



THE
TRUST
SUMMIT

NAIROBI DIALOGUE ON GLOBAL TRUST

Nairobi Declaration on Trust and Call to Action

The Trust Summit 2026:
The Nairobi Dialogue on Global Trust

NAIROBI, KENYA
21-23 OCTOBER 2026

**"WEAVING TRUST:
BINDING STRANDS FOR
A STRONGER GLOBAL ORDER"**



We, representatives of governments, with the participation of intergovernmental and regional organisations, private sector, civil society, academia and research institutions, media, technology corporations, youth, children, communities and other stakeholders, in recognition that trust is a global public good, gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, from 21st to 23rd October, 2026, for the inaugural Trust Summit 2026: The Nairobi Dialogue on Global Trust, under the theme “Weaving Trust: Binding Strands for a Stronger Global Order”:

Affirm that mutual trust is the foundation for human progress, reciprocity, solidarity and inter-state cooperation and that its erosion is a systemic risk with damaging consequences for peace, security, democracy, state legitimacy, governance, social cohesion, equitable economic prosperity, climate action and global public health;

Express concern that longstanding inequalities in global governance, international financial architecture and unfair multilateral trading regimes are exerting disproportionate economic and social burdens on developing and least-developed countries, undermining poverty alleviation, sustainable development, debt sustainability and financing for development thereby weakening trust in these global institutions;

Recognize that low levels of trust between states increase the costs of doing business and impede regional and international trade through quantifiable costs including duplicative conformity assessment and re-testing, correspondent banking de-risking and higher trade finance costs; duplicative data compliance requirements, high risk premiums on finance and costly logistics delays;

Recognize that trust constitutes a cornerstone of effective global health cooperation and is a strategic enabler of public health security, underpinning collective preparedness, timely response and building resilient health systems;

Note with concern that peaceful coexistence, international cooperation to resolve conflicts, peacemaking and peacebuilding, are undermined by a widening trust deficit with far-reaching socio-economic consequences particularly in vulnerable and developing countries;

Further note that duplicated and uncoordinated peacebuilding among regional and continental organizations may erode mutual trust and confidence, undermine institutional coherence, fragment early-warning and conflict analysis mechanisms, delay timely and coordinated responses, and weaken the collective capacity to prevent and resolve conflicts and sustain lasting peace;

Acknowledge that unfulfilled promises on climate finance, unequal burden sharing and disconnect in the science-policy interface are weakening trust vital in checking global temperature rise beyond the 1.5°C threshold within the next few years, with increasing biodiversity loss, pollution and waste, unsustainable resource extraction, as well as ecosystem degradation, further compromising human security and planetary resilience;

Recognize that Africa is the world's youngest continent, with 70 per cent of the population of sub-Saharan Africa under the age of 30, and that young people are central to the continent's present and future development and are critical partners in rebuilding trust;

Recall the Charter of the United Nations, the United Nations 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, as well as regional frameworks such as the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the African Union Agenda 2063 on the "Africa We Want", and principles of multilateralism;

Further recall the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/79/1 on the Pact for the Future and its call for sustained international cooperation, solidarity and action for present and future generations; and affirm the need to foster inter-generational solidarity and equity through meaningful youth engagement;

Recall also that mutual trust is a fundamental principle in international cooperation as exemplified in the East African Community (EAC), codified under Article 6(a) of the East African Community Treaty (1999) and even where not codified, mutual trust is a foundational presumption of all the regional blocs' integration agenda, collective security architecture, and legal compliance frameworks;

Recall also, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) dictum in the Nuclear Tests cases (1974) which underscores that "Trust and confidence are inherent in international co-operation, in particular in an age when this co-operation in many fields is becoming increasingly essential";

Appreciate that the case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union considers the principle of mutual trust as a structural constitutional principle of European Union law vital for mutual recognition and reciprocity;

Affirm that African countries, regional organisations, national institutions and communities are equal contributors to building global trust and tailored responses to existing challenges, while also demonstrating, through their own institutions, commitment and accountability;

Convinced that no one institution, sector or country can rebuild trust alone, and that credible progress requires scientific evidence, confidence-building mechanisms, differentiated responsibilities, meaningful inclusion and sustained collective action.

Determined to contribute to reversing the erosion of trust at national, regional and international levels by forging common understanding on the necessary and practical pathways needed to rebuild trust in public institutions; multilateral systems, economic infrastructure and digital technologies including Artificial Intelligence;

Desirous of promoting, protecting and strengthening trust to contribute towards rebuilding the fractured global social contract, **declare:**

01. That human dignity, equality, the rule of law, respect for human rights, integrity, fairness and inclusion are foundations of trustworthy relationships within societies and the state. Legitimate scrutiny, critical inquiry, factual deliberation, meaningful public participation, independent oversight and peaceful dissent are essential safeguards of trust, not obstacles to it;
02. The need for a common, evidence-based understanding of where trust is weakening and where it is being strengthened, drawing on credible research, institutional practice and lived experience while recognising different social and political contexts, and remaining open to evaluation and correction;
03. To move beyond diagnosis towards practical, testable, measurable, verifiable, and context-sensitive pathways for rebuilding trust, with credible commitments, clear responsibilities and mechanisms for learning beyond the Nairobi Dialogue on Global Trust.

