ANNEX 2: GLOBAL RISK REPORT **SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

The global risk survey received responses from 83 UN Member State representatives, and 1,028 stakeholders across civil society organizations, businesses, and academia from all regions of the world.

"Global risk" was defined throughout the survey as an uncertain event or a condition that would have a significant negative impact on a large portion of humanity and the planet.

Stakeholder Groups

The survey targeted five main stakeholder groups that were chosen to capture diversity and expertise in risk perceptions.

Survey Implementation

The Global Risks Survey was conducted through an online survey platform, between February 2024 and May 2024. The survey comprised three main sections: Respondent Demographics, Global Risk Outlook and Perception, and Global Risk Preparedness.

Table 3: Stakeholder group definitions

Stakeholder	Definition
UN Member States	Government officials from the 193 UN member states
Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	Non-governmental organizations accredited with consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), including non-profit organizations and under-represented communities such as women and youth groups
Private Sector Organizations	Members of private or for-profit organizations recognized by the UN Global Compact
Risk Experts and Academia	Civil society actors or members of private organizations specializing in risks across different industries (e.g., banking, political risk) and academic affiliates of tertiary education institutions specializing in risk across different disciplines
United Nations	Employees at the United Nations and its affiliated bodies

Section 1: Respondent Demographics

This section of the survey asked respondents to provide their demographic details, used primarily to compare stakeholder groups and regional differences. All responses were kept anonymous, de-identified, and confidential. Questions in this section included:

- Nationality and country of residence or representation

- Domain(s) of expertise

- Type of organization (e.g., UN Member States, Private Sector Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, etc.)

Section 2: Global Risk Outlook and Perception

1) **Likelihood** asked respondents to rate how likely each of the 28 risks were to negatively impact a large portion of humanity by 2050. Respondents were provided with a Likert scale of 1 to 7 with the following anchors: (1) Extremely unlikely, (4) Neither likely nor unlikely, and (7) Extremely likely.

2) **Imminence** asked respondents when they believed that each of the 28 risks would have a significant negative impact on a large portion of humanity. Respondents were provided with the following options: (1) Currently occurring, (2) In 1-7 years, (3) In 8-15 years, (4) In 16-25 years, and (5) After 2050.

3) **Severity** asked respondents how severe the impacts of each of the 28 risks would be if the risk were to occur by 2050. Respondents were provided with a Likert scale of 1 to 7, with the following anchors: (1) No impact at all, and (7) Extremely severe impact.

4) **Risk Prioritization** asked respondents to pick and rank five risks in order of which they believed should receive highest priority for action by multilateral institutions.

5) **Risk Interconnections** presented 5 randomly-assigned risks from the total list of 28 risks to respondents and asked them to identify how each of those risks could be connected to other global risks. This same subset of risks would remain consistent for all lines of risk inquiry in Section 3. For each risk, respondents were asked to identify: (i) One other risk that is most likely to lead to or cause this risk, (ii) One other risk that would most likely worsen the impact of this risk, and (iii) One risk that is most likely to occur as a result of this risk.

Section 3: Global Risk Preparedness

1) **Risk Preparedness: Identification** asked respondents to rate the ability of multilateral institutions to identify the emergence of each of five randomly-assigned risks before it posed a significant threat using a Likert scale of 1 to 7, with the following anchors: (1) Not at all, and (7) Very able.

2) **Risk Preparedness: Reduction** asked respondents to rate the ability of multilateral institutions to reduce the likelihood of each of their five assigned risks occurring on a Likert scale of 1 to 7, where (1) indicates Not at all, and (7) Very able.

3) **Risk Preparedness: Mitigation** asked respondents to rate the ability of multilateral institutions to mitigate the negative impact of each of their five assigned risks and ensure timely recovery if the risk were to occur on a Likert scale of 1 to 7, where (1) indicates Not at all, and (7) Very able.

4) **Risk Governance: Actions** asked respondents to select up to two forms of stakeholder action that can best address each of their five assigned risks. Options included: Unilateral, bilateral and multilateral action by governments, action by civil society, private sector, individuals, and subnational governments.

