

## **PRESS RELEASE – GDF Launches Global Stablecoin Regulatory Playbook at Davos**

**Davos, Switzerland | 22 January 2026** — [Global Digital Finance \(GDF\)](#) yesterday announced the launch of its **Global Stablecoin Regulatory Playbook**, a comprehensive policy framework designed to support the development of clear, credible, and globally interoperable regulatory regimes for fiat-backed stablecoins. The Playbook was developed in partnership with GDF's stablecoin issuer members as part of its Global Stablecoin Working Group.

The Playbook was formally launched at a high-level roundtable in Davos, bringing together regulators, policymakers, international institutions, and industry leaders to discuss pathways toward global alignment and mutual recognition in stablecoin regulation. Attending the launch and providing key remarks included **Varun Chandra, Chief Business, Investment & Trade Adviser to No.10**, **Dan Katz, First Deputy Managing Director, IMF**, and **Michael Manz**,

As stablecoins continue to scale across payments, capital markets, and cross-border settlement, regulatory approaches have advanced rapidly but unevenly across jurisdictions. While many frameworks share common objectives around consumer protection, reserve backing, and financial stability, fragmentation in legal classification, terminology, and supervisory expectations continues to create operational friction and barriers to cross-border adoption.

The Global Stablecoin Regulatory Playbook responds to these challenges by setting out a shared conceptual and policy baseline for stablecoin issuer regulation. Rather than advocating for a single global rulebook, the Playbook focuses on first principles and outcome-based alignment, providing regulators with a practical reference point for designing domestic regimes that are locally appropriate while remaining globally compatible.

The Playbook outlines key principles across ten core areas, including legal classification and taxonomy, reserve asset composition, custody and segregation, disclosures and attestations, prudential and operational resilience, redemption models, AML/CFT compliance, treatment of rewards and yield, and approaches to cross-border recognition and reciprocity. It places particular emphasis on proportionality, functional equivalence, and the role of home-host supervisory cooperation in enabling scalable and trusted global stablecoin networks.

*“Stablecoins are inherently cross-border by design, yet regulatory frameworks remain largely jurisdiction bound,”* said **Lawrence Wintermeyer, Chair of the Members Board** at Global Digital Finance. *“This Playbook is intended to help bridge that gap by establishing a shared regulatory language and a set of common outcomes that policymakers can utilise when building or calibrating their domestic regimes. The goal is not harmonisation for its own sake, but regulatory trust, interoperability, and scalability of global stablecoin markets.”*

The Playbook also situates stablecoin regulation within a broader strategic and economic context. It highlights how well-designed issuer regimes can reinforce monetary sovereignty, support demand for sovereign debt, enhance payment efficiency, and position jurisdictions as competitive hubs for responsible digital finance innovation. GDF also looks forward to collaborating with the [Alliance for Innovative Regulation \(AIR\)](#) moving forward on regional specific work, building on the work of the Playbook.

*“The challenge is no longer whether stablecoins should be regulated, but how to do so in a way that is credible, proportionate, and globally coherent.” Commented **Elise Soucie Watts, Executive Director, Global Digital Finance**, “This Playbook is designed to support that next phase, giving policymakers a practical foundation to move from high-level principles to implementable frameworks, while preserving interoperability and trust across borders.”*

The Global Stablecoin Regulatory Playbook is intended to serve as a living reference for regulators, policymakers, international bodies, and market participants, supporting future dialogue, regulatory cooperation, and the responsible scaling of stablecoins within the global financial system.

### **About GDF**

Global Digital Finance (GDF) is a global non-profit association of member firms offering an open innovation platform for advocating and accelerating the adoption of best practices for digital assets.

GDF’s mission is to “Promote and underpin the greater adoption of market standards for the use of crypto and digital assets, through the development of best practices and governance standards in a shared engagement forum with industry, policymakers, and regulators.”

More information about GDF can be found at [www.gdf.io](http://www.gdf.io) contact [melissa@gdf.io](mailto:melissa@gdf.io) for enquiries.