italy being a member of the Sahel Alliance, Italy has not yet initiated any cooperative efforts with partner governments or other donors to strengthen education systems through increasing coordination and political support to education in the Sahel region.³⁷⁵⁹

³⁷⁵² The Sahel Alliance, Alliance Sahel. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance/>.

³⁷⁵³ Donor Contributions, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.unfpa.org/data/donor-contributions>.

³⁷⁵⁴ France, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.unfpa.org/data/donor-contributions/france>.

³⁷⁵⁵ Coming Together to Help African Girls Create a Brighter Future, The World Bank (Washington, D.C.) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/immersive-story/2019/09/18/comingtogether-to-help-african-girls-create-a-brighter-future>.

³⁷⁵⁶ Archipelago About Us, Archipelago Program (Brussels) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 9 December 2019. <https://www.archipelago-eutf.eu/about-us/>.

³⁷⁵⁷ Archipelago Program, Results of the First Call for Proposals, CPCA (Paris) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 9 December 2019.

<https://www.cpccaf.org/XCMD.RE9fU2hPQko8MjU+MDAwMDAtMC0wMzAtMDAwMDAwMDAzNjM0OA==.html>.

³⁷⁵⁸ Archipelago Program, Results of the First Call for Proposals, CPCA (Paris) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 9 December 2019.

<https://www.cpccaf.org/XCMD.RE9fU2hPQko8MjU+MDAwMDAtMC0wMzAtMDAwMDAwMDAzNjM0OA==.html>.

³⁷⁵⁹ The Sahel Alliance Officially Announces the Implementation of Over 500 Projects for a Total Amount of EUR 6bn to be Disbursed Between 2018 and 2022, The World Bank (Washington) 23 February 2018. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2018/02/23/the-sahel-alliance-officially-announces-the-implementation-of-over-500-projects-for-a-total-amount-of-eur-6bn-to-be-disbursed-between-2018-and-2022>.

Thus, Italy has been awarded score of 0.

Analyst: Jacky Luo

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied in its commitment to encourage partner countries' governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing G7 members' coordination and their political and financial support to education, including basic education.

From 28-30 August 2019, Japan hosted the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7). One of the main pillars of the conference focused on achieving human security and Sustainable Development Goals, including through providing quality education. Japan pledged to support African governments to improve the learning environment of 3 million children, develop information communications technologies talents and 5000 highly skilled people for science, technology and innovation education, and promote interaction among students and youth.³⁷⁶⁰

On 28 August 2019, Japan announced at the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region, as part of the TICAD7, that it would provide training to 1,000 people from the Sahel countries over a three year period to develop institutions within the regions, provide vocational training and education opportunities for youth and other generations, and develop human resources for peacekeeping operations through the Ecole de Maintien de la Paix Alioune Blondin Beye de Bamako, and continue to reduce the number of refugees.³⁷⁶¹

On 10 March 2020, Japan announced an Emergency Grant Aid of USD23.7 million for refugees or internally displaced persons in the Sahel. The grant will fund, among other initiatives, educational opportunities through the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Specifically, Mali will be provided with education opportunities for 1,500 children and training for 30 teachers.³⁷⁶²

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to encourage partner countries' governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems. Japan has pledged to develop educational opportunities but has not encourages other governments and donors to work together to increase coordination, political, and financial support to education systems in the Sahel region.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.³⁷⁶³

Analyst: Cindy Lui

³⁷⁶⁰ The 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) 28-30 August 2019, Yokohama, Japan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) September 2019. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521256.pdf>.

³⁷⁶¹ Statement by H.E. Mr. Kono Taro Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan at the Special Conference on Peace and Stability in the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Yokohama) 28 August 2019. Access Date: 21 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000511802.pdf>.

³⁷⁶² Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel region, Africa News Room (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.africa-newsroom.com/press/emergency-grant-aid-in-response-to-the-humanitarian-crisis-in-the-sahel-region?lang=en>.

³⁷⁶³ This partial compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <https://www.mofa.go.jp/>, <https://www.un.org/en/>, <https://www.oecd-org.proxy.library.uu.nl/japan/>, <https://www.meti.go.jp/english/>, <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/>, <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/>, <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home.html>, <https://news.un.org/en/>, <http://the-japan-news.com/>, https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/index.html, <https://www.africa-newsroom.com/press/source/ministry-of-foreign-affairs-of-japan>.

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied in its commitment to encourage partner countries' governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing G7 members' coordination and their political and financial support to education, including basic education.

