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G7 Summit in Biarritz,
Recommendations from the global digital industry

Leading industry organizations of G7 countries herewith would like to encourage the G7 leaders to focus on the main two challenges of successful digital transformation during the the Biarritz Summit.

Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT)

Trust and collaboration in the area of Cybersecurity is the oil lubricating the mechanisms that enable the free flows of data, and the driver of growth and prosperity of our economies and societies. We urge governments and regulators to identify and share experiences related to regulatory criteria and mechanisms that allow data to flow while ensuring high levels of trust, including by way of risk-based approaches and tight cooperation with business.

Recommendations:

» Facilitate the free flow of data across borders and enhance trust throughout.

» Extend high-level privacy protection that ensures international interoperability, technology neutrality, transparency and responsible data handling practices in keeping with OECD Guidelines on the Protection of Privacy and Transborder Flows of Personal Data.

» Enhance ubiquitous cybersecurity at all times by utilising risk-based, outcome-focused and technology-neutral approaches grounded in global, consensus-based, industry-led and internationally recognised standards and best practices.

» Ensure that consumers and citizens are protected from fraudulent or deceptive commercial activities on the internet through cooperation between national consumer and citizen protection bodies.

» Ensure transparent and predictable regulation and promote competition and innovation while protecting intellectual property, including source code, encryption keys, algorithms and new technologies, including with respect to AI.

AI for All

Building on DFFT, digital technologies like IoT, Big Data, AI, robotics and Blockchain have been transforming business, large and small, and all walks of society, from healthcare to agriculture, mobility, energy, government, etc.

One key challenge lies with making the most of the huge data-processing potential of AI. The OECD, the EU, the governments of Canada and Japan and many others have worked hard to outline ethical guidelines and human-centric principles for AI: harnessing and applying data in line with these guidelines is the next step. As an example, the EU has developed an agile 'policy sandboxing' process allowing businesses to 'test' the principles for ethical AI using a comprehensive, detailed assessment list in the AI development phase.

The EU's efforts to put all policy making recommendations through a reality check and rigorous fact-based exercise are indeed meant to avoid putting into law anything that could be hasty and short-sighted. We encourage governments to join the abovementioned process and to take steps to enable data use so that business, academics and others can test these principles in the context of actual business operations.

In the vast majority of cases, existing laws on human rights, consumer protection, data protection and cybersecurity that promote diversity and prevent discrimination already provide citizens in the EU and in G7 countries with adequate protection. Further efforts from the International Panel on Artificial Intelligence (IPAI) created by Canada and France to "support and guide the responsible development of AI" will encourage global collaboration on innovation, research and investment in this respect.

The fundamental stepping stone of trust cannot stand alone, and we urge Governments to raise the bar in national education systems, focusing on retraining opportunities and diverting more public funds to AI development and deployment.

Governments need also to continue to support ethical and responsible AI developments and application, and to increase efforts to foster data availability and interoperability to improve accuracy and limit bias and errors in machine learning and data analytics.

Both industry and public sector have a vital role to play in using AI to develop inclusive solutions for a broad range of issues, such as energy consumption, climate change, and health care. Both are committed to delivering trustworthy and human-centric AI. Successful dissemination of these solutions throughout society will elevate citizens' quality of life and help realise a sustainable society that respects diversity and the rights of each and every individual.

Recommendations:

- Closely communicate and align approaches and policies on ethical principles and guidelines, including work being done at national, OECD, and EU level (i.e. ethical guidelines pilot testing) during the G7 Summit. Ensure the responsible and ethical design and deployment of AI systems, including by way of addressing safety mechanisms, using robust and representative data, promoting transparency, and enabling greater interoperability.

- Support the development and use of global, consensus-based, industry-led AI standards to enable technical interoperability, non-discriminatory market access, and innovation.

- Facilitate data use and access to open format and machine-readable data sets as a means to foster innovation and competitiveness in AI technologies and enhance and generate business opportunities for SMEs.

- Promote cooperation on Research and Innovation and common programs to support digital skills for both young generations and people who are working and need to get new skills. Programs allowing the exchange of researchers among Universities would also facilitate new forms of cooperation and the chance to develop AI solutions for a sustainable society.

The signatories to this statement hope that all G7 leaders will continue to support the high ambitions described above and that the Biarritz Summit Declaration will fully reflect their strong commitment to this effect.

