INCLUSIVE GROWTH: SHARING OPPORTUNITIES AND BENEFITS

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

- Technological advances are enabling the creation of new products, new markets and new business models. These advancements also have the potential to generate growth as well as increase well-being and quality of life for all, including those who are more vulnerable.
- While a rapidly changing landscape presents a host of opportunities, in order to take advantage of them, new approaches to support the transition and adaptation of workers to the jobs of the future and to foster inclusive growth are necessary.
- Transformations driven by demographic changes, automation, digitalization, globalization, and labour market and skills challenges have also contributed to increasing domestic income and wage distribution inequalities, with the benefits oftentimes disproportionally accruing at the top.
- Persistent gender gaps in labour market participation and in wages also remain and gender inequalities, including those related to the gender digital divide, may prevent some women from fully benefitting from the new economy. Similarly, youth experience disproportional hardships despite being contributors to a progressive and growing economy.
- Benefiting from technological advances requires having a workforce with the right skills and training for the new jobs. As the gap expands between the skills needed for the jobs being eliminated (due to technological innovations) versus the skills in demand for the new jobs created, it is expected that it will be more challenging for displaced workers to transition into new forms of work.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- What measures can be taken to share the benefits of economic growth across different segments of the population, including women, youth and others?
- How can we best support youth participation in the labour market?
- What are the main hurdles women face when it comes to obtaining leadership roles and fair wages in the workplace? How can we work towards eliminating these barriers?
- How can we ensure that workers acquire the skills they need, when they need them, so that no one is left behind?
- Are there targeted approaches to skills training that would help achieve inclusive economic growth?