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Ministry of
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Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MIKTA's Year-long Journey in the COVID-19 Era

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I. Foreword

I. Foreword



The new year has begun, and we are still grappling with the complex challenges heaped by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the midst of such difficulties, the silver lining is that we are making every effort to turn this time of crisis into a new opportunity.

MIKTA is an epitome of such efforts. As responsible middle powers from diverse corners of the world, the five MIKTA members have been at the forefront of promoting multilateral cooperation in the face of the pandemic both individually and collectively.

It was a great privilege for the Republic of Korea to assume the MIKTA chairmanship during this unique time. While the unforeseen global health crisis prevented us from carrying out year-long activities as previously planned, I note with satisfaction that we were able to steer MIKTA toward the uncharted areas of cooperation and confront the challenges head-on.

One of the last year's key achievements was the first-ever MIKTA joint statement delivered at the Head of State level. While there have been more than seventy joint statements delivered on behalf of MIKTA, this was the first attempt at leaders' level. On the occasion of the high-level meeting to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations on 21 September, H.E. Moon Jae-in, President of the Republic of Korea, also speaking for Mexico, Indonesia, Turkey, and Australia, highlighted the bridging role played by the MIKTA countries in promoting multilateral cooperation amid the pandemic. He also underscored MIKTA's pledge

to play a leading role in facilitating recovery, building back better, and realizing an inclusive community that leaves no one behind.

Another achievement of the last year was the launch of an array of new dialogue channels aimed to share lessons learned in responding to the pandemic. These included newly added networks among health ministries, women affairs ministries, development cooperation agencies, and academia, among others. Furthermore, MIKTA foreign affairs and health senior officials held the first-ever joint meeting (2+2) on 26 November to discuss ways to strengthen multilateral health security architecture and promote collaboration at this critical juncture for global health.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all MIKTA colleagues for their support and collaboration during our chairmanship. While the ongoing pandemic has prevented us from meeting in person, I was truly honored to host a series of virtual meetings on a regular basis to discuss the pressing issues of our time. My sincere hope is that our year-long journey will serve as a springboard in taking MIKTA to the next level in the years to come. I look forward to working closely with all of you during Australia's chairmanship in 2021.

Ham Sang-wook

*Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea
(Korea's MIKTA Senior Official)*

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II. Overview of MIKTA

II. Overview of MIKTA

Concept

- MIKTA is a cross-regional group that brings together Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Turkey, and Australia.

History

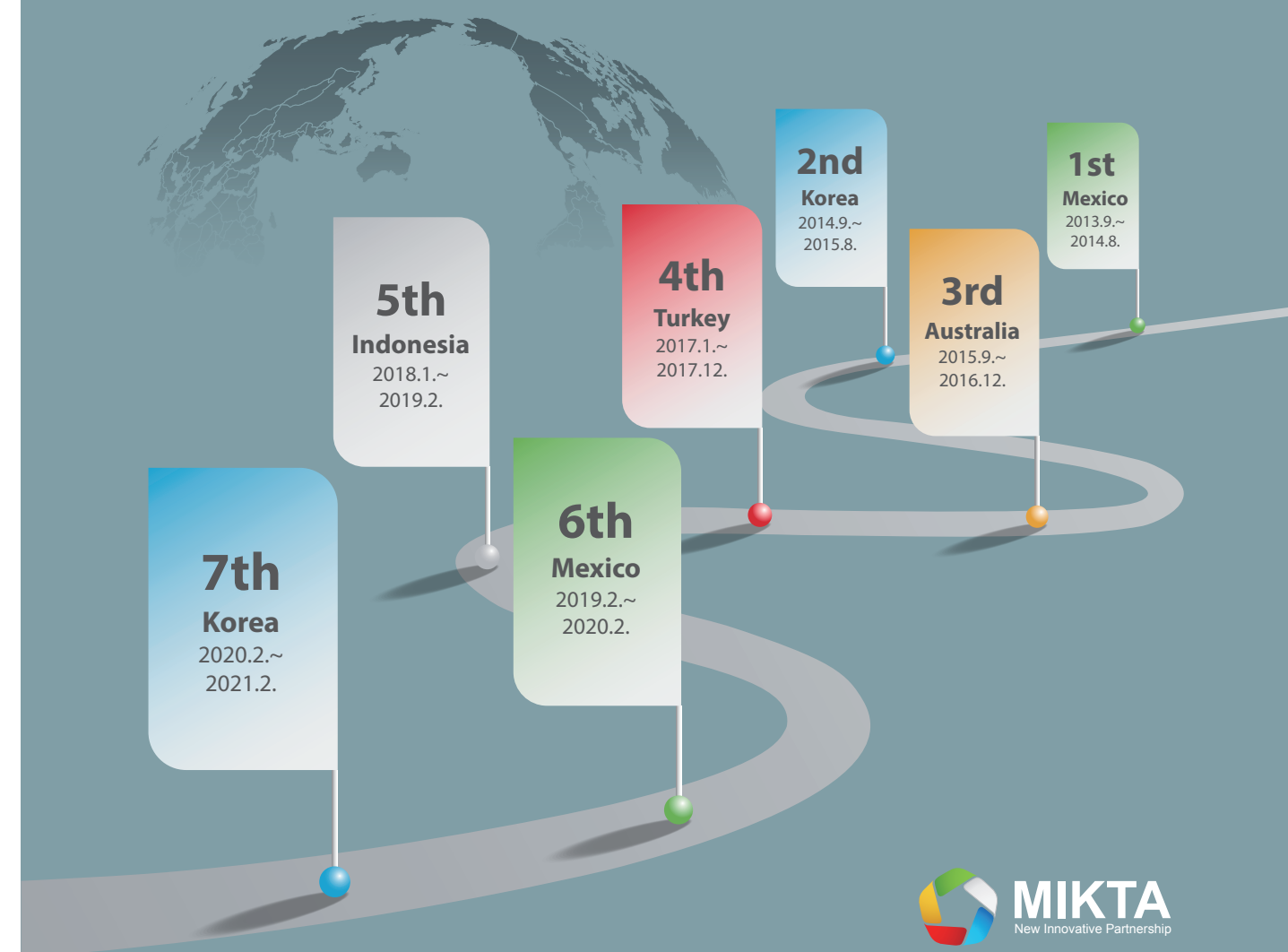
- MIKTA was created in September 2013, when the 1st Foreign Ministers' Meeting took place on the margins of the 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly.
- Since its launch, MIKTA has held a series of meetings, including 17 Foreign Ministers' Meetings, 6 Parliamentary Speakers' Consultations, and 10 Senior Officials' Meetings. MIKTA has also delivered over 70 joint statements on a range of global and regional issues.

