Form 5500	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ **Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.**	**2023** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A This return/report is for:
- [ ] a multiemployer plan
- [X] a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)
- [ ] a single-employer plan
- [ ] a DFE (specify) ____

B This return/report is:
- [ ] the first return/report
- [ ] the final return/report
- [ ] an amended return/report
- [ ] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)

C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. . . . . ▶ [X]

D Check box if filing under:
- [X] Form 5558
- [ ] automatic extension
- [ ] the DFVC program
- [ ] special extension (enter description)

E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. . . . . ▶ [ ]

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan
ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN

1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

1c Effective date of plan 01/01/2020

2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan)
Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box)
City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions)
ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH

PO BOX 4095
OCEANSIDE, CA 92056

2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 83-3122688

2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number 301-523-7807

2d Business code (see instructions) 525920

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/15/2024	CHRISTIAN KLESZEWSKI ESQ.
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address [X] Same as Plan Sponsor

3b Administrator's EIN

3c Administrator's telephone number

4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report:

a Sponsor's name

c Plan Name

4b EIN

4d PN

5	Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	**5**	2130
6	Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines **6a(1), 6a(2), 6b, 6c,** and **6d**).		
a(1)	Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year	**6a(1)**	2126
a(2)	Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	**6a(2)**	2200
b	Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	**6b**	1
c	Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits	**6c**	20
d	Subtotal. Add lines **6a(2)**, **6b**, and **6c**.	**6d**	2221
e	Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.	**6e**	0
f	Total. Add lines **6d** and **6e**.	**6f**	2221
g(1)	Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(1)**	41
g(2)	Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(2)**	108
h	Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	**6h**	0
7	Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	**7**	

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

2E 2J 2K 2F 2G

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)

- **(1)** [ ] Insurance
- **(2)** [ ] Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
- **(3)** [X] Trust
- **(4)** [ ] General assets of the sponsor

9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)

- **(1)** [ ] Insurance
- **(2)** [ ] Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
- **(3)** [X] Trust
- **(4)** [ ] General assets of the sponsor

10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

- **(1)** [X] **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- **(2)** [ ] **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- **(3)** [ ] **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- **(4)** [ ] **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____
- **(5)** [X] **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

- **(1)** [X] **H** (Financial Information)
- **(2)** [ ] **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- **(3)** [ ] **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 0
- **(4)** [X] **C** (Service Provider Information)
- **(5)** [ ] **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- **(6)** [ ] **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ..... ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ……..... ☐ Yes ☐ No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2023 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2023 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code_____

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500)	Service Provider Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).	2023
Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**	**This Form is Open to Public Inspection.**
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation		

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan
ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
83-3122688

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, $5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).. . . . . ☐ Yes ☒ No

b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, $5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	**(c)** Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	**(d)** Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	**(e)** Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	**(f)** Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	**(g)** Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	**(h)** Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	**(c)** Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	**(d)** Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	**(e)** Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	**(f)** Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	**(g)** Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	**(h)** Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	**(c)** Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	**(d)** Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	**(e)** Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	**(f)** Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	**(g)** Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	**(h)** Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received $1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	**(e)** Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	**(b)** Nature of Service Code(s)	**(c)** Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	**(b)** Nature of Service Code(s)	**(c)** Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	**(b)** Nature of Service Code(s)	**(c)** Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

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(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	**(b)** Nature of Service Code(s)	**(c)** Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)

(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	**b** EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	**e** Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	**b** EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	**e** Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	**b** EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	**e** Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	**b** EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	**e** Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	**b** EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	**e** Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500)	Financial Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**	**2023** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan
ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
83-3122688

Part I Asset and Liability Statement

1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	0	158774
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)		
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	0	169468
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	14117	183542
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	5176702	11419147
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1d Employer-related investments:			
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	5190819	11930931
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g		
h Operating payables	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
j Other liabilities	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through1j)	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	5190819	11930931

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: **(A)** Employers	2a(1)(A)	1532278	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	2612211	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	424897	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines **2a(1)(A), (B), (C),** and line **2a(2)**	2a(3)		4569386
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	5758	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	2494	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines **2b(1)(A)** through **(F)**	2b(1)(G)		8252
(2) Dividends: **(A)** Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	246355	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines **2b(2)(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**	2b(2)(D)		246355
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: **(A)** Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line **2b(4)(B)** from line **2b(4)(A)** and enter result	2b(4)(C)		0
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: **(A)** Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines **2b(5)(A)** and **(B)**	2b(5)(C)		0

