

## Session Outcome Document

*(2 pages max)*

### **Governing the Systemic Impacts of AI Where Regulation Doesn't Reach: Standardised Commitments and Lateral Requirements across Value Chains**

**AI Commons (AIC) Framework Working Group - Centre Leo Apostel for Interdisciplinary Studies (CLEA), Free University of Brussels (VUB)**

**Monday 6 July 2026, 13:00–13:45 (UTC+02:00), Room K2, ITU Montbrillant**

<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2026/Agenda/Session/337>

#### **Key Issues discussed:** (5–8 bullet points summarizing the main discussion points)

- The governance gap: the UN Independent Scientific Panel counts over 40 AI governance instruments, finding them fragmented, concentrated at the corporate level, and rarely measuring real-world effectiveness. The session asked how the real-world, systemic impacts of the AI transition can be governed at the layer where they are configured - the commercial relationships of AI value chains.
- Presentation of the AI Commons (AIC) Framework: a standardised licensing instrument through which any AI actor - from a two-person startup to a platform provider - voluntarily adopts public-interest commitments across six profiles (Reciprocity, Sustainability, Openness, Governance, Access, Value), expressed in a compact deployment matrix readable by humans at a glance and by machines.
- The systemic design logic: exponential dynamics emerge from interaction, not addition. Beneficial systemic effects can therefore be induced when adopters extend their own commitments as requirements on partners upstream and downstream, creating mutual expectations across value chains - following the precedent of Creative Commons and open-source licensing.
- Enforcement without new institutions: commitments are written into the ordinary documents of deployment (terms of service, API conditions, procurement contracts) and bind under existing contract law in every jurisdiction - no treaty, harmonisation, or certification body required.
- Panel discussion on the session's central question - voluntary standards spread only when actors choose them, so what would make these terms worth choosing - covering operationalisation of responsible-AI principles, licensing as a lightweight pathway across an uneven regulatory landscape, SME adoption, cooperative models for individuals and small businesses, and a live platform case examined against all six profiles.
- Floor discussion: the framework's complementarity with safety and liability regimes (it governs the systemic effects that accumulate after safety and lawfulness are met), and enforcement in the absence of a central mandate.

#### **Key Outcomes of the session** (concise bullet points capturing the concrete results of the session)

- Key insights and findings: panellists positioned the framework as an operational arm for responsible-AI principles (OECD, UN agencies) and as governance matched to the dynamic, agentic character of current AI - governance that lives in value chains, ecosystems, and procurement decisions, not only in norms; precedents identified include open-source/Creative Commons licensing and the social licence to operate.
- Speed-matching principle: measures for governing AI must be capable of growing at least as fast as the systems they govern; contract-layer instruments propagate at the speed of business relationships.

- A live worked example (an open-source decentralised AI platform) demonstrated profile-by-profile application - including a deliberate divergence on the Value profile, illustrating the framework's voluntary, compositional design.
- Announcements: first public presentation of the AIC deployment matrix and profile notation; the AIC Working Group (hosted at CLEA, Vrije Universiteit Brussel) presented its pathway toward an open international standard, with clause sets at v0.9 under working-group review.
- Collaborations: the Head of the UN AI Governance for Humanity Lab conveyed the Lab's interest in continued collaboration and in opportunities to test and pilot the framework; further expressions of interest were gathered in the room and through the Forum week.

**Key Recommendations and Forward-Looking Actions** (2–5 bullet points outlining practical and actionable recommendations to support WSIS implementation towards 2035)

- Bring the AIC clause library to its first public release (v1.0) as an open international standard, and pilot it across actor sizes and jurisdictions - startups, municipalities and public procurers, and platform providers (Action Lines C1, C6).
- Use procurement, public and private, as the implementation entry point: writing standardised public-interest commitments into the documents through which AI is already acquired gives every country a pathway that requires no new legislation and works within existing legal systems (C1, C6).
- Pursue piloting collaboration with the UN AI Governance for Humanity Lab and similar bodies, so that real-world effectiveness is measured from the outset - responding directly to the Scientific Panel's finding that existing instruments rarely measure it (C10).
- Map the complementarity between safety-focused regulation and contract-layer commitments: which distributional, environmental, and participatory consequences of AI fall outside existing instruments, and how standardised commitments close that gap across jurisdictions (C3, C10).