

Session Outcome Document**How can we articulate Global AI Governance with Human Rights and Multistakeholder Engagement?****Data Privacy Brasil****17:00 - 17:45 (Geneva Time), 09 July 2026**<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2026/Agenda/Session/424>**Key Issues discussed:**

- The fragmentation of AI governance processes and obstacles for meaningful Global South participation across the Global Digital Compact, the Global Dialogue on AI, WSIS+20, AI for Good and other international and regional forums;
- Structural barriers to meaningful Global South participation, including funding limitations, geographic concentration of events in the Global North, overlapping agendas, visa barriers and unequal access to governments and diplomatic spaces;
- Challenges to the inclusiveness of the UN Global Dialogue and other processes, particularly regarding session overlaps, limited speaking opportunities, unclear participation procedures and the absence of transparent mechanisms to show how stakeholder inputs are integrated;
- The tension between development narratives on AI and the need to ensure that human rights are not treated as secondary to innovation, competitiveness, infrastructure or economic growth;
- The disconnect between global AI governance and national implementation capacities;
- The need to recognize and address existing and documented AI harms, including gender-based harms affecting communities already facing structural inequalities;
- Persistent blind spots in existing AI governance agendas, particularly the exclusion of military applications of AI and autonomous weapons from major international AI governance discussions such as the Dialogue;
- The importance of grounding AI governance in meaningful multistakeholder participation, drawing from lessons learned in Internet governance processes, including WSIS, IGF and NetMundial+10.

Key Outcomes of the session

- Participants emphasized that human rights should not be considered merely as a thematic cluster within AI governance. Instead, international human rights law should constitute the normative baseline for the development, deployment, implementation, regulation and governance of AI systems;
- The session highlighted the need to move beyond general principles and towards concrete accountability mechanisms, including operational AI red lines for uses and design choices that are incompatible with human rights;
- Speakers identified the current design of the UN Global Dialogue on AI as requiring improvements to ensure meaningful multistakeholder participation, addressing issues

such as overlapping sessions, limited opportunities for intervention, and the lack of transparency on how stakeholder contributions are reflected in outcomes;

- The discussion pointed to the need for intersessional work; inspired by Internet governance mechanisms, including the IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group model and the WSIS+20 multistakeholder experience;
- The session underlined the importance of linking global AI governance with national implementation. Capacity-building should not remain limited to global forums, but should support governments, civil society, experts and affected communities at the national level;
- Speakers called for wider recognition of existing AI harms, particularly spaces for addressing AI Red Lines, including the military use of AI, and for greater attention to document evidence produced by civil society, journalists, researchers and affected communities;
- The discussion brought that the UN Independent Scientific Panel on AI should consider not only technical and academic evidence, but also evidence generated by civil society and communities directly affected by AI systems;
- Existing frameworks were identified as important references for future AI governance debates, such as NetMundial+10 guidelines on procedural aspects of improving meaningful multistakeholder participation, and the UNESCO Recommendations on the Ethics of AI regarding the peaceful use of AI systems.

Key Recommendations and Forward-Looking Actions

- Establish human rights and international human rights law as the baseline framework for all AI governance processes, including the development of accountability mechanisms and clear, operationable AI red lines grounded in existing human rights obligations by the States;
- Address structural barriers for inclusive participation in AI governance processes, including funding, speaking opportunities, session overlaps, and power asymmetries;
- Strengthen intersessional multistakeholder mechanisms between global AI governance processes, including the UN Global Dialogue on AI, the upcoming Swiss Summit and the IGF, ensuring the participation of civil society, affected communities, technical experts, human rights experts and Global South actors;
- Global AI governance should be better aligned with national implementation, with more coordination among governments to promote capacity-building and fostering dialogues that create connections with local contexts and harms;
- Ensure that underrepresented issues in AI governance are addressed in future discussions, particularly military applications of AI, autonomous weapons, gender-based harms, environmental impacts, labor impacts, documented real-world harms, and evidence generated by affected communities.