

Statement of the G20 Science, Technology and Innovation Ministers Meeting

1. We, the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministers and/or Chief Science Advisors of the G20 members and invited countries, met in Beijing on November 4, 2016. The meeting was opened by Madame Liu Yandong, Vice Premier of the State Council and chaired by Dr. Wan Gang, Minister of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China.

2. The G20, which consists of the world's major economies, contributes 90% of the global GDP, over 80% of the global investment in R&D and 70% of the patent applications in the world. The G20 is the premier forum for international economic cooperation and can be a forum for cooperation in science, technology and innovation.

3. At the G20 Hangzhou Summit held in September this year, the Leaders of the G20 determined to build an innovative, invigorated, interconnected and inclusive world economy, released the *G20 Leaders' Communique of Hangzhou Summit*, endorsed the *G20 Blueprint on Innovative Growth* and delivered the *G20 2016 Innovation Action Plan*.

4. At the G20 Hangzhou Summit, the Leaders of the G20 were committed to unleashing mid- to long-term growth potential through innovative growth, supporting

dialogue and cooperation on innovation, and following the principles of synergy, cooperation, openness, inclusiveness and creativity.

5. The G20 STI Ministers Meeting aims to take forward the implementation of the *G20 Blueprint on Innovative Growth* and the *G20 2016 Innovation Action Plan*, including discussions and sharing on policies and practices on innovation-driven growth, innovation and entrepreneurship, priority areas and modalities of STI cooperation, science and technology human resources and innovative talent.

Policies and Practices on Innovation-driven Growth

6. We agree that innovation is a key driver of long-term economic growth. We are committed to tackling one of the root causes of weak growth by taking innovation as a key element of our efforts to identify new engines for growth and jobs in individual countries and the world economy.

7. We reaffirmed the importance of setting up a G20 Task Force to take forward the G20 agenda on innovation, new industrial revolution and digital economy subject to the priorities of the future presidencies, ensuring continuity and consistency with the results so far, promoting synergies with other G20 workstreams and with the support of the OECD and other relevant international organizations. We welcome the role of the G20 Task Force in supporting cooperation on policies and practices for innovative and inclusive growth.

8. We support dialogue and cooperation on innovation, which covers a wide range of domains with science and technological innovation at the core. We encourage dialogue and cooperation among participating countries on good practices and policies to increase private investment in science, technology and innovation. We also support dialogue among governments, businesses and other stakeholders, including B20, C20, L20, T20, W20 and Y20 universities, research institutes, infrastructure organizations (including standards and conformance agencies and bodies), governmental and non-governmental organizations on innovative growth in order to reinforce bilateral and multi-lateral framework of research and innovation.

9. We support the development of a G20 online exchange community within the existing Innovation Policy Platform in collaboration with OECD and World Bank in order to share good practices on innovation policies and measures, including evidence of their impact.

10. We support the release of the 2016 G20 Innovation Report prepared by the OECD, the contents of which include existing measurable indicators and members' experience, good practices, innovation strategies and implementation barriers. We encourage a broad and open discussion on the conclusions of the paper engaging all stakeholders.

11. We encourage G20 members to enhance the synergy and cooperation in their respective national and regional innovation systems, and encourage efforts to strengthen developing countries capacity in science, technology, and innovation (STI)

including their innovation ecosystem. By doing so, we support coordination, coherence and cooperation on STI-related matters, help share widely the benefits of innovation and unleash the growth potential of developing and low-income and middle-income countries.

12. We support efforts to promote voluntary knowledge diffusion and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and conditions. We emphasize the importance of more open trade and investment regimes to facilitate innovation including through intellectual property rights protection, and improving public communication in science and technology. We take note of steps taken to launch Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries pursuant to the UN GA resolution A/RES/70/294.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

13. We encourage innovation and entrepreneurship; support the integration of creativity with science, technology and innovation and endorse efforts to develop an ecosystem that supports innovation and entrepreneurship.

14. We encourage cross-border investment in science, technology, entrepreneurship and innovation to promote economic and employment growth. We further recognize the important role of early stage capital investment in commercializing new technologies.

15. We believe that a culture of innovation in the digital society, for example, will guide and promote innovation and entrepreneurship. Thus we encourage G20

members to develop a fully inclusive information society, learn from each other and endeavor to implement good practices and share success stories while advocating an entrepreneurial spirit of “encouraging innovation and tolerating failure” so as to create an innovation-friendly environment.

16. We recognize the importance of and support maintaining an enabling legal, regulatory, and policy environment, characterized by openness and transparency, stakeholder participation, non-discrimination, support for market competition, predictability, sound evidence-based policy making, and regulatory accountability.

17. We acknowledge that science, technology and innovation clusters and parks can be one way to develop and commercialise science, technology and innovation, and nurture entrepreneurship and emerging industries. We support the exchanges and cooperation between and among science, technology and innovation clusters and parks.

Priority Fields and Modalities of STI Cooperation

18. We emphasize the importance of investing in basic science. We recognise efforts to initiate and implement collaborative programs and projects to help address significant global challenges such as climate change, infectious diseases, resource scarcity, crosscutting challenges related to food, energy and water, sustainable cities, affordable public healthcare, and humanitarian challenges.

19. We encourage discussion on open science and access to publicly-funded research results on findable, accessible, interoperable and re-usable (FAIR) principles in order to increase collaboration on science and research activities.

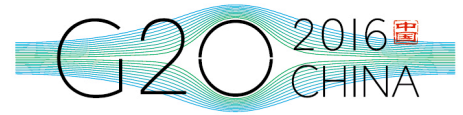
20. We welcome the G20 Business Forum on Innovation held concurrently with this Meeting as it encourages public-private partnership in STI and we support such future forums. We support the engagement of the business community, the promotion of public-private partnerships and cooperation endeavours in STI between and among G20 members.

Science and Technology Human Resources and Innovative Talents

21. We reaffirm that human resources are one of the most vital elements for STI development. We support the mobility of science, technology and innovation human resources and efforts to help address the future demand for new skills and help the work force, including the disadvantaged groups, adapt to the changes brought about by new technologies.

22. We support efforts to share good practices on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education and skill training and mentoring for entrepreneurship and innovation.

23. We stress and support the important role of youth and women in STI, and agree to strengthen talent exchanges and cooperation. We welcome the G20 Youth



Entrepreneurship and Innovation Partnership which encourages cooperation on incubation, maker spaces and business start-ups.

24. We encourage future G20 STI engagements and welcome the German Presidency's plan to hold G20 Ministers Meeting on Digital Economy in 2017.

