

## **DIGITAL ECONOMY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

The Parties to this Agreement, resolving to:

**ACKNOWLEDGE** the importance of the digital economy and that ongoing economic success depends on their combined ability to harness technological advances to improve existing businesses, create new products and markets and enhance daily life;

**RECOGNISE** the global value of the Internet and its open architecture as an enabler of the digital economy and catalyst for global innovation;

**RECOGNISE** the role of standards, in particular open standards, in facilitating interoperability between digital systems and enhancing value-added products and services;

**RECALL** the Sustainable Development Goals in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly Goal 8 and Goal 9;

**ACKNOWLEDGE** the importance of the digital economy in promoting inclusive economic growth;

**RECOGNISE** the need to harness the benefits of advanced technologies for all;

**ACKNOWLEDGE** the need to identify the growing range of barriers that relate to trade in the digital economy and the need to update global rules in response;

**ACKNOWLEDGE** that the digital economy is evolving and therefore this Agreement and its rules and cooperation must also continue to evolve;

**CONSIDER** that effective domestic coordination of digital economy policies can further contribute to achieve sustainable economic growth;

**RECOGNISE** their interdependence on matters relating to the digital economy and, as leading online economies, their shared interest in protecting critical infrastructure and ensuring a safe and reliable Internet that supports innovation and economic and social development;

**AFFIRM** a commitment to partnership cooperation on matters relating to the digital economy;

**RECOGNISE** their inherent right to regulate and resolve to preserve the flexibility of the Parties to set legislative and regulatory priorities, safeguard public welfare, and protect legitimate public policy objectives; and

**REAFFIRM** the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility, cultural identity and diversity, environmental protection and conservation, gender equality,

indigenous rights, labour rights, inclusive trade, sustainable development and traditional knowledge, as well as the importance of preserving their right to regulate in the public interest,

**HAVE AGREED** as follows: