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Good morning, ladies and gentlemen,

Today I am launching my High-Level Multistakeholder Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence.

The last year has seen an extraordinary advance in the capabilities and use of artificial intelligence, through chatbots, voice cloning, image generators, video apps and more.

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As things stand, AI expertise is concentrated in a handful of companies and countries. This could deepen global inequalities and turn digital divides into chasms.

The potential harms of AI extend to serious concerns over misinformation and disinformation; the entrenching of bias and discrimination; surveillance and invasion of privacy; fraud, and other violations of human rights.

Without entering into a host of doomsday scenarios, it is already clear that the malicious use of AI could undermine trust in institutions, weaken social cohesion, and threaten democracy itself.

For all these reasons, I have called for a global, multidisciplinary, multistakeholder conversation on the governance of AI so that its benefits to humanity – all of humanity – are maximized, and the risks contained and diminished.

This Advisory Body is the starting point.

This group will work independently, guided by some basic principles.

The Advisory Body's efforts will be inclusive and based on the universal values enshrined in the United Nations Charter.

It will consider how we can link various AI governance initiatives that are already underway.

And it will work fast, because we are against the clock. It will make preliminary recommendations in three areas by the end of this year:

- The international governance of artificial intelligence;
- A shared understanding of risks and challenges;
- And key opportunities and enablers, to leverage AI to accelerate the delivery of the SDGs.

The Advisory Body's recommendations will feed into preparations for the Summit of the Future next September, and specifically into negotiations around the proposed Global Digital Compact.

This High-Level Advisory Body is gender-balanced, geographically diverse, and spans generations. Members have deep experience across government, business, the technology community, civil society and academia. They bring a broad range of perspectives to the task.

I am grateful and delighted that this outstanding group have agreed to put their knowledge and expertise at the service of the United Nations.

They will serve in their personal capacity, and I ask them to consult widely, extensively, and transparently to hear the views of all stakeholders.

I thank the members in advance for their commitment and contribution to make AI work for all of humanity.

Thank you.