

India AI Impact Summit 19.2.2026

## **Pääministeri Petteri Orpon puheenvuoro päämieskokouksessa**

Excellencies, dear guests,

First, I would like to thank and congratulate the Government of India for making this Summit a reality. It comes at a crucial moment, when the world urgently needs shared understanding, common rules, and political will for the responsible use of AI.

We need a brave and confident approach to artificial intelligence. AI is not just a tool. It is becoming the foundation of competitiveness and strategic resilience. Finland intends to be among the lead nations in this transformation, and my government is firmly committed to advancing AI in ways that strengthen our economy, security, and our democratic societies.

AI governance faces a fundamental challenge: science moves faster than politics. That is precisely why we must act together with ambition and clarity, while keeping a human-centred and trustworthy vision at the core. At the same time, we must boost innovation and investment.

In Europe, regulation must remain predictable and balanced. Strong enough to safeguard our values, but smart enough to accelerate responsible technological progress and fast industrial adoption. The AI race consists of multiple marathons, not just one sprint, and we are only at the starting line.

AI must serve people – not the other way around. We must address the legitimate concerns our citizens raise. Trust in public administration is built on fairness and safety. We must also bring the public sector and technology innovators closer together. When a public agency finds an AI company with the right solution, we create efficiency and better services for citizens.

Finland is building a world-class AI ecosystem that spans research, infrastructure, and deployment. We host one of Europe's leading supercomputing environments, LUMI, world-class research talent such as the Ellis Institute, and abundant clean computing power. We are advancing the AI Gigafactory initiative to strengthen Europe's next-generation AI capacity.

Finland hosts one of the world's most eco-efficient data centres, powered by clean energy, with excess heat recycled into local communities. This demonstrates that technological leadership and sustainability can advance hand in hand.

Finland welcomes the UN's new Scientific Panel and AI Governance Dialogue and values the stronger voice of the Global South highlighted on the path from Paris to New Delhi.

The choices we make now will define the role of AI in our societies for decades. Let us choose openness, security, responsibility, and shared progress.

Thank you.