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		1184507
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all **income** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		6008500
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	970427	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines **2e(1)** through **(3)**	2e(4)		970427
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		2042
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)	35608	
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	10833	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)	3252	
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines **2i(1)** through **(11)**	2i(12)		49693
j Total expenses. Add all **expense** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		1022162
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line **2j** from line **2d**	2k		4986338
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		1753774
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) [X] Unmodified **(2)** [ ] Qualified **(3)** [ ] Disclaimer **(4)** [ ] Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) [X] DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 **(2)** [ ] DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) **(3)** [ ] neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: METZ & ASSOCIATES **(2)** EIN: 46-4558541

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) [ ] This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. **(2)** [ ] It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

		Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)	**4a**	X		368045
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)	**4b**		X	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)	**4c**		X	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)	**4d**		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	**4e**	X		500000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	**4f**		X	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	**4g**		X	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	**4h**		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	**4i**	X		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)	**4j**		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	**4k**		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	**4l**		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	**4m**		X	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.	**4n**			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? [ ] Yes [X] No

If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	**5b(2)** EIN(s)	**5b(3)** PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) …….. ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500)	Retirement Plan Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**	**2023** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection.**

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan
ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
83-3122688

Part I Distributions

All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions **1** 0

2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):

EIN(s): 75-3182674 _____

Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.

3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year **3**

Part II Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)

4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **N/A**

If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.

5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.

6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) **6a**

b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year **6b**

c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount) **6c**

If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.

7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **N/A**

8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **N/A**

Part III Amendments

9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box. ..... ☐ **Increase** ☐ **Decrease** ☐ **Both** ☐ **No**

Part IV ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.

10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.) ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires *(If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.)* Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify):

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires *(If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.)* Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires *(If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.)* Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires *(If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.)* Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires *(If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.)* Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires *(If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.)* Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires *(If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.)* Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

14 Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment)	**14a**	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	**14b**	
c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	**14c**	

15 Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	**15a**	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	**15b**	

16 Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	**16a**	
b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers	**16b**	

17 If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment ☐

Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment ☐

19 If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:

Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____%

High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:

☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more

20 **PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:

☐ Yes.

☐ No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. Other. Provide explanation._____

Part VII IRS Compliance Questions

21a Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? ☐ Yes ☒ No

21b If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).

☒ Design-based safe harbor method

☐ "Prior year" ADP test

☒ "Current year" ADP test

☐ N/A

22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter 06 / 30 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q703995A .

SCHEDULE MEP (Form 5500)	MULTIPLE-EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN INFORMATION	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and Section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code) ▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**	**2023** **This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A	Name of plan ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN	**B**	Three-digit Plan number (PN) ..... ▶ 001
C	Plan administrator's name as shown on line 3a of Form 5500/Form 5500-SF ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH	**D**	Administrator's EIN 83-3122688

Part I Type of Multiple-Employer Pension Plan. All multiple-employer pension plans must complete.

1 Check the appropriate box to indicate type of multiple-employer pension plan. (Only defined contribution plans may check lines 1a, 1b, and 1c. Defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans not checking lines 1a, 1b, or 1c should check line 1d. See Instructions).

a ☒ association retirement plan (See 29 CFR 2510.3-55) (Complete Part II)

b ☐ professional employer organization plan (PEO Plan) (See 29 CFR 29 CFR 2510.3-55) (Complete Part II)

c ☐ pooled employer plan (PEP) (See 29 CFR 2510.3-44) (Complete Parts II and III)

d ☐ other multiple-employer pension plan (Describe)_____ (Complete Part II)

Part II Participating Employer Information.

2 All multiple-employer pension plans that are subject to section 210(a) of ERISA (see instructions for filing the Form 5500) must complete Part II, in addition to Part I, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information for each employer participating in the multiple-employer pension plan**. Defined contribution plans must complete lines 2a-2d. All other multiple-employer pension plans complete lines 2a-2c only. Complete as many entries as needed to list the required information for each participating employer that is not an individual person (see instructions).**

2a Name of Participating Employer	**2b** EIN	**2c** Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	**2d** Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
CAPTAIN KIRK SERVICES, INC.	82-2555952	4.64	830406
2a Name of Participating Employer	**2b** EIN	**2c** Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	**2d** Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
AMPLIFY CH LLC	87-4052021	0.00	0

CAUTION Do not individually list information for working owners (see instructions and 29 CFR 2510.3-55(d)(2)) or other individuals who are participants or beneficiaries in the plan or arrangement that are no longer associated with a particular participating employer or participating employer plan (see instructions). Providing identifying information for individuals may result in rejection of this filing. If there are any such individuals in the plan, answer "Yes" to line 2e and provide the total information for all such individuals, without providing names or other identifying information.