Characteristics

- MIKTA members, based on the shared resolve to address global challenges through multilateral approaches, strive to play a constructive role in the international arena.
- MIKTA's cross-regional nature has also motivated its members to enhance mutual understanding, deepen bilateral ties, and identify common grounds for cooperation in various fields.

Rotating Chair

- MIKTA is chaired by each member in turn. The chair hosts a series of meetings and coordinates joint activities between MIKTA headquarters and missions during its one-year tenure.



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III. Year-long Journey at a Glance

III. Year-long Journey at a Glance

Activities Coordinated by Headquarters

Level

- Head of State
- ▨ Ministerial
- ▨ Senior Official
- ▨ Other

Activities Coordinated by Permanent Missions

Location

- New York
- ▨ Geneva
- ▨ Vienna

Korea, The 7th Chair
Feb. 2020 - Feb. 2021

- ▨ Ministerial Joint Statement (4.9)
- ▨ Senior Officials' Meeting (4.16)

- ▨ Joint Statement on UN75 Declaration (2.21)
- ▨ Permanent Representatives' Meeting with UN Secretary-General (3.13)
- ▨ Permanent Representatives' Meeting with Candidate for the GA President (4.30)
- ▨ Permanent Representatives' Meeting (2.19)
- ▨ Joint Statement at the 43rd Session of the Human Rights Council (2.24)
- ▨ Permanent Representatives' Meeting with UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights (4.28)
- ▨ Permanent Representatives' Meeting with Executive Director of the Global Fund (5.6)
- ▨ Permanent Representatives' Meeting (2.17)

- ▨ Foreign Ministers' Meeting (7.17)
- ▨ Ministerial Joint Statement (7.17)
- ▨ Senior Officials' Meeting (6.10)
- ▨ Virtual Dialogue among Development Cooperation Agencies (6.9)

- Joint Statement delivered at the Head of State level at the UN 75 Commemoration (9.21)
- ▨ Ministerial Joint Statement (11.5)
- ▨ Virtual Dialogue among Ministers in charge of Women Affairs (10.8)
- ▨ Health Senior Officials' Meeting (10.15)
- ▨ Foreign and Health Senior Officials' 2+2 Meeting (11.26)
- ▨ Academic Dialogue (9.18)

- ▨ Foreign Ministers' Meeting (Feb.)
- ▨ Ministerial Joint Communique (Feb.)
- ▨ Senior Officials' Meeting (1.20)
- ▨ Parliamentary Speakers' Consultation (12.17)

- ▨ Joint Statement at the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment (6.9)
- ▨ Joint Statement at the 2020 HLPF (7.16)
- ▨ Deputy Permanent Representatives' Meeting (7.10)

- ▨ Permanent Representatives' Meeting (10.6)
- ▨ Joint Statement at the Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security (10.29)
- ▨ Deputy Permanent Representatives' Meeting with the GA President (11.3)
- ▨ Joint Statement at the 45th Session of the Human Rights Council (9.28)
- ▨ Joint Statement at the Executive Committee of the UNHCR (10.5)
- ▨ Joint Seminar on Intellectual Property and Creative Economy (11.9)
- ▨ Joint Webinar on the margins of IAEA General Conference (9.22)
- ▨ Joint Statement at the IAEA Technical Assistance and Cooperation Committee (11.16)

- ▨ Joint Statement on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (12.1)
- ▨ Joint Reception marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (12.2)
- ▨ Joint Tweet on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (12.3)

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IV. Key Achievements

IV. Key Achievements

Heads of State:

*Delivering the first-ever joint statement
at the Head of State level at the United Nations
to call for unity, solidarity, and cooperation*

In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, MIKTA members have been at the forefront of promoting multilateral cooperation in various international fora. Key amongst these was the MIKTA joint statement delivered for the first time at the head of state level at the United Nations on 21 September. While there have been more than 70 joint statements since the launch of MIKTA in 2013, this was the first attempt at leaders' level.

On the occasion of the high-level meeting to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, H.E. Moon Jae-in, President of the Republic of Korea, also speaking for Mexico, Indonesia, Turkey, and Australia, underscored the bridging role played by the five MIKTA countries in promoting multilateral cooperation in the wake of the pandemic. He also highlighted MIKTA's pledge to play a leading role in facilitating recovery, building back better and realizing an inclusive community that leaves no one behind.



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The five countries of MIKTA share the common understanding that the key to overcoming COVID-19 is unity, solidarity and cooperation. As a cross-regional and innovative partnership, we agreed to play a bridging role between developed and developing countries, as well as among regions, and also promote multilateral cooperation.

”

IV. Key Achievements

Parliamentary Speakers:

Kick-starting the second five-year cycle with the 6th MIKTA Speakers' Consultation

The MIKTA parliamentary speakers held the 6th Speakers' Consultation virtually on 17 December. This consultation, chaired by the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, H.E. Park Byeong-Seug, marked the successful completion of the first five-year cycle of the inter-parliamentary partnership. Under the theme "Complex Challenges and Parliamentary Leadership in the Pandemic Era," the speakers discussed how parliaments could strengthen cooperation and contribute to the international community amid the pandemic.

In the joint statement adopted at the meeting, the speakers agreed to fulfill the parliaments' responsibilities to leave no one behind in responding to the pandemic, including presenting sustainable and effective measures for vulnerable groups who bear the brunt of COVID-19. They also pledged to use this meeting as a springboard to kick-start the second term of the inter-parliamentary partnership, building upon the previous achievements.



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Under the circumstances where social distancing and other health protocols have become a part of life, and socio-economic systems are not functioning properly, we agreed that the parliaments of MIKTA must fulfill their duties and responsibilities to protect our people and economy, present sustainable and effective measures for socially and economically vulnerable groups who bear the brunt of the impact of COVID-19, and leave no one behind.

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IV. Key Achievements

Foreign Ministers:

Displaying the spirit of solidarity and cooperation during the unprecedented time of global crisis

The foreign ministers of MIKTA countries held the first-ever virtual meeting (the 17th Foreign Ministers' Meeting) on 17 July to discuss how MIKTA can add value in strengthening multilateralism amid the pandemic. At the meeting chaired by the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Korea, H.E. Kang Kyung-wha, the ministers shared the view that there was a greater need than ever for middle powers, such as the MIKTA members, to step up collaboration to revitalize multilateralism on the international stage.

There have been five ministerial joint statements in the year 2020, including the two statements coordinated by Mexico. Key amongst these was the statement on the COVID-19 pandemic issued on 9 April, in which ministers pledged to act in full solidarity to overcome the pandemic and build a more resilient future. Another was released on 17 July to congratulate fellow MIKTA members on United Nations election results, including the election of Turkish candidate, H.E. Volkan Bozkır, as the 75th President of the General Assembly, the election of Mexico as a non-permanent member of the Security Council, the election of Indonesia and Mexico as ECOSOC members. There have also been three joint statements to grieve with fellow members over disasters such as the bushfires in Australia and earthquakes in Turkey, further displaying the spirit of solidarity.



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When we met in September last year in New York, we discussed the fraying of multilateral system and underscored the urgent need to revitalize it. And this shared resolve now holds more weight than ever. We need a resilient network of multilateralism to survive the current pandemic and future global crises. And MIKTA is ideally positioned to reinvigorate multilateral cooperation. We are a cross-regional group of like-minded countries, responsible middle-powers that clearly see both national and global interests in multilateral approaches.

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IV. Key Achievements

Senior Officials and Other Experts:

Launching a vast array of dialogue channels to share lessons learned in responding to the pandemic

During Korea's chairmanship, MIKTA senior officials held four meetings within a year (16 April, 10 June, 26 November and 20 January) to continue discussions on ways to promote MIKTA collaborations on complex challenges heaped by the pandemic.

Their consultations have paved the way toward launching an array of new dialogue channels to share lessons learned in responding to the pandemic. These included meetings among health senior officials (15 October), ministers in charge of women affairs (8 October), and experts from development cooperation agencies (9 June), as well as a webinar bringing together academic experts from the five countries (18 September).

Another key progress was the first-ever joint meeting held among MIKTA foreign affairs and health senior officials on 26 November, adding a new layer to the existing network. This meeting served as an opportunity to promote collaboration among the five countries' foreign and health ministries, with the ultimate goal of strengthening the multilateral health security architecture and enhancing our preparedness for global health challenges.



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In the face of a virus deadlier than most conventional weapons, a collaboration between foreign and health ministries is crucial to advance due deliberations on health security.

