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ANTIGUA DECLARATION, GUATEMALA, 2025

"Building Consensus: Digital Transformation with Equity"

The digital government directors of the Americas, meeting in Antigua, Guatemala, on October 28th and 29th, 2025 on occasion of the 19th Annual Meeting of the Inter-American Digital Government Network, GEALC Network (hereinafter referred to as the Network):

WHEREAS the potential of digital government lies in its ability to enable social, institutional, and regional consensuses that, within a framework of equity, guarantee non-discrimination, promote the preservation of indigenous languages and cultures, and consolidate inter-American cooperation based on trust and co-responsibility;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the modernization of the State, as a shaper of change management, is a collective construction that thrives on dialog, respect for diversity, and collaboration between public, social, and community actors;

NOTING that the advancement of technology and its extensive use by governments presents both challenges and opportunities; on the one hand, the strategic use of data and Artificial Intelligence promotes efficiency and transparency in public policy management, helps to proactively respond to citizen demands, and, in natural disaster situations, alert and provide emergency public services.

LIKEWISE, the use of technology requires efficient use of natural resources, such as renewable energy sources and sustainable cooling methods, in addition to raising concerns about the proper disposal of equipment.

RECOGNIZING that these and other challenges require the consolidation of workspaces such as the Network, to share experiences and design green digital transformation policies with equity, to agree on technical bases that

lead to cross-border digital services, also acting as a framework in which our countries, are able to reinforce their national actions, following the cycle of inter-American agreements;

HIGHLIGHTING that the Network has consolidated regional efforts that have resulted in technical agreements on public software, emerging technologies, cybersecurity, interoperability, data and artificial intelligence, public innovation, and cross-border digital signatures, and more recently on cross-border digital identity;

WHEREAS the 55th Ordinary General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), held from June 25th to 27th, 2025, in St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda, under the slogan "Building Resilient and Inclusive Economies in the Americas," highlighted the importance of digital technology, following up on the Strengthening Democracy Resolution AG/RES. 3029 (LIV-O/24) from the previous year, which encouraged Member States to actively participate in the Network;

NOTING that the Declaration of High-Level Authorities on Digital Identification in Mercosur, approved on September 18th, 2025, under the pro tempore presidency of Brazil, recognized the Network's "pivotal role" in the development of the 'Regional Digital Citizen' project, which promotes a digital identity broker as a regional public good to standardize cross-border authentication in Latin America and the Caribbean;

AWARE that the discussions and analyses conducted during the Network's 19th Annual Meeting are part of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Policy Dialog and, as such, contribute transversally to the region's public policies aimed at improving the quality of life of its citizens;

HIGHLIGHTING the desire that the inputs from this 19th Annual Meeting of the Network can feed into the process of the X Summit of the Americas to be held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, on December 4th and 5th, 2025;

CONTINUING the agreements reached at previous annual and ministerial meetings, which have been reflected in the declarations and commitments of Santo Domingo (2007 and 2017), Montevideo (2009), San Jose, Costa Rica (2012 and 2020), Cartagena de Indias (2014), Mexico City (2015), Santiago, Chile (2016 and 2023), Panama City (2018 and 2021), Buenos Aires (2019), Lima (2022), and Brasilia (2024);

WE, THE DIRECTORS OF DIGITAL GOVERNMENT IN THE REGION,
DECLARE THAT:

1. The GEALC Network is the working mechanism of the Americas by means of which countries define technical agreements, deepen and strengthen collaborative opportunities to harness the transformative potential of technology without leaving anyone behind, improving the quality of digital public services with equity;
2. We are committed to ensuring that technology in the public administration of states will improve equity, whether in social, economic, ethnic, or any other terms, given the speed of this development;
3. We urge multilateral organizations in the region, as well as those from other continents or global organizations operating in the region, to consider the GEALC Network as the representative space for digital government authorities in the Americas, avoiding duplication of efforts and optimizing time, budget, and human resources;
4. We are committed to aligning the inter-American actions we carry out within the framework of the Network with those our agencies carry out in subregional integration spaces;
5. We recognize the good practice of the Regional Digital Citizen Consortium, formed by the IDB, the OAS, the World Bank, and CoDevelop, as an example of coordinating actions and leveraging multilateral resources, through the Network, towards a common goal;
6. Since Digital Identity is one of the basic Digital Public Infrastructures (DPIs), a gateway to digital inclusion, we affirm that the result of the efforts of the Network's digital signature and identity working group, with the support of the Consortium, in creating a digital identity broker for the region is the path to further develop to enable the improvement and scalability of cross-border digital services.
7. In this sense, we enthusiastically welcome the public presentation of the Regional Digital Citizen, which will enable the first set of cross-border digital public services, recognizing the work of the 12 pioneering countries in this field: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay. We especially thank Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Costa Rica for making their technical teams available for the first test version of the broker idLAC

implementation, and Uruguay for its willingness to use Agesic's digital identity broker as a basis for some aspects of the regional broker, supporting the process at various stages.

