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For the 1st time in the history of humankind, we are at a moment when everyone in the planet can be connected to every other person, instantaneously and at an almost 0 marginal cost. The power that this global, immediate, interconnected web has, is endless, like our universe, and equally hard for our brain to comprehend.

We have built our societies, our institutions and our economies in a world where this global network did not exist, and people therefore needed intermediaries and representatives to access goods, services, make decisions, or just live in society. In the next decades, as the benefits of these global interconnections continue to materialize, institutions that were once deemed relevant will become less so, and the same thing will happen to entire sectors of the economy.

We are convinced of the transformational power of technology and people working together to complement and enhance each other. We are now in a much better position to integrate billions of people to the expanding middle class, helping MSMEs to produce more, expand their boundaries, innovate, generate employment, and enhance their productivity. Technology is a key enabler to level the playing field among people as it is already doing with many sectors of our economy.

However, all processes of change, create winners and losers and therefore resistance and conflict. But the overall outcome will be greatly positive for our societies. It is therefore paramount that governments continue to encourage the digitalization of our economies and processes while ensuring that the benefits of these changes, are fairly distributed within our societies.

Our task force focused on the importance of developing the necessary Digital Skills that people will need in order to better address the upcoming demands best suit upcoming demands from companies in this new era.