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Intervention for the August 22, 2024 United Nations Stakeholder Consult

CCIA Remarks on the Global Digital Compact Third Revision

Thank you, co-facilitators, excellencies, and distinguished colleagues,

I am Gabriel Delsol from the Computer & Communications Industry Association, or CCIA, an international nonprofit membership organization representing companies in the computer, internet, information technology, and telecommunications industries.

We welcome the opportunity to comment on the draft of the third revision of the Global Digital Compact (GDC), and the continued work of the co-conveners in finalizing work on this document. I also welcome the comments from several of my colleagues on the call today, and wanted to endorse those of APCO Worldwide and the US Council for International Business. We appreciate positive developments in the latest draft language, including affirmative support for cross-border data flows and an emphasis on a gradual, multistakeholder-led dialogue on interoperable data governance.

We do, however, respectfully encourage further improvement on the following topics:

First, we recommend avoiding creating new governance bodies that risk duplicating existing efforts. On Paragraphs 55 and 56, the proposed International Scientific Panel on AI and the Global Dialogue on AI Governance ought to be clearly defined according to their interoperability with existing processes and with a clear commitment to meaningful participation from stakeholders.

Second, to enhance the language in paragraph 65 on inviting stakeholders to endorse the compact, the language paragraph 76 inviting member states to provide their contributions to implementation should be edited to also include outside stakeholders.

Third, to facilitate the conclusion of negotiations, we welcome the co-conveners' focus on the implementation of the Compact, in the spirit of the open, transparent, and inclusive process expressed in General Assembly decision 77/568. To that end, continued involvement of outside stakeholders during the upcoming Summit for the Future and in implementing the GDC is critical. To facilitate industry endorsement of the Compact, we welcome clear, detailed communications on what endorsements entail and how to build accountability into partnerships and contributions. Finally, we call for a clearly communicated avenue for stakeholders to contribute to the High-Level Review of the Global Digital Compact at the 82nd Session of the General Assembly, and the report leading up to the review to be prepared during the 81st Session of the General Assembly.

Thank you.