GB.341/PFA/10: Matters relating to the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU): Reports of the JIU

IMEC statement

- 1. This statement is made on behalf of the IMEC group.
- 2. IMEC thanks the Office for the summary and overview of the follow-up given to relevant recommendations in recent reports of the Joint Inspection Unit and the overview of the JIU's programme of work for 2020.
- 3. IMEC greatly appreciates the work of the Joint Inspection Unit, which is the only independent external oversight body of the UN system, and is of significant importance for efficiency, accountability and transparency within the UN, as well as to create system-wide coherence with the ILO as a key part of the United Nations (UN) system. This is especially relevant from the perspective of the Agenda 2030 on SDGs and the ongoing UN reform, under the challenges of COVID-19. JIU provides for an indispensable input in the conceptualisation and development of collective frameworks that are fit for collective impact, as well as sets of scrutinized and comparable information and data, as required for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the reform.
- 4. IMEC welcomes that all JIU reports that became available in 2018 and 2019 which have recommendations addressed to the ILO, and had not been included in the previous ILO paper, are included in the reference document with an ILO follow-up. IMEC is pleased to note the generally positive conclusions to the work of the ILO.
- 5. IMEC looks forward to the ILO taking on forthcoming system-wide reports that will certainly be of relevance to the ILO, including those on cybersecurity and the ethics function.
- 6. Given the increasingly important role of IT in ILO's daily work, secure and trusted data handling and storage that guarantees data privacy must be a priority. IMEC is interested to learn in more detail how the ILO approaches these questions and where it sees potential to work with the UN International Computing Centre, an organization which is specifically mentioned in the JIU report on Cloud Computing.

- 7. The document PFA/10 and the two accompanying documents show ILO's constructive approach to the recommendations from previous relevant reports. IMEC appreciates that the Office has continued the procedure of reporting on the JIU recommendations of past three years, a good practice noted by the JIU 2017 report on the follow-up to the JIU reports and recommendations.
- 8. IMEC is pleased to learn that the ILO in all cases provides for a response to all recommendations. IMEC notes, however, that recently concluded JIU reviews made available in 2020 are not yet included in the papers, including the reports on the state of investigation functions and enterprise risk management, and would look forward to the next ILO paper.
- 9. IMEC continues to encourage the Office to be current in reflecting their implementation actions in the JIU web-based tracking system, to help us better understand the ILO's follow-up status on the JIU recommendations, especially when no follow up is given.
- 10. IMEC would highly appreciate if, in future reporting on the follow-up on the various recommendations, the Office would clearly distinguish between the recommendations that were intended for the DG and those for the Governing Body.
- 11. Finally, IMEC would like to continue to encourage the ILO to actively make use of the possibility to express its priorities by proposing and rating the relevance of topics envisaged for future reviews to be included in the JIU Programme of Work.