



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

Brussels, 09 February 2024

WK 702/2024 REV 1

LIMITE

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INFORMATION

From:	Presidency
To:	Working Party of Foreign Relations Counsellors (RELEX) – Horizontal Questions
Subject:	Communication of Global Gateway flagships initiatives

As discussed at the meeting of the Working Party Relex Horizontal Questions today, delegations will find attached a revised Presidency proposal on supplementing the Global Gateway Communication Strategy. The amendments are based on the proposals made by Member States and are indicated in **bold underlined**.

Delegations are invited to review the proposed amendments by 12.00 on Tuesday 13 February 2024. If there are no comments or objections by delegations, the outcome of proceedings with all amendments to the Communication Strategy as set out in the Annex will be deemed to be agreed.

Following calls for closer involvement of partner countries in the EU+27 Global Gateway (GG) flagships initiatives, the Presidency raised this issue at the meeting of Relex HQ WP of January 12th (under item No.2 of the agenda - Belgian Presidency Indicative Work Programme and Global Gateway priorities) of its meeting of January 12th. The objective of more specific guidelines for the communication of GG flagships in Team Europe with the Embassies of EU Member States (EUMS) was broadly welcomed by Relex HQ WP. In the framework of EU outreach, delegations called for stronger communication on the EU's GG engagement to partner countries. To follow-up on these calls, the Presidency would like to propose to complement the GG Communication strategy as set out in the document WK 5086/2023 INIT and endorsed at the meeting of Relex HQ WP on 21 April 2023.

The Presidency would like to propose to add communication of flagships initiatives to the role of EU Delegations (EUDELs), in addition to their current roles in the 'identification and implementation of GG flagships together with EUMS Embassies in a Team Europe approach'. More precisely, the Presidency would like to invite Member States to present their views on adding the following general guidelines to the Communication strategy:

- In partner countries with an EUDEL, it is EUDEL that **should** ~~takes~~ the initiative to present GG flagships to the partner country together with the Embassies of the EUMS involved. EUDEL also informs all EU ~~Embassies~~ **Member States** on the communication of GG flagships to the partner countries.
- In the case of Member State(s) only GG projects, it is the role of the EUMS involved to inform the partner country, EUDEL and the other EUMS.
- The EEAS, Commission, and Member States are invited to debrief Relex-HQ of the general response of partner countries as input for the of next yearly GG flagship list.

Based on the discussion and subject to delegations agreement, the Presidency intends to prepare an outcome of proceedings stating that the group agreed that the Global Gateway Communication Strategy (WK 5086/2023) should be complemented with the three general guidelines as mentioned above.