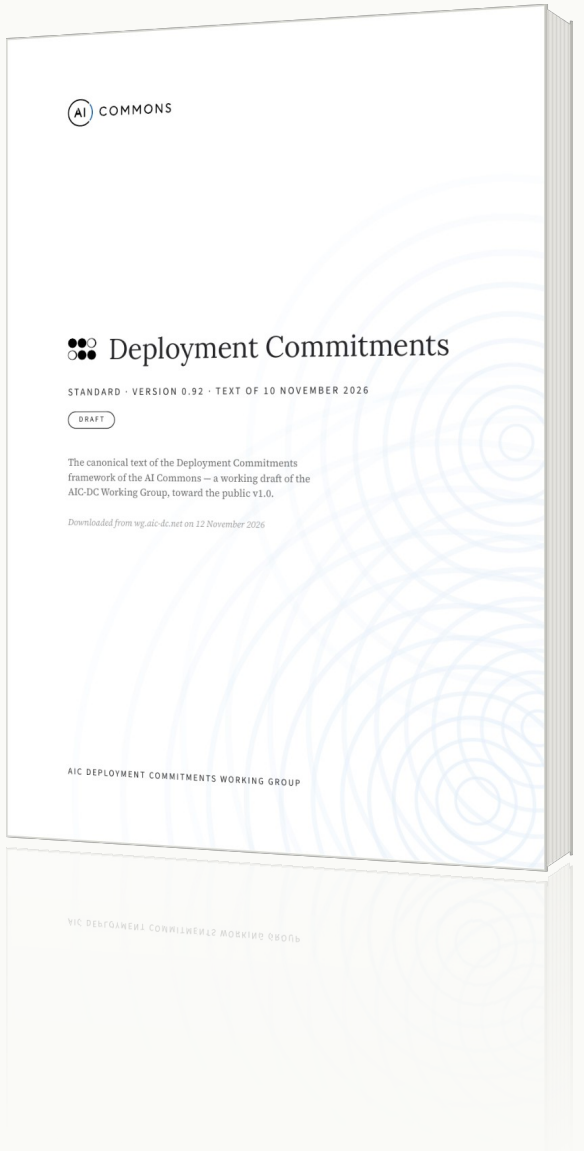
AI COMMONS

AIC Deployment Commitments

SESSION 1

Should we adopt an AIC-DC licence?

Questions for the strategic workshop



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WHY THIS SESSION

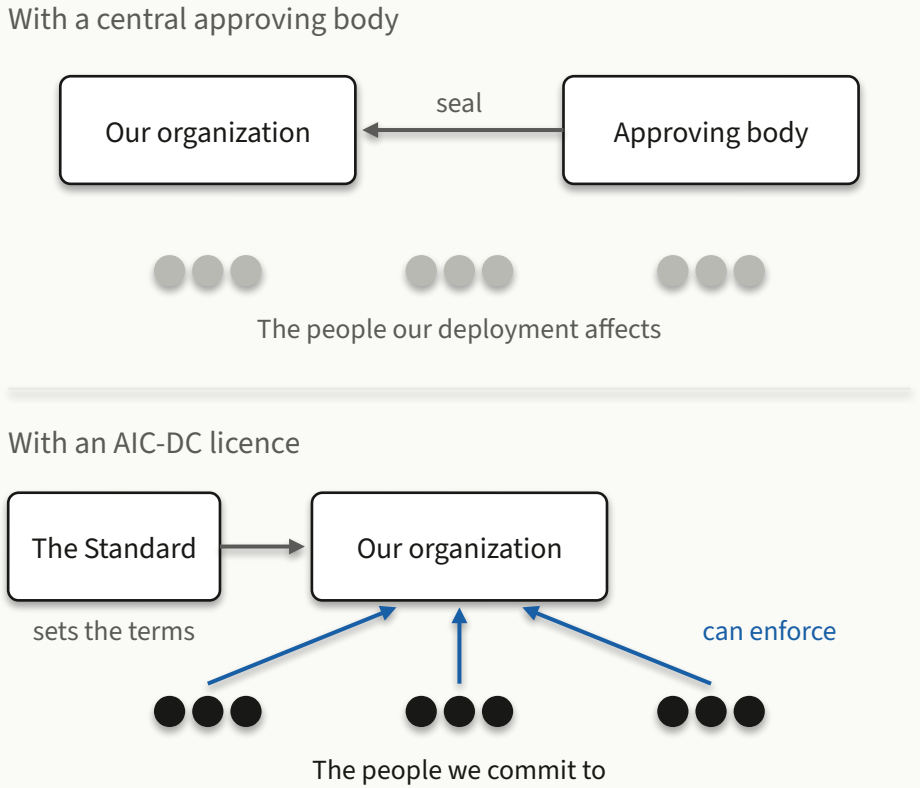
Do we want what the framework does?

- AI was made with the combined knowledge of all of us.
- So the benefits of putting AI to use should return to all.
- Everything the framework does follows from this stance.
- Without this stance, the framework is hard to make sense of.

WHAT A LICENCE ESTABLISHES

We answer to the people we commit to.

- The Standard sets what each commitment requires. We choose which to declare; we do not write our own.
- Each commitment is a promise to particular people: those our deployment draws on or affects.
- They can see whether we keep it, and they lose if we do not, so the licence gives them the right to enforce it.
- No central body approves us.



THE QUESTIONS

The questions that follow will help us see whether the framework fits our organization.

QUESTION 1 OF 16

What do we make of the view that AI was made with the combined knowledge of humanity, and that the work it powers should therefore give back to the commons? Where do we agree with it, and where do we hesitate?

QUESTION 2 OF 16

How would it change us to turn part of what we do with AI into a commons, no longer ours alone? What would we gain by it, and what would we find hard to give up?

QUESTION 3 OF 16

What do we hope establishing such a commons in our organization would change, and for whom?

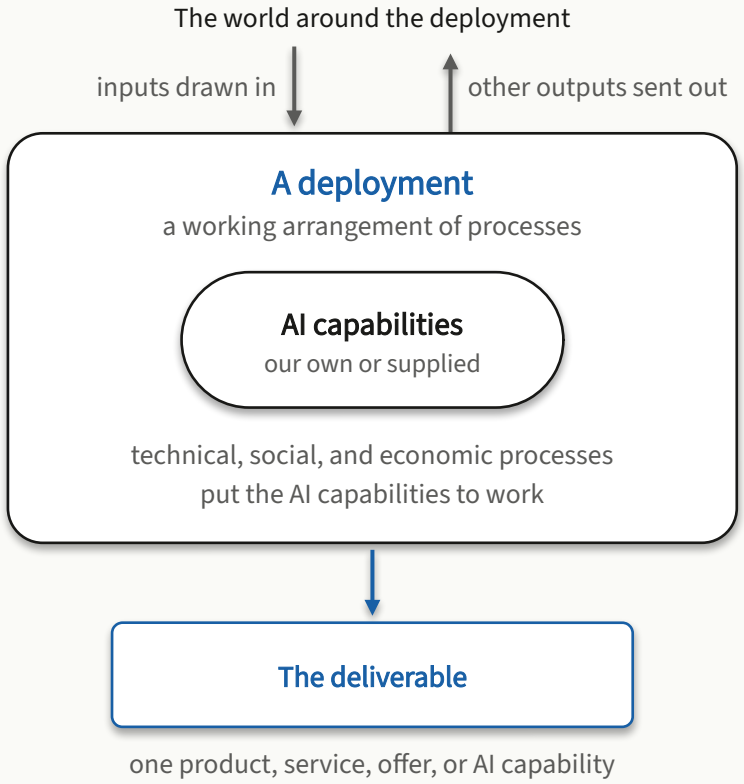
QUESTION 4 OF 16

Why are we considering this now? Would those reasons survive a difficult year?

TWO TERMS BEFORE WE CONTINUE WITH THE QUESTIONS

A deployment and its deliverable

- A **deployment** is a working arrangement of processes that puts AI capabilities to work to produce one deliverable.
- The **deliverable** is what we declare the deployment to produce: a product, a service, an offer, or an AI capability itself.
- The deliverable draws the boundary of the deployment.
- We may run many deployments.



