

UK prepares global leaders' gathering on AI

Leaders slam lack of knowledge, regulation

Clara Lalanne

Agence France-Presse/London
The United Kingdom's government will welcome foreign political leaders, tech industry figures, academics and others this week for a two-day summit billed as the first of its kind on artificial intelligence (AI).

The gathering, set to be attended by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, United States Vice President Kamala Harris, European Union chief Ursula von der Leyen and United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, will focus on growing fears about the implications of so-called frontier AI.

The most advanced generation of AI models have prompted concerns around everything from job losses and cyberattacks to humankind losing control of the systems they have designed.

Sunak and other leaders have increasingly joined the industry itself in arguing current knowledge and regulation of frontier AI is likely insufficient for the challenges it will pose.

"My vision, and our ultimate goal, should be to work towards a more international approach to safety where we collaborate with partners to ensure AI systems are safe before they are released," the British leader said in a speech earlier this week.

"We will push hard to agree the first ever international statement about the nature of these risks," he added, proposing the creation of an international expert panel similar to one formed for climate change.

London, which initiated the gathering, has insisted it is taking the lead on AI at the behest of US President Joe Biden, and because the two countries have some of the leading companies in the sector.

But it has reportedly been forced to scale back its ambi-

tions around certain ideas, such as launching a new regulatory body, amid a perceived lack of enthusiasm.

Bletchley Park

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni is one of the only world leaders flying in for the conference, which starts on Wednesday. Sunak's spokesman told reporters this week that "getting all the right people around the table to discuss this important issue" represented "an enormous achievement in itself".

The summit will be held at a deliberately symbolic location: Bletchley Park, where top British codebreakers cracked Nazi Germany's "Enigma" code, helping to hasten the end of World War II.

It is also the home of the National Museum of Computing, home to the world's largest collection of working historic computers.

From smartphones to airports, AI is already ubiquitous in everyday life, but its progress has accelerated in recent years with the development of frontier technologies such as the ChatGPT conversational robot.

"It's clear to me that what's going to happen in this year, in these next two, three years, in 200 years, [is that] historians will have a name for this period," Aldo Faisal, an AI and neuroscience professor, said at a briefing this month.

While the potential of AI raises many hopes, particularly for medicine, its development is seen as largely unchecked.

In his speech, Sunak warned AI did have the potential to destroy thousands of jobs in various sectors, including the arts and media, alongside cyber, disinformation and fraud threats.

He stressed the need for countries to develop "a shared understanding of the risks that we face", which is currently lacking.

Dialogue

Harris, von der Leyen, Guterres and Meloni have all confirmed their attendance, but the lack of world leaders, particularly from Group of Seven countries, has dominated discussion of the summit in the UK.

Sunak's spokesman insisted "the right group of countries, the right businesses" would be present.

China will be present, but it is unclear at what level.

Beijing's invitation has raised eyebrows amid heightened tensions with Western nations and accusations of technological espionage.

Sunak has said "there can be no serious strategy for AI without at least trying to engage all of the world's leading AI powers".

Although the UK sees itself as the driving force behind international cooperation on AI, its emphasis on potential disasters has dismayed some players in the sector.

They would prefer to stress existing AI issues, such as a lack of transparency in the models designed by companies and their racial or gender bias, rather than the more alarmist fears noted by Sunak.

Detractors have also noted that the common ethical principles that the UK wants to establish are also likely to come up against the interests of AI labs and tech giants, which are predominantly Chinese and American.

That could limit the likelihood of anything meaningful emerging from this week's summit.

Hamed Haddadi, professor of human-centered systems at Imperial College London's department of computing, said the time was right for global "dialogue" on AI.

"Do we need regulation in this space? Or do we let the market and the business take care of it and whatever see what happens next?" he said.

Communal observance



Reuters/Shannon Stapleton

Mourners take part in a vigil on Sunday for the victims of the deadly mass shooting outside the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, in Lewiston, Maine, the United States. The US Army reservist who sprayed a bowling alley and bar with gunfire last week in Lewiston, killing 18 people, took his own life inside a cargo trailer parked on the lot of a recycling plant where he once worked, police said on Saturday.

Blocking aid to Gaza could be 'a crime': ICC prosecutor

Agence France-Presse

Cairo

The International Criminal Court's (ICC) chief prosecutor warned Sunday that blocking humanitarian aid from entering Gaza could constitute a crime.

"Impeding relief supplies as provided by the Geneva Conventions may constitute a crime within the court jurisdiction," Karim Khan told reporters in Cairo.

He was speaking after a visit to Egypt's Rafah crossing, where he said trucks full of desperately needed goods remained stuck and unable to cross into Gaza.

"I saw trucks full of goods, full of humanitarian assistance stuck where nobody needs them, stuck in Egypt, stuck at Rafah," he said.

"These supplies must get to the civilians of Gaza without delay."

Rafah is the only entry point through which international aid is currently able to trickle into the Hamas-run Palestinian territory, which is facing a near-total siege and relentless Israeli bombardment.