2e	Does the plan include any individuals not participating through an employer or who are individual working owners?	**2e**	☐ Yes ☒ No
2f	If you answer "Yes" in line 2e, enter a good faith estimate of the percentage of total contributions made by all such individuals that are not listed on line 2a during the plan year.	**2f**	
2g	If you answer "Yes" in Line 2e, enter the aggregate account balances for all such individuals that are not listed on line 2a.	**2g**	

Part II Participating Employer Information (Continued).

Use this page for additional participating employer information.

2 All multiple-employer pension plans that are subject to section 210(a) of ERISA (see instructions for filing the Form 5500) must complete Part II, in addition to Part I, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information for each employer participating in the multiple-employer pension plan.

Defined contribution plans must complete lines 2a-2d. All other multiple-employer pension plans complete lines 2a-2c only. Complete as many entries as needed to list the required information for each participating employer that is not an individual person (see instructions).

2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
BLUESOL BIOMEDICAL LLC	81-4934038	0.05	24868
BUCKEYE RELIEF, LLC	81-5443641	10.90	1368746
CANSORTIUM HOLDINGS, LLC	81-1431889	0.25	534244
CIMA GROUP	46-3681159	17.56	862362
DEEP ROOTS HOLDINGS, INC.	92-3601855	2.62	126934
GARDEN REMEDIES, INC.	46-3326321	15.86	1934451
GREEN PRECISION ANALYTICS INC.	84-2507908	1.09	250383
GROW OHIO HOLDINGS COMPANY, LLC	87-3266770	5.59	272401
HARMONY FARMS LLC	38-3941039	0.00	0

CAUTION Do not individually list information for working owners (see instructions and 29 CFR 2510.3-55(d)(2)) or other individuals who are participants or beneficiaries in the plan or arrangement that are no longer associated with a particular participating employer or participating employer plan (see instructions). Providing identifying information for individuals may result in rejection of this filing. If there are any such individuals in the plan, answer “Yes” to line 2e and provide the total information for all such individuals, without providing names or other identifying information.

Part II Participating Employer Information (Continued).

Use this page for additional participating employer information.

2 All multiple-employer pension plans that are subject to section 210(a) of ERISA (see instructions for filing the Form 5500) must complete Part II, in addition to Part I, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information for each employer participating in the multiple-employer pension plan.

Defined contribution plans must complete lines 2a-2d. All other multiple-employer pension plans complete lines 2a-2c only. Complete as many entries as needed to list the required information for each participating employer that is not an individual person (see instructions).

2a Name of Participating Employer	2b EIN	2c Percentage of Total Contributions for the Plan Year	2d Aggregate Account Balances Attributable to Participating Employer
NEXT GREEN WAVE, LLC	81-4711241	3.18	350745
NSMC-OPCO, LLC	82-2410978	3.45	378338
REVOLUTION GLOBAL STAFFING, LLC	87-2764435	18.69	2183728
SESPE CREEK COLLECTIVE, INC.	82-2615938	0.61	29922
STANDARD WELLNESS HOLDINGS, LLC	84-2208201	3.18	1192535
STILLWATER LABORATORIES, INC	81-5268295	0.08	4034
TILRAY, INC.	82-4310622	11.10	1529080
TREELINE ANALYTICS, LLC	82-4673630	1.15	57756

CAUTION Do not individually list information for working owners (see instructions and 29 CFR 2510.3-55(d)(2)) or other individuals who are participants or beneficiaries in the plan or arrangement that are no longer associated with a particular participating employer or participating employer plan (see instructions). Providing identifying information for individuals may result in rejection of this filing. If there are any such individuals in the plan, answer “Yes” to line 2e and provide the total information for all such individuals, without providing names or other identifying information.

Part III Pooled Employer Plan Information

Line 3. All Pooled employer plans must answer all of the questions in Part III, in addition to completing all of Parts I and II.

