Department for
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Notice

G7 Industry, Digital and Technology Ministerial Declaration: 8 to 9 December 2025

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Montreal, Canada.

We, the G7 Industry, Digital and Technology (IDT) Ministers, met under Canada's Presidency to advance our collective priorities in economic competitiveness and prosperity. We welcomed [the Republic of Korea] as invited guests and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) as knowledge partner.

For the last 50 years, the G7 has been a beacon of leadership to the world by addressing global challenges through cooperation and collaboration. Continuing this spirit of cooperation, we, the G7 IDT Ministers advanced several initiatives to further our collective economic prosperity and security, aiming to grow our and our partners' artificial intelligence (AI) and critical emerging technology commercial ecosystems, drive marketplace competition and skills in an increasingly digital economy, and strengthen supply chains and industrial resilience, with a view to bolstering robust and adaptable economies in a context of emerging opportunities and challenges.

Artificial intelligence for growth

AI is transforming industries and economies through applications that unlock prosperity through greater efficiency and productivity. To reap the benefits offered by this technology, it is important that we promote a human-centric approach and create an enabling environment for the widespread adoption of secure, responsible and trustworthy AI. We seek to promote AI that drives innovation and growth and benefits people, mitigates negative externalities, promotes our economic and national security, respects applicable legal frameworks, including human rights, and is enabled through Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT).

Building upon the commitments in the **G7 Leaders' Statement on AI for Prosperity** we focused our respective efforts on delivering several aspects of the **G7 AI Adoption Roadmap**. This includes the Canadian Presidency launching the **SME AI Adoption Blueprint**, that surfaces practical applications and use cases of AI adoption across sectors that can spur efforts to increase productivity and growth across industries. Our **Statement on the SME AI Adoption Blueprint** highlights a resource that can help governments and businesses build enabling ecosystems for AI adoption. We expect these efforts to foster environments where companies, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)—including micro-enterprises—can access actionable knowledge to integrate AI into their operations.

We recognize the need to increase trust in AI systems, such as through sector-specific and risk-based approaches, including how they are developed and deployed, and to encourage deeper international cooperation to advance trustworthy AI. This year, we built on the outcomes of the Hiroshima AI Process, held under Japan's 2023 Presidency, by leading multi-stakeholder efforts to identify challenges and gaps in deploying trustworthy AI, and publishing the Toolkit for SMEs Deploying Artificial Intelligence that provides guidance to help businesses and organizations of all sizes deploy AI responsibly, with a heightened focus on SMEs. We recognize the role of the Code of Conduct Reporting Framework developed under Italy's 2024 Presidency for facilitating user trust by reinforcing accountability and providing transparency of advanced AI systems through voluntary actions by AI providers, as well as the interest in its continued uptake. We encourage the OECD to explore opportunities to facilitate participation in the Reporting Framework by providing guidance to help users and other relevant stakeholders easily understand the published reports.

Supporting organizations across the G7 in their AI adoption journeys includes addressing the barriers they face, such as talent shortages and skills gaps specific to AI. Additionally, accelerating economic growth and prosperity requires building a resilient workforce that is equipped with the advanced digital skills, expertise and technology needed to navigate an evolving economic context. We recognize the wide-ranging talent pool required to develop and deploy AI broadly across our economies. To this end, we will ensure equal opportunity, by encouraging girls, as well as members of communities left behind by globalization, to pursue science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and increasing women's representation in the AI talent pool at all levels. To deliver the G7 Leaders' commitment to bolster cross-border talent exchange, we plan to support AI-focused opportunities for students from G7 countries to connect AI skills and expertise with businesses, including SMEs, to accelerate AI adoption and build a future-ready workforce that can responsibly and effectively use AI across industries and functions. In this context, we emphasize support for SMEs through training and resources to build and leverage AI technologies. We also recognize the importance of raising awareness about the benefits of AI use cases among SMEs while fostering open and transparent conversations to overcome specific obstacles that they, in particular, may encounter.

We acknowledge the potential of open-source solutions to foster AI for growth by facilitating the broad dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge that supports innovation.

