THE FEMME LEX COHORT

"EQUITY VIA OPPORTUNITY!"

2024 ECO-TECHNOLOGY JUSTICE RESOLUTION

Acknowledging that technological advancement, including artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain, and other emerging technologies, is a critical component of modern society's development but also poses significant ethical, environmental, and social challenges that demand urgent and coordinated responses at national and international levels;

Affirming that Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of both climate change and rapid technological changes, necessitating tailored responses that address their unique challenges and opportunities as recognized in multiple international agreements, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

Observing that the misuse of technology, such as AI-driven non-consensual revenge pornography, presents severe risks to human dignity, privacy, and safety, and disproportionately affects women, children, persons with disabilities, those in poverty, and marginalized communities, thereby undermining efforts towards gender equity and social justice;

Recognizing that the training of Artificial Intelligence (AI) large language models, such as ChatGPT, requires substantial amounts of energy, contributing significantly to environmental degradation and exacerbating the global climate crisis,

Acknowledging the urgent need for companies in the AI field to mitigate their environmental impact by transitioning to sustainable energy practices, including the mandatory utilization of a minimum of 30% renewable energy in the training and operation of such systems,

Deeply concerned by the biases and inequities perpetuated by AI large language models, AI legal technology justice systems, which can reinforce and exacerbate existing social injustices,

Affirming the importance of implementing legally mandatory rigorous "Red Teaming" and similar practices for large language models to identify and address potential biases, ethical concerns, and vulnerabilities in AI systems, ensuring their development and deployment are fair, just, and equitable.

Appreciating the crucial role of education in equipping individuals and societies to harness the benefits of technology responsibly and ethically, and the importance of integrating legal and technological knowledge in primary, secondary, and tertiary education curricula to prepare future leaders and professionals for the challenges of the digital age;

Noting that the rise of cryptocurrencies, including Bitcoin, and digital assets such as NFTs, has significant environmental implications due to their high energy consumption, necessitating a shift towards renewable energy sources to mitigate their carbon footprint and support sustainable development goals;

Recognizing the need for robust and updated cybercrime laws to protect individuals and societies from the evolving threats posed by cyber-attacks, data breaches, and other forms of digital misconduct, particularly in SIDS and developing countries where resources and capacities may be limited;

Emphasizing the importance of a just transition towards sustainable technology practices that ensure environmental integrity, social inclusion, and economic resilience;

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Be it Resolved that the 2024 Femme Lex Cohort Resolution on Eco-Technology Justice:

1. Reiterates that States have human rights obligations to ensure adequate responses to the ethical and environmental challenges posed by technological advancements. Such responses must recognize and prioritize the most marginalized, socially disadvantaged, and affected communities as key drivers of change.

2. Calls on States to:
   a. Criminalize AI-driven revenge non-consensual pornography and implement strict legal measures in municipal and international law to prevent and penalize such acts and their perpetrators, ensuring the protection of victims and the promotion of digital safety and justice;
   b. Integrate legal technology subjects as mandatory course modules in primary, secondary and legal tertiary education in the Caribbean and globally, to equip future legal professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge to address the complexities of the digital age;
   c. Mandate AI, Bitcoin, and NFT companies to source a minimum of 30% of their energy usage from renewable sources by 2030, aligning with global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote sustainable energy practices;
   d. Update and strengthen cybercrime laws in SIDS and developing countries to address new and emerging digital threats, ensuring comprehensive protection for individuals and societies in the digital era.

3. Calls upon companies engaged in the development and deployment of Artificial Intelligence (AI) large language models to:
a. Mandate the utilization of at least 30% renewable energy in the training and operational processes of AI systems in order to reduce environmental degradation and mitigate the effects of the global climate crisis;
b. Require the implementation of legally binding "Red Teaming" and similar evaluative practices to rigorously assess and address potential biases, ethical concerns, and vulnerabilities within AI systems, with the aim of fostering fair, just, and equitable development and deployment;
c. Encourage the adoption of sustainable and inclusive practices within the AI legal technology sector, ensuring that AI-based justice systems do not reinforce existing social injustices but instead promote equity and fairness.

4. Urges governments at the regional and international levels to develop and implement comprehensive policies and strategies for Eco-Technology Justice that:
   a. Foster innovation and promote the responsible use of technology in alignment with ethical standards and environmental sustainability;
b. Ensure meaningful and informed participation of all stakeholders, including vulnerable and marginalized communities, in the development and implementation of technology-related policies;
 c. Support education and training programs to build skills in legal technology, cybersecurity, and sustainable digital practices;
 d. Create mechanisms for social dialogue and consensus-building around the ethical and environmental implications of technological advancements;
   e. Secure financial and technical resources to support the implementation of just and sustainable technology initiatives, particularly for SIDS and other climate-vulnerable countries, and to remedy policy and compliance barriers to technology entrepreneurship and app development in the Caribbean, SIDS, and developing countries globally through providing free compliance education clinics and resources to entrepreneurs in this field.