3a Is the pooled plan provider (identified as the plan sponsor and administrator in Part II of the Form 5500) currently in compliance with the Form PR (Pooled Plan Provider Registration Statement) requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2510.3-44) ..... ☐ Yes ☐ No

3b If line 3a is "Yes", enter the ACK ID for the most recent Form PR that was required to be filed under the Form PR filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid ACK ID will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

ACK ID _____

ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN

(Modified Cash Basis)
Financial Statements
December 31, 2023 and 2022

metz™ Accounting & Audit

ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN
Table of Contents
December 31, 2023 and 2022

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Note: All other schedules required by Section 2520.103-10 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Securities Act of 1974 have been omitted because they are not applicable.

metz™ Accounting & Audit

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Participants in and Administrator of
Association of Economic Collaboration and Growth Multiple Employer Retirement Plan

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed audits of the accompanying financial statements of Association of Economic Collaboration and Growth Multiple Employer Retirement Plan, an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) [ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit]. The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits (modified cash basis) as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits (modified cash basis) for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of Association of Economic Collaboration and Growth Multiple Employer Retirement Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audit need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 and for the year ended December 31, 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note F to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section

- the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note B.
- the information in the financial statements referred above related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Association of Economic Collaboration and Growth Multiple Employer Retirement Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter—Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note B of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note B, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Association of Economic Collaboration and Growth Multiple Employer Retirement Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments; administering the plan; and determining that the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Association of Economic Collaboration and Growth Multiple Employer Retirement Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Association of Economic Collaboration and Growth Multiple Employer Retirement Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of the modified cash basis of accounting.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedules, Schedule H, Line 4i Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) and Schedule H, Line 4a Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions for the Plan year ended of December 31, 2023, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedules, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedules, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including its form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion—

- the form and content of the supplemental schedules, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, is presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Metz & Associates PLLC

Phoenix, Arizona
October 10, 2024

ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits (Modified Cash Basis)
December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Investments, at fair value:		
Mutual funds	$ 11,419,147	$ 5,176,702
Money market funds	169,468	-
	11,588,615	5,176,702
Cash - noninterest bearing	158,774	-
Receivables:		
Notes receivable from participants	183,542	14,117
TOTAL ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	$ 11,930,931	$ 5,190,819

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits (Modified Cash Basis)
Year Ended December 31, 2023

ADDITIONS	
Investment income:	
Net appreciation in fair value investments	$ 1,184,507
Interest and dividend income	254,607
	1,439,114
Contributions:	
Employer	1,532,278
Participant	2,612,211
Rollover	424,897
	4,569,386
TOTAL ADDITIONS	6,008,500
DEDUCTIONS	
Benefits paid to participants	972,469
Administrative expenses	49,693
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	1,022,162
NET INCREASE	4,986,338
TRANSFERS OF ASSETS TO THIS PLAN	1,753,774
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	
BEGINNING OF YEAR, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	5,176,702
PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT	14,117
BEGINNING OF YEAR, AS RESTATED	5,190,819
END OF YEAR	$ 11,930,931

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2023 and 2022

NOTE A – DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following description of the Association of Economic Collaboration and Growth Multiple Employer Retirement Plan ("Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General – The multiple-employer Plan became effective January 1, 2020 with approval of the Board of Directors of Association of Economic Collaboration and Growth (the "Plan Sponsor"). This Plan is a multiple-employer defined contribution plan. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Eligibility – The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering all eligible employees of the adopting employers (the "Employers") that have completed at least three months of service during eligibility computation period and are age twenty-one or older. Participation occurs on the first of any month after completing each Employer's age and service requirements.

Contributions – Each year, participants may contribute up to 100% of their eligible pretax annual compensation, after-tax compensation (Roth contributions), or any combination thereof (as defined in the Plan) up to the limits defined by law. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified plans. Participants direct the investment of their contributions into the investment options offered by the Plan. The Plan currently offers selected mutual funds and guaranteed investment contract as investment options for participants. The Employers contributes a matching amount equal to: (i) 100% of contributions that are not in excess of 3% of compensation, plus (ii) 50% of the amount of contributions that exceed 3% of compensation but that do not exceed 5% of compensation. Contributions are subject to certain limitations as defined by the Plan.

Participant Accounts – Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and allocations of (a) the Employers' contribution and (b) Plan earnings (losses), and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Vesting – Participants are immediately vested in all contributions plus actual earnings thereon.