We also recognize the importance of working together to enhance AI adoption in our public sectors. This year we launched the **G7 AI Network**, bringing together our public sector AI leaders. Together, we hosted a series of **rapid solution labs** to spur innovation, enhance collaboration across our AI ecosystems and address common challenges we all face. We continue to

work together to develop tools to expand the use of AI in government and reduce duplicative effort by developing a **catalogue of open-source and shareable AI solutions**, putting forward a **roadmap to scale AI solutions** across government, and initiating discussions on measuring the impact of AI for our communities.

Quantum technologies

Quantum technologies have the potential to unlock tremendous economic growth and prosperity. Building on the Italian Presidency's efforts to bring quantum technologies to the G7 agenda in 2024, leaders announced the **G7 Kananaskis Common Vision for the Future of Quantum Technologies**.

To advance the priorities outlined in this vision, we established a pilot **G7 Joint Working Group on Quantum Technologies** under Canada's G7 Presidency to: inform cooperation on research, development and commercialization, including through voluntary joint calls for projects between interested members; advance policy dialogues on approaches to innovation and adoption and assess the potential societal impacts of these technologies as they progress towards commercial and defence applications. We also welcomed efforts by some interested members to further explore the possibility of voluntary joint calls for projects.

We acknowledge that such initiatives can increase G7 cooperation on quantum technology development while boosting scientific research, skills development, academia-industry partnerships, investments and progress towards commercialization and adoption.

To fully leverage the potential of quantum technologies for economic growth, we promote workforce development policies for all, including women as well as communities left behind by globalization, to equip individuals with the skills needed for new jobs in the quantum sector.

Resilient and competitive digital economy

The global digital economy is deeply interconnected, with governments, businesses and users relying on digital platforms, data and technologies that transcend borders. While instrumental for trade and growth, this interconnectedness highlights the need for ongoing G7 cooperation to promote an open, resilient and competitive digital economy that benefits our citizens. Recognizing this, we advanced initiatives that facilitate trusted

cross-border data flows and protect and promote competition, fairness and contestability in markets that are being rapidly reshaped by digital transformation. To do so, we have advanced DFFT through the promotion of privacy enhancing technologies (PETs). We acknowledge that SMEs may need support in adopting technologies like PETs, including by reducing implementation costs and evaluating their efficacy. As reflected in the **2025 Canada-Japan-OECD Expert Workshop and High-Level Roundtable on PETs and AI**, we recognize the need for initiatives that support greater understanding of PETs, such as the OECD Global Repository on PETs. To advance PETs adoption and development, we should continue working to improve regulatory certainty and foster broader policy coordination for interoperable technical PETs solutions.

We reaffirm our support for market-based economies and international cooperation as foundations of prosperity, stability and security in the digital age. As part of this effort, we welcome the **2025 G7 Competition Summit**, which examined algorithmic pricing's potential impact on competition, and its **updated Compendium of approaches to improving competition in digital markets**, with a particular focus on digital competition issues, such as lock-in effects and lack of contestability on digital markets. We support strengthening international cooperation and using effective tools to promote a contestable and competitive digital ecosystem that benefits consumers, encourages new entrants and fosters innovation.

The G7 recognizes that robust, reliable and predictable intellectual property (IP) legal frameworks are essential to ensuring a resilient and competitive digital economy, especially as digital services, automation and AI advance rapidly. We reaffirm our commitment to fostering collaboration with relevant stakeholders to promote best practices to support innovation and identify approaches to address challenges related to the respect of IP rights in new digital contexts. These issues form a key part of the agenda at the **G7 Heads of Intellectual Property Office (IPO) meeting** that will take place on December 12, 2025, during which IPOs are expected to explore evolving global trends and exchange tangible best practices within their statutory mandates.

