



FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE

PRIORITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE UNDER THE MEXICAN PRESIDENCY

OBJECTIVES FOR 2024-2026

Mexico assumes the FATF Presidency from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2026, and is committed to contribute to the safety and security of our nations and economies in line with the spirit of our Mandate and the [Strategic Priorities](#) agreed by FATF Ministers in April 2024. Elisa de Anda Madrazo's Presidency will be guided by the principle of inclusiveness and will promote financial inclusion, ensure cohesion of the Global Network, further integrate observers and the private sector in our work, and diversity in FATF's governance.

The Mexican Presidency has five key priorities:

ADVANCING FINANCIAL INCLUSION

Limited access to formal financial services leads to greater reliance on cash and unregulated channels, increasing money laundering and terrorist financing risks. In 2019, the FATF formally articulated its long-standing commitment to supporting and promoting financial inclusion in its Mandate. The Mexican Presidency aims to advance financial inclusion by strengthening the implementation of the risk-based approach and a proportional application of AML/CFT measures. The FATF will update its Standards and Guidance on financial inclusion, to foster the use of simplified due diligence measures in low-risk situations. The FATF will also ensure that jurisdictions and assessors can benefit from updated training on financial inclusion, with a focus on supervisors' risk-based approach, and will promote a greater use of the FATF's e-learning resources. In line with the increased focus on risk and effectiveness under the new round of mutual evaluations, assessors will focus on whether supervisors have moved from a rule-based to a risk-based approach in the implementation of the Standards.

The FATF will also reach out to the private sector to clarify the requirements and promote the risk-based implementation of the Standards and under the principle of proportionality. The FATF will leverage existing forums/meetings to organise regional sessions with the Global Network and partners, including the World Bank (WB), International Monetary Fund (IMF), United Nations (UN), Financial Stability Board (FSB), the G20 Financial Inclusion Working Group and other relevant stakeholders that prioritise financial inclusion as a means to reduce economic inequality.

ENSURING A SUCCESSFUL START TO THE NEW ROUND OF ASSESSMENTS

A total of seven new round FATF mutual evaluations will be adopted under this Presidency. The main priority of the Mexico Presidency is to deliver more focused, risk-based and timely mutual evaluations, and to ensure that countries understand and are prepared for the process.

In preparation for this new cycle of peer reviews, the FATF underwent a robust strategic review of its assessments and follow-up processes, resulting in a revised assessment methodology and procedures, and revised criteria for the prioritisation of review of countries with strategic deficiencies in their measures to combat AML/CFT.

In light of these modifications to the assessment process, as well as the revisions of 11 Recommendations, the Mexican Presidency will work to ensure that the FATF prioritises the necessary training for the FATF and the Global Network to ensure countries' preparedness and a sustainable quality and consistency of the assessments. The Presidency will also support FATF work to strengthen the quality of recommended actions.

STRENGTHENING THE COHESION OF THE GLOBAL NETWORK

The Presidency aims to maintain and reinforce cooperation and collaboration between FATF and the FATF-Style Regional Bodies (FSRB) - together the Global Network - and strengthen cohesiveness as they transition to the new round of mutual evaluations. Recognising the importance of the strategic partnership with the Global Network as well as inclusivity and collaboration, the Presidency will invite guest jurisdictions from FSRBs to the FATF to participate as observers on a rotating basis. This initiative will provide a greater diversity of perspectives and backgrounds from regions that currently have no members in the FATF and will increase their participation in working groups and key projects, including as observers to standard setting and risks and typologies work. The FATF will increase its attention to the challenges, particularly for low-capacity countries, in implementing the FATF Standards and identifying solutions.

The FATF will strengthen its partnership with observers to mobilise assessment resources, strengthen policy traction, and better target capacity development across the Global Network.

SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FATF STANDARDS, WITH A FOCUS ON ASSET RECOVERY, BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP, AND VIRTUAL ASSETS

The FATF Standards on asset recovery, beneficial ownership, and virtual assets hold intrinsic significance, and their interrelation forms a critical foundation for ensuring that crime does not pay.

Asset recovery - The Mexican Presidency will build on work to strengthen the FATF Standards on asset recovery, completed under the Singaporean Presidency. The FATF will develop new Guidance that will enhance the effective implementation of these amendments and encourage implementation by partnering with a range of stakeholders.

Beneficial ownership - To strengthen the implementation of FATF's standards on beneficial ownership, the Mexican Presidency will facilitate the sharing of experiences on beneficial ownership registries or equally efficient systems; training initiatives and outreach to and engagement with the private sector to

promote greater understanding, buy-in and implementation of the FATF Standards.

Virtual assets - In light of the opportunities and risks posed by virtual assets and the challenges of implementation of Recommendation 15 highlighted by recent FATF reports, the Presidency will provide continuous focus on this to accelerate the level of implementation.

TERRORIST FINANCING AND PROLIFERATION FINANCE

Preventing and combating terrorist financing and proliferation finance are a critical aspect of the FATF mandate. The Mexican Presidency will support work to increase and update understanding of terrorist financing risks and ensure that the implementation of counter-terrorist financing measures is properly assessed in the mutual evaluation and related follow-up processes. The FATF will work on providing a current view of the complex sanctions evasions schemes being used by proliferation financiers. This work will assist public and private sectors to implement the changes to Recommendation 1 that will be assessed for the first time in the new round of evaluations.

ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES

Communication - Effective communication has a critical role in advancing the FATF mission, and enhancing its commitment to transparency and accountability. Through targeted outreach and strategic messaging, we will engage stakeholders from government agencies, the private sector, civil society, academia, and the broader public. In complement, the FATF shall continue to strengthen its engagement with other international fora and organisations, including observers to the FATF.

Private Sector Engagement - The FATF has had a longstanding relationship with the private sector, nurtured through targeted public consultations and an annual Private Sector Collaboration Forum. The 2024-2026 Presidency will use these opportunities to reinvigorate the relationship and engagement with the private sector and increase the sectoral and geographical diversity of private sector representation in FATF work.

CONCLUSION

Recognising the importance of maintaining a focused agenda, these priorities aim to consolidate the significant changes made in recent years and safeguard the progress achieved. The Presidency looks forward to working collaboratively with all members, associate members, and partners, and to be reflective of the diverse perspectives within our global community.

The Mexico Presidency looks forward to a successful term, driven by cooperation and shared commitment to the FATF's mandate and goals.