Payment of Benefits – On termination of service due to reasons other than death, vested interest will be received by the participant as a lump distribution as soon as administratively feasible after employment is terminated. If vested interest is $5,000 or more the participant may elect installment payments over a specific period of time. Distributions upon death can be elected, by the beneficiary, as lump sum or equal installment payments.

Notes Receivable from Participant – Subject to certain limitations in the plan document, participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of $1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of $50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at rates which are commensurate with local prevailing rates as determined by the Plan administrator. Principal and interest is paid ratably through payroll deductions. As of December 31, 2023, participant loans have interest rates ranging from 4.25% to 9.50%.

Forfeited Accounts – Any accumulated benefits forfeited during a Plan year due to participant withdrawal prior to full vesting may be applied to reduce employer contributions or to pay administrative expenses which would otherwise be paid by the Plan. There was no forfeited non-vested account or forfeitures of terminated non-vested account balances allocated to remaining participants as of December 31, 2023 and 2022.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting – The accompanying financial statements have been prepared using the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Contributions to the Plan are recognized when received, and deductions from net assets are recognized when paid. Investments are valued at fair value in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820.

Notes Receivable from Participants – Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are charged directly to the borrowing participant's account and are included in administrative expenses when incurred. If a participant does not make loan repayments and the Plan administrator considers the participant loan to be in default, the loan balance is reduced, and the delinquent participant note receivable is recorded as a benefit payment based on the terms of the plan document.

Estimates – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with modified cash basis of accounting requires the Plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition – The Plan's investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In accordance with the policy of stating investments at fair value, the Plan presents, in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits, the net appreciation (depreciation) in the fair value of its investments, which consists of the realized gains or losses and the unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on those investments. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recorded on an accrual basis. Purchase and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis.

Payment of Benefits – Benefits are recorded when paid.

Administration Expenses – Certain administrative expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Employers. Fees related to distribution and the administration of notes receivable from participants are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation of fair value of investments.

NOTE C – PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Plan's sponsor has the right to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of whole or partial plan termination; participants would become fully vested as to the amount credited to their accounts after deductions for estimated liquidation and distribution expenses.

NOTE D – RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan invests in various investment securities which are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market fluctuations, and credit risks. Due to the risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in market values, interest rates, or other factors in the near term would materially affect participants' account balances as well as the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits (modified cash basis) and the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits (modified cash basis).

NOTE E – TAX STATUS

The Plan uses a non-standardized pre-approved plan document sponsored by CCH Incorporated DBA FTWilliam Com and has received an opinion letter dated June 30, 2020 from the Internal Revenue Service which states that the non-standardized pre-approved plan's form satisfies the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. The non-standardized pre-approved plan's opinion letter has been relied upon by the Plan. The Plan administrator believes the Plan is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirement of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Department of Labor or Internal Revenue Service. The Plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2023, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any open tax periods in progress.

NOTE F – INFORMATION PREPARED AND CERTIFIED BY TRUSTEE

The Plan administrator has elected the method of annual reporting compliance permitted by 29-CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosures under ERISA. Accordingly, Matrix Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan, has certified as being complete and accurate the investments and notes receivable from participants on the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the investment and interest activity reflected in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits, and the investment information included in the supplemental schedule of the financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023. Accordingly, as permitted under such election, the Plan administrator instructed the Plan's independent auditors not to perform any auditing procedures with respect to information certified as complete and accurate.

NOTE G – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) *820 Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* (ASC 820), provides the framework for measuring fair value. Fair value of a financial instrument is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under ASC 820 are described as follows:

Level 1 Fair Value Measurements
Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 Fair Value Measurements
Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets
- quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets
- inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability
- inputs that are derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data by correlation or other means

NOTE G – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 Fair Value Measurements
Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used as of December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Mutual Funds – Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Money Market Fund – Valued at amortized cost, which approximates fair value. The amortized cost is determined by valuing it at its original cost and thereafter amortizing any discount or premium from its face value at a constant rate until maturity. Securities held by the money market fund are generally high quality and liquid; however, they are reflected as a Level 2 because the inputs used to determine fair value are not quoted prices in an active market.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2023 and 2022.

	Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2023		
	Level 1	**Level 2**	**Total**
Mutual funds	$ 11,419,147	$ -	$ 11,419,147
Money market funds	-	169,468	169,468
Total investments at fair value	$ 11,419,147	$ 169,468	$ 11,588,615

	Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2022		
	Level 1	**Level 2**	**Total**
Mutual funds	$ 5,176,702	$ -	$ 5,176,702
Total investments at fair value	$ 5,176,702	$ -	$ 5,176,702

Transfers between Levels – The availability of observable market data is monitored to assess the appropriate classification of financial instruments within the fair value hierarchy. Changes in economic conditions or model-based valuation techniques may require the transfer of financial instruments from one fair value level to another. In such instances the transfer is reported at the beginning of the reporting period.

NOTE H – EXEMPT PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Certain Plan investments are managed by Matrix Trust Company, which is the custodian, as defined by the Plan. These transactions are considered exempt party-in-interest transactions. Fees paid for investment management services were included as a reduction of the return earned on each respective fund. The Plan issues loans to participants, which are secured by the vested balances in the participants' accounts.

NOTE I – PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT

The Plan sponsor has restated its previously reported financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022 due to the unrecorded notes receivable from participants. The total cumulative impact of the restatement is to increase net assets as of December 31, 2022 by $14,117.

NOTE J – PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS TRANSFERRED LATE TO THE PLAN

The Plan sponsor has identified all late contribution transactions, $368,045 in Plan years ended December 31, 2021 to 2023, amounts which were subsequently remitted within in the respective plan years, however, they were outside of the maximum time frame to segregate employee funds under 29 CFR 32510.3-102. The correction process is currently underway but not finalized as of October 10, 2024.

NOTE K – TRANSFERS TO THE PLAN

Various 401(k) Plans were merged with the Plan in 2023. As a result of this, the assets amounting $1,753,774 were transferred.

NOTE L – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Plan's management has evaluated subsequent events through October 10, 2024, the date the financial statements were available for issuance.

On May 6, 2024 Matrix Trust Company delivered a letter of resignation from the role of Custodian for the Plan. Custodian services by Mid Atlantic Trust Company were subsequently secured for the Plan. An extension of the transfer date was agreed to by Matrix and assets were transferred in September 2024.

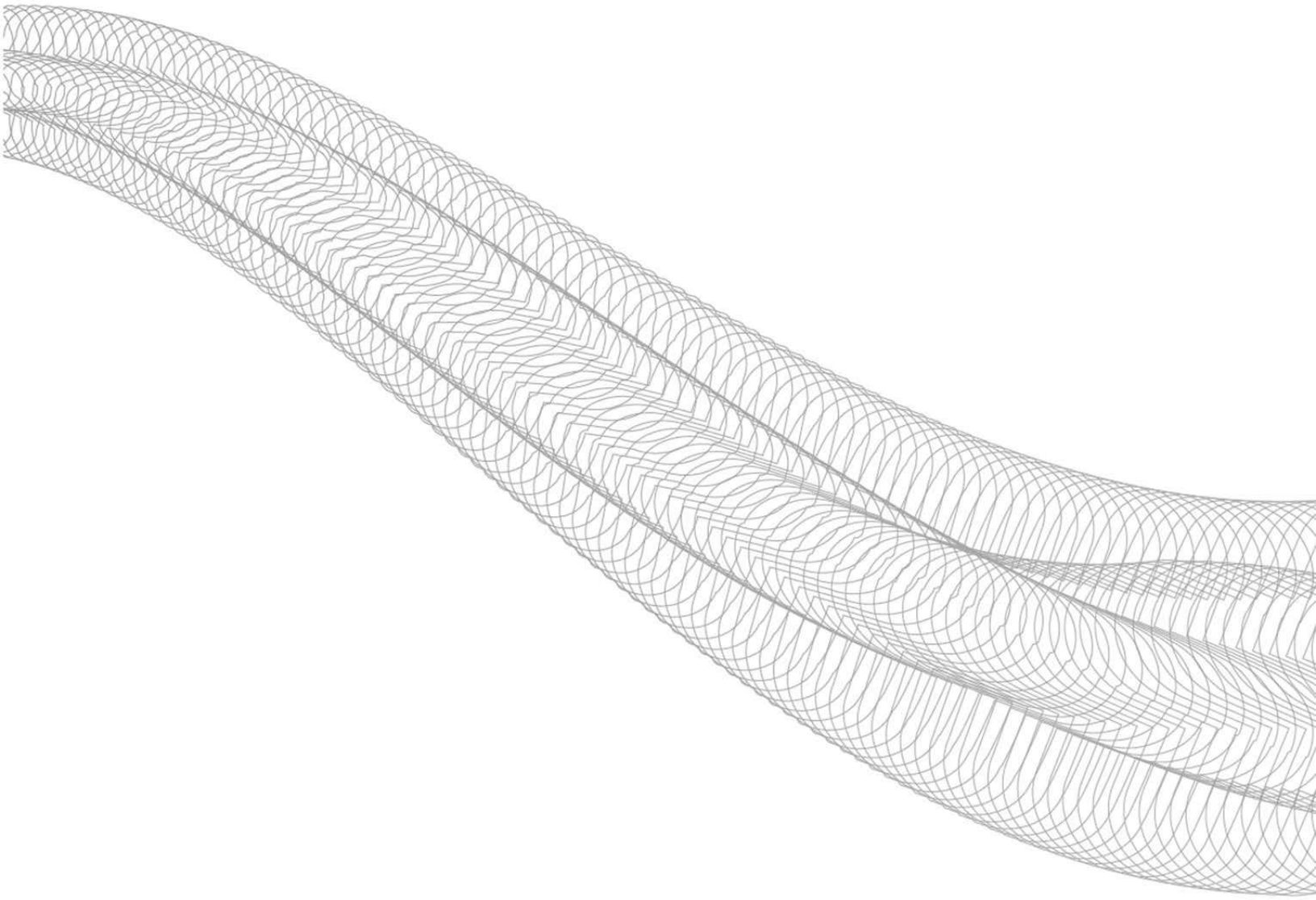
ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN
EIN: 83-3122688 Plan Number: 001
Schedule H, Line 4i Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
December 31, 2023

