



**BUSINESS**at**OECD**

Business and Industry Advisory  
Committee to the OECD

# Setting the Agenda for 2026

10 Policy Priorities for *Business at OECD* (BIAC)

Priorities Paper  
**December 2025**

# Contents

<b>Introduction: Setting the Agenda for 2026 .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>10 Focus Areas for <i>Business at OECD</i> .....</b>	<b>4</b>
Drive Structural Reforms to Revive Productivity Growth .....	4
Boost Competitiveness by Simplifying Regulatory Frameworks .....	4
Ensure a Predictable, Stable International Tax Framework.....	4
Navigate Uncertainties for Cross-Border Trade and Investment.....	4
Foster Engagement on Economic Resilience and Security.....	4
Advance Coherent Digital Policy for Trustworthy AI and Data Governance .....	5
Mobilise Untapped Potential in the Labour Market.....	5
Enable Business-Led Environmental Solutions.....	5
Strengthen Resilience for Health and Food Systems.....	5
Guide Fit-for-Purpose Corporate Governance Frameworks.....	6
<b><i>Business at OECD (BIAC) National Members</i>.....</b>	<b>7</b>

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# Introduction: Setting the Agenda for 2026

*Business Diplomacy for Competitive Economies* – this newly articulated mission underscores *Business at OECD's* (BIAC) unique position as the institutional private sector stakeholder to the OECD, ensuring that the voice of global business is heard, understood, and acted upon in policymaking.

To deliver against this mission as a member-driven organisation, this draft discussion document proposes focus areas and sets the tone for our engagement with the OECD and governments in 2026, drawing on input from our global network.

This draft document has been prepared for initial discussion at the meeting of the Executive Board on 24 October, and subsequent discussion with *Business at OECD* member organisations at the *Annual Planning Meeting* on 9 and 11 December 2025.

*Business at OECD's* annual agenda setting exercise aims to provide strategic direction for upcoming high-level engagements with OECD Ministers and Ambassadors, as well as general guidance to our policy groups. The selected priorities therefore reflect cross-cutting high-level themes, and are neither ranked by importance, nor are they exhaustive of all current activities carried out for our regionally and sectorally diverse private sector network.

We look forward to leveraging the final document as a foundation for constructive dialogue with the OECD and governments through 2026, ensuring that our collective priorities reflect the evolving needs of businesses, focus on areas where the OECD has the greatest impact, and contribute meaningfully to global policy outcomes.

# 10 Focus Areas for *Business at OECD*

## Drive Structural Reforms to Revive Productivity Growth

In 2026, the OECD must prioritise restoring productivity growth as the foundation of long-term prosperity. Years of rising barriers, bureaucracy and tax burdens have eroded business dynamism. To reverse this trend, we need bold, cross-cutting structural reforms that enhance the framework conditions for private sector investment, innovation, and job creation. Fair competition, efficient regulation, lean governments and access to finance remain powerful engines of our economic competitiveness.

## Boost Competitiveness by Simplifying Regulatory Frameworks

Simplifying and improving regulatory frameworks is essential to reignite growth. Smart, streamlined, and well-enforced rules create the stability and predictability businesses need to make long-term investments and strategic decisions. This is especially critical for modernizing aging infrastructure and energy systems – key drivers of competitiveness, productivity, and trade. In 2026, the OECD must step up efforts to close infrastructure gaps and tackle regulatory fragmentation and burden head-on.

## Ensure a Predictable, Stable International Tax Framework

As governments face increasing debt and fiscal pressures, tax policy must support – not

hinder – private sector-led growth. In 2026, *Business at OECD* will continue to advocate for administrable, predictable tax rules and support the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework to advance practical measures for Pillar Two implementation – including a permanent safe harbour and meaningful simplification of compliance obligations. Promoting tax certainty, improving dispute prevention and resolution, and advancing pro-growth tax policies – including on mobility and development – remain central to our agenda.

## Navigate Uncertainties for Cross-Border Trade and Investment

Strengthening competitiveness does not mean shutting out competitors. To counter rising protectionism, managed trade, and state-led industrial policies, the OECD must reaffirm the benefits of open, rules-based and non-discriminatory trade and investment. Businesses need predictable, transparent frameworks for cross-border activity – not fragmented systems shaped by unilateralism, economic nationalism or great power rivalry. The OECD should caution against the risks of sectoral tariffs and strategic trade barriers, which may also lead to a rise in illicit trade activity and promote diversification options – especially among “like-minded” economies. Plurilateral cooperation is needed to uphold a well-functioning global trading system with the WTO at its core.

## Foster Engagement on Economic Resilience and Security

Economic strength remains a key geopolitical factor. In a fast-changing world, the OECD

must sharpen its focus on economic risks, resilience, and security. As more diversification – and not less – increases the scope for businesses to cushion shocks, *Business at OECD* will work with the OECD to address critical dependencies in close collaboration with the private sector, including for critical minerals. As defence spending rises, the OECD should help mitigate fiscal crowding-out, clarify long-term demand, prevent supply chain distortions, and promote transparent, market-driven procurement.

## Advance Coherent Digital Policy for Trustworthy AI and Data Governance

The global digital landscape is marked by accelerating innovation, geopolitical realignment, and increasing divergence in technology governance. As a result, the widespread adoption of new technologies must follow a principled approach that safeguards individual rights, privacy, and ethical standards. Promoting open, resilient, and interoperable digital ecosystems remains essential. *Business at OECD* will continue to engage with the OECD to support international cooperation and policy coherence, ensuring that innovation contributes to resilient economic growth and shared prosperity.