Israel imposed the siege and unleashed its massive bombing campaign after Hamas gunmen stormed across the border on Oct. 7, killing 1,400 people, mostly civilians, and seizing 230 hostages, according to Israeli officials.

Israel's strikes have since then killed more than 8,000 people, half of them children, the Hamas-controlled health ministry in the territory said.

Since limited aid deliveries resumed through the Rafah crossing on Oct. 21, a total of 117 trucks have entered.

Prior to the siege, some 500 trucks carrying aid and other goods entered Gaza every day.

Khan said he wanted "to underline clearly to Israel that there must be discernible efforts without further delay to make sure civilians [in Gaza] receive basic food, medicines".

On Sunday the United Nations warned it feared a breakdown of public order after looting at food aid centers in Gaza run by its agency for Palestinian refugees, the UNRWA.

UN chief António Guterres said the situation was "growing more desperate by the hour" as casualty numbers increase and essential supplies of food, water, medicine and shelter dwindle.

Khan said his office had an ongoing investigation into "any crimes committed on the territory of Palestine and any crimes committed, whether it's by Israel and Palestine or whether it's acts committed on the territory of Palestine or from Palestine into Israel".

"This includes current events in Gaza and also current events in the West Bank," Khan said.

He said he was "very concerned also by the spike of the number of reported incidents of attack by settlers against Palestinian civilians" in the territory Israel has occupied since 1967.

Khan also stressed that hostage-taking was a breach of the Geneva Conventions.

"I call for the immediate release of all hostages taken from Israel and for their safe return to their families," he said.

As Otis toll climbs, Mexicans criticize government response

Yussel Gonzalez

Agence France-Presse/Acapulco, Mexico

Acapulco was struggling Sunday to recover from the extraordinarily powerful Hurricane Otis, which claimed 48 lives across southern Mexico and provoked widespread power outages and criticism of the government response.

"We are going to fight for ourselves," Margarita Carmona told AFP after chopping up fallen trees along with her son-in-law and other residents in the Puerto Marques neighborhood.

They, like many in this port city and tourist haunt of 780,000, grew tired of waiting for government aid, which only began being distributed Saturday, days after Category 5 Otis roared ashore and left local landmarks, built over decades, look like they had been bombed out.

President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador flew over the disaster area and held meetings with officials in charge of the relief operation, local media reported.

After the hurricane hit Wednesday, a feeling of abandonment gripped residents, including Julian Matadama, a 52-year-old construction worker, who banded together with other locals to clear debris.

"We are in need of help," he said. But after widespread water, power and telecommunications outages, they face a tough road ahead.

"There is no way for you to feed yourself, there is no way to drink water," added a fisherman, standing next to him.

Another setback

Though the city is far from its tourism heyday in the 1950s and '60s, when it attracted Hollywood stars and jet setters, its beaches still attract visitors, or at least they did before Otis.

Omar Flores' small family restaurant is miraculously still standing, though it has lost its roof and the kitchen is devastated.

Now he fears it will be months before visitors return to the port.

"It's going to be another hard blow for all the people who work on the beach," he said.

"Just thinking about how much money is needed to get back on your feet, where do we get it from?"

Otis is not the first setback for Acapulco.

In 1997, the region was hit by Hurricane Paulina, a Category 4 storm that killed more than 200. Acapulco managed to recover, only for worsening drug violence to later drive away high-income tourism.

But with heavy investment, and sporting events like the tennis Mexican Open, the city was once again on the rise in recent years. In February, the government announced a hotel occupancy rate of 75 percent.

Now, beaches are littered with debris and dead animals.

Taken by surprise

The hurricane's death toll climbed Sunday as five more people were confirmed dead in Coyuca de Benitez, north of the city.

Some 36 people were still missing, authorities said at midday.

The count of victims has been slow after the storm collapsed telecommunications systems, which have been gradually returning over the weekend.

The World Meteorological Organization has described the hurricane as "one of the most rapidly intensifying tropical cyclones on record", exceeded in modern times only by another Pacific hurricane, Patricia, in 2015.

The speed with which Otis intensified took the government and weather forecasters by surprise, leaving little time to issue warnings and prepare residents for its arrival.

As aid finally began to arrive over the weekend, spurred by an air bridge established by the army and navy, initial estimates put the storm's damage at around US\$15 billion.

A security force of some 17,000 was deployed across the area after reports that supermarkets had been looted.

Some 273,000 homes, 600 hotels and 120 hospitals were damaged, with a number of restaurants and businesses in ruins, the government said.




AFP/Rodrigo Oropeza

Hard-hit: Damages caused by the passage of Hurricane Otis are seen on Saturday in Acapulco, Guerrero State, Mexico.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION FOR SHAREHOLDERS OF PT BANK BTPN TBK (THE "COMPANY") IN THE FRAME OF CAPITAL INCREASE WITH GRANTING PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHT II ("RIGHT ISSUE II")

INFORMATION AS STATED IN THIS DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION IS IMPORTANT TO BE READ AND NOTICED BY THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY IN TAKING FURTHER DECISION REGARDING THIS RIGHTS ISSUE II TRANSACTION.

This Disclosure of Information is issued on 31 October 2023 ("Disclosure of Information") in compliance with the Indonesia Financial Services Authority ("OJK") Regulation No. 32/POJK.04/2015 on the Capital Increase of Public Listed Company by Granting Preemptive Rights as amended by POJK No. 14/POJK.04/2019 in regards to the amendments of OJK Regulation No. 32/POJK.04/2015 on the Capital Increase of Public Listed Company by Granting Preemptive Rights ("POJK HMETD").



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To carry out activity as commercial bank

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THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS ("EGMS") OF THE COMPANY WHICH IS PLANNED TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, DATED 7 DECEMBER 2023 OF WHICH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, WILL PROPOSE THE APPROVAL FOR RIGHTS ISSUE II PLAN.

ALL INFORMATION STIPULATED IN THIS DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION IS ONLY A PROPOSAL WHICH IS SUBJECT TO THE EGMS APPROVAL AS WELL AS THE EFFECTIVE STATEMENT OF OJK ON THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT AND PROSPECTUS ISSUED FOR THIS RIGHTS ISSUE II.

THIS DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION AND INFORMATION HEREIN IS NOT TAILORED TO BE A PUBLIC OFFERING DOCUMENT OR RECOMMENDATION TO PURCHASE IN ANY JURISDICTION, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, OF THE COMPANY'S SECURITIES.

INFORMATION ON THE RIGHTS ISSUE II PLAN

In relation to the Rights Issue II plan, in this Disclosure of Information, the Company intends to offer at the maximum of 3,095,000,000 common shares with the nominal value of IDR 20 (twenty Rupiah) per share ("New Shares").

The New Shares will be issued from the Company's portfolio and registered under Indonesia Stock Exchange ("IDX") in accordance with the prevailing regulations, among others IDX Rule No. 14, Attachment of the Board of Directors of IDX decree No. Kep-0010/BEI/12-2021 dated 21 December 2021 regarding the Listing of Shares and Equity Securities other than Shares Issued by Listed Companies. The New Shares will have the same and equal rights with old shares of the Company in any aspects, including the right on dividend. The New Shares will be issued by granting the pre-emptive rights in accordance with POJK HMETD and therefore Rights Issue II will be carried out based on:

- Approval of the shareholders of the Company in EGMS towards the Rights Issue II plan in accordance with the prevailing articles of association of the Company and the applicable regulations; and
- Registration statement of the Company which will be submitted to the OJK in regards to the Rights Issue II plan declared effective by OJK, in accordance with the applicable regulations.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Company is entitled to issue partially offer all maximum shares as approved to be issued upon the EGMS resolutions.

The Rights Issue II provisions, including the execution price and final number of New Shares, will be disclosed in the prospectus which is issued in light of Rights Issue II and made available to eligible shareholders in a timely manner in accordance to the applicable regulations.

TIME ESTIMATION OF RIGHTS ISSUE II

As required by POJK HMETD, the Company will submit the registration statement in light of the Rights Issue II, to OJK upon the implementation of EGMS of the Company dated 7 December 2023. The Company's EGMS will be proposed to approve the Rights Issue II plan. The Rights Issue II will be implemented after OJK states that the registration statement of Rights Issue II is effective.

As required by Article 8 (3) POJK No. 14/2019, the period between the date of EGMS approving the implementation of Rights Issue II until the Rights Issue II registration statement is declared effective by OJK must not exceed 12 (twelve) months. Rights Issue II is expected to be implemented and completed by the first quarter of 2024.

GENERAL ESTIMATION OF USE OF PROCEEDS OF RIGHTS ISSUE II

The Company planned to utilize all fund received from Rights Issue II (after being deducted by emission fees), as follows the Company planned to utilize all fund received from Rights Issue II (after being deducted by emission fees), for financing Company's projects for the further growth.

If part or all of the proceeds obtained from this Rights Issue II will be used for transactions which are Material Transaction, Affiliated Party Transaction, and/or Conflict of Interest Transaction under the applicable laws and regulations in Indonesia, the Company will comply with such applicable laws and regulations on Material Transactions, Affiliated Party Transactions and/or Conflict of Interest Transactions, as relevant.

The detailed and final information in relation to the use of proceeds will be disclosed in the prospectus which will be published for the purpose of Rights Issue II and provided to the shareholders who are accordingly eligible and pursuant with applicable regulations.

IMPACT OF RIGHTS ISSUE II TOWARDS THE COMPANY'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND SHAREHOLDERS

By increasing capital with Rights Issue II, the Company will have additional funding to carry out the financing Company's projects for the further growth.

In the event when shareholders of the Company opts not to exercise its rights to purchase New Shares offered by Rights Issue II, then the shareholders of the Company may experience percentage dilution up to maximum of 28% (twenty eight percent).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If this Disclosure of Information is considered unclear or if the shareholders of the Company expect to get more additional information in relation to this Rights Issue II, the shareholders may contact:

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