

AI for Good Keeps Humanity in Focus

by Roxana Dunnette

From 7 to 10 July over 12,000 attendees from 170 countries and representatives from United Nations (UN) organizations gathered at the Palexpo in Geneva, Switzerland for another edition of **AI for Good Global Summit 2026**.

The message from the Secretary General of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the UN, Pope Leon XIV, rapper will.i.am, and numerous distinguished speakers was the same: Keep the human control and judgment over Artificial Intelligence (AI). Some decisions must remain forever be made by humans and we must set the terms of security and standard on how machines and humans interact.

While the potential of artificial intelligence is proven, we have to keep in mind how to serve the integral human development, respect the truth, freedom and justice and not aggravate inequalities, control and exclusion.

Distinguished speakers and panelists explored in more than 200 sessions the positive aspects of AI and the disturbances it can bring as AI development is moving too fast (it took Internet 15 years to be here AI only two) and we are not prepared for it.

The risk is not from the outcome of technology, which can make things easier for us but from the vision from which is built and what humans become in the process as AI does not know what is love, friendship or responsibility. Making things easier can diminish rather than enhance our abilities.

For AI what are important is speed, efficacy and not the respect of the freedom and human dignity. On the contrary if this technology is built and used in a wise perspective it can be the occasion for growth, justice

- **Agentic AI Security Focus Group**
- **First Global and FYI.AI Coalition** to bring AI learning experience in 190 countries advancing Robotics for Education.
- **ITU Global Standards Initiative** to build trust in AI behavior and identity.

The AI for Good Global Summit explored many aspects of AI, health, employment, learning, child protection, space, longevity, food, standards, networked cars, banking, robotics, disaster resilience, ethics, war...and even

how to fight against mosquitos.

There were also a lot of competitions and awards for youth projects as well as AI art and performances.

I choose only key few subjects:

AI GOVERNANCE FIRST DIALOGUE, occupied the first two

days of the summit. "Make AI safer, more accessible and more ethical, to help build a future of AI by humanity, with humanity for all humanity," said António Guterres, UN Secretary General.

Global Participation Leads to Global Action

The UN will set up a Glob-



and fraternity.

At the Summit many initiatives have been launched including:

- **AI Skills Coalition**, a global platform with 70 partners offering free courses in 200 countries in 13 languages.
- **AI and Robotics for Health** with the World Health Organization (WHO).

al Fund for AI to build skills, bring data and computer power everywhere.

The UN AI **Environmental Initiative** will call every AI company to measure and publish the full footprint of its systems, carbon, water and land and to commit to power data centers with renewable energy.

No company should deploy AI systems accessible to children without specific safety measures.

20 Member States responded to the UN Global Network for Exchange Cooperation on AI and Capacity Building. A full report on results of the UN initiatives on AI Governance will be presented at General Assembly in 2027.

AI for Health

AI for Health was the subject in many sessions but we moved forward to AI and Genomes and how to cure diseases.

More than 50% of the world population does not have access to proper health care. We can have enormous data on biology and health but so far it was impossible to access it or process it.

With AI things change, the data you provide create value and financial value, we can process the data and predict at national scale epidemics, make medicine in advance take appropriate measures. Governments have to invest



in AI and make sure they have the money to process the data.

New gene therapy or teaser blood tests that detect cancers in stage 0 can cure diseases but are expensive.

In AI and diagnosis field who is responsible if something goes wrong?

A regulatory framework is necessary.

AI and Space

Beyond earth, AI for Space presents new challenges on how to save time, solve problems, put computing in the space.

The new AI model in the space has satellites talking to satellites not only to earth, data centers in the space, which makes sense and will save power and land on earth. In the space we have other conditions.

AI satellites will be produced faster with computing in the space from the construction. Software Defined Satellites (SDS) provided more flexibility and can incorporate AI to make satellites more responsive and provide the ability to make changes in

its parameters while in space.

How to repair satellites in the space is a question that came up. There are thousands of satellites in space that can't be protected from debris. The carbon footprint is not clear. In space there is no governance on traffic, debris protection so AI governance on earth has to extend to space. Robots will be used a lot for missions on Mars and other planets to save humans.

AI and Ethics

Countries face dilemmas on whether they need to have AI, which model works and how much money they need.

How they will sustain this in a long run as they are not prepared for the complexity of this issue.

The panel addressed more questions then give answers.

High quality data needed requires a trained workforce and a regulatory framework.

AI is an extension of human creativity and we have to merge with it.

AI is not neutral we have to be

aware that the speed of technological development is in equilibrium with consciousness development .

Ethics in general is not sufficient we need a legal framework , an independent survey, user education and clean politics.

Without it, those who control of AI will impose their proper vision, which will become the invisible infrastructure of the systems .

Ray Kurzweil, inventor and futurist, talked about the power of AI. By 2029, Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) will exceed humans capabilities. This will lead to a revolution that will transform and disrupt everything, said Kurzweil. AI will be big on health and will surpass doctors. Teaser Labs blood analysis is an example .

Ray created his own avatar Ray who had a message for the audience: "singularity will be here for the next generation and we have to prepare the merger humans- machines."

Adaptability and creativity is the key. If you want to preserve memories of loved ones the digital twin can do that, he added.