Taking into account the thematic focus areas discussed in the pre-summit engagements and during the Summit, **commit to:**

A. Trust in Public Institutions: Government and the People

04. *Design, pilot and implement* a Regulatory Trust Index at national, regional and global levels on an annual basis based on rigorous methodology and invite all stakeholders to collaborate in this regard;
05. *Promote* regulatory cooperation including through knowledge sharing platforms, exchanges and mutual recognition among national and regional regulators, of conformity assessment, testing, certification, licensing and supervisory decisions, building on regional integration frameworks such as the East African Community and the African Continental Free Trade Area, to reduce the duplicative compliance costs of distrust;
06. *Invite* citizens and all relevant stakeholders to strengthen the social contract through responsible engagement, constructive dialogue and reciprocal accountability, while recognising the particular obligations of those entrusted with public power;
07. *Acknowledge* the Africa Peer Review Mechanism as a tool to strengthen good governance and encourage adoption of subnational peer review mechanisms as indispensable in bottom-up trust building processes, as modeled in Kenya, by States on the continent and replication beyond Africa;

B. Rebuilding Trust in Multilateralism

08. **Urge** expeditious reforms of the multilateral institutions and the global financial architecture, including international financial and development arrangements, to make them more representative, transparent, responsive and accountable, and call for the invocation of article 109 of the Charter of the United Nations to hold a review conference on the Charter;
09. **Call for** responsive global health governance including strengthening the role of multilateral agencies to build trust as a catalyst for health cooperation and public health security through clear institutional mandates, accountability and corrective mechanisms, evidence-based communication, and systematic application of lessons learned from public health emergencies and humanitarian crises;
10. **Promote** equitable partnerships, access to medical countermeasures, lifesaving medical innovations, sustainable financing, transparent reporting, and meaningful participation of frontline health workers and affected communities to strengthen preparedness and response and build resilient, trusted, people-centred global health systems;
11. **Underscore** that rebuilding trust is an essential confidence-building measure in fostering inclusive dialogue, mediation, peace processes, reconciliation; strengthening mutual understanding and constructive engagement among parties with a view to addressing grievances, preventing the recurrence of violence and advancing sustainable peace at national, regional and international levels; and urge the application of the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity among regional and continental organizations to address inefficiencies arising from overlapping and duplicated mandates;
12. **Call for** the strengthening of trust for environmental and climate action including by enhancing intergenerational solidarity and equity supported by evidence-based science, mutually beneficial sustainable partnerships in finance, technology transfer and capacity building for green growth and development;

C. Rebuilding Trust in the Digital Age

13. **Encourage** accelerated implementation of the Global Digital Compact, expanding affordable connectivity, digital public infrastructure and skills, particularly in developing countries;
14. **Call for** continued support for the UN Global Dialogue on AI Governance and the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI, and for cooperation on frontier AI safety that keeps advanced AI under meaningful human control, as set out in the Call for Control of Frontier AI Models;

15. **Call for** Africa's representation and participation in digital technology and AI governance processes in global negotiations; towards the achievement of inclusive safeguards that foster protection of digital rights and accountability;
16. **Call for** stronger support for independent journalism, academic freedom and scientific integrity, and for greater platform transparency on algorithmic amplification and synthetic content, consistent with freedom of expression;
17. **Encourage** investment and partnerships in secure, interoperable and sustainable digital infrastructure that gives countries meaningful choice and control over their digital systems and data, without limiting international cooperation;
18. **Call for** transparency, human oversight, public participation and accessible remedies in the use of digital technologies and AI, drawing on open government principles, the Internet Governance Forum and the Open Government Partnership;

D. Inclusion and Belonging

19. **Call for** the meaningful participation and agency of children and youth, women, persons with disabilities, displaced persons, vulnerable groups and excluded communities in public consultation and decision-making across economic, social, environmental and digital systems, supported by strengthened institutional accountability and transparent mechanisms that translate their recommendations into tangible, measurable and verifiable outcomes;
20. **Encourage** governments and the private sector to establish sustainable pathways for youth employment, entrepreneurship and innovation, while inviting financial institutions to expand equitable access to finance for youth-led enterprises and promoting skills aligned with digital technologies and AI;
21. **Foster** sports, cultural expression, shared heritage, creative economy, community dialogue and intergenerational exchange to strengthen social trust, raise awareness and promote constructive, inclusive and economically viable pathways for social cohesion, mutual understanding and sustainable development.

To deliver on the above commitments **agree to:**

22. **Establish** a Coalition on Global Trust (CGT) comprising state and non-state actors and encourage all stakeholders to join;
23. **Establish** an inclusive Nairobi Trust Council, to be hosted by Kenya and comprising eminent and distinguished persons drawn from public, private and philanthropic sector, to follow up and review progress on the commitments made towards rebuilding global trust;

24. **Champion** the establishment of a Global Trust Facility (GTF) by the United Nations, resourced from voluntary funds from both state and non-state actors over the next four years, to be held and administered by UNDP to finance trust infrastructure including national accreditation bodies, regulatory trust indices, data protection, cyber security authorities and judicial cooperation mechanisms;
25. **Commit** the Secretariat of the Trust Summit to develop a Framework for Action to operationalize agreed commitments, supported by a robust mechanism for monitoring, tracking and reporting on implementation and progress on a biennial basis;
26. **Invite** governments, private sector, civil society, researchers and development partners to make voluntary contributions through existing initiatives, including the Global AI Action Summit series, the IGF and OGP, and to share lessons through the Trust Summit's Framework for Action;
27. **Request** relevant international organisations such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to undertake a biennial study on global hedging costs of distrust to quantify the trust tax;
28. **Convene** the Nairobi Trust Summit biennially and consider cascading the Trust Dialogues to the region and beyond.
29. **Thank** the Government and People of Kenya for successfully hosting the inaugural Trust Summit, and the warm hospitality accorded to all participants to the Summit.

Nairobi, Kenya

23 October 2026