5) **Risk Governance: Barriers** asked respondents to select up to two top barriers that impede the effective addressing of each of their five assigned risks. Options included: Inadequate data and information, Insufficient finance options, and Lack of political consensus.

Data Cleaning

A total of 1,786 responses to the GRS were received. From these, 1,111 responses were retained for analysis, while 675 were removed using the following data cleaning criteria:

1. Responses were removed if respondents did not give consent to proceed with the survey. 144 responses were deleted from this step.

2. Responses with less than 53% completion rate– past the respondent demographics section– were removed. A pairwise deletion rule (i.e., keeping the response even if the respondent did not finish all survey questions) was applied to keep the maximum amount of information from all survey responses. 511 responses were deleted from this step.

3. As each member state should provide only one valid response, 6 duplicate member-state responses were removed. When multiple responses were received from the same member state, the response with the highest completion rate was retained. Where duplicate responses had the same completion rate, the latest response was retained.

4. Responses with ambiguous stakeholder group classification were removed from the stakeholder comparisons as all responses needed to be classified into the five main stakeholder groups and six regions for their respective sub-group analyses. 14 responses were deleted from this step.

Respondent Profiles

The survey data encompassed a broad age distribution, ranging from individuals in their early 20s to those in their late 80s. The wide age range indicates that the survey captured perspectives across different life stages and experiences.

Gender representation in the survey was fairly balanced, with 658 respondents (59.2%) identifying as male, 445 respondents (40.1%) as female, and 8 respondents (0.7%) preferring not to specify.

The survey achieved fair geographical distribution, with 79 respondents from Central and Southern Asia (7.1%), 90 respondents from Eastern and South-Eastern Asia (8.1%), 514 respondents from Europe and Northern America (46.3%), 111 respondents from Latin America and the Caribbean (10.0%), 71 respondents from Northern Africa and Western Asia (6.4%), 27 respondents from Oceania (2.4%), and 219 respondents from Sub-Saharan Africa (19.7%).

The survey focused on five main groups of stakeholders, comprising the following breakdown: 83 official respondents from UN Member States (7.5%), 387 respondents (34.8%) from Civil Society Organizations, 106 respondents (9.5%) from the Private Sector, 436 respondents (39.2%) classified as Risk Experts, and 86 respondents (7.7%) from the UN. There were 13 respondents (1.2%) who did not fall exclusively within any of the predetermined stakeholder groups and were therefore classified as "Others."

Data Analysis

The responses from the GRS were analyzed using appropriate statistical methods tailored to the design of each survey question. The table below offers a summary of the treatment methods applied to each survey question, along with references to their corresponding sections in this sensemaking report. More comprehensive information on the measures employed can be found at the outset of each respective section within this report.

Table 4: Summary of data treatment by survey section

Survey Section	Question(s)	Analysis
Demographics	Primary nationality/country of residence or representation	Descriptive statistics
		Used as variable for sub-group heterogeneity analyses
	Organization type	Descriptive statistics
		Used as variable for sub-group heterogeneity analyses
Global Risk Outlook and Perception	Likelihood	Statistical analysis of continuous variables with scale 1 to 7
	Severity	Compounded variable for defining "risk importance"
	Imminence	Descriptive analysis
		Used as a categorical variable to indicate the imminence of a risk
		We also used group mean to compute an alternative continuous measure of imminence
	Risk Prioritization	Computation of sum of votes, with weights (top 1 = 5 points, top 2 = 4 points, …, and top 5 = 1 point; any risk not selected will receive 0 point), as a proxy for risk prioritization
	Risk Interconnections	Network analysis
		Computation of risk closeness measures (e.g., degree centrality)
Global Risk Preparedness	Risk Preparedness: Identification	Statistical analysis of continuous variables with scale 1 to 7
	Risk Preparedness: Reduction	
	Risk Preparedness: Mitigation	Average of the 3 preparedness measures was used to define "risk preparedness"
	Risk Governance: Barriers	Computation of sum of votes, statistical breakdown
	Risk Governance: Actions	Computation of sum of votes, statistical breakdown