In this light, today's 2+2 meeting can be a launching pad to pool our strengths together, such as health officials' in-depth topical expertise and foreign officials' rich experience in coalition-building.

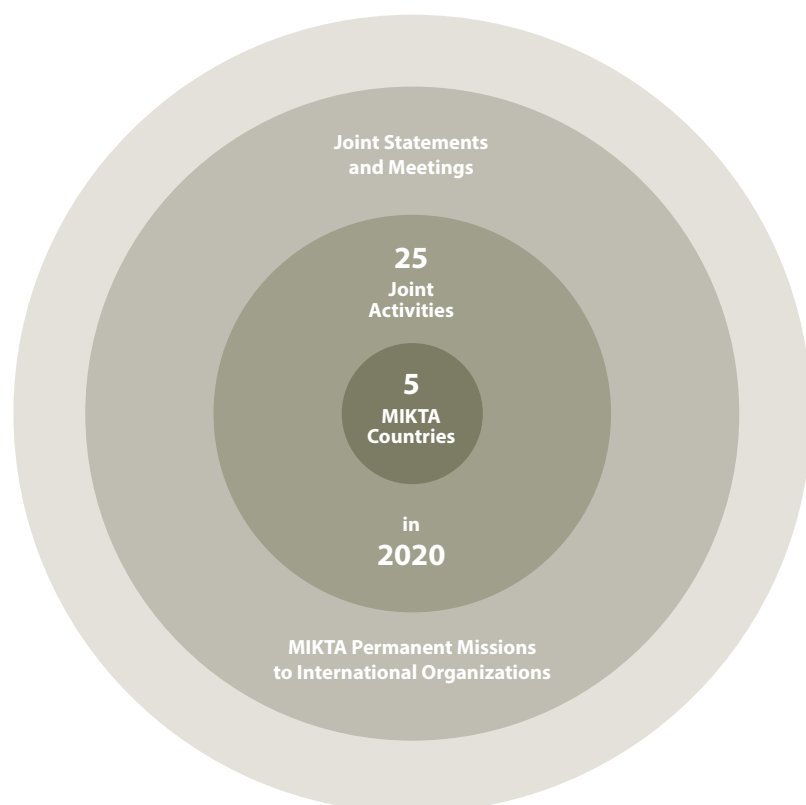
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IV. Key Achievements

Permanent Missions to International Organizations: Advocating a shared view on multilateralism in various international fora

Permanent missions of MIKTA countries based in New York, Geneva and Vienna carried out joint activities to underscore the need to shore up multilateralism amid the pandemic. These joint efforts helped reaffirm MIKTA's unique role as diverse countries coming together on behalf of multilateralism.

A total of twenty-five activities were carried out in 2020. These included joint statements delivered at various organs such as United Nations General Assembly, Security Council, and Economic and Social Council. There have also been numerous meetings held with key figures of international organizations and non-government organizations, including the UN Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, and Executive Director of the Global Fund, among others.