QUESTION 5 OF 16

Based on the framework's definition of a **deployment**, which deployments do we run in our organization, and which of them could we imagine opening to others, so that they are no longer ours alone? Which of them would we start with?

If this deployment already brings in revenue*, then looking at that revenue and the costs of running the deployment, could we arrange for at least 5 per cent of that revenue to flow continuously to everyone whose completed work went into it, once they are no longer paid for it, with anyone free to come forward and claim recognition, whether or not we knew of their work? Would we see that arrangement working here?

* This is a condition for profile AIC-DC-R.

Deployment Commitments

Reciprocity

AIC-DC-R

*This Module commits the Deployment to continuing remuneration of the **people whose work was absorbed** into the Deployment's development and operations. At least 5 per cent of the Deployment's revenue goes to one **remuneration pool**, distributed to contributors following established **allocation rules**. The Module supplies default allocation rules, which the Deployer may modify with the **contributors' approval**. This Module carries one Parameter: the remuneration rate.*

How far are the environmental impacts of this deployment measured and accounted for today? What would it take to go from there to restoring, in the place where it occurred, what each of them takes from or does to the environment, on every planetary boundary and without buying credits, until the balance stands at least at neutral? Could this deployment be run so that it holds that balance itself, and could it go beyond it, to regenerative?

Deployment Commitments

Sustainability AIC-DC-S

This Module commits the Deployment to an environmental balance held at neutral at minimum. The Deployment balances its effects on each of the ***nine planetary boundaries*** *defined by the Stockholm Resilience Centre - climate, the ocean's acidity, freshwater, land, the biosphere, novel entities, nitrogen and phosphorus, aerosols, and the ozone layer - such that the effect on each is* ***neutral or regenerative****. What the operation draws from the environment and sends into it, on each boundary, is* ***publicly recorded and evidenced****. Each burden the operation places on a boundary is answered by a recovery the Deployer performs or commissions* ***in the environment that bore the burden****. Burdens and recoveries are reckoned against each other cumulatively from the day the commitment takes effect, and the balance is neutral where the recoveries match the burdens and regenerative where they exceed them. Everyone whose life, health, livelihood or property depends on an environment the Deployment draws on or alters may hold the Deployer to the balance. A class of* ***harms*** *that admit no counterpart is not balanced: they* ***may not occur****. No credit may be bought, and no surplus against one boundary may cover a shortfall against another. For each boundary but the ozone layer the Deployer declares a* ***regeneration rate****: at zero, the balance is held at neutral; above zero, the recoveries must exceed the burdens by at least that percentage. This Module carries eight Parameters: the regeneration rate for each of those boundaries.*

TRYING ON: OPENNESS (AIC-DC-O)

How much of our own machinery that puts AI to work in this deployment - the code we write and any weights we train or change, the sources of the data the deployment draws on, and how we specify, evaluate, and record the failures of the AI we use, whether built by us or supplied - is documented today? Could we open all of it to anyone, withholding only what the law requires?

Openness AIC-DC-O

*This Module commits the Deployment to **public disclosure** of the workings of the AI operations within it. The Deployer maintains the **operations pack** open to all. The AI Capabilities of the Deployment's own making, and those supplied by a Related Party, are published under an **open licence**, and so are the code and weights by which the Deployer puts these and any other Capabilities to work within the Deployment. The pack characterizes the **data, knowledge, and intellectual property** the Deployment draws from, retains, and sends out, and it records the **specifications** of all Capabilities involved, their **evaluations**, and failure **incidents**. A detail may be withheld from the operations pack only where the law itself requires it, and the withholding is itself recorded. Each Recipient's own interactions with the Deliverable, so far as an AI Capability mediates them, are provided as that Recipient's **interaction pack**, open to that Recipient. A question submitted on the working of an AI Capability within the Deployment is answered on the public record. This Module carries no Parameter.*

TRYING ON: GOVERNANCE (AIC-DC-G)

Who does this deployment materially affect, in what it draws from them or sends into their world? What would it take to identify those people and seat their representatives, on an equal footing, in a body made up of them alone with the power to decide whether this deployment continues? That body would also have to approve any weakening of the commitments we have declared for it, and could of its own motion bind us to stronger or further ones. Could we govern this deployment that way?