8. We understand that the development of strategies and standards on key topics of digital transformation (including, but not limited to, digital identity, interoperability, data, cybersecurity, digital public infrastructures, and artificial intelligence) requires sharing best practices and focusing on strengthening our own developments and reusing digital assets to target real and sustainable contexts, in view of a combination of practical implementation and strategic planning, for example within the framework of the Network's working groups;

9. We recommend strengthening collaboration mechanisms among the Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) of the Americas, recognizing their strategic role in identifying, analyzing, and mitigating cyber threats. In this context, we recognize that the CICTE/OAS CSIRTAmericas network is able provide technical and operational support through initiatives led by CICTE, as well as those carried out by the IDB, to contribute to advancing the commitments and lines of action established within the framework of the 19th Ministerial Meeting on Digital Government. CSIRTAmericas' accumulated experience and regional coordination capability make it a key ally in promoting a secure, inclusive, and sustainable digital transformation. This effort should foster close coordination between CICTE and the Department for Effective Public Management to ensure coherence, synergies, and measurable impact on digital government and cybersecurity initiatives.

10. Likewise, we recommend integrating a gender perspective into cybersecurity and digital government policies and initiatives. Actively including women in CSIRTs, in the development of digital strategies, and in decision-making spaces not only promotes equity but also enriches the diversity of perspectives necessary to address the complex challenges of the current digital ecosystem.

11. We welcome the efforts of the Network's member countries to establish national data governance and artificial intelligence strategies and, in general, all regional and national efforts to systematize experiences and engage them in dialog with the collective constructions undertaken by countries in the region in international forums;

12. We will support, to the extent possible, studies that contribute to measuring the region's digital capabilities, key inputs for public policies,

including, but not limited to, those that analyze the use of digital public infrastructures, data, and artificial intelligence for environmental sustainability;

13. We embrace the mandate of the GEALC 2024 Network Ministerial Meeting, held in Brasilia, to recommend the adoption of an inter-American framework for data governance and artificial intelligence as a key issue for the future of the region's digital transformation, and to continue strengthening our open data initiatives and those aimed at preventing and fighting corruption, as established by the Inter-American Open Data Program (PIDA).

14. We thank the OAS for serving as the Network's Technical Secretariat through the Department for Effective Public Management, and the IDB for its continued support as the Network's driving force, particularly through the Regional Public Goods Initiative (RPG). We urge both institutions to continue and deepen their support for the Network, and we urge the OAS General Secretariat to strengthen the Technical Secretariat by providing the Department for Effective Public Management with a regularly funded position;

15. We also thank the World Bank and CoDevelop for providing funding in addition to those from the IDB to jointly build the cross-border digital identity broker, and we invite them to continue these support actions in the coming years, given the importance of maintaining, evolving, and deepening this cross-border path;

16. We welcome the approval of the aforementioned Declaration of High-Level Authorities on Digital Identification in Mercosur; the signing of the Network's letter of intent for cooperation with the eGovernance Academy (eGa), held in Tallinn during the Second European Union-Latin America and the Caribbean High-Level Dialog on eGovernance (May 2025); and the launch of the letter of intent with the Center for Digital Public Infrastructures (CDPI), signed during the Network's 8th Ministerial Meeting (Brasilia, November 2024);

17. We recognize and highlight the work of the Network's working groups on Cybersecurity, Data, Cross-Border Digital Signature and Identity, Public Software, Emerging Technologies, and Public Innovation, and the new Digital Equity and Green Digital Transformation groups, convinced that they are part of the core of collaboration among the Network's countries;

18. We approve the 2025 Work Plan and 2026 Work Plan implementation report presented by the Network's Executive Committee;

19. We thank Chile for serving as the President of the Network in 2025, as well as Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, and Paraguay, and also the IDB, the OAS, and the GEALC Network Management for serving on the Network's 2025 Executive Committee;

20. We congratulate Dominican Republic for being elected as the presiding country of the Network for 2026, as well as the following countries that (together with the IDB, the OAS, and the GEALC Network Management) will comprise the 2026 Executive Committee: Bolivia and Colombia for the Andean Region, Guyana and Suriname for the Caribbean, Brasil and Paraguay for Mercosur, and Dominican Republic and Guatemala for Mesoamerica.

21. We urge the President of the Network and the Technical Secretariat to present the results of this 19th Annual Meeting of the GEALC Network to the OAS Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP);

22. We request that this 2025 Digital Government Declaration, as well as the 2024 Brasilia Ministerial Declaration, be observed by means of the commitments and documents resulting from the 10th Summit of the Americas to be held in the Dominican Republic in 2025, in line with the Regional Program for Digital Transformation, adopted by the Heads of State and Government on June 9th, 2022, as well as the mandates of the 55th General Assembly of the OAS;

23. The participants in the Meeting express our solidarity and thoughts with the brotherly people of Jamaica, affected by the passage of Hurricane Melissa.

24. We thank the Government of the Dominican Republic, and in particular the Governmental Office of Information and Communication Technologies (OGTIC), for its offer to host the XXI Annual Meeting of the Red Gealc in 2027;

25. We thank the people and government of Guatemala, particularly the Presidential Commission on Open and Electronic Government, for their excellent hosting of this Annual Meeting of the Network.

Signatory delegations: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay.