Intervention for the February 18, 2025 UN Stakeholder Consult

CCIA Remarks on Modalities for the UN's Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI Governance

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

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

We welcome the opportunity to comment on the modalities of the proposed Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and the Global Dialogue on AI Governance. I also welcome the comments from several of my colleagues on the call today, and want to endorse those of the International Chamber of Commerce.

Regarding the modalities of the proposed bodies, we offer the following recommendations in response to the guiding questions, building on those submitted in our written comments.

First, regarding the Panel, we believe its mandate should focus on compiling and synthesizing existing research to inform the development of policy objectives. It should consider research detailing the opportunities and risks offered by AI towards advancing the SDGs. The Panel should be modeled after ICANN, consisting of individuals with specialized expertise in AI research across a broad spectrum of sub-disciplines. The nomination process should be transparent and inclusive, ensuring that a diverse range of expertise and perspectives are represented. It's important to highlight the significant expertise that resides within the private sector, making it essential that the Panel include representatives from industry.

Second, regarding the Dialogue, we believe that its mandate should focus on both sharing best practices in AI governance without pushing for prescriptive recommendations, and on highlighting, where relevant, AI's positive impact on global economic development as it relates to the pillars of the Global Digital Compact. Such a process would be critical for capacity building and ensuring that all stakeholders have a common understanding of best practices and principles in supporting the use of AI for sustainable development. The Dialogue should adopt a decentralized structure that involves meaningful avenues for stakeholder participation, inclusive of both government and non-governmental voices. It should take place annually on the margins of existing meetings at the UN, for example during the annual Internet Governance Forum.

Third, there should be natural synergies between the Dialogue and the Scientific Panel, with the Dialogue serving as a venue for the Panel to share its research, assessments, and scientific analysis with the global community. Moreover, the work of the Dialogue and Panel should complement, not duplicate, ongoing discussions, including those within the UN system such as the AI for Good Summits and the work of technical standards-setting organizations like ISO. It would be valuable for the Dialogue to align with existing UN global events, such as Day 0 of the

Internet Governance Forum, where key stakeholders already gather to address AI policy issues. It should also aim to complement and uphold other relevant outcomes of the Global Digital Compact where relevant, including the work of the CSTD Working Group on Data Governance. To maximize synergies, the Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies could conduct an inventory of ongoing efforts across the UN system to achieve similar goals to the Panel and Dialogue, and provide recommendations to avoid duplicative or conflicting efforts.

Thank you.