

CTU's 2024 2nd International ICT Forecast and Industry Watch Meeting Craig Ramlal 03 April, 2024



Why focus on international governance?

There is, today, no shortage of guides, frameworks, and principles on AI governance.

- **1**. Lack of interoperability in AI governance efforts across jurisdictions
- 2. Debate over binding rules vs. non-binding nudges in AI governance
- **3.** Balancing access and safety in AI governance
- 4. Challenges posed by lack of common standards and multiple definitions of AI
- 5. Rapid acceleration of AI technical advances and usage



Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence

Through the AIAB process:

- **1**. Facilitating a global and inclusive conversation on AI's benefits and ensuring positive outcomes
- 2. Bringing together diverse efforts into a unified global approach to AI governance

The Global AI Imperative

- Globally coordinated Al governance is the only way to harness Al for humanity
- To address its risks and uncertainties as well as unlock its opportunities
- Critical as AI becomes more widespread internationally



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The UN's Response

- To foster a globally inclusive approach, the UN Secretary-General convened a multistakeholder High-level Advisory Body on AI to undertake analysis and advance recommendations for the international governance of AI
- Link to **Global Digital Compact process** (September 2024)

A Multistakeholder, Networked Approach

- The Body will **engage and consult widely** with existing and emerging initiatives and international organizations
- To bridge perspectives across stakeholder groups and networks



Who are the Members of the Al Advisory Body?

- **39 Members**, all experts in relevant domains
 - Across government, industry / private sector, academia, civil society
- Representing **diverse perspectives** on how Al can be governed for the common good
- 33 nationalities represented
 - From all 5 UN regional groups
- Gender-balanced





Timeline of AI Advisory Body activities

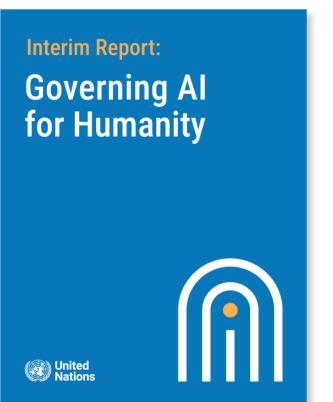
Key dates and milestones





Interim Report: Governing AI for Humanity

Released December 2023



Available at www.un.org/ai-advisory-body

- Highlights the Global Governance Deficit in Al
- Discusses **risks & challenges** and **opportunities & enablers** to use AI to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Provides **preliminary recommendations**, rather than proposing any single model for AI governance at this stage
 - With **5 guiding principles** for formation of new AI governance institutions
 - And 7 institutional functions for AI governance



Guiding Principles proposed in the Interim Report

To guide formation of new AI governance institutions



Al should be governed inclusively, by and for the benefit of all



Al must be governed in the public interest



Al governance should be built in step with data governance and the promotion of data commons



Al governance must be universal, networked and rooted in adaptive multistakeholder collaboration

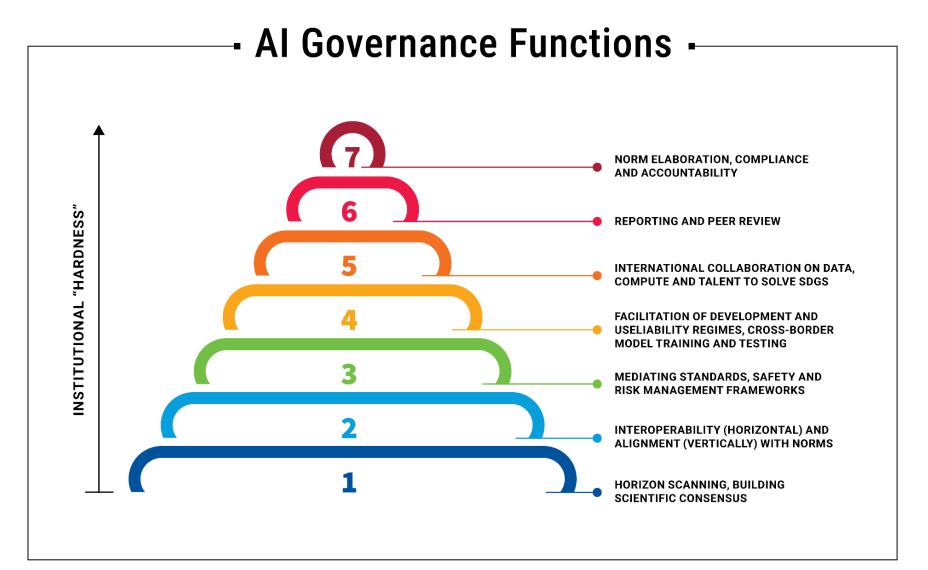


Al governance should be anchored in the UN Charter, International Human Rights Law, and other agreed international commitments such as the Sustainable Development Goals



Al Governance Functions proposed in Interim Report

- The Interim Report proposes that an international governance regime for AI should carry out at least these functions
- Could be carried out by individual institution(s) or a network of institutions





Adoptions and Reports

- United Nations General Assembly 78th Session Agenda 13
 - [Seizing the opportunities of safe, secure, and trustworthy artificial intelligence systems for sustainable development: Adopted]
- Zero-Draft Global Digital Compact
 - Objective 5: Governing emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence for Humanity





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- Establish an International Scientific Panel on AI to conduct independent multi-disciplinary scientific risk and evidence-based opportunity assessments
 - \circ Issue 6-monthly reports
 - \circ Support common assessment methodologies, AI definitions and taxonomies
 - \circ support inclusive academic partnerships for research and knowledge management on AI.

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 Initiate an annual global dialogue on AI governance with expert representatives of civil society, academia, the technical community, private sector, and of government AI safety institutes or other equivalent offices.

o build shared understandings and interoperability for AI

o promote standards on non-military AI safety, trust and compatibility

o share best practices and foster collaborative partnerships.

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 Call on international and national standard-setting organizations to collaborate to promote the harmonization of AI standards that uphold safety, reliability, environmental sustainability, gender equality and human rights (SDGs 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 16 & 17);

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Commit to increased AI capacity-building, leveraging existing e8orts such as ITU's AI for Good conference, UNESCO's Readiness Assessment Methodology, WHO's digital health initiatives and other relevant efforts to facilitate access to AI applications for the SDGs. International partnerships on capacity-building and benefits-sharing of AI will:

o support the development of education and training programmes and AI governance;

- o facilitate AI model training and development and incentives for cross-border data exchange;
- foster South-South and triangular cooperation around AI compute, data, talent and benchmarks to develop representative quality data sets, local solutions, use cases and entrepreneurial ecosystems (SDGs 4, 9, 10, & 17);
- Encourage public and private investment on AI for sustainable development through pooled funding arrangements (SDG 17).

Requests

- Establish under the Secretary-General a Global Fund for AI and Emerging Technologies for Sustainable Development of 100M USD for target launch 2025
 - Support the development of compute capacity and local datasets to inform the public use of AI at scale
 - OSupport the development of compute capacity that can apply existing AI models to localized data sets
 - Build and deliver skills-based training in collaboration with technology companies and technical and academic communities
 - oPromote and align Al-based solutions for the SDGs





Thank you