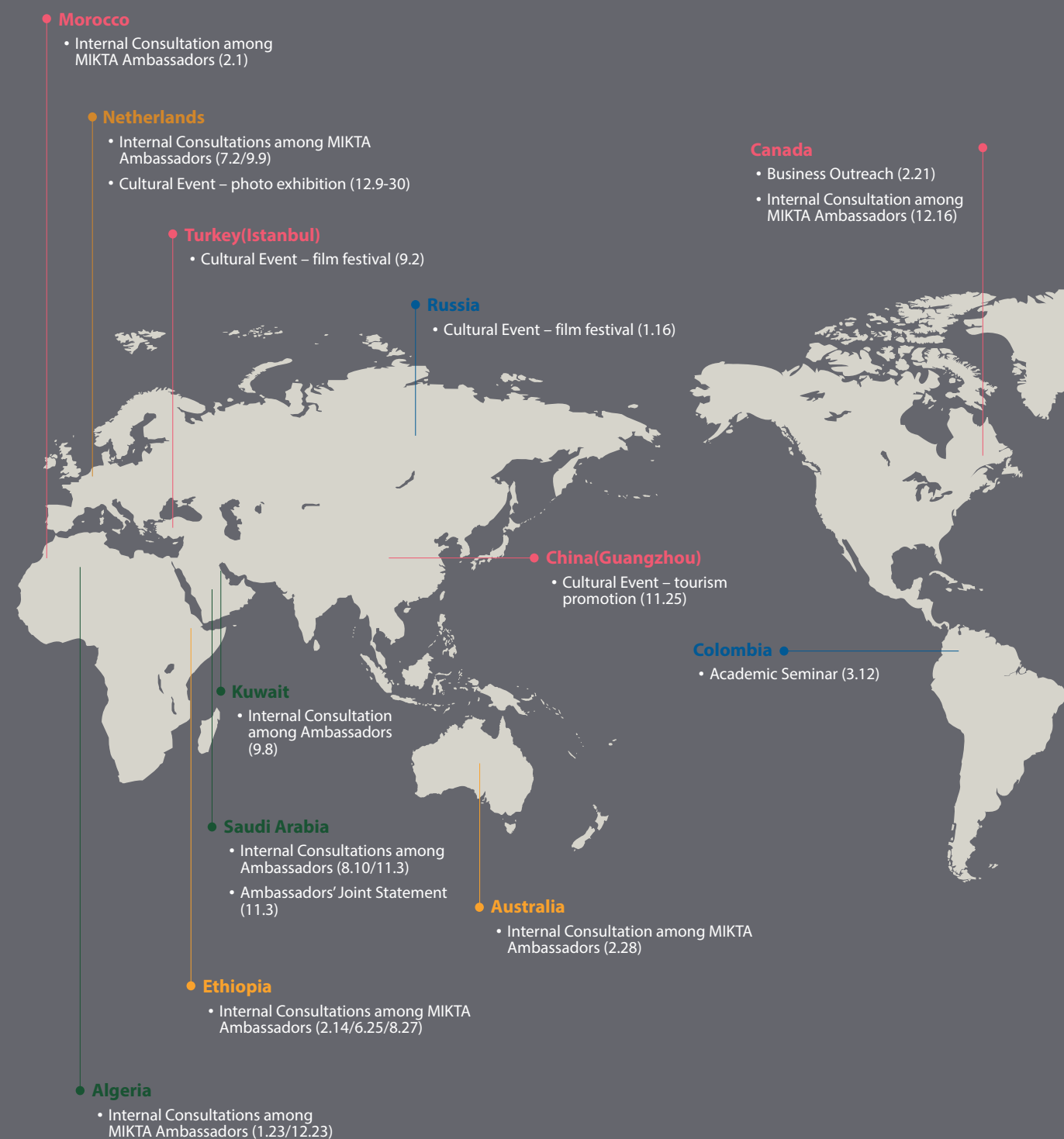
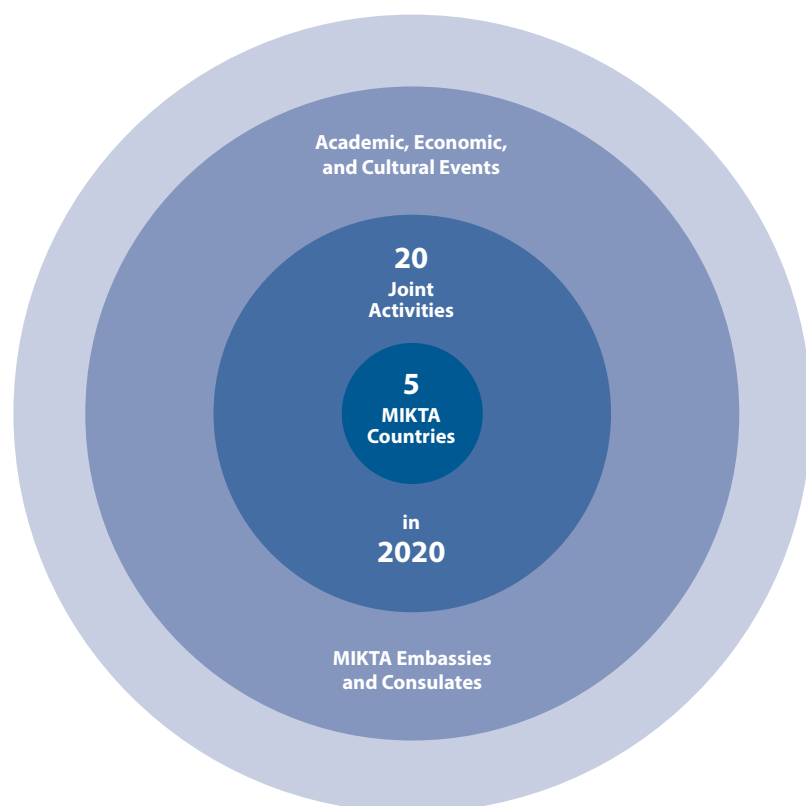


IV. Key Achievements

Other Embassies and Consulates: Carrying out joint activities to engage with the global audience

In addition, MIKTA embassies and consulates around the world carried out a number of joint activities aimed at deepening mutual ties and engaging with the local community to increase MIKTA's visibility and advance the group's common agenda.

Despite difficulties posed by the pandemic, a total of twenty activities were carried out in 2020 in diverse corners of the world. These included academic, economic and cultural events, such as academic seminar, business outreach, tourism promotion, film festival and photo exhibition, among others. There have also been numerous internal consultations among MIKTA ambassadors and consuls to enhance mutual understanding and identify common grounds for cooperation in various fields.



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V. Snapshots Around the World

V. Snapshots Around the World

MIKTA's Year-long Journey
in the COVID-19 Era



V. Snapshots Around the World



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VI. Appendix

MIKTA Vision Statement



22 May 2015, Seoul

- We, the Foreign Ministers of MIKTA members (Mexico, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Turkey and Australia), gathered in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 22 May 2015 for the 5th MIKTA Foreign Ministers' Meeting and adopted the following MIKTA Vision Statement.
- The world is changing rapidly. New global issues have emerged, including in the areas of finance and economics, security, the environment and sustainable development, challenging the efforts to maintain the stability and prosperity of the international community. Moreover, the global dispersal of power, ascendance of regionalism, and growing presence of non-state actors are prompting ramification to the efficacy of global governance structures. The world needs to foster renewed and innovative partnerships to provide pragmatic and constructive solutions to these challenges. With this as its context, MIKTA was created in New York in September 2013 at a meeting held on the sidelines of Leaders' Week of the UN General Assembly.

