

EBRD ANNUAL MEETING 2025
STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR DOMINIQUE PARAVICINI, ALTERNATE GOVERNOR
ON BEHALF OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION

Switzerland underscores the importance of the EBRD's sustained and robust engagement in Ukraine in response to Russia's full scale military aggression. We welcome the progress in the subscription process of the Bank's general capital increase (GCI) to support Ukraine. We are pleased to confirm that Switzerland has completed the process following the approval by our Parliament. We are privileged to provide grant resources to facilitate Ukraine's own subscription to the EBRD's GCI – an expression of the strong bond between our two countries and our joint constituency.

Switzerland appreciates the Strategic and Capital Framework's (SCF) clear focus on impact and the reaffirmation of Ukraine as the Bank's highest priority. This alignment with the policy commitments under the GCI is crucial for ensuring sustained and effective support for Ukraine's recovery and resilience.

Switzerland supports a continued high ambition on climate action and green finance. We look forward to further discussions aimed at strengthening the EBRD's ambition in these areas, notably in the context of the new Scorecard and upcoming Green Transition Strategy. We stress the importance of maintaining alignment with previous commitments and international agreements, in particular the Paris Agreement.

Switzerland is pleased to announce that it has ratified the amendment related to the EBRD's incremental expansion into Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). We welcome the Bank's rigorous and transparent country assessment process, which is essential to maintaining alignment of the process with the Bank's core mandate. We emphasize that this expansion must not come at the expense of the Bank's work in its existing countries of operation.

Switzerland particularly welcomes the SCF's strong emphasis on MDBs working as a system. Deepening partnerships and coordination is critical to maximizing impact and making the most efficient use of resources. We acknowledge recent progress, including new mutual reliance frameworks with the IFC and EIB. We encourage EBRD to build on this and further harmonize policies, processes and standards. In the medium term we urge the Bank to work towards a joint, comprehensive mutual reliance framework with all MDBs. We also expect sustained country-level coordination, notably with the AfDB, in light of the SSA expansion.

Switzerland expects the EBRD to further strengthen its role in mobilizing private capital. The Bank should set more ambitious targets and leverage its core comparative advantage to unlock greater volumes of private finance, which is crucial for addressing the current development challenges. We stress the need for alignment with international standards, such as those of the OECD, to ensure transparency and comparability. Additionally, robust economic governance and policy dialogue remain key enablers of sustainable, high-impact private sector investments.

Switzerland emphasizes that quality and impact must not be compromised by volume targets. The first Impact Report 2025 is a key deliverable to sharpen the communication of EBRD's impact, and we look forward to engaging in its further development. We ask the Bank to continue enhancing its operational efficiency and ensuring compliance with environmental, social and governance standards, particularly in critical supply chains. We expect the Bank to continue to explore the recommendations of the CAF review, while preserving its financial sustainability and top rating. Finally, we call for a strong commitment to the effective and transparent use of both the Bank's own resources and donor concessional finance, ensuring that these funds are deployed in a targeted and efficient manner.

Switzerland expresses its sincere appreciation to President Renaud-Basso for her leadership, and to the EBRD Management and staff for their dedication in advancing the Bank's mission. We look forward to the continued close and constructive cooperation with the EBRD.