Deployment Commitments

Governance AIC-DC-G

*This Module establishes a **governance body** for the Deployment: the constituted representation of every group the Deployment materially affects. The scope of the body's decisions is focused on governing the systemic effects of the Deployment through the instruments the AIC-DC licence provides, as well as through the power to discontinue the Deployment. Two decisions bind only with the body's **consent**: any weakening of the Deployment's Commitments and Requirements (UT.8.5), and any amendment of the body's charter. Three decisions the body may **set in motion** itself: a strengthening of the Deployment's Commitments and Requirements (UT.8.1), the amendment of the body's charter, and the cessation of the Deployment. Once in each year the body conducts an **assessment** of whether the Deployment stands, and its held Profiles are carried, as declared and recorded. The body's composition itself stays open: any group materially affected and not yet represented may claim its seat through the **standing inclusion appeal**, subject to the charter amendment decision by the body. Every decision of the body is taken by **vote**, and carries only at a supermajority of the affected groups seated. This Module carries one Parameter: the number of affected groups seated in the body.*

TRYING ON: ACCESS (AIC-DC-A)

Since AI was made with the combined knowledge of humanity, would it be feasible, given what it takes to produce, to make the **deliverable** of this deployment available to everyone free of charge?

Access AIC-DC-A

*This Module commits the Deployment to **open access** to its Deliverable. Every natural person holds an **open envelope** of the Deliverable **free of charge**: unlimited, or sized by the declared allowance to no less than a person's ordinary use. Within the envelope, the terms are the terms **common to all** who take the Deliverable; a person pays nothing, and nothing is exacted in payment's place. This Module carries one Parameter: the open envelope's per-person allowance.*

TRYING ON: VALUE (AIC-DC-V)

Where this deployment earns revenue*, would we be willing to direct at least 5 per cent of it into an unconditional basic income for everyone living in a region of our choosing where extreme poverty is widespread, building it into what the deliverable costs to produce, as an obligation rather than a gift? Would we see in it a fitting return for the combined knowledge of humanity?

* This is a condition for profile AIC-DC-V.

Value

AIC-DC-V

*This Module commits the Deployment to fund **basic income** from the revenue of its operation. The Deployer directs a remittance of no less than 5 per cent of the Deployment's **revenue** into a basic-income scheme: a basic income as the Basic Income Earth Network defines it, paid unconditionally to every natural person resident in a **named area**. The scheme is run by an **income distributor** - a non-profit or public body, no related party of the Deployer. The Deployer funds the scheme and names the area, holds no member's data, and decides nothing of the payment further. Until SDG 1, the **end of poverty**, is reached globally, every area named is, at its naming, one of concentrated extreme poverty, and a Deployer may always name more; thereafter the naming is free, and what is named never narrows. This Module carries two Parameters: the remittance rate, and the named area.*

Looking back over the six profiles we have tried on (questions 6 to 11), which of them, even if only one, would best fit our organization, what is feasible for it, and the way we see the world?

How would we live with a commitment that outlasts a change of management, of strategy, or of owners, since it can be weakened only on notice, never quietly withdrawn, and, where a governance body holds that power (question 9), only with its consent?

QUESTION 14 OF 16

Who among us would need to stand behind a decision to adopt the licence, and which of them is not yet in the room?

QUESTION 15 OF 16

Whom outside our organization, among those our work with AI touches, should we hear before we decide, and how would we reach them?

QUESTION 16 OF 16

What would count, in a year's time and in five years' time, as the licence working as we intended, and what would tell us we had misjudged it?

READING OUR ANSWERS

Adoption fits if we

- have at least one deployment, and at least one profile for it (questions 6 to 11), that we are willing and able to take on in full
- accept that the people we commit to can enforce it
- will declare it in public and keep it through changes of management, strategy, or owners
- have, or can win, everyone who must stand behind it

It does not fit if we want

- an assurance of responsible conduct
- an assurance that our AI is safe
- a third-party seal of approval
- a commitment we could quietly withdraw later
- any end other than a dependable commons within our operation



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