- The five countries of MIKTA come from diverse cultures and regions. Yet, we share core values and similarities. We are democracies that benefit from open economies with robust growth rates and a significant level of economic power. We are strategically located and strongly linked to our surrounding regions in all aspects.
- The MIKTA countries are also like-minded on many of the global challenges of our time and are active contributors in major international forums. We have both the will and the capability to contribute to protecting public goods and strengthening global governance. Working together, MIKTA can play a constructive role in the international agenda and exert greater influence.
- Reaffirming our commitment to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and other universally recognized norms governing international relations, MIKTA aims to play the following roles in the international arena:
- MIKTA will serve as a cross-regional consultative platform to increase mutual understanding, deepen bilateral ties, and find common grounds for cooperation. To this end, we will develop joint projects to enhance information-sharing and exchanges.
- MIKTA will also play a bridging role between developed and developing countries to promote global governance and complement the efforts of regionalism. We will work together to reduce the gap in polarized policy

positions, advance discussions on global issues in multilateral forums, and strive to find pragmatic and creative solutions to regional and global challenges.

- MIKTA will act as a catalyst or facilitator in launching initiatives and implementing global governance reform. We will play the role of an agenda-setter and assume a constructive role on the global stage. We will make joint efforts for building norms, developing guidelines, sharing best practices and forging collective responses in a manner agreeable to all MIKTA members.
- In addition, the members will help each other to better communicate with regional bodies and increase the connectivity of regional networks. MIKTA will also pursue close and broad outreach activities. These will help enhance its productivity and reflect the voices of others in moving the process forward.
- Demonstrating its utility, versatility and visibility as a new model for cross-regional and value-added partnership, MIKTA will serve as a bridgehead for fostering various forms of cooperation.

Adopted in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, on the Twenty Second Day of May of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen.

Head-of-State-level Statement on behalf of MIKTA

delivered by President of the Republic of Korea
on the occasion of the high-level meeting to commemorate
the 75th anniversary of the United Nations

21 September 2020

Mr. President, Secretary-General, Distinguished Delegates,

I find it meaningful to take part in the High-Level Meeting to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations, where we will reflect on the crucial journey taken by the UN during the past 75 years and prepare for a new future.

I would like to thank you especially for granting me the opportunity to speak on behalf of MIKTA, which is composed of Mexico, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey and Australia, for the first time at the Head of State level at the United Nations.

The five countries that comprise MIKTA are cross-regional powers that have developed upon the foundation of a 'multilateral international order' the UN has cultivated, and have been steadfast in supporting the UN.

Seventy-five years ago, the United Nations was born out of humanity's common resolve to never repeat the devastation of war. Since then, it has promoted peace and safety in conflict zones around the world

by establishing international norms such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. It has also pooled the wisdom of all humanity to address global issues including sustainable development and climate action. Indeed, it has been under the communal umbrella of the United Nations that we have achieved peace and progress.

Nevertheless, there is still much to be done in the face of new challenges. The current COVID-19 pandemic is threatening to undermine the spirit of multilateralism embodied by the UN and the five MIKTA countries.

The five countries of MIKTA share the common understanding that the key to overcoming COVID-19 is unity, solidarity and cooperation. As a cross-regional and innovative partnership, we agreed to play a bridging role between developed and developing countries, as well as among regions, and also promote multilateral cooperation.

Indonesia called for solidarity to better respond to the novel coronavirus and took the lead in proposing the first UN General Assembly Resolution on COVID-19, while Mexico drafted the UNGA resolution on enhancing global access to medicines, vaccines and medical equipment.

Australia, working closely with key partners, especially the European Union, secured the adoption of the WHA resolution establishing an impartial, independent and comprehensive evaluation of the experience gained and lessons learned from the WHO-coordinated international

health response to COVID-19. Ambassador Volkan Bozkır from Turkey is demonstrating his leadership to promote global solidarity as the President of the UNGA during this critical time. The Republic of Korea has also done its part by forming various Friends Groups to strengthen cooperation in healthcare at the UN, WHO and UNESCO.

All of these efforts culminated in the adoption of the Declaration on the Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the UN today, which represents the yearning and the pledge of 193 Member States to resolve global problems through international solidarity.

The five MIKTA countries welcome its adoption. With the UN at the core, we will relentlessly strive to tackle global challenges facing humanity, including but not limited to overcoming the COVID-19 crisis, addressing climate change, maintaining international peace and security, and reducing inequalities.

In particular, as a cross-regional and innovative partnership, MIKTA pledges to play a leading role in facilitating recovery in a way that reduces disparity, building back better and realizing an inclusive community that leaves no one behind.

