COMPLEMENTARITY OF FINANCIAL INCLUSION, INTEGRITY AND STABILITY

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Queen Máxima advocates that more people and transactions need to be brought into client-oriented, responsible, and supervised financial systems. She uses country specific examples to demonstrate how financial inclusion, financial integrity, and financial stability are not just compatible, but mutually reinforcing.

Sharing this message widely has helped to spur significant progress. Collaborating with national policy makers, she draws attention to issues that they face when applying global standards. She particularly welcomes innovative national regulations that are tailored to the level of risk and local situation, and promote consumer protection. This can, among other outcomes, make it easier for low-income clients to meet identity requirements in order to open a bank account, and for regulators to ensure that growth in this sector contributes to financial stability.

The UNSGSA twice convened the top leadership of global international financial Standard Setting Bodies (SSBs) to discuss how they can advance financial inclusion and their mandates simultaneously. She encourages SSBs to make standards and principles even more concrete and adaptable to different country contexts through additional guidance and examples.

In her address to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) plenary in 2013, Queen Máxima noted the significant revisions to the FATF Recommendations, helpful new guidance and updated methodology for mutual evaluations. She continues a long-term dialogue with the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and welcomes its recognition of the importance of financial inclusion in its revised Core Principles for Effective Banking Supervision and an on-going work stream. She also welcomes changes to global standards for deposits, payments, and insurance to advance financial inclusion.

Given so much positive momentum, the UNSGSA believes that open discourse is more important than ever to share emerging successful national regulatory approaches widely and to stimulate further revisions in standards, guidance and assessments in response to continued needs.