Supply chain security

To ensure our collective economic competitiveness and security, it is crucial that we establish and maintain resilient and secure supply chains that allow the movement of goods, services and technologies, while promoting domestic capabilities. We need collaborative solutions, such as improved supply chain transparency, standards development, and enhanced investment, to create a stable policy environment and counter the growing influence of non-market practices and anti-competitive behaviours of

suppliers and countries that disrupt global supply chains. As endorsed in the Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, economic resilience also requires de-risking through diversification and reduction of critical dependencies, including those resulting from overcapacity. We encourage public and private sector coordination to strengthen the supply chain resilience of strategic goods, in terms of both supply and demand. We commend the discussions among G7 Economic Resilience and Security Senior Officials to address common challenges and facilitate G7 collaboration on securing resilient supply chains.

A critically important area of continued G7 cooperation is supply chain security and resilience for semiconductors. We endorsed the continued work of the **G7 Semiconductors Point of Contact (PoC) Group**. Informed by industry perspectives, the PoC Group achieved consensus on the need for complementary actions to address current supply chain vulnerabilities, such as those created by non-market policies and market-distorting practices. This includes exploring the development of guidance addressing both technical and non-technical considerations for trustworthy supply chains, exploring demand-side interventions and increasing the availability of capital through investment frameworks and capital flows. Additionally, the PoC Group affirmed the importance of continued support for fundamental semiconductor research and greater cross-border coordination among research and technology organizations to advance pre-competitive industrial research and development collaboration between G7 members.

To ensure supply chain security and resilience, it is also important to secure products that connect directly or indirectly to the internet, such as routers and network cameras, industrial control equipment and household appliances. To this end we endorse the continued work of the **2025 G7 Cybersecurity Working Group on Internet of Things (IoT) Security**.

In an evolving geopolitical context, the underlying link between research security and supply chain security is more important than ever. Fundamental research is a critical enabler of economic growth and industrial and technological advancement, particularly in areas of sensitive research. That is why we reconvened the **G7 Security and Integrity of the Global Research Ecosystem (SIGRE) Working Group**, comprising G7 governments, funders and research performing organizations, to work together towards better aligning our respective approaches to research security and integrity. SIGRE aims to develop a research security and integrity framework to underpin voluntary joint international research collaboration among G7 members. This iterative framework should enable consistency across processes, keeping administrative burdens on researchers and funders at the necessary minimum, while upholding our commitment to protect publicly-funded research and discovery.

The G7 remains committed to enhancing health security and health emergency preparedness by supporting resilient global supply chains, commercialization of emerging and cutting-edge technologies and

collectively promoting researcher-to-researcher collaboration. We recognize the value of resilient medical countermeasure supply chains to drive the development of innovative health technologies and the criticality of accessing these products in an emergency scenario. This year, we began cooperative efforts amongst our respective medical countermeasures (MCM) organizations by providing global leadership in pandemic preparedness and response. Additionally, we acknowledged the lessons learned from the **G7 Technical Side Meeting on Medical Countermeasures and the fifth Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) MCM Research and Development Funders' Forum**, which offered guidance on health security and supply chain resiliency regarding future health emergency preparedness.

Finally, we commend the work of the **G7 Investment Screening Expert Group (ISEG)** in leading G7 cooperation and dialogue on investment security. We look forward to ISEG's ongoing work to further collaboration on this important topic.

The way forward

Under the Canadian Presidency, we, G7 IDT Ministers, have made significant progress towards advancing an agenda that targets increasing economic growth and prosperity across the G7.

We encourage all countries to pursue economic prosperity and create opportunities across industry sectors through the responsible development and adoption of AI and quantum technologies, increased coordination on strengthening supply chains to facilitate broad-based economic resilience, and the implementation of fair market practices and policies ensuring that companies can thrive in the digital transformation.

We look forward to France's G7 Presidency in 2026 and to our continued cooperation.

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G7 Industry, Digital and Technology Ministerial Statement on the SME AI Adoption Blueprint

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1. We, the G7 Industry, Digital and Technology (IDT) ministers, met in Montréal, Quebec, Canada, to explore practical measures to accelerate the use of secure, responsible, and trustworthy artificial intelligence (AI) by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in our respective economies. Responding to commitments in the June 2025, G7 Leaders' Statement on AI for Prosperity, we present concrete actions that businesses, business associations, and policymakers can broadly implement to create the conditions for SMEs—including micro-enterprises—to access, adopt, and leverage AI in ways that drive value and productivity.