MIKTA Parliamentary Speakers' Joint Statement

on the occasion of the 6th MIKTA Speakers' Consultation

17 December 2020

1. We, the Speakers of the Parliaments of MIKTA (Mexico, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey, and Australia), attended the virtual meeting of the 6th MIKTA Speakers' Consultation, which was hosted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea on December 17, 2020 under the theme "Complex Challenges and Parliamentary Leadership in a Pandemic Era," and discussed how the parliaments of MIKTA could strengthen cooperation among the five countries and contribute to the international community.
2. Since its inauguration in 2015, the MIKTA Speakers' Consultation has been dealing with issues that can complement agendas in international cooperation led by governments, such as peace and prosperity, open parliament, sustainable development, and promotion of social inclusion, seeking to share experience and discuss and implement measures at the parliamentary level.
3. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed vulnerabilities in our preparedness and underscored our common challenges. We recognized that the COVID-19 pandemic has deepened complex challenges, such as protectionism, unilateralism, xenophobia, discrimination, hunger, food security, education inequality, unemployment, climate change, lack of resources for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and globalization slowdown, accelerating structural changes to the established global order.

4. Acknowledging the need for new avenues of cooperation, shared responsibility, and global solidarity to tackle complex challenges in an unprecedented pandemic era and prepare for a better post-COVID-19 era and the significance of parliamentary leadership in the process, we reiterated the critical role of MIKTA in multi-dimensional responses and cooperation at the national, regional, and global levels. Furthermore, we reaffirmed the important mandate of the United Nations system, primarily WHO, in coordinating and supporting the global response to the pandemic. Welcoming the 31st Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the COVID-19 Pandemic (3-4 December 2020), we reiterated our full engagement and solidarity with the international community to overcome socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.
5. Under the circumstances where social distancing and other health protocols have become a part of life and socio-economic systems are not functioning properly, we agreed that the parliaments of MIKTA must fulfill their duties and responsibilities to protect our people and economy, present sustainable and effective measures for socially and economically vulnerable groups, who bear the brunt of the impact of COVID-19, and leave no one behind. Furthermore, we agreed that the disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on women and girls are posing a great risk of reversing our hard-won gains on gender equality and women's empowerment and highlighted that full, equal, and meaningful participation of all women in all aspects and at all levels of planning for a COVID recovery must be ensured.
6. Reaffirming our commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we agreed that the parliaments of MIKTA must exert their leadership and forge

partnership to address global challenges, such as exchange of knowledge, experience, and best practices on the control and prevention of diseases, fair and equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, medicines, and medical devices, ensuring availability of essential health care services to all, attention to healthcare workers, protection of disadvantaged groups, economic recovery, and strengthening multilateralism, and call for the solidarity of the international community. In this context, we commended the consistent efforts of MIKTA to strengthen multilateral cooperation during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the MIKTA Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement on the COVID-19 Pandemic and Global Health (9 April 2020), the Virtual Dialogue with Ministers in Charge of Women Affairs from MIKTA Countries (8 October 2020), and the 1st MIKTA Foreign Affairs and Health 2+2 Senior Officials' Meeting (26 November, 2020), and agreed to support similar future initiatives among the MIKTA countries.

7. Recognizing the need to develop the MIKTA Speakers' Consultation further based on the achievements over the past five years, we agreed to use the 6th MIKTA Speakers' Consultation as a springboard to take our inter-parliamentary consultative body to the next level.

8. Extending our deep appreciation to the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea for hosting the 6th MIKTA Speakers' Consultation, we support the further development of the MIKTA Speakers' Consultation as a constructive and crucial inter-parliamentary organization promoting the common good of the international community and look forward to our continued discussion at the 7th MIKTA Speakers' Consultation.

MIKTA Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement on the COVID-19 pandemic and global health

9 April 2020

We, Foreign Ministers of Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Turkey, and Australia (MIKTA), are deeply saddened by the loss of many lives and the suffering caused as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We stand in full solidarity with each other and the international community as a whole in tackling this unprecedented global threat and building a more resilient future.

We underscore that health is an essential element for human beings to reach their fullest potential and for nations to achieve a robust and sustainable development and, furthermore, is a cornerstone for the well-being and security of the international community. We will spare no effort to effectively curb the COVID-19 pandemic.

Against the backdrop, we emphasize the crucial role of relevant international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization (WHO), in coordinating international response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the protection of front-line healthcare workers and the delivery of medical supplies, especially diagnostic tools, personal protective equipments, treatments, medicines, and vaccines, in a timely and effective manner. We reaffirm our commitment to implementing the International Health Regulations (2005).

We also encourage relevant international organizations to swiftly and decisively scale up the efforts within their mandates to facilitate the delivery of assistance to all countries in need of help, where health systems may be less able to cope with the pandemic. We emphasize the importance of extending help to groups made more vulnerable by COVID-19, including persons with disabilities, refugees, migrants, IDPs and women and girls, while paying also particular attention to the needs of host communities. In this regard, we welcome the Global Humanitarian Response Plan for COVID-19 launched on 25 March by the United Nations Secretary General.

We welcome the strong solidarity expressed by the Group of 20 (G20) at the recent Extraordinary Virtual Summit and their commitment to enhance policy coordination in the wake of the global health crisis. MIKTA members, together with other G20 countries, will employ all available policy tools to minimize the economic and social damage from the pandemic, restore global growth, maintain market stability, and strengthen resilience, while paying also particular attention to the most affected sectors, including those working in the informal economy as well as small and medium enterprises. We are confident that robust international cooperation galvanized by the G20, will serve to protect human lives and minimize impact on people's livelihood, whilst also preventing any form of discrimination, racism, and xenophobia.

We agree that where emergency measures designed to tackle COVID-19 are necessary, they must comply with international human rights law and be targeted, proportionate, transparent, non-discriminatory and

temporary. They should not create unnecessary barriers to trade or disruption to global supply chains, and should be consistent with WTO principles and rules. We emphasize the importance of transparency and our commitment to notify the WTO of any trade-related measures taken, all of which will enable global supply chains to continue to function in this crisis. Noting the need for expediting the recovery of the global economy, we will also work together with the international community to coordinate responses in ways that avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade. We will take into consideration the need to facilitate the movement of people and goods for humanitarian, scientific and essential business activities to the extent that each country's disease control efforts may not be undermined.

We recognize that COVID-19 is a new disease that requires a collaborative response, including sharing of information and best practices between nations. We stand ready to share our respective experiences of addressing the pandemic in an open, transparent, and democratic manner. Noting that openness, transparency, and democracy are key factors in bringing people on board with measures designed to protect themselves and the wider population, we will deepen our collaboration to mobilize all innovative tools at our disposals to tackle the pandemic. We will continue to work together with the international community to expedite the development of diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines, adhering to the objectives of efficacy, safety, equity, accessibility and affordability, while also cooperating to further strengthen health systems in vulnerable countries.

Sincerely hoping that the COVID-19 pandemic will soon be brought under control and having fully realized the impact of the pandemic on livelihoods and development, we are strongly committed to working together in the spirit of solidarity and cooperation to promote better preparedness for a future epidemic while swiftly responding to the current one. To this end, we will explore potential ways of cooperation including information-sharing, capacity-building, and technical assistance among us and with other countries. We expect fruitful discussion on our path ahead, including at future MIKTA meetings.

As a cross-regional and new innovative partnership, MIKTA will continue to play a leading role in promoting global health, protecting public goods, and strengthening global governance.

MIKTA Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement on the elections held at the United Nations General Assembly

17 July 2020

We, the Foreign Ministers of Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Turkey and Australia (members of MIKTA) welcome the results of the three elections held at the United Nations General Assembly on 17 and 18 June: the election of the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, the election of non-permanent members of the Security Council for the 2021-2022 term, and the election of members of the Economic and Social Council for the 2021-2023 term.

General Assembly

We congratulate Turkey on the election of its candidate, His Excellency Mr. Volkan Bozkır, as the seventy-fifth President of the General Assembly. We are confident that the General Assembly, under the leadership of the President-elect Bozkır, will successfully rally the Member States' collective efforts to overcome the current pandemic and emerge stronger. We stand ready to work together for the commemoration of the UN's seventy-fifth anniversary, ensuring that it becomes a catalyst for renewing our collective commitment to multilateralism. We also wish to express our deepest appreciation to the current President, His Excellency Mr. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande of Nigeria for the excellent leadership he has demonstrated.

Security Council

We congratulate Mexico, together with India, Ireland, Kenya and Norway, on their election as non-permanent members of the Security Council for two-year terms spanning 2021-2022, and acknowledge Indonesia's contributions to the Security Council during its 2019-2020 term. We reaffirm that MIKTA members remain committed to strengthening the UN's architecture for the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as the inclusion of a gender perspective across the Security Council's agenda. We look forward to close and constructive cooperation with the newly elected members in this regard.

Economic and Social Council

We congratulate Indonesia and Mexico, together with sixteen other Member States, on their election as members of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for three-year terms spanning 2021-2023. We have full confidence that the newly elected members will contribute to strengthening global response for accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals during the Decade of Action, and for better and stronger recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. As Australia and the Republic of Korea continue to serve as ECOSOC members for the 2020-2022 term, we expect to see further collaboration among MIKTA members at this council as well as in the broader United Nations system.

In the midst of the unprecedented global crisis caused by COVID-19, the United Nations is being called upon to play a pivotal role in illuminating a path out of this crisis and building back better. We reiterate that

MIKTA, as a cross-regional and innovative partnership, stands ready to work together with the President-elect of the General Assembly, as well as with the newly elected members of the Security Council and those of the Economic and Social Council, in upholding multilateralism and international collaboration to unlock the future we want.

MIKTA Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement

on the earthquake in Turkey and Greece

5 November 2020

We, the Foreign Ministers of Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Turkey and Australia, comprising MIKTA, are deeply saddened by the loss of life and damage caused by the high magnitude earthquake in the Aegean Sea that hit Turkey's İzmir province and the Greek island of Samos on 30 October 2020.

We extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones, and wish quick recovery to the injured. We stand in full solidarity with the Governments and the peoples of Turkey and Greece in the aftermath of this disaster.



To view more information and key documents about MIKTA, including MIKTA's joint statements and joint communiqués, please visit the official website at www.mikta.org.