

MEDIA ADVISORY

Human Development in the age of AI in focus at UNGA High-Level Week

Convening asks: How will AI influence civilization and sustainable development and impact human relationships and values?

New York, 18 September 2026 – Artificial intelligence is reshaping the ground beneath our collective life, raising profound questions about human development, culture, community and what it means to be human.

Building on global convenings in Cairo, Mexico City, Xi'an and Rome, the [AI and Human Development initiative](#) of United Nations Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed comes to New York during UN General Assembly High-Level Week for its most public and dynamic gathering yet.

WHEN:

Wednesday, 23 September 2026 | 09:30am-11:00am

WHO:

Amina Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General

H.E. Paula Ingabire, Minister of ICT and Innovation, Rwanda

H.E. David Sengh, Chief Minister and Chief Innovation Officer, Sierra Leone

H.E. Enrique Ochoa, Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs, Mexico

Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Ella Al-Shamahi, Paleoanthropologist and TV presenter

Zeinab Badawi, Journalist and President, SOAS, University of London

Victoria de León, Founder & CEO, Ontla

Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Actor, Producer, Director and UN Global Advocate for Human-centric Digital Governance

Annemarie Hou, Executive Director, UN Office for Partnerships

James Manyika, President, Research, Labs, Technology & Society, Google and Alphabet

Amir Siraj, Astrophysicist and pianist

Brad Smith, President of Microsoft and UN Secretary-General's SDG Advocate

Gillian Tett, Award-winning journalist and author. Winner of Royal Anthropological Institute March Award

WHERE:

Trusteeship Council Chamber, United Nations Headquarters, New York

Or watch live: [AI and Human Development | UN Web TV](#)

WHY:

The AI and Human Development global convenings were created to examine AI through a third, less-explored lens: what it means for people, societies and the future of humanity in all its diversity, bringing together an exceptional cross-section of voices.

The journey now culminates in New York during the eighty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Through a series of thought-provoking, cross-disciplinary conversations bringing together voices from technology, government, academia, philosophy and the arts, the New York convening will explore how AI is transforming the social fabric and shaping humanity's relationship with technology.

A **convenings report** reflecting the perspectives and ideas that emerged across the convenings will be launched during the event and made available online.

Outcomes of this initiative will build on the work of the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and the Secretary-General's Global Dialogue on AI Governance.

In 2027, the initiative will expand to support country-led, intergenerational community-based convenings worldwide in the lead-up to the SDG Summit.

About the UN Office for Partnerships

As the global gateway to the United Nations, the UN Office for Partnerships convenes and co-creates essential partnerships and programmes, as well as manages catalytic funding to accelerate solutions that advance the Sustainable Development Goals.

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