



Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)



Ref.: BDT/DDR/AMS/DM/183

Geneva, 15 February 2021

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- ICT Ministries
- Regulators
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- Academia
- Regional Organizations
- UN Organizations
- Youth Organizations from AMS region

Subject: Generation Connect – Americas Youth Group

Dear Sir/Madam,

The *Road to Addis* was launched on 9 November, to preview and build momentum towards the International Telecommunication Union's (ITU) World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-21). On this occasion, the "Generation Connect" global initiative (<https://www.itu.int/generationconnect/>) was announced. It aims to engage global youth and encourage their participation as equal partners alongside the leaders of today's digital change, empowering young people with the skills and opportunities to advance their vision of a connected future. In this context I have also called for nominations to join the Generation Connect Visionaries Board (see circular [BDT/DNS/DGS/067](#) of 24 November). The Visionaries Board's goal is to provide strategic guidance to ITU on youth participation and empowerment, amongst other issues.

With the objective of further strengthening the engagement of Youth at the regional level, I am pleased to announce the establishment of the **Generation Connect – Americas Youth Group (GC-AMS)** and to invite your organization to provide support for this effort.

GC-AMS aims at providing a unique participative process for youth to contribute to the work of ITU in the Americas region. It will offer youth a virtual platform to discuss opportunities and challenges related to digital technologies. Through this platform, youth will be consulted and able to share with ITU membership their interests, concerns and perspectives on digital transformation, especially in the context of the upcoming **ITU Americas Regional Preparatory Meeting (RPM-AMS) for WTDC-21**, to be held virtually from 26 to 27 April 2021.

GC-AMS will work toward the creation of a crowd-sourced document to be presented by the representatives of GC-AMS at the RPM-AMS. Afterwards, GC-AMS will continue its work, providing valuable contributions related to the organization of the **WTDC-21 Generation Connect Global Youth Summit** to be held on 6-7 November 2021, back to back with WTDC-21, 8-19 November 2021, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and having an active participation in other ITU regional events and activities.

This initiative has been launched in line with the ITU Youth Strategy which aims to improve and have a real impact on the lives of young people around the world, and to ensure meaningful participation of youth in ITU as key stakeholders in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. GC-AMS will

also contribute to the implementation of the ITU Regional Initiatives for Americas region and will benefit from the collaboration of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL).

In this context, a **Call for Nominations of the Members of GC-AMS** to become digital youth envoys for Americas is being launched. This call targets all youth from the region between 18 and 24 who have an interest and/or experience and knowledge in the field of digital technologies and digital transformation. They should possess strong communication, analytical and writing skills, the ability to work remotely in teams, and have an advanced level of English or Spanish. Youth are kindly invited to submit their candidatures through the **online form** by **25 February 2020, 11:59 p.m. (UTC-3)**. After an in-depth analysis of all candidatures the composition of the group will be announced on **2 March 2021**. More information on GC-AMS is available at <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/GC-AMS.aspx>.

I would like to take this opportunity to affirm the importance I attach to the effective implementation of the ITU Youth Strategy, this concrete initiative being an effective action in this regard. The current challenges around the world only confirm the urgent need to enhance the meaningful involvement of youth, not only as participants but also and above all as contributors, partners and actors of change, in digital cooperation processes. Indeed, as “digital natives” young people have valuable knowledge and expertise to share regarding digital technologies and as the future generation of the digital world, they are the future recipients of all policies regarding digital technologies.

I invite all of our Membership from the Americas region to work with us to ensure the success of this initiative. I would highly appreciate if you could activate youth networks in your countries to ensure that all countries are represented in this transformational effort.

Mr. Bruno Ramos, ITU Americas Regional Director (e-mail: itubrasilia@itu.int; telephone: +55 61 2312-2730), is at your disposal should you require any further information.

I look forward to your support for this important initiative.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Director