## Mobilise Untapped Potential in the Labour Market

Despite resilient labour markets, many working-age individuals remain outside the workforce and shortages persist in key sectors. Demographic shifts make it an imperative to align skills, education, and labour market policies with future economic needs. In 2026, the OECD must focus on boosting labour mobility and participation in the labour market

across all groups and align skills with the actual needs of employers. *Business at OECD* will advocate for policies that unlock untapped potential and broad-based participation, while harnessing digital technologies, including AI, to drive productivity and job creation.

## Enable Business-Led Environmental Solutions

Business leadership will be critical to effectively address environmental challenges – including on climate change, biodiversity loss, and plastics pollution. As government priorities evolve, the OECD has a key role to enable constructive public-private dialogue to ensure sustainability policies are not only environmentally effective, but also economically efficient. As increasing resource productivity provides an essential opportunity to promote environmental benefits, strengthen supply security, and improve industrial competitiveness at the same time, the OECD should build additional momentum in this area.

## Strengthen Resilience for Health and Food Systems

As health and food systems remain foundational to the global economy, sustained and adequate investment is essential to strengthen overall economic resilience. In 2026, we must advance transformational solutions that make these systems more productive, efficient and sustainable – including through the expanded use of digital technologies. The OECD should continue to foster public-private and cross-ministerial cooperation in both sectors, ensuring collaboration is not limited to crisis periods, but embedded as a constant practice for long-term stability and innovation.

## Guide Fit-for-Purpose **Corporate Governance Frameworks**

Responsible business conduct and sound corporate governance frameworks are essential for business success. Transparent, responsible, and accountable practices strengthen competitiveness, performance, and reputation. In 2026, *Business at OECD* will continue its close engagement with the OECD to ensure that its flagship standards offer practical and realistic guidance, reflect business realities, and can be effectively implemented – both within OECD countries and globally.

# **Business at OECD (BIAC) National Members**

Australia	<b>Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI)</b>
Austria	<b>Federation of Austrian Industries (IV)</b>
Belgium	<b>Federation of Belgian Enterprises (VBO FEB)</b>
Canada	<b>Canadian Chamber of Commerce</b>
Chile	<b>Confederation of Production and Commerce of Chile (CPC)</b>
Colombia	<b>National Business Association of Colombia (ANDI)</b>
Costa Rica	<b>Union of Chambers and Associations of the Private Business Sector (UCCAEP)</b>
Costa Rica	<b>Chamber of Industries of Costa Rica (CICR)</b>
Czech Republic	<b>Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic (SP)</b>
Denmark	<b>Danish Employers' Confederation (DA)</b>
Denmark	<b>Confederation of Danish Industry (DI)</b>
Estonia	<b>Estonian Employers' Confederation</b>
Finland	<b>Confederation of Finnish Industries (EK)</b>
France	<b>Movement of the Enterprises of France (MEDEF)</b>
Germany	<b>Confederation of German Employers' Associations (BDA)</b>
Germany	<b>Federation of German Industries (BDI)</b>
Greece	<b>Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV)</b>
Hungary	<b>Confederation of Hungarian Employers and Industrialists (MGYOSZ)</b>
Hungary	<b>National Association of Entrepreneurs and Employers (VOSZ)</b>
Iceland	<b>Confederation of Icelandic Enterprise (SA)</b>
Ireland	<b>Ibec (Irish Business and Employers Confederation)</b>
Israel	<b>Manufacturers' Association of Israel (MAI)</b>
Italy	<b>The Association of Italian Joint Stock Companies (Assonime)</b>
Italy	<b>General Confederation of Italian Industry (Confindustria)</b>
Italy	<b>Italian Banking Insurance and Finance Federation (FeBAF)</b>
Japan	<b>Keidanren (Japan Business Federation)</b>
South Korea	<b>Federation of Korean Industries (FKI)</b>
Latvia	<b>Employers' Confederation of Latvia (LDDK)</b>
Lithuania	<b>Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists (LPK)</b>
Luxembourg	<b>FEDIL - The Voice of Luxembourg's Industry</b>
Mexico	<b>Employers Confederation of the Mexican Republic (COPARMEX)</b>
Netherlands	<b>Confederation of Netherlands Industry and Employers (VNO-NCW)</b>
New Zealand	<b>BusinessNZ</b>
Norway	<b>Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (NHO)</b>
Portugal	<b>Confederation of Portuguese Business (CIP)</b>
Poland	<b>Polish Confederation Lewiatan</b>
Slovakia	<b>National Union of Employers (NUE)</b>
Slovenia	<b>Association of Employers of Slovenia (ZDS)</b>
Spain	<b>Confederation of Employers and Industries of Spain (CEOE)</b>
Sweden	<b>Confederation of Swedish Enterprise</b>
Switzerland	<b>economiesuisse - Swiss Business Federation</b>
Switzerland	<b>Swiss Employers Confederation</b>
Türkiye	<b>Turkish Confederation of Employer Associations (TISK)</b>
Türkiye	<b>Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Türkiye (TOBB)</b>
Türkiye	<b>Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSIAD)</b>
United Kingdom	<b>Confederation of British Industry (CBI)</b>
United States	<b>United States Council for International Business (USCIB)</b>



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Established in 1962, *Business at OECD* (BIAC) is the officially recognized institutional business voice at the OECD. We stand for policies that enable businesses of all sizes to contribute to economic growth, sustainable development, and societal prosperity. Through *Business at OECD*, national business and employers' federations representing over 10 million companies provide perspectives to cutting-edge OECD policy debates that shape market-based economies and impact global governance. Our expertise is enriched by the contributions of a wide range of international sector organizations.

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