

## SPAIN STATEMENT

**Spain welcomes the Bank's strong focus on impact and the reaffirmation of Ukraine as its top priority.** We align with the policy commitments under the General Capital Increase and support the approval of the Strategic and Capital Framework. We, however, urge that higher ambition be reflected in the new Scorecard and relevant sectoral and country strategies regarding priorities such as climate action, green finance or gender equality, while keeping alignment with previous commitments and international agreements, particularly the Paris Agreement.

We emphasize the need to advance in promoting robust economic governance in public and private sector clients and the enforcement of ESG standards.

We commend focus on countries where the Bank can be most impactful and welcome the recently ratified geographical expansion of the Bank's mandate to selected countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and Iraq.

We encourage the Bank to deepen partnerships and coordination with other MDBs and to continue to explore the recommendations from the CAF review, while preserving financial sustainability and its top credit rating. We stress the critical role of mobilizing private capital as a catalyst for development. We encourage the Bank to set ambitious targets and leverage its comparative advantage to unlock larger volumes of private finance for development to meet the sustainable development goals, as we are just 5 years from the finish line.

**2025 will be a pivotal year in development:** the 4th financing for development conference will be held in just a month and a half.

Spain has promoted, together with the UN, the launch of the 'Seville Platform for Action', with the aim of mobilizing alliances to implement specific actions agreed in Seville. This platform is open to all interested parties, who can present new initiatives or the expansion of existing ones, which allow progress in financing for development, and which are specific, measurable and feasible. Spain is leading two debt related initiatives that are open to further participants, both from public and private sector, and have the potential to unlock much needed resources in medium and low-income countries:

**The first initiative is a Debt Pause Alliance.** We intend to build a coalition of actors in Seville to increase the number of actors, public and private, that commit to incorporating debt pause clauses into their loan agreements; and work together on their standardization to facilitate their adoption by both debtors and creditors.

These clauses allow for the deferral of debt service payments in the event of a triggering event. Spain is including debt pause clauses in its new loan agreements,

including natural disasters, health emergencies and, as a novelty, food crises as triggering events.

**The second initiative is a Debt Swap Hub.** Debt swaps help relieve liquidity pressures in developing countries while mobilizing greater resources for development. Yet their costs (administrative, financial and in terms of time consumption) are still very high.

Our objective is to create a hub on debt swaps to exchange experiences, knowledge and good practices for their design and implementation, as well as to advance the standardization of commercial swaps.

**In conclusion,** Spain looks forward to constructive engagement as the Bank pursues its strategic objectives, focusing on private sector mobilisation, sustainable development, and effective expansion into new regions, thereby contributing to global development goals in a coherent and impactful manner. But the bank is only one of multiple actors with this common goal. The Seville Conference represents a pivotal opportunity for us to come together and make meaningful progress on the development agenda underpinning multilateralism and collaboration.