Bridgetown Special Summit closes with Call to Action on AI Safety for Humanity

AI safety cannot be an exclusive club. The Bridgetown Call urges stronger international safeguards and investment to help every country shape, govern and benefit from AI.

BARBADOS, 23 November 2026 – The Bridgetown Special Summit on AI Safety closed today with the Bridgetown Call to Action on AI Safety for Humanity, issued by the Honourable Prime Minister Mia Amor Mottley, SC, MP, and UN Secretary-General António Guterres, in response to appeals for action heard throughout the day's discussions.

The Call urges all Member States to coordinate efforts across existing and forthcoming international AI safety initiatives and develop, within the next year, a globally inclusive, principles-based Multilateral Framework for AI risk management, backed by independent and credible oversight. It also calls on States, the private sector, financial institutions, foundations, and other donors to increase investments in AI capacity-building and urgently contribute funding to build minimum AI capacity in regions of the Global South. These contributions could serve as early commitments to the proposed Global Fund for AI Capacity-Building, which seeks to mobilize approximately USD 3 billion in initial commitments to close AI capacity gaps in developing countries.

Co-hosted by the Government of Barbados and the United Nations, the Special Summit brought together over 250 participants, including senior government representatives, technology companies, AI safety institutes, the scientific community and civil society. Across the Summit's two roundtables, participants called for stronger AI safety and risk management, including accountability for AI developers and deployers, testing and independent evaluation, and cross-border incident reporting. Other appeals from the room focused on AI that works in local languages, greater diversity in research and standards, and AI capacity-building through investment in the skills, infrastructure and institutions countries need to govern AI and manage its risks.

"As this technology develops and spreads, safety must come first. The way forward must include all countries," said Secretary-General Guterres, who called for such a multilateral framework in his address to the General Assembly in September.

"Our starting point is simple. Safety and inclusion belong together. A country cannot protect its people from systems it has no means to understand or oversee. Everybody needs the capacity to act and to preserve our global diversity. And we need to avoid any further consolidation of power and wealth," said Prime Minister Mottley.

Barbados and the United Nations will work with partners to advance these efforts, inviting countries and stakeholders around the world to lend their support to the Bridgetown Call.

The **full text of the Bridgetown Call to Action on AI Safety for Humanity** is available here.

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