2. We recognize AI as a transformative general-purpose technology with the potential to significantly benefit economies and societies. While we remain committed to mitigating negative externalities, respecting personal data protection and intellectual property rights, and strengthening security, AI's widespread adoption, especially by SMEs, is key to realizing - this potential. Although AI use by SMEs is rapidly increasing, they are adopting it at a slower - pace than large enterprises as they face distinct barriers that call for targeted measures. Efforts by governments, businesses and other organizations to overcome SME barriers will accelerate the technology's positive impact.

3. In addition to widespread AI diffusion across and within sectors, we highlight that achieving productivity gains at the company-level is necessary to deliver on AI's potential. We recognize the importance of supporting SMEs' efforts to integrate AI in their business strategies and core and support functions, and of involving and empowering the broader workforce to effectively use, interact, and innovate with AI models and systems across a breadth of applications.

4. We regard as beneficial the development of dynamic, self-sustaining, and resilient AI adoption ecosystems that integrate SMEs across AI value chains and bolster SME AI innovation. We will spearhead this effort in collaboration with private sector leaders. SMEs can play a defining role in building and shaping these ecosystems, including by being early adopters of AI and sharing lessons learned, by addressing market gaps with new AI products and services, and by championing collaborative AI adoption and commercialization efforts within their sectors and industries. Startups, in particular, can play a vital role in building dynamic and SME-friendly ecosystems and by delivering targeted AI solutions that align with SME needs.

5. We acknowledge that SME needs and profiles vary greatly, including by region, industry, size, digital maturity, and growth aspirations. SMEs' AI adoption journeys can therefore range widely in complexity and ambition – from acquiring off-the-shelf generative AI products to customizing AI models for business needs, from building foundational AI literacy to sustaining extended internal capabilities and skills, and from piloting targeted use cases to deploying AI holistically across business functions. The G7 OECD Discussion Paper: AI adoption by SMEs provides information on diffusion

patterns and enablers of AI adoption as well as tools such as the taxonomy of AI adopters that can help governments tailor policy measures to specific SME profiles. We encourage active communication and collaboration between governments and SMEs, to address the wide scope of SME needs and enable effective implementation.

6. We welcome the SME AI Adoption Blueprint, developed by the Canadian Presidency with input from G7 partners. It presents high-impact policy actions and provides concrete examples of AI adoption use cases from across the G7 to better inform governmental and SME choices. We believe that this resource can help lower barriers faced by SMEs in adopting and commercializing AI.

7. Our work to advance SME AI adoption builds on the 2024 Italian G7 Presidency report Driving factors and challenges of AI Adoption and Development among companies, especially micro and small enterprises. We welcomed the contributions of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and Canada's three National AI Institutes (Amii, Mila, and the Vector Institute) to inform development of the Blueprint. We also appreciate insights from the AI and Small Business workshop in May 2025, hosted by the government of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of the Community Business Development Corporation, and the OECD.

Policy recommendations

8. Access to adequate infrastructure is essential to supporting AI development and deployment. Connectivity, compute and storage, and high-quality datasets are some of the key elements. However, we note that the infrastructure currently on offer does not always meet SMEs' access and affordability needs. We therefore see value in:

- Continuing public and private investments in reliable, high-speed broadband infrastructure with a specific focus on building infrastructure in communities that either lack or have inadequate coverage, notably by increasing internet speed, improving connection quality and lowering prices, to help spur and improve opportunities for AI adoption and participation in the broader digital transformation.
- Accelerating public and private investments in AI compute and cloud infrastructure, including shared infrastructure, with a particular focus on increasing affordability, availability, and competition. This will improve availability of compute and cloud resources on terms and costs better suited to SME constraints and budgets, and promote the emergence of offerings that unlock SME growth while promoting healthy competition.