Who knows maybe AI will have a soul, meditate, pray?

The CEO of Galaxy shared the same vision from physical AI to soul AI . His closing K Pop show with dancing robots was announcing the trend.

AI and Education

How AI will change th Education with full respect for human dignity and integrity was an interesting topic discussed by Michel Crow and artist will.i.am.

Education in the era of AI presents three main challenges:

- Sociopolitical - inequalities among countries, different levels between public and private schools, access to education.
- Pedagogical –some establishments can integrate rapidly new technologies, train teachers others can't .
- Intellectual – the link with wisdom .If we are not careful the overwhelming flow of information can diminish the critical reasoning, creativity and attention.

For that reason new alliances are necessary and a new approach to education . The way we learn now is not going to be in the future

Arizona State University is an example—it changed its structure, became more inclusive and combines traditional education and new way of teaching .

Will.i.am gives courses on Agentic AI to help students define their own interests, solve problems, build their own confidence and follow their vision.

will.i.am like Pope Leon XIV in his book Magnifica Humanitas reminded us that what makes harmonious learning is love that brings joy to you and others. (see sidebar interview with will.i.am)



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Where is love we can create a culture of negotiation and a civilization of love.

Power of Standardization

Seizo Onoe, Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau of the ITU was very clear. She said that in the era of AI and Robotics standards are needed for AI Agents to be trusted and verified . We can then unlock their potential stay in control and take responsibility for what they do.

Security standards at all levels can detect what is authentic , what is safe especially when they write their own codes at high speed and work with less and less human oversight and act without human control or judgment, she added.

A new ITU Focus Group was created for trusted digital identity and accountable AI Agents behavior.

The exhibition at Palexpo was interesting with art shows, movies screenings, less humanoid robots but lots of driverless cars and drones.

We expect another summit next year with new AI applications. It's a fast changing and evolving application and the AI for Good conference provides a very good overview of this important issue. 

EXECUTIVE SPOTLIGHT

At the recent AI for Good Global Summit in Geneva, Satellite Executive Briefing correspondent Roxana Dunnette caught up with world-renowned artist, entrepreneur, defender of education, specialist in innovation and now International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Goodwill AI Ambassador, will.i.am.

Roxana Dunnette (RD): *You give courses at Arizona State University on Agentic AI to help students experience a new form of learning. What skills and knowledge are important for the future generation?*

will.i.am: The concept of skills is changing .If you take Quincy Jones, a skillful musician, and you compare it to me .By definition I am not a musician .I can't read or write music. I can't play music like Quincy Jones. I can write songs, I can sing the songs. I write, I can produce but not like Quincy Jones. I use digital technology that liberated me to have ideas, to make songs, to give joy but I am not a musician like Quincy Jones.

What does it means for the developers of AI? What is the definition of skills? It is intentions, now people just have to have ideas. What we teach in school is to be ambitious, to solve problems. Communities are full of problems unsolved, these problems are gold mines because when you solve them there are careers, and there are jobs.

What is your intention? A skill nowadays is intentional. Now that you have this abundance of knowledge and machines, the folks in those communities can have access to the knowledge that did not have before and this is going to value the success. Marketing and success that undetermined people living conditions will not work with AI. AI is not doing this, its is borrow everything from human practices.

Let's take an AI company: no human works for just one chairman. This is a positive future. Imagine the company making a product, selling it and making a lot of money. We say "what a success how do they do that," and AI says "I 've just learn from you guys," so I was successful just like you.

That means skills are values .We teach students to have intentions, solve problems, understand the basics, but we also give them the understanding what the model is so they understand the basic data. Now with AI Agents there is a reason for you to keep your data.

RD: *As a Doctor of Humanities (Honoris Causa) what is your opinion about protecting people in the contest of AI to become responsible and even better persons?*

will.i.am: You can configure your agent. You take your data from the cloud which keeps it and configure your agent .You are in control, it is like crypto but it is not crypto. Your data is like the key from your house you keep it, you don't give it to everybody like today when you share everything on social media.



will.i.am speaking at the AI for Good Global Summit 2026

Your data and your agent are yours .You come to your agent as a user and to configuring its abilities is communicational, conversational .We make it is super simple for a non tech person. Of course there are AI wizards and for them we propose more.

RD: *Will AI democratize creativity or will it empower only a few platforms?*

will.i.am: No, AI will allow the public to compete on different platforms. The idea that everybody is working for the same company is over, the world tomorrow will be diverse and much better .The libertarian spirit that founded this nation is again around the corner.When AI democratizes, small businesses are democratized .We will have an uprising because they will have the knowledge of big companies, like Starbucks and small coffee shops.

RD: *What will be your role as ITU AI Goodwill Ambassador?*

will.i.am: I am taking the work I have been doing in robotics, and my professorship in building AI Agents encouraging students to run their problems and solve them to the Global South: Asia, Africa, Latin America to liberate folks in those countries and ask every builder, every politician to put AI behind HUMANISM.

Another reason I am doing this is to remind people and policy makers that AI for Good and AI for ALL is the prompt. It is our job to execute the prompt.

Humanism is the best.

If we don't, the country will fail the society will fail.

We can't have AI *for bad*.

AI should not be like social media; we have to learn from it, from the hate, the distraction and make Artificial Intelligence a total different business model.