FACILITATING TRANSITION TO A NEW EMPLOYMENT LANDSCAPE

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

- In the context of transition to the new economy, growing number of individuals remain vulnerable to economic downturns and require a system of social supports to empower them in earning income, transitioning between jobs, and contributing to the economy.
- This is especially challenging as many social protection programs are designed assuming one full-time employer for each worker. With shifting work arrangements and rise in new forms of employment, the social safety net is not working for an increasing number of citizens.
- Women, youth, immigrants, older workers and persons with disabilities facing barriers to traditional full-time employment are often disadvantaged when it comes to job quality: fairness, wages, social benefits, access to training and legislative protections.
- In line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G7 governments need to adapt our policies to the changing labour landscape and develop an ecosystem of flexible effective and responsive social safety nets, assurances and protections to cover vulnerable workers in times of economic vulnerabilities and incentivise them to enter, stay and advance in the new labour market.
- While developing these policies, it is important to leverage the impacts of new disruptive technologies to close existing gaps – gender gap, wage gap, labour standards gap, social protection gap – and not to widen them.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- Are changes/adjustments needed to ensure that job protections, benefits and supports are responsive to a rapidly evolving labour market while ensuring equality of opportunities and addressing gender gap?
- What are innovative social security schemes that provide flexibility and security to workers outside standard forms of employment?
- How can we support workers in new forms of employment, including those engaged in online platform-based activities?