

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Meketa Investment Group

DATE: October 1, 2020

RE: A Day for Democracy

The United States faces unprecedented challenges with the presidential election this year. Not only does the US continue to have one of the lowest voter participation rates of any democracy in the world (less than 56% of eligible US voters cast ballots in the last presidential election), but COVID-19 will likely result in the opening of fewer polling stations as well as longer lines at open polling stations due to an expected shortage of volunteers. These concerns are further amplified by an overwhelmed United States Postal Service, which is urging Americans to request and return their mail-in voter ballots far ahead of normal deadlines in order to ensure they are received and counted by Election Day.

This year, more than ever, we cannot be complacent and must commit to the voting process in order to exercise our right to vote. It is for these reasons that Meketa has partnered with [A Day for Democracy](#), a non-partisan initiative to encourage leaders across the US to increase voter registration and participation among their employees. In joining A Day for Democracy, we have taken a pledge, which is three-fold:

1. We encourage everyone to use [TurboVote](#), a non-partisan, free online resource that can help you through the entire voting process, from registering to vote, to requesting a mail-in ballot, to simply sending you deadline reminders.
 - When signing-up, the website will ask you to fill out basic information such as first and last name, mobile number and/or email address, and physical address.
 - It will then prompt you with questions such as whether you are already registered to vote, where are you registered, whether you need to re-register, your party affiliation, and whether you plan to vote-by-mail or vote at the polls.
 - Based on your responses, TurboVote will help you register to vote, confirm your registration status, request a ballot by mail, and/or keep track of the elections happening in your community by sending you notifications about deadlines, voting locations, and more.
2. We will be giving everyone a half day off to go vote on Election Day. However, as wait times will vary based on the polling stations within your community, you make take as much time as you need to cast your ballot.
3. We will be making our pledge public on LinkedIn where we will also be encouraging other companies and organizations to do the same.



In addition, Meketa is also asking employees to consider volunteering to work the polls in your city or town on Election Day. As previously mentioned, there is an expected shortage of volunteers this year due to COVID-19 as many volunteer workers are retired and in an age bracket that is particularly susceptible to the virus. Therefore, if you are interested in volunteering, Meketa is happy to support that by giving you an extra eight hours of paid volunteer time. You can sign-up to become a volunteer at [Power to the Polls](#) or reach out to your local officials.

Finally, as Meketa employees only represent a small, albeit important, fraction of the eligible voting population, we are enlisting your help to further spread this message by encouraging your friends, family, and/or social media following to vote.

Despite the additional burdens the current pandemic is placing on Americans for the 2020 election, we hope these resources and Meketa's support help you feel empowered to cast your ballot and make your voice heard!