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The advancement of artificial intelligence (“AI”) and other technologies has brought us to the cusp of the “fourth industrial revolution.”¹ Indeed, AI alone could contribute over \$15 trillion to the global economy by 2030.² AI is burgeoning in many countries and industries, including financial services, law, agriculture, transportation/mobility, energy and healthcare. As this momentum continues, AI increasingly holds the promise of delivering many benefits, including helping to achieve the UN’s SDGs.

Realizing the potential of AI and certain other technologies depends on, among other things, having a sufficient amount of accessible and reliable data. As a reflection of its increasing value, data sometimes is referred to as the “new oil.”³ To enhance the reliability of data, measures should be taken to curate it from appropriate sources in accordance with applicable legal and ethical standards and to protect the security and integrity of the data. Additionally, to foster trust in the data and to incentivize its use, the relevant community should have some basic information about the quality and purpose of the data and there should be appropriate parameters for its use.

In the interest of advancing AI and achieving the SDGs and other important goals, some have proposed establishing data commons or other similar data sharing frameworks (“Data Commons”). Broadly speaking, a Data Commons is an ecosystem for data collection, classification, preservation, retrieval, and analysis that promotes sharing and collaboration. It also can bring together diverse data sources for public, academic and research benefits. Its development requires multi-disciplinary expertise and raises various legal, business, and other considerations. Policymakers are taking steps to facilitate data sharing, including through commitments to make public data sets available.

The presentation will focus on establishing accessible and reliable Data Commons using a customizable framework that takes in to account the applicable policy, legal, business and other considerations and consists of the following four phases:

- **Data Commons Organizational Phase**, during which the entity organizing the Data Commons (the “Organizer”) creates the governance framework and policies to implement and manage the Data Commons;
- **Data Commons Design Phase**, during which the Organizer leverages its governance framework to determine the high-level design criteria and specifications for the Data Commons, including what data the Data Commons will include, to whom it will be made available, and for what purposes;
- **Data Commons Development Phase**, during which the Data Commons is developed using the governance framework created during the first phase and the design criteria and specifications developed during the second phase; and
- **Data Commons Pre-launch/Implementation Phase**, during which the Organizer prepares for, commences and continues operation of the Data Commons, including by developing and implementing external-facing materials that set parameters for its use based on decisions made in prior phases and utilizing the governance framework.

¹ See Klaus Schwab, *The Fourth Industrial Revolution* (2017).

² See Anand S. Rao & Gerard Verwij, PricewaterhouseCoopers, *Sizing the Prize: What’s the Real Value of AI for Your Business and How Can You Capitalize?* (2017).

³ *The World’s Most Valuable Resource Is No Longer Oil, But Data*, *The Economist* (May 6, 2017).