5. Requests that we increase our efforts to place human rights at the core of digital activism, ensuring that the voices of youth, women, indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, people living in poverty, and other disproportionately affected groups are amplified in the call for Eco-Technology Justice.

6. Demands that courts uphold the rule of law and access to justice in the digital realm, ensuring that government policies, plans, and programs respect, protect, and fulfill human rights, including the right of people to be fully informed and empowered to participate meaningfully in digital decision-making.

7. Opposes any policy or action taken to advance technology that comes at the cost of human rights or deepens poverty, inequalities and exclusion.

8. Entreats those States with the greatest technological capabilities and resources to provide the necessary financial and technological support to countries in the global south and developing countries globally, to facilitate their efforts towards sustainable and ethical technology practices.

9. Appeals for an urgent and sustained global effort to close the digital divide and ensure equitable access to technology and digital education, promoting a just transition towards a sustainable and inclusive digital future, and underscores the critical importance of the ethical digitization of the legal sector in the Caribbean, SIDS, and developing countries globally.

10. Issues an urgent call to the Parties to the relevant international agreements to:

 a. Agree to and endorse the responsible development and use of emerging technologies in all sectors;
 b. Commit to clear and rapid timelines for the integration of renewable energy sources in digital and technology sectors;
 c. Enhance international cooperation and facilitate the sharing of technology, knowledge, and financial resources necessary to support sustainable digital transformation in developing countries;
 d. Ensure the full and meaningful engagement of all stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society, indigenous peoples, local communities, and especially the youth, in the formulation and implementation of policies for sustainable technology practices;
 e. Develop and implement strategies that provide for decent work, quality jobs, and social protection in the digital economy;
f. Periodically review and increase the ambition of national digital and environmental policies to reflect the urgency of transitioning towards sustainable technology practices;
 g. Advocate for the establishment of a multilateral treaty specifically addressing technology in all its aspects, including its transfer, education, awareness, criminality potential, criminal elements and global dream work solutions in this regard.
 h. Appeals for an urgent and sustained global effort to close the digital divide and ensure equitable access to technology and digital education, promoting a just transition towards a sustainable and inclusive digital future, and underscores the critical importance of the ethical digitization of the legal sector in the Caribbean, SIDS, and developing countries globally.

11. Issues an urgent call to the Parties to the relevant international agreements to:
 a. Agree to and endorse the responsible development and use of emerging technologies in all sectors;
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 c. Enhance international cooperation and facilitate the sharing of technology, knowledge, and financial resources necessary to support sustainable digital transformation in developing countries;
 d. Ensure the full and meaningful engagement of all stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society, indigenous peoples, local communities, and especially the youth, in the formulation and implementation of policies for sustainable technology practices;

e. Develop and implement strategies that provide for decent work, quality jobs, and social protection in the digital economy;

f. Periodically review and increase the ambition of national digital and environmental policies to reflect the urgency of transitioning towards sustainable technology practices;

g. Advocate for the establishment of a multilateral treaty specifically addressing technology in all its aspects, including its transfer, education, awareness, criminal elements and criminalization, ethics, trade, and human rights considerations.

12. Highlights the need for the international community to provide greater support to the Caribbean and developing countries globally, in their ongoing efforts to integrate sustainable technology practices, build greater digital resilience, and transition its economies towards ethical and environmentally responsible technology use.

13. Endorses the call for at least fifty percent (50%) of climate finance to be allocated to adaptation, ensuring a balanced allocation that allows SIDS and other climate-vulnerable countries to address both technological and environmental impacts effectively.

14. Invites the international community to support regional initiatives that promote sustainable digital practices and resilience in the face of technological and environmental challenges.

15. Encourages the operational entities under international frameworks to articulate improved rules and procedures that will give developing countries, particularly SIDS, easier and quicker access to funding for sustainable technology projects.

15. Recommends that in an effort to change the development paradigm:
 a. Caribbean SIDS and developing countries globally adopt integrated policy frameworks that incentivize the shift towards sustainable digital practices, making optimal use of their technological, natural, cultural, and human resources for sustainable development;
 b. The international community provides technical, financial, and capacity-building support to Caribbean SIDS and developing countries globally in implementing sustainable technology strategies;
 c. Regional institutions facilitate knowledge exchange, technology transfer, and collaborative initiatives that bolster sustainable digital transformation;
 d. All sectors, including the private sector, civil society, and academia, engage in multilevel dialogues and actions that foster innovative and sustainable solutions within the digital economy;
 e. Robust metrics and indicators are developed to monitor and evaluate progress in transitioning to sustainable technology practices, ensuring transparency and accountability.

16. Advocates for the inclusion of women and youth representatives in all national and regional meetings and committees on digital transformation, cybersecurity, renewable energy, and sustainable development in CARICOM Member States, and in all global Member State delegations to relevant international conferences and conventions.

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