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DIGITALEUROPE represents the digital technology industry in Europe. Our members include some of the world's largest IT, telecoms and consumer electronics companies and national associations from every part of Europe. DIGITALEUROPE wants European businesses and citizens to benefit fully from digital technologies and for Europe to grow, attract and sustain the world's best digital technology companies. DIGITALEUROPE ensures industry participation in the development and implementation of EU policies. DIGITALEUROPE's members include in total over 35,000 ICT Companies in Europe represented by 69 Corporate Members and 40 National Trade Associations from across Europe: www.digitaleurope.org

Syntec Numérique is the first professional syndicate of the French digital ecosystem. Its members are ESN (Digital Service Companies), technology consulting companies (ICT), software publishers and Web players, nearly half of which are located in the regions. Together, they represent 80% of the turnover of the sector in France and 447,000 jobs. The union welcomes large groups, medium-sized companies (SMEs), SMEs and start-ups. They represent all digital professions, from infrastructure to video games, from embedded devices to connected objects, mobility and security: www.syntec-numerique.fr

Bitkom is Germany's digital association. Founded 1999 in Berlin, we represent more than 2,600 companies of the digital economy. Our membership spans more than 1,000 SMEs, over 500 startups and virtually all global players. Our members offer software, telecommunications and internet services, produce hardware and consumer electronics, operate in the digital media sector or are in other ways affiliated with the digital economy. More and more companies across all sectors are joining Bitkom as they digitise their business models: www.bitkom.org

techUK represents the companies and technologies that are defining today the world that we will live in tomorrow. Every day, digital technology is pushing the boundaries on what we can achieve. This is opening up new horizons and presenting new challenges. techUK brings together companies, people and organisations who share our purpose to ensure digital technology is used wisely to build a stronger society and economy and ensure a sustainable future: www.techuk.org

TECH IN France is an organisation representing French tech companies. It creates a community of 400 companies, startups, SMEs, scale-ups and large groups that invent the uses of tomorrow. TECH IN France supports its members in four key areas of their growth: network management, cost management, risk management and regulation management: www.techinfrance.fr

AFNUM (Alliance Française des Industries du Numérique) is a professional trade organization That Represents the manufacturers from the fields of telecommunication networks, mobile devices, consumer electronics, photography, and connected objects, in France (public and private fixed and mobile networks, telecommunication devices and components, consumer electronics equipment, A/V devices, signal distribution equipment, photography equipment, image and data storage). AFNUM is part of the major trade federation, the FIEEC (Federation of Electrical, Electronic and Communication Industries), which represents over 3,000 business organizations. www.afnum.fr

As Canada's national ICT business association, the **Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC)** champions the development of a robust and sustainable digital economy in Canada. A vital connection between business and government, we provide our members with the advocacy, networking and professional development services that help them to thrive nationally and compete globally. A prominent advocate for the expansion of Canada's innovative capacity, ITAC encourages technology adoption to capitalize on productivity and performance opportunities across all sectors. A member-driven not-for-profit, ITAC has served as the authoritative national voice of the $170 billion ICT industry for over 60 years: www.itac.ca

The **Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA)** is Japan's leading ICT and electronics association, with around 400 members from Japan and abroad. JEITA plays a role as a platform for connecting industries such as electronic components and devices, electronic equipment, and IT solutions and services as well as stakeholders in those industries. We have been working on a range of programs to facilitate digital economy with the aim of realizing "Society 5.0"—a world-leading super-smart society built on advanced information use: www.jeita.or.jp/english/

Created in 1999, the **Japan Business Council in Europe (JBCE)** is a leading European organisation representing the interests of 85 multinational companies of Japanese parentage active in Europe. Our members operate across a wide range of sectors, including information and communication technology, electronics, chemicals, automotive, machinery, wholesale trade, precision instruments, pharmaceutical, railway, textiles and glass products. Together, our member companies represented in 2013 global sales of 1.4 trillion euros. Building a new era of cooperation between the European Union (EU) and Japan is the core of our activities, which we perform under several committees focusing on: Corporate Policy, Corporate Social Responsibility, Digital Innovation, Environment & Energy, Standards and Conformity, and Trade: www.jbce.org

Founded in 1978, the **World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA)** is a leading consortium of ICT industry association members from over 80 countries/economies around the world. WITSA's members represent more than 90 percent of the world ICT market. As the leading recognized voice of the global ICT industry, WITSA aims to drive transformation and grow the industry given that ICT is the key driver of the global economy: www.witsa.org

Regarding this statement, please note that WITSA is at an early stage of AI-related assessments.