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similarly party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(d) Cost **	(e) Current Value
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2055 Fund	Mutual funds		$ 1,539,609
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2050 Fund	Mutual funds		1,428,057
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2060 Fund	Mutual funds		1,150,230
	Vanguard 500 Index Fund	Mutual funds		1,145,876
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2045 Fund	Mutual funds		1,095,317
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2040 Fund	Mutual funds		1,087,509
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2035 Fund	Mutual funds		632,698
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2030 Fund	Mutual funds		484,375
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2065 Fund	Mutual funds		358,009
	Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund	Mutual funds		295,853
	Harbor Capital Appreciation Fund	Mutual funds		295,409
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2025 Fund	Mutual funds		259,128
	Vanguard Total International Stock Index Fund	Mutual funds		251,625
	Vanguard Extended Market Index Fund	Mutual funds		233,054
	American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund	Mutual funds		227,816
	MFS Mid Cap Growth Fund	Mutual funds		200,641
	MFS Value Fund	Mutual funds		155,768
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2020 Fund	Mutual funds		131,246
	Principal Small Cap Growth Fund	Mutual funds		138,479
	MFS Mid Cap Value Fund	Mutual funds		97,126
	Allspring Special Small Cap Value Fund	Mutual funds		72,732
	Metropolitan West Total Return Bond Fund	Mutual funds		67,081
	MassMutual Select Mid Cap Growth Fund	Mutual funds		27,348
	Vanguard Target Retirement Income Fund	Mutual funds		26,463
	Carillon Eagle Small Cap Growth Fund	Mutual funds		17,698
	Vanguard Money Market Reserves	Money market		169,468
	Cash noninterest-bearing	Cash noninterest-bearing		158,774
*	Participant Loans	Interest rates from4.25% to 9.50%	$0	183,542
				$ 11,930,931

(a)* A party-in-interest as defined by ERISA
(d) ** Cost is not required for participant directed funds

ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN
EIN: 83-3122688 Plan Number: 001
Schedule H, Line 4a Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions
Year Ended December 31, 2023

2023 Form 5500 Line 4 a - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions				
Participant Contributions Transferred Late to the Plan	Total that Constitute Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51
$368,045	Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	
Check here if late Participant Loan Repayments are included: ✓	$368,045			



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ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND GROWTH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER RETIREMENT PLAN
EIN: 83-3122688 Plan Number: 001
Schedule H, Line 4a Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions
Year Ended December 31, 2023

2023 Form 5500 Line 4 a - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions				
Participant Contributions Transferred Late to the Plan	Total that Constitute Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51
$368,045	Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	
Check here if late Participant Loan Repayments are included: ☑	$368,045			

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December 31, 2023

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