Bridgetown Call to Action on AI Safety for Humanity

Bridgetown Special Summit on AI Safety, 23 November 2026

AI holds immense potential for the benefit of all humanity. Realising AI's benefits will depend on inclusion, safety and public trust.

AI should serve every country's languages, cultures and priorities, and every country should have the opportunity to build, test and use AI on its own terms. International cooperation and regional solidarity are crucial to realise this goal, as is strong domestic and regional regulation.

If capacity to build and run AI remains concentrated in a few regions, existing inequalities would widen further.

Urgent investments are needed to build AI capacity in all regions of the world, including infrastructure, datasets, skills, and models that respect local values and priorities, and that which is necessary to prepare our workforce.

AI innovation must advance human rights, support sustainable development, and enable all people to have agency over their future, including AI that reflects the world's diversity.

Concrete AI projects to protect cultural and historical heritage and promote diversity could be a practical demonstration. Barbados' initiative to digitise data related to records of the trans-Atlantic slave trade and other regional Caribbean archives over which it has jurisdiction is an example of efforts to help preserve human civilisation.

AI risks do not respect borders. National and international AI risk management efforts must reinforce one another to ensure that the development, deployment and use of AI are safe, respect human rights and human agency, and remain under effective human control. Humans must control AI; AI must not control humans. At the Bridgetown Special Summit on AI Safety, we heard appeals for action on:

- AI safety and risk management, including international cooperation on accountability, liability, insurance arrangements and enforcement for harms from AI systems; international baselines for transparency and accountability of AI model and system developers and deployers; pre- and post-deployment testing and independent evaluation in local languages; international incident reporting, notification and response across routine and emergency scenarios;
- AI for humanity, including investing in developing AI systems in local languages; open source; diversity in the talent involved in research and development, and a voice for every region in standards and evaluations so that models work well where they are used, not only where they are built; building AI locally for sovereignty and local learning; harnessing scientific possibilities enabled by AI;

- AI capacity-building in support of the above to ensure that individuals and communities retain meaningful choice and control over AI, including investment in infrastructure, talent, workforce readiness, local datasets and open shareable models for local benefit; building safety into procurement requirements, including kill switches from point of purchase; institutional capacities for AI risk management and response, particularly in the Global South; public private and philanthropic partnerships to build minimum regional compute and GPU capacity that can be shared by multiple countries to train AI models in the Global South.

Additionally, we heard invitations to support the Call for Control of Frontier AI Models and the Paris Call for AI Safety and Security; to engage with ongoing initiatives including the Hiroshima AI Process, the Commonwealth, the OECD, and the forthcoming Geneva AI Summit, World AI Conference, and UK G20 Presidency in 2027. We also heard a strong sense of urgency for the need for collaboration between these efforts, and to develop plans for new institutional arrangements in the next 6–18 months.

In view of these appeals, we call on all Member States to coordinate efforts and to develop within the next year a globally inclusive and principles-based Multilateral Framework for AI risk management, backed by independent and credible oversight. Discussions could start with the functions and mechanisms for practical multilateral cooperation with full representation of all countries and stakeholders.

We also urge States, as well as the private sector, financial institutions, foundations and other donors in a position to do so to increase investments in AI capacity-building and contribute urgently to funding for developing a minimum AI capacity in regions in the Global South. This could be an early commitment to the Global Fund for AI Capacity-Building proposed to the UN General Assembly.

We invite the world to join us in the work ahead and lend support to this Call to help make AI safe and inclusive for people everywhere.