

Closed-door discussions at the Global Technology Summit 2022

1. Track 1.5 Dialogue on the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) between India and the United States

Time: 3:00-5:30 pm
Date: November 28, 2022
Location: Aravalli Room, The Oberoi, New Delhi

2. Aligning Principles for Cross-border Payment Systems: India's Road to G20

Time: 8:00 am – 9:30 am
Date: November 29, 2022
Location: Aravalli Room, The Oberoi, New Delhi

The current geopolitical climate has shown the importance of a country having a strong, independent, and sovereign real-time digital payment systems. In addition to being the driver of financial inclusion, the strength and efficacy of these real-time payment systems will also determine their interoperability with other payment systems.

- *What are some of the high-level principles or best practices that should be followed while building these payment systems?*
- *How can these principles or practices promote or facilitate interoperability between different payment systems?*
- *What role can India play in helping other countries develop their own payment systems?*

3. Semiconductors: The Connecting Corridor Between Policy and Investments

Time: 7:30 pm – 9 pm
Date: November 29, 2022
Location: Aravalli Room, The Oberoi, New Delhi

A pressing shortage of semiconductors has led to a global chorus of calls for countries to become self-reliant in the semiconductor ecosystem. India itself released a comprehensive set of policies to attract investment in its semiconductor sector December 2021, being one of the first countries to do so. These policies focused on the chip fabrication segment, the chip design sector, ATMP operations, and workforce training. By all accounts, the various policies introduced are pragmatic and realistic, as the incentives offered under them reflect the desire to shore up capabilities not only in cutting-edge nodes, but also trailing-edge nodes.

However, almost one year on, there is a general perception that even with the semiconductor policy hitting all the right notes, there is scope for further investment into the semiconductor ecosystem. This is despite the announcement of a major and significant investment by a transnational joint venture. Accordingly, it is

critical to ask whether there are other factors at play here, which are extraneous to the semiconductor policy itself? What are the views of leading semiconductor manufacturing and design firms when it comes to investing in India? What do they consider as the roadblocks to further investment in India?

Lastly, what do the representatives of key government agencies in India feel about these roadblocks? Can they be resolved to the satisfaction of all stakeholders? What do global independent think-tank experts feel about the feasibility of implementing the solutions proposed, if any? What in their view was the experience of other countries that have had success in incubating a robust semiconductor ecosystem?

4. Central Bank Digital Currencies: The Future of Global Financial System

Time: 8:00 am – 9:30 am
Date: November 30, 2022
Location: Aravalli Room, The Oberoi, New Delhi

Digitalisation of currency may be one of the most consequential developments in the evolution of money. When it comes to central bank digital currencies (CBDC), the past couple of years have seen rapid developments, from mature pilots (for e.g., PBoC and Sveriges Riksbank) to live rollouts (for e.g., Nigerian and Bahamian central banks). Collaborative cross-border CBDC experiments like Project Dunbar and mCBDC Bridge have produced key results. India too has announced the launch of a "digital rupee" by 2023. Interoperability of CBDCs, both domestic and cross-border, security and consumer focus will however be key for successful adoption, promoting innovation, and preventing fragmentation. Against this background:

- *What does domestic and international interoperability mean in the context of CBDCs and other forms of digital payments and currencies?*
- *How can this best be achieved without replicating the inefficiencies of existing systems?*
- *What role can India play to advance the developments and discussions in this space as it takes over the presidency of G20 where efficient, affordable, and accessible cross border payments are a priority?*

5. Principles for Digital Health Architectures: India's Road to G20

Time: 6:30-8:00 pm
Date: November 30, 2022
Location: Aravalli Room, The Oberoi, New Delhi

Global investment and development in digital health architectures have escalated, particularly since the COVID-19-caused pandemic, in order to address current and potential future public health emergencies. For instance, India started the Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Mission (ABDM) to digitize the delivery of healthcare services. Stakeholders in the global healthcare ecosystem are consistently working towards developing digital healthcare tools and solutions that deliver healthcare in a user-friendly, affordable, reliable, and accessible way. This discussion will seek to explore:

- *How are nations leveraging technology to reimagine healthcare delivery in order to reach even the remotest person, particularly in the wake of coronavirus-caused emergencies?*
- *What high-level principles, best practices, or flagship solutions can nations adopt as they build their nation-specific digital health architectures?*
- *As India assumes the G20 presidency, what role can India play to foster progress in the digital health space?*

6. Safeguarding Modern Science and Biotechnology Innovation: India's Road to G20

Time: 8:00 am – 10:00 am

Date: December 1, 2022

Bioscience and biotechnology advances hold incredible promise for fighting disease, protecting the environment, and promoting economic development. However, these innovations also contribute to the risk of accidental misuse or deliberate abuse with potentially catastrophic consequences. Governments are key to safeguarding the life sciences by providing oversight, but they have struggled to keep pace with rapid technology advances. The scientific community and the private sector have endeavored to be responsible stewards of the tools of bioscience and biotechnology, so they are not exploited by nefarious actors, but critical biosecurity gaps remain. Furthermore, with rapid advances in biology and associated democratization, changes in the bio risk landscape seem to be outpacing current risk reduction approaches. As documented by the Global Health Security Index, 94% of countries have no national level oversight of dual-use bioscience research. Additionally, there is no existing international entity that has dedicated its primary mission to reducing biotechnology-related risks by upholding biosecurity norms and strengthening best practices for life science research oversight. With India taking the G20 presidency later this year, this meeting seeks to discuss the current state of biosecurity governance intended to safeguard biotechnology advancements across G20 countries and hopes to answer the following:

- *Biotechnology is increasingly used by scientists and researchers around the world to develop diagnostics, vaccines, and other medical countermeasures—including in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Considering this, what is the value of bioscience and biotechnology governance in building robust and secure public health systems within G20 countries?*
- *What are the most effective approaches for reducing emerging biological risks associated with advances in technology? Do we need stronger norms? Practical tools and approaches? Considering that there are multiple stakeholders involved throughout the bioscience and biotechnology research and development life cycle, how should they be involved in informing the future of biosecurity governance and oversight?*
- *Although the coronavirus pandemic encouraged countries to review their national biosecurity systems, the issues encompassed by biosecurity with respect to plant, animal, or human health are traditionally handled by different ministries or departments with each drafting its own regulatory framework. Can G20 countries create a new engagement group that brainstorms ideas to bring together experts from different sectors to propose a holistic biosecurity approach that addresses the risks across the three sectors?*

7. Principles and Best Practices for Privacy in Digital Architectures

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Date: December 1, 2022

Location: Aravalli Room, The Oberoi, New Delhi

Governments increasingly seek to utilise recent technological developments to deliver basic public services and facilitate administrative processes. The ambition to do so has accelerated after the experience of delivering many such interventions during the Covid-19 pandemic. As countries around the world work towards developing their domestic digital architectures to provide their citizens with services such as legal identities, access to financial systems and welfare programs, and healthcare, a common concern of protecting the personal information of the individual remains. India, for example, is developing a variety of digital public architectures like Aadhar, the Unified Payments Interface, and the Unified Health Interface. At the same time, it has not yet put in place a data privacy framework, though plans to do so are afoot. In this context, this discussion will seek to explore:

- *Are there any commonly agreed upon high-level principles or best practices for ensuring privacy of the individual when they make use of digital architectures?*
- *What are some of the approaches taken or technical solutions that have been developed around the globe to enhance privacy and data protection in digital architectures?*
- *As India takes presidency of the G20, what role can it play in standard setting for privacy in digital architectures?*