13 May 2025



Excellency,

The Special Meeting of the Economic and Social Council on Artificial Intelligence was successfully convened on 6 May 2025, back-to-back with the 2025 multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the SDGs (STI Forum) and as part of the STI Action Day.

The Special Meeting brought together Member States, UN system experts, academia, private sector leaders, innovators, and civil society stakeholders to explore the transformative role of artificial intelligence (AI) in accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while addressing the associated challenges and risks. It also highlighted the urgent need to bridge existing digital and AI gaps including through strategic investments, partnerships, and international cooperation to address foundational needs and capacity development in the Global South. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all delegations for your active and constructive participation. Your thoughtful statements and contributions served to enrich the interactive debates and provided valuable and action-oriented policy recommendations.

It is my pleasure to share with you the summary of this meeting, which highlights the key messages and the recommended actions that emerged from the discussions. ECOSOC will continue to address this important topic, striving to leverage AI as a force for good that benefits everyone.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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Bob Rae President of ECOSOC

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations <u>New York</u>