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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	AOB for the meeting of the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council on 6 December 2024: AI Action Summit - Information from France

AI Action Summit (Paris, 10-11 February 2025)

1. Rationale

The rapid progress of artificial intelligence (AI) represents a paradigm shift that our societies are yet to embrace. The opportunities it provides are huge in terms of economic growth, social development, innovation, better access to and knowledge of global goods (health, food, energy, biodiversity, education), job creation across various sectors.

The development of AI also generates legitimate risks and concerns, such as misinformation, bias leading to discrimination, protection of citizens' rights, malicious use, lack of transparency, as well as the widening of the digital divide.

Citizens, governments and organizations around the world thus face a double challenge: grasping the full potential of AI while ensuring that its development and use are designed in a responsible and ethical manner. **This objective can be achieved only through a multi-stakeholder and inclusive approach**, by bringing together partners from all sectors – public, private, civil society, academia – and all regions.

2. Proposal

France will host a leader-level “AI Action Summit” on 10 and 11 February 2025.

The Summit will aim to leverage and articulate existing initiatives and fora on AI, including by the UN, the OECD, the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI), as well as the G7 and G20.

The preparation of this Summit represents an opportunity to build an international consensus on AI by providing a platform for dialogue among a wide range of actors from all over the world, from governments to international organizations, as well as civil society, academia and the private sector.

The AI Action Summit will build on previous international AI Summits and events, including the Bletchley Park and Seoul Summits, and **will cover 5 main topics**: public interest, future of work, innovation and culture, trust, and global governance.

The Summit seeks to launch concrete initiatives contributing to put AI at the service of common good in all areas mentioned above, with a specific attention to the needs of all partners, including from the Global South. It will also provide an opportunity for convergence in terms of governance, based on experts' recommendations, such as the UN Advisory Board on AI and the Global Digital Compact objectives.

3. Method

French President Emmanuel Macron appointed Anne Bouverot as Special Envoy for the AI Action Summit. Ms. Bouverot is in charge of conducting the Summit's preparation, with the support of **5 Thematic Envoys working with international, multi-stakeholder contact groups** in order to build common deliverables.

The Special Envoy regularly updates an **international steering committee, composed of representatives of governments from all continents, international organizations, civil society, the private sector and academia**.

Avenues of contribution have been opened for many stakeholders around the world to participate: affiliation with partner events, call for public interest AI projects, call for commercial AI use cases, call for contributions from experts around the world.

4. Program

Road to the summit – Partners organize affiliated events on all continents, or challenges organized to provide a catalyst for the development of innovative solutions in healthcare, education, etc.

February 6th & 7th – The **science days** organized by the French academic community will bring together international experts and academics, with the aim of both sharing cutting-edge AI research, research on the impact of AI on societies and demonstrating the capabilities of AI to advance science.

February 8th & 9th – A **cultural weekend** open to the public will be a moment for artists to show their use of AI and digital technologies. Different locations in Paris will host events.

February 10th – The first day of the Summit will be an opportunity for hundreds of participants from various sectors (civil society, business, governments, academia, etc.) and coming from all regions to mingle and interact around round-table discussions (in a variety of formats, with a range of different profiles). There will be many opportunities for **bilateral meetings**. Press will be invited throughout the Summit. There will be several showcasing opportunities:

- A **'solutions space'** will showcase use cases for public interest AI (by the Paris Peace Forum).
- Winners of the **challenges** on the road to the Summit and impactful commercial AI use cases.

President Emmanuel Macron will host a dinner for Heads of state and high-level participants at the Elysée Palace on the evening of February 10th.

February 11th – The Leaders’ plenary session to be held in the morning between Heads of state and leading figures from civil society will enable them to share the Summit's key deliverables. At the same time, partner events will be held in several locations in Paris.

5. Deliverables

Since June, multi-stakeholder inclusive groups have worked and submitted suggestions for deliverables for the Summit along five tracks: (i) public interest AI, (ii) future of work, (iii) innovation and culture, (iv) trust in AI, (v) governance.

The goal of this Summit is to act and deliver the critical public goods needed to align AI with public interest. This means delivering science, solutions and standards for communities to design and use AI for their own needs.

The AI Action Summit will be a catalyzer for many groups of stakeholders to deliver and scale the public goods anticipating or responding to the massive deployment of AI:

- *Science* like studies on the impact of AI on work or on children development;
- *Solutions* like open-source tools to defend against cyberattacks or to fight disinformation, to use AI to protect cultural heritage;
- *Standards* to identify AI-generated content, good practices to deploy AI in the workplace or to share common criteria to monitor the environmental impacts of AI, and discussions on remunerating cultural data in AI training or preserving competition on the value chain.

More prospective discussions will also take place, as on sustaining competition in the AI ecosystem or military use of AI.

Three priority areas require a large international effort at the AI Action Summit to deliver those public goods. They could be the three main deliverables of this Summit:

- *On open and inclusive AI:* launching an innovative global platform to support AI capacity building for all, partnered with other solutions on computing capacity or expertise
- *On sustainable AI:* bringing more information, standards and investments for more environmentally sustainable AI, as well as other potential commitments contributing to the broader sustainability of AI on the societal, innovation and cultural fronts
- *On global governance:* clarifying the global governance and making it more inclusive and efficient