



Newsletter on the main activities
of the OECD Chief of Staff
and Sherpa,

GABRIELA RAMOS

Mission to Tokyo, Japan

On 18-20 January, the OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa, Ms Gabriela Ramos, was in Tokyo to participate in the First Sherpa Meeting of the G20 Osaka Summit. In her interventions, Ms Ramos emphasised that international co-operation remains crucial to address the slowdown in global growth.



Regarding finance, trade and investment, she highlighted the importance of tax transparency, unrestricted services trade, data protection and responsible business conduct, among others.

On the subject of health, she stated that two key issues that need to be addressed in order to achieve the SDG on Universal Health Coverage are, the financial sustainability of health systems, and the shortage of health workers. To tackle these challenges, she recommended improving the efficiency of health expenditure, catalysing domestic resource mobilisation and improving the skills and adaptability of health workers.

On the issue of ageing, Ms Ramos underlined that to effectively address a growing old-age dependency ratio requires: improving the employability of older workers and tackling barriers to their employment by reducing age discrimination in firms. Ms Ramos offered OECD support to identify public health policy options for keeping people healthy for longer.

Lastly, on gender, Ms Ramos stated that progress made by G20 countries to close the gender gap has been slow. As such, substantial gaps remained in labour force participation, wages and the digital economy. She stressed the need to address the cultural and social norms that contribute to these gaps, as well as to promote an equal

sharing of paid and unpaid work between men and women.

During her visit to Japan, Ms Ramos also held meetings with several G20 Sherpas and high-level officials, including Antoine Kasel, Sherpa of the EU; Fahad Abdullah Almubarak, Sherpa of Saudi Arabia; and Rodrigo Yañez, Vice-Minister of Trade of Chile and Sherpa of Chile.

Mission to Davos, Switzerland

On 22-24 January, Ms Ramos was in Davos, Switzerland to participate in the [Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum](#).

On 23 January, Ms Ramos intervened in the panel "[Sustainable Impact Hub 360 Discussion: Accelerating SDG Finance through Collaboration](#)". In her remarks, she stressed that external finance and private investment to developing countries have been decreasing. However, there has been a rise in private finance for sustainable development through blended finance and social impact investing. To ensure these investments contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, Ms Ramos highlighted the need for public and private development partners to focus on greater impact and effectiveness, particularly in four areas: finance, innovation, data and policy.



Ms Ramos also delivered opening remarks at the meeting of the American Association of Retired Persons. In her speech, "How Employers Build, Support and Sustain a Multigenerational, Inclusive Workforce", she

underlined that longer employment could be a way for people to remain engaged in society, to keep offering their skills, and for society to continue valuing the wisdom and experience of older people. She also stressed the need to tackle age discrimination in recruitment, as well as to invest in lifelong learning, particularly an in increasingly digitalised economy.

On 24 January, Ms Ramos delivered remarks at the panel "A Common Language for Digital Intelligence". In her speech, she highlighted that digital intelligence – a combination of digital skills and literacy – is essential to ensure that people can take advantage of all potential benefits of the digital transformation while also managing the risks associated with it.

Meeting with Mr Mauricio Vila, Governor of Yucatan State of Mexico

On 25 January, Ms Ramos held a meeting with Mr Mauricio Vila, Governor of Yucatan State of Mexico, in Paris, to sign an agreement on the implementation of recommendations on regulatory policy and governance in the State. Further to the signature of the agreement, they also discussed a potential collaboration on the regulation of Mexico's 'Maya Train' infrastructure plan. The collaboration could potentially focus on a revision of the plan's governance; addressing regulatory barriers and bottlenecks to its construction; as well as enhancing co-ordination and co-operation with the federal government. Ms Ramos also briefed Mr Vila on potential OECD support on territorial policies, regional tourism and integrity.

