**Australia’s interventions to the zero draft Outcome document of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development**

**II. G. Science, Technology, Innovation and Capacity Building**

* In P58, Australia agrees that science, technology and innovation have advanced at an unprecedented scale and pace, amplifying its contribution in sustainable development. However, its full potential is constrained by persistent inequality in innovation and technology access, along with inadequate digital infrastructure and digital public goods. FFD4 should make clear that the digital divide impacts individuals and communities as well as countries.
* Coordinated national and international efforts are needed to close digital divides, leverage technological advances for sustainable development, and realise the full potential of digital technology in achieving financial inclusion and financial health. UN General Assembly agreed language (A/RES/78/311, PP4) could be integrated into P58, and we propose adding the following sentence after the first: “We also recognise that the improper or malicious design, development, deployment and use of technology, such as without adequate safeguards or in a manner inconsistent with international law, could pose potential risks and challenges.”
* In P59, we request clarification on what “mission-oriented” is referring to. We support the reference to “multistakeholder”.
* In P59 c), Australia requests the text is clear that technology transfer should be on voluntary and mutually agreed terms and to be in accordance with WTO rules.
* In P59 f), we support promotion of equitable access to Artificial Intelligence (AI) but request further clarity on reference to “adequate financing” as this amount is unclear. We support inclusion of “Safe, secure and trustworthy AI systems”, and propose amending the wording from the “global AI dialogue” to “international AI dialogue”, to reflect that there is a network of dialogues driven by a network of multi-stakeholder, expert-led forums, rather than one global AI dialogue.
* We also support the reference to “previous internationally agreed outcomes”, and reference to the Global Digital Compact, or UN General Assembly resolutions A/RES/78/265 and A/RES/78/311.
* In P60, we strongly support referencing the gender digital divide. This paragraph can be strengthened by including language to ensure the increasing investment in resilient digital public infrastructure and digital public good adheres to privacy and other applicable international laws, standards and best practices, and do no harm, using language from Paragraph 14 of the UN Global Digital Compact.
* In P61, Australia emphasises that that the mandate, function and scope of the Global Dialogue on AI is still being determined through separate processes following on from the Global Digital Compact and it is important that we don’t pre-empt the outcome of that process.