

Thank you chair for this opportunity to comment on the SG's strategic orientations.

While it is true that there is dissatisfaction with the current multilateral system, and a negative perception of its outcomes, it is also true that international cooperation has produced remarkable agreements, such as the 2030 SDGs and the Paris COP 21.

Implementing these agendas requires adequate measurement, solid and sound policies and leveraging financing for development, three areas in which the OECD plays a unique role.

The global agenda also includes risk-mitigation and risk-management, in areas such as international migration and natural disasters. These are particularly important challenges for Colombia.

I would like to emphasize the importance of not just a multilateral, but also a multidisciplinary approach to address this agenda effectively. The OECD is in a unique position to complement and support the work of more specialized bodies, by bringing evidence-based analysis that underscores the interconnectedness of global goals and challenges.

For this purpose, we support the proposal to convene a High Level Advisory Group that will help this organization think about the future of multilateralism.

We also see the interconnectedness between the productivity and competitiveness agenda, on the one hand, and the inclusiveness and sustainability agenda on the other. Growth is a key goal for our societies, furthermore it is a top priority for any emerging economy. But we cannot promote economic growth at the expense of exacerbating social tensions and environmental degradation.

On the contrary, inclusive and sustainable growth is what we ought to be able to deliver. This is not easy. A balancing act between many often-times conflicting views requires state-of-the-art research and constant debate about the best policy options.

Another tension arises between digitalization and areas such as job-creation and tax-collection to mention just a few.

Dissecting these tensions and bringing to the conversations policy choices that help transform trade-offs into opportunities and balanced solutions is a OECD trademark.

This is why we fully support this SG's strategic orientations. We see a clear vision on the relevance of this organization and its role in a complex world in which the OECD has no substitute.