Web Dialogue

"Digital Transformation for Digital Economies @COVID-19 South-Asia"

30 July 2020

14:00 – 16:00 HRS (Bangkok)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) – GSM Association (GSMA) and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) are pleased to invite you to join us for a web dialogue "Digital Transformation for Digital Economies @COVID-19 South-Asia"

Amidst an unprecedented crisis of COVID-19, digital technologies offer the only opportunity for governments, individuals and businesses to cope with social distancing, ensure business continuity, and prevent service interruptions. This web dialogue will help regulators, policymakers and industry to better understand the digital transformation that is taking place and tools to create a policy environment that enables their economies and societies to prosper in a world that is increasingly digital and data-driven.

The speakers will highlight digital strategies and innovative solutions adopted in response to connectivity challenges and needs of all kinds that have emerged amid the crisis. An open discussion with all participants will explore the related challenges, opportunities and lessons learned in the form of an interactive discussion by eminent panellists and open discussion with participants.

Agenda	
14:00-14:15	**Opening Remarks** ▪ Ms Atsuko Okuda, Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia-Pacific ▪ Mr Julian Gorman, Head of Asia Pacific for the GSMA ▪ Dr R S Sharma, Chairman, TRAI, India
Online Group Photo Session	
14:15- 14:45	**Seamless digital connectivity for all – COVID-19 Recovery and lessons learned for better preparedness and response** **Moderator: Dr R S Sharma, Chairman, TRAI, India**

	▪ Addressing COVID's socio-economic impacts in South Asia including through subregional cooperation : **Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director, South and South-West Asia Office, UNESCAP** ▪ Digital connectivity : Perspective and progress from Island State : **Mr Ilyas Ahmad, Chief Executive, Communications Authority, Maldives** ▪ Challenges and opportunities of Digital Connectivity : Perspective from Landlocked countries: **Mr Purushottam Khanal, Chairman, Nepal Telecommunications Authority, Nepal** ▪ Enhancing digital connectivity for South Asia : **Mr. V Raghunandan , Deuty Director General , International Relations, Department of Telcommunication, India**
Break- 5 minutes	
14:45: 15:15	**Fit-for-Purpose institutional frameworks and collaborative regulatory tools for Digital Transformation and Digital Economy**
	Moderator : Ms. Sofie Maddens, Head of Regulatory & Market Environment Division, ITU ▪ Bridging the Digital Connectivity Gap : An Inclusive and sustainable approach **Mr Bill Lan, Huawei** ▪ Institutional frameworks for Digital Transformation and Digital Economy: **Mr. S K Gupta, Secretary TRAI, India** ▪ Dr. Ahmad Reza Sharafat, I R Iran ▪ Industry initiatives to harness innovation in Digital Econocy: **Mr. Manoj Mishra, Country Director, GSMA**
Break- 5 minutes	
15:15- 16:00	**Inclusive Resilient Digital Safety and Security – what next in a post-COVID World** **Moderator : Aaron Boyd, Managing Partner, Welchman Keen** ▪ Ensuring reselient digital infrastructure for S Asia: Mr. **Sanjay K Srivastava, PhD, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction, UNESCAP** ▪ **Mr Naikmal Mirwais Director, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT), Afghanistan** ▪ **S Mr Jigme Tenzin, Director, Department of IT and Telecom, Bhutan** ▪ National Cybersecurity Strategies : **MoITT , Pakistan** ▪ **Telenor/Axiata**
16:00	**Closing Remarks** ▪ Ms Atsuko Okuda, Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia-Pacific ▪ Mr Julian Gorman, Head of Asia Pacific for the GSMA ▪ Dr R S Sharma, Chairman, TRAI, India

For more details, visit the event page https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/AsiaPacific/Pages/Events/2020/Digital-Transformation-for-Digital-Economies-@COVID-19-South-Asia.aspx

Who should attend?

This Web-Dialogue is particularly relevant for those working in government services responsible for digital technologies, ICT regulators and digital innovation enthusiasts.

Registration

You can register for this Web-Dialogue by completing the online form using the following link: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=12TkI-YEh0uRPCS9iSGf03xMu4Px6GxEg6ZD6P8PHTlUNFBXUDgyMDRKRkhPT1BJUUpOT1JWQ1FEQi4u

How to Participate

A Zoom Meeting details will be provided upon completing your registration. The Interactive online participation will be provided in English only using the video conferencing platform Zoom.

When joining meeting, please use the ID in the following template "Yourname_Country"

We look forward to you joining us for this web dialogue.

Contact: sameer.sharma@itu.int