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## **Intervention at the Stakeholder Consultation for the Global Dialogue on AI Governance**

I am Paloma Lara Castro, Director of Public Policy at Derechos Digitales, a Latin American NGO with 20 years of experience working at the intersection of technology and human rights. I would like to highlight three key aspects.

First, it is essential that this process remains grounded in the principles set out in paragraph 55 of the Global Digital Compact, which underscores that international cooperation on AI governance should be anchored in international human rights law. Paragraph 4 of Resolution 79/325 further establishes the Global Dialogue as a space to advance these discussions through a multistakeholder approach.

Participation must not be reduced to a formal exercise, but should constitute a genuine condition for the legitimacy and effectiveness of this process. Stakeholders -particularly from the Global South- must be able to shape agendas and influence outcomes, rather than being included only for representational purposes. Experiences in multistakeholder governance, such as the NetMundial+10 outcome document, offer useful guidance. In this regard, we also consider it important to explore alternative venues beyond New York to host the Global Dialogue, as the current migration context in the United States risks undermining the value of inclusive participation.

Second, the Global Dialogue should contribute to greater coherence across jurisdictions and help bridge currently fragmented discussions on data governance and AI governance. Priority areas should include the social and economic impacts of AI -particularly on labour- as well as the need for gender-responsive AI governance specially considering TFGBV. Attention should also be given to the environmental footprint of AI infrastructures and to strengthening accountability mechanisms. These discussions should advance data governance frameworks grounded in data justice, especially where data extraction disproportionately affects populations in the Global South.

Finally, while the First Global Dialogue represents a pioneering space, it should aim to produce concrete outputs that build on existing standards and commitments. In particular, it could help operationalize the repeated calls for moratoria and bans on uses of AI that pose serious risks to human rights. The UN General Assembly has called on States to refrain from or cease the use of AI systems that cannot operate in compliance with international human rights law or that pose undue risks to the enjoyment of human rights. These concerns are reflected in debates on issues such as the use of facial recognition in the context of protests, as well as calls to pause the expansion of data centres until companies provide transparent information about their environmental and human rights impacts.

The Global Dialogue offers an opportunity to translate these commitments into concrete governance pathways.

Thank you very much.