



MEDIA RELEASE

B20 South Africa announces global leadership teams to drive business policy recommendations to be handed to the G20

Johannesburg, South Africa, 8 April 2025: B20 South Africa has achieved a pivotal milestone with the official commencement of its eight Task Forces. These platforms will shape business-driven, actionable policy recommendations for consideration by the G20 before its Summit in November 2025.

Announced by Cas Coovadia, B20 South Africa Sherpa today, these Task Forces unite a diverse and skilled coalition of global business leaders, including CEOs of multinational corporations, entrepreneurs, academics, and civil society representatives to advance inclusive growth. Their collective expertise and commitment will steer policy proposals that reflect both global imperatives and the Global South's unique priorities.

"We are on track to deliver robust, business-led policy proposals to the G20. The depth of engagement, expertise and collaboration we have already seen is inspiring. This is where meaningful change begins."

Breadth of Global Leadership

The B20 Task Forces are co-led by a group of business leaders across Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas and the Middle East. Their diverse perspectives reflect the B20's commitment to regional inclusivity, sectoral relevance and gender balance. Notably, for the first time in the B20's history, 50% of Task Force Chairs are women, a milestone that underscores South Africa's leadership in promoting inclusive and representative global dialogue.

The Role of the Task Forces

The B20 Task Forces serve as the strategic engine of the B20, with a mandate to:

1. **Shape Actionable Policy:** Crafting evidence-based proposals to address pressing global challenges, including trade, energy, digital inclusion and climate resilience.
2. **Elevating African Perspectives:** Ensuring the continent's unique opportunities and potential inform the G20 agenda, in the context of deliberations on the policy priorities of businesses in G20 countries.
3. **Ensure Sustained Impact:** Driving post-summit implementation through partnerships and regional initiatives.

Task Force Leadership: The key roles

To maximise effectiveness, each Task Force is guided by a leadership team with distinct responsibilities:

1. Chair: Oversees the Task Force's strategic direction, ensures alignment with B20 goals, and leads engagement with G20 stakeholders.
2. Co-Chairs: Represent regional or sectoral expertise at a global level, broadening perspectives and fostering inclusivity. (A process is underway to appoint further co-chairs).
3. Chairs are supported by a deputy Chair, who also facilitates working groups, and steps in as needed.

Coovadia emphasised: "Under their stewardship, these task forces will transform insights into actionable policy recommendations that reflect both global imperatives and Africa's priorities".

Path to the B20 Summit: Delivering Policy Recommendations by September

The Task Forces will now accelerate their work to finalise policy recommendations for submission to the G20 by September 2025. Key stages include:

1. Expert Consultations: Engaging with industry leaders, academia and government stakeholders.
2. Draft Review: Refining proposals based on multilateral feedback.
3. Stakeholder Dialogues: Sharing insights through regional dialogues and partnerships.

Gratitude and Collaboration

B20 South Africa extends sincere gratitude to the many professionals and organisations who responded to its open call for Task Force participation. The volume and calibre of submissions reflected the global business community's commitment to shared prosperity.

Selecting participants required careful consideration to ensure balanced and inclusive representation across geographies, industries, gender, and perspectives - reflecting the diverse voices that shape the B20's mission.

Coovadia added: "While we couldn't accommodate everyone, we really value their offer of collaboration. This is just the beginning. We encourage everyone to stay engaged through upcoming dialogues, events, and broader stakeholder opportunities as we drive forward the B20 South Africa Presidency.

Throughout this year and beyond, one principle remains our steady guide: Inclusive Growth and Prosperity through Global Cooperation. It is more than our theme - it will be the measure of our collective impact."



Sponsorship Support

B20 South Africa acknowledges the generous support of all its sponsors, whose partnership is vital to advancing our Presidency this year.

We are proud to recognise our Lead Sponsors: ABSA Group, Anglo American, SanlamAllianz and Standard Bank, for their strategic partnership and unwavering commitment to shaping inclusive global economic dialogue.

We also extend our sincere thanks to our Platinum Sponsors: Anglo American Platinum, Mastercard, Nestle and Rand Merchant Bank, for their valued support throughout the B20 South Africa process.

ENDS

For the full list of Chairs and Co-Chairs, see below:

Trade and Investment Task force

Chair:

Busi Mabuza – IDC

Deputy-Chair:

Mmakgoshi Lekhethe – IDC

Co-Chairs:

Nardos Bekele-Thomas – Africa Union Development Agency – New Partnerships for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD)

Professor. Benedict Oramah - Afreximbank

Duncan Wanblad – Anglo American

Mary Vilakazi – FirstRand

Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem – DP World

José Serrador – Embraer

Mpumi Madisa – Bidvest Group

Dr. Patrik Kovacs – Business at OECD

Harsha Agarwal – Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

Dr. Miao Janmin – China Merchants Group Limited



Barbara Cimmino – Confindustria

David Roth – Amazon

H.E. Wamkele Mene – African Continental Free Trade Area

Employment and Education Task Force

Chair:

Paul Hanratty - Sanlam

Deputy-Chair:

Shadi Chauke - Sanlam

Co-Chairs:

Asif Valley – Microsoft

Professor Haroon Borat – Sygnia Ltd

Saïd Alj – Sanam Holding

Dr. K.P. Krishnan – Shriram Capital Private Limited

Mary-Alice Vuicic - Thomson Reuters

Nicola Galombik – Yellowwoods Holdings

Renate Hornung-Draus – International Organization of Employers

Leila Fourie – Johannesburg Stock Exchange

Energy Mix and Just Transition Task Force

Chair:

Daniel Mminele - Nedbank

Deputy-Chair:

Shamini Harrington – Minerals Council South Africa

Co-Chairs:

Simon Baloyi – Sasol

Leslie Maasdorp – British International Investment

Dan Marokane – Eskom Holdings

Dipak Patel – South African Presidential Climate Commission



Roger Martella – GE Vernova

Peter Njenga - Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen)

Paolo Scaroni – Enel

Catherine Koffman – Green Climate Fund

Digital Transformation Task Force

Chair:

Phuthi Mahanyele-Dabengwa - Naspers

Deputy-Chair:

Bassim Haidar – BH Holdings Group

Co-Chairs:

Charles Murito – Google

Lauren Dreyer – Space X

Lord Karan Bilimoria – International Chamber of Commerce

Shameel Joosub – Vodacom

Sir Mohamed Mansour – Mansour Group

Smriti Irani - The Alliance for Global Good- Gender Equity and Equality (AGG-GEE)

Kate Purchase – Microsoft

Ling Hai – Mastercard

Segun Ogunsanya – Airtel Africa Charitable Foundation

Shalini Khemka – E2Exchange

Finance and Infrastructure Task Force

Chair:

Sim Tshabalala – Standard Bank Group

Deputy-Chair:

Lungisa Fuzile – Standard Bank Group

Co-Chairs:

Daniel Pinto – JPMorgan Chase



Anne Richards – Fidelity International

Samaila Zubairu – Africa Finance Corporation

Luciana Ribeiro – eB Climate & eBCapital

John W.H. Denton – International Chamber of Commerce

Strive Masiyiwa – Econet Global

Benjamin Hung – Standard Chartered

Thierry Déau – Meridiam

Andrew Torre – VISA

Gianluca Riccio – Business at OECD (BIAC) & Lloyd's Banking Group

Integrity and Compliance Task Force

Chair:

Ruwayda Redfearn – Deloitte Africa

Deputy-Chair:

Ashleigh Theophanides – Deloitte Africa

Co-Chairs:

Maria Archimbal - Yacimientos Petrolíferos Fiscales (YPF, SA)

Nicola Allocca – OECD Business Group

Caroline Lee - International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA)

Dr. Futhi Mtoba – Non-Executive Director

Mary Obasi – Bank of America

Farzana Mohomed – NEOM

Yilmaz Argüden – ARGE Consulting

Reynaldo Goto – BRF Brazil

Keki Mistry – Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC)

Uche Ike – United Bank for Africa



Sustainable Food Systems and Agriculture Task Force

Chair:

Debra Mallowah – Bayer

Deputy-Chair:

Midred Pita – Bayer

Co-Chairs:

Alice Ruhweza – AGRA

Emily Rees – Crop Life International

Nicole Roos – Nestle

Seelan Gobalsamy – Omnia Group

Yasmin Masithela – ABSA Group

Industrial Transformation and Innovation Task Force

Chair:

Andrew Kirby – Toyota

Deputy-Chair:

Nigel Ward – Toyota

Co-Chairs:

Delphine Traoré – Sanlam Allianz

Nádia Júnia Almeida de Souza - Khenê Brazil

Shinta Kamdani – Sintesa Group

Dany Qian Jin – JinkoSolar

Stephen Saad – Aspen Pharmaceuticals

Yemi Ahouanmenou - Benin Textile

More Co-chairs are expected to join throughout the B20 South Africa Presidency.



Note to Editors: About B20 South Africa:

The Business 20 (B20), the official G20 dialogue forum for the global business community, is set to convene in South Africa in 2025 under the leadership of Business Unity South Africa (BUSA). This marks a historic milestone as the first B20 summit hosted by an African nation, reinforcing the continent's growing role in shaping global economic policy.

The B20 serves as a vital platform for G20 business leaders to develop actionable policy recommendations, which are presented to the G20 to foster sustainable and inclusive economic growth. The B20 Summit will bring together up to 3,000 business leaders, heads of international organisations, and public policy experts from approximately 25 countries, fostering high-level dialogue and collaboration.

Under the theme **Inclusive Growth and Prosperity Through Global Cooperation**, B20 South Africa 2025 will focus on advancing policies that promote equitable economic development, strengthen international partnerships, and address pressing global challenges.

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