Meeting with Ms Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development of New Zealand

On 27 September, the OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa, Ms Gabriela Ramos, held a bilateral meeting with Ms Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development of New Zealand, and Ms Jane Coombs, New Zealand’s Permanent Representative to the OECD and Ambassador to France, Monaco, Portugal and Senegal. During the meeting, Ms Ramos highlighted the need for a new growth narrative focused on well-being and on placing people at the centre of public policy. She acknowledged that New Zealand is leading by example with concrete actions such as the Investing in Children Programme, the Housing First initiative, the Income-Related Rent Subsidy and the Social Security Legislation Rewrite Bill, among others.

The Conference of Paris

On 2 October, Ms Gabriela Ramos participated in the Conference of Paris: Reshaping Globalization, Mastering Change. Ms Ramos delivered a speech on “Towards a New Capitalism: Fostering Inclusiveness”. In her remarks, she stressed the importance of taking action to make the digital transformation inclusive and including a gender angle from the outset. She also added that the gender gap that exists in the participation of STEM careers later translates on into a leadership gap. As such, in order to tackle this challenge it is important for girls to have role models whom they can look up to and who can give them the confidence to break stereotypes.

Mission to Buenos Aires, Argentina

On 3-5 October, Ms Gabriela Ramos was in Buenos Aires, Argentina to participate in the Women20 (W20) and the Business20 (B20) Summits.

On 3 October, in the context of the W20 Summit, Ms Ramos delivered remarks on the Panel “Looking into the Future of Work”. In her speech, she stressed the importance of women’s continued participation in the workforce, particularly in SMEs, aiming at a more inclusive growth.

Ms Ramos also moderated the Panel “Real Influencers”. In her remarks, she stated that women continue to face an uphill battle in society, school, career (private and public), and at home. She emphasised that women face numerous barriers when engaging in entrepreneurial activity, particularly in financial and digital literacy, as well as when gaining access to finance and support services. As such, taking concrete measures, and especially tackling gender stereotypes, remains essential.

On 4 October, in the context of the B20 Summit, Ms Ramos delivered a keynote on “10 years after the Crisis: the Value of the G20 in Upholding Multilateralism”. In her speech, she stated that, when countries trade, their economies grow faster; they are more productive; technology and ideas spread more easily; people have access to better jobs and this leads to higher wages. She added that business can also help to level the playing field by promoting responsible business conduct and due diligence.

Third and Final Meeting of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group

On 8 October, Ms Gabriela Ramos delivered a speech for the opening of the Third and Final Meeting of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group under the 2018 Argentinian Presidency. In her remarks, she said that corruption perpetuates inequality and poverty. This has a significant impact on well-being, on the distribution of income and it also undermines opportunities to participate equally in social, economic and political life. She congratulated the G20 for making the fight against corruption a core priority of its agenda. She also urged the G20 to focus on the implementation of measures that focus on promoting strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.