- Increasing the availability of high-quality, privacy-preserving, intellectual property-respecting datasets, including sector-specific datasets, that are essential for training AI models and can help drive SMEs' AI adoption and innovation. Access to sector-specific datasets—offering, where relevant, de-identified and anonymized datasets—is particularly critical for supporting high-risk domains such as healthcare, finance, and critical infrastructure, where accuracy, reliability, confidentiality, and privacy are essential. To help achieve these objectives, it is important to build and invest in public-private collaborations where needs are identified
- Exploring how open-source and open-weight AI models and systems can help lower barriers and administrative burden to adoption and experimentation by SMEs, including by drawing on a wider pool of developer talent and making it easier to adapt and reuse solutions in new settings, and while noting that standardized solutions can help support these objectives. We also affirm the need for these models and systems, as well as the ecosystems supporting them, to be responsibly managed and appropriately maintained, to promote their continuing relevance.

9. Successful AI adoption at the company-level requires awareness of AI and its opportunities, strong leadership, coherent planning, and alignment with a company's overall business strategy. We therefore encourage businesses and business associations to invest in AI—and data—literacy across the organization, including among leadership, to facilitate multifaceted decision-making, involve and empower employees and their representatives, build change readiness, and strengthen return on investment projections. We note that AI adoption roadmaps (including sector-specific roadmaps) can guide value-driven adoption and alignment with business goals, and that pilots and phased rollouts can help mitigate risks and support scaling. We emphasize the value of fostering a conducive business culture that embraces AI experimentation and collaboration across business functions, supported by effective change management and evaluation. We also recognize the importance of raising awareness about the benefits of AI use cases among SMEs, while fostering open and transparent conversations to overcome the obstacles and financial considerations involved. We also highlight that ecosystem activities such as peer-learning, workshops, conferences, and events can spread best practices among SMEs and startups.

10. Upskilling, reskilling and talent development are essential for SMEs to effectively and responsibly integrate AI. It is crucial to equip employees with the knowledge and confidence to responsibly deploy AI, adapt their roles, and drive innovation across workflows. The rapid pace of AI innovation has surfaced a wealth of high-quality learning opportunities. We underline the importance of supporting programs that combine foundational learning and role-specific training, including the unique operational and technical needs of specific sectors and populations, as well as programs that connect SMEs to universities and research centres, notably by embedding AI talent directly within the company. We emphasize the value, for SMEs, of fostering a

culture of continuous learning and actively involving employees in shaping AI implementation in the workplace, so they are empowered—not displaced—in the age of AI. We recognize the value of ensuring equal opportunity by encouraging women and communities left behind by globalization to be involved in this process. We also encourage public entities, businesses and business associations to create shared spaces that connect SMEs with the most relevant training, tailored to their specific needs.

11. Expanding mechanisms for financial support to SMEs, including public-private partnerships, is important to addressing the barriers to access capital that they face when adopting AI. Governments, businesses and business associations should collaborate to promote the development of, and competitive markets for, innovative AI-based products and services that meet SME needs, including through support for research and development and SME-focused innovation hubs. We encourage sector initiatives and networks, when implemented consistently with applicable legislation, that can pool SME resources to create economies of scale, for instance, through shared services models, collaborative procurement, learning, joint purchases of AI licenses and cloud infrastructure access, or joint hiring of specialized expertise. Finally, we see value in leveraging trusted intermediaries, such as chambers of commerce, research and innovation centres, industry and sectoral associations, credit unions, and local development banks, to help SMEs navigate the AI ecosystem and promote uptake, for instance by bundling financial support with advisory services.

12. A pro-innovation environment, combined with clear and practical guidance on regulatory and governance matters is essential for a level-playing field, and enables effective and responsible AI adoption by SMEs. When concerns around legal and reputational risks are unaddressed, they can prevent businesses from fully taking advantage of AI and lead to the deployment of AI in inappropriate ways. As SMEs face these risks with fewer resources, we support the development of SME-friendly toolkits and guidance informed by best practices such as those recognized through the Hiroshima AI Process. Governments and regulators may wish to promote frameworks and support standards development accounting for SME operational realities. Enhancing compatibility in AI governance frameworks across borders can also promote clarity and reduce compliance burden for SMEs.