On 20 September 2019, the UK participated in the Gender at the Centre Initiative by donating EUR1.6 million.³⁷⁶⁴ The goal of the Gender at the Centre Initiative is enhancing the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) role on issues of gender and education, mobilization of education on gender equality in developing countries and encourage international cooperation on said issue.³⁷⁶⁵ Five of the eight pilot countries for GCI are located in the Sahel Region.³⁷⁶⁶

On 24 September 2019, Prime Minister Boris Johnson pledged approximately USD670 million toward education at the United Nations.³⁷⁶⁷ The funding's specific targets will provide millions of girls around the world with opportunities for quality education, ensure that children living in conflict zones such as the Sahel are able to attend school and will mobilize USD5 billion of investment toward education focused on marginalized children.³⁷⁶⁸

On 25 September 2019, the UK pledged USD106 million to Education Cannot Wait (ECW), a global fund which expands access to inclusive quality education for children in emergencies in countries including those of the Sahel region. One third of this pledge is designated for the Sahel region.³⁷⁶⁹ The UK is the fund's top donor.³⁷⁷⁰

On 17 October 2019, a Foreign Liaison Officer from the UK met with Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for West Africa and Security Affairs in the Bureau of African Affairs Whitney Baird; the US Ambassadors to Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger; the US Africa Command leadership; mission directors of the US Agency for International Development; US Department of State and Defense personnel assigned to the Sahel; and Foreign Liaison Officers from France, Germany, Italy, and Spain to discuss a collaborative approach to the Sahel region in Stuttgart, Germany.³⁷⁷¹ These

³⁷⁶⁴ Gender at the Centre Initiative, French Diplomatie (Paris) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism63158/article/gender-at-the-centre-initiative>.

³⁷⁶⁵ Gender at the Centre Initiative, French Diplomatie (Paris) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism63158/article/gender-at-the-centre-initiative>.

³⁷⁶⁶ Gender at the Centre Initiative, French Diplomatie (Paris) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism63158/article/gender-at-the-centre-initiative>.

³⁷⁶⁷ PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, ReliefWeb OCHA (New York) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/pm-steps-uk-effort-get-every-girl-world-school>.

³⁷⁶⁸ PM steps up UK effort to get every girl in the world into school, ReliefWeb OCHA (New York) 24 September 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/pm-steps-uk-effort-get-every-girl-world-school>.

³⁷⁶⁹ World Leaders Pledge a Record US\$216 million to Education Cannot Wait During United Nations General Assembly, Education Cannot Wait (New York) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/unga-2019-pledges/>.

³⁷⁷⁰ World Leaders Pledge a Record US\$216 million to Education Cannot Wait During United Nations General Assembly, Education Cannot Wait (New York) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/unga-2019-pledges/>.

³⁷⁷¹ AFRICOM hosts high level discussions on G5 Sahel region, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/Article/32259/africom-hosts-high-leveldiscussions-on-g5-sahel-region>.

talks were “centred around increasing understanding of country/region specific issues, partner national positions, and their limiting factors.”³⁷⁷²

On 20 November 2019, UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Jonathan Allen briefed the Security Council on the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel.³⁷⁷³ Deputy Permanent Representative Allen called upon all Security Council members to meet the commitments made to the G5 Sahel.³⁷⁷⁴

On 21 November 2019, as a member of the UN Security Council, the UK issued a press statement on the Group of Five for the Sahel (FC-G5S) and encouraged the FC-G5S to continue collaborating and exchanging information through the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali.³⁷⁷⁵ The members of the Security Council also expressed their intention to continue closely monitoring the security situation in the Sahel and the international support directed toward FC-G5S.³⁷⁷⁶

On 1 March 2020, Minister for Africa and Joint Minister for the Department for International Development and the Foreign and Commonwealth James Duddridge attended the inaugural General Assembly of the Sahel Alliance and the sixth Summit of the Leaders of the G5 Sahel in Mauritania.³⁷⁷⁷ Minister Duddridge met with the Heads of State from the Sahel and major international partners and spoke about the “UK’s role in girls’ education.”³⁷⁷⁸ He also met with Mauritanian Minister for Education and National Education Reform Adama Bocar Soko to discuss how the UK can benefit education systems in the Sahel and “break down barriers to girls attending school.”³⁷⁷⁹

On 13 April 2020, the UK announced a GBP5 million donation to ECW to support quick deployment of emergency education for youth in crises and emergency situations. The UK remains ECW’s largest donor and this donation will be used as part of ECW’s mission to support the continuance of educating youth during the COVID-19 pandemic.³⁷⁸⁰

³⁷⁷² AFRICOM hosts high level discussions on G5 Sahel region, United States Africa Command (Stuttgart) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.africom.mil/media-room/Article/32259/africom-hosts-high-leveldiscussions-on-g5-sahel-region>.

³⁷⁷³ G5 efforts to combat instability in the Sahel, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/g5-efforts-to-combat-instability-in-the-sahel>.

³⁷⁷⁴ G5 efforts to combat instability in the Sahel, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 20 November 2019. Access Date: 18 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/g5-efforts-to-combat-instability-in-the-sahel>.

³⁷⁷⁵ Security Council Press Statement on Group of Five for Sahel Joint Force, United Nations (New York) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14029.doc.htm>.

³⁷⁷⁶ Security Council Press Statement on Group of Five for Sahel Joint Force, United Nations (New York) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc14029.doc.htm>.

³⁷⁷⁷ Africa Minister champions UK leadership to help educate girls and end preventable deaths, GOV.UK (London) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>.

³⁷⁷⁸ Africa Minister champions UK leadership to help educate girls and end preventable deaths, GOV.UK (London) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>.

³⁷⁷⁹ Africa Minister champions UK leadership to help educate girls and end preventable deaths, GOV.UK (London) 1 March 2020. Access Date: 12 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/africa-minister-champions-uk-leadership-to-help-educate-girls-and-end-preventable-deaths--2>.

³⁷⁸⁰ United Kingdom Announces £5 Million in Additional Funding for Education Cannot Wait’s Education in Emergency Response to COVID-19, Education Cannot Wait (New York) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 27 April 2020. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/uk-covid19/>.

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to increase coordination, political and financial support to education systems in the Sahel region. While the United Kingdom has provided financial support to developing education systems in the Sahel region and despite being a member of the Sahel Alliance,³⁷⁸¹ it has not increased coordination among G7 members, nor has it provided political support specifically targeted toward education systems.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Victoria Vale

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied in its commitment to encourage partner countries' governments and other donors to join a collective effort in strengthening education systems, thus increasing G7 members' coordination and their political and financial support to education, including basic education.

On 25 September 2019, the US pledged USD12 million to Education Cannot Wait, a global fund that expands access to inclusive quality education for children in emergencies in countries including those of the Sahel region.³⁷⁸²

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to increase coordination, political and financial support to education systems in the Sahel region. While the United States has provided financial support to developing education systems in the Sahel region and has engaged in coordination between G7 members, it has not provided political support specifically targeted toward education systems.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.³⁷⁸³

Analyst: Victoria Vale

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to work collaboratively with international and non-governmental organizations to increase coordination as well as political and financial support to education systems in the Sahel region.

On 20 September 2019, the European Commission participated in the Gender at the Centre Initiative by donating EUR1 million.³⁷⁸⁴ The goal of the Gender at the Centre Initiative is enhancing the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) role on issues of

³⁷⁸¹ The Sahel Alliance, Alliance Sahel. Access Date: 22 April 2020. <https://www.alliance-sahel.org/en/sahel-alliance/>.

³⁷⁸² World Leaders Pledge a Record US\$216 million to Education Cannot Wait During United Nations General Assembly, Education Cannot Wait (New York) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/unga-2019-pledges/>.

³⁷⁸³ This partial compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <https://www.un.org/en/>, <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/>, <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home.html>, <https://news.un.org/en/>, <https://www.africa-newsroom.com/press/index>, <https://www.state.gov/>, <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information>, <https://www.educationcannotwait.org/news/>.

³⁷⁸⁴ Gender at the Centre Initiative, French Diplomatie (Paris) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism63158/article/gender-at-the-centre-initiative>.

gender and education, mobilization of education on gender equality in developing countries and encourage international cooperation on said issue.³⁷⁸⁵

On 25 October 2019, the European Commission, in collaboration with the African Union Commission, the German Academic Exchange Service, British Council, Campus France, and Nuffic, organized a High-Level Conference on Higher Education Collaboration.³⁷⁸⁶ A list of key recommendations was produced, including increased cooperation with the private sector; the promotion of a Pan-African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework; the strengthening of transnational educational partnerships; and a comprehensive approach to refugee integration in tertiary education.³⁷⁸⁷

On 13 November 2019, Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides announced a further EUR35 million in humanitarian aid to humanitarian organizations working in the Sahel region in order to boost access to food and basic social services, including education.³⁷⁸⁸

On 26 February 2020, President of the Sahel Alliance Jean-Yves Le Drian and European Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen signed a commitment by the European Investment Bank to join the Sahel Alliance as a full member, with the goal of providing investment and financing toward education projects in the region.³⁷⁸⁹

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to increase coordination and support to education systems in the Sahel region. It has expressed its political support and outlined means of coordination through a High-Level Conference in collaboration with international partners. Additionally, it has provided additional financial support to humanitarian organizations and educational projects operating in the Sahel region. It has also encouraged the European Investment Bank to commit as a full member of the Sahel Alliance to promote investment in education.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Tomer Zaidman

³⁷⁸⁵ Gender at the Centre Initiative, French Diplomatie (Paris) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 26 November 2019. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/alliance-for-multilateralism63158/article/gender-at-the-centre-initiative>.

³⁷⁸⁶ Conference Outcomes, DAAD Brussels (Brussels) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.daad-brussels.eu/en/events-overview/our-events/africa-europe-event-on-higher-educationcollaboration/conference-outcomes/>.

³⁷⁸⁷ Conference Outcomes, DAAD Brussels (Brussels) 25 October 2019. Access Date: 16 December 2019. <https://www.daad-brussels.eu/en/events-overview/our-events/africa-europe-event-on-higher-educationcollaboration/conference-outcomes/>.

³⁷⁸⁸ EU commits additional €35 million for Africa's Sahel region, European Commission (Brussels) 13 November 2019. Access Date: 9 December 2019. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/eu-commits-additional-35-million-africa-s-sahel-region_en.

³⁷⁸⁹ EIB joins Sahel Alliance, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 26 February 2020. Access Date: 27 February 2020. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2020-068-european-investment-bank-joins-sahel-alliance>.