



**Document TDAG-18/INF/5-E  
10 April 2018  
English only**

**Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau**

**PRESENTATION: WELCOME TO THE TDAG BRIEFING FOR NEW DELEGATES**

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[TDAG](#)

# Welcome to the TDAG briefing for new delegates

APRIL 2018



## What is ITU?

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency **for telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs)**, with its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, and regional presence **as shown in the map**.



## Composition of ITU at a glance

### ITU comprises:

- The Plenipotentiary Conference, the supreme organ of ITU, which determines the direction of the Union and its activities.
- The ITU Council, which acts as the Union's governing body in the interval between plenipotentiary conferences.
- World conferences on international telecommunications.
- The Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), including world and regional radiocommunication conferences, radiocommunication assemblies and the Radio Regulations Board.
- The Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), including world telecommunication standardization assemblies.
- The Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D), including world and regional telecommunication development conferences.
- The General Secretariat.

The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference elects five top officials. The current leadership team (see photo) was elected at the Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan, Republic of Korea, in 2014 and started its four-year mandate on 1 January 2015.



**From left to right:**

*Brahima Sanou*  
Director,  
ITU Telecommunication Development  
Bureau

*François Rancy*  
Director,  
ITU Radiocommunication Bureau

*Houlin Zhao*  
ITU Secretary-General

*Malcolm Johnson*  
ITU Deputy Secretary-General

*Chaesub Lee*  
Director,  
ITU Telecommunication Standardization  
Bureau



ITU is committed to connecting the world.

Its mission is: "To promote, facilitate and foster affordable and universal access to telecommunication/information and communication technology networks, services and applications and their use for social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development."

At present, ITU has a **membership of 193 countries and around 800 private-sector entities and academic institutions.**

## ITU-D has four types of member.

**Member States** : Administrations of all ITU Member States are members of right of ITU-D.

**Sector Members** include any recognized operating agency, scientific or industrial organization, financial or development institution or other entity dealing with telecommunication matters approved by the Member State concerned. Regional or other international telecommunication organizations.

**Associates** are only entitled to participate in the work of a single selected study group and its subordinate groups.

**Academia** includes colleges, institutes, universities and their associated research establishments concerned with the development of telecommunications/ICTs that wish to participate in TDAG meetings, ITU-D study groups, seminars, workshops and working groups.

**193**  
MEMBER  
STATES



**700**  
SECTOR  
MEMBERS



**135**  
ACADEMIA



## What is ITU-D?

The core mission of ITU-D is to foster international cooperation and solidarity in the delivery of technical assistance and in the creation, development and improvement of telecommunication/ICT equipment and networks in developing countries.

The ITU-D core mandate is to discharge, within its specific sphere of competence, the Union's dual responsibility as a United Nations specialized agency and executing agency for implementing projects under the United Nations development system or other funding arrangements, so as to facilitate and enhance telecommunication/ICT development by offering, organizing and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities.

### ITU-D works through:

- world and regional telecommunication development conferences;
- the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group;
- the Telecommunication Development Study Groups; and
- the Telecommunication Development Bureau headed by the elected Director.



## What is WTDC?

Held **every four years**, the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) is a **high-level platform** for **Member States** to develop **priorities, strategies** and **action plans** to guide the work of ITU-D over a four-year period.

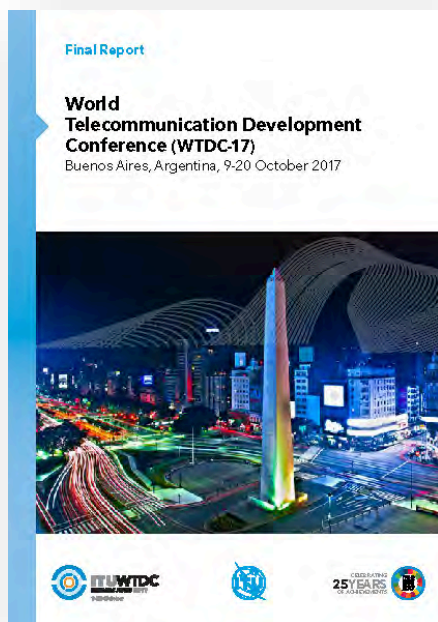
WTDC is a direct service to members providing them the pre-eminent, high-level forum for discussion, information sharing and consensus building on technical and policy issues relating to telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) development.

Before each WTDC, BDT organizes one **regional preparatory meeting** (RPM) for Africa, Americas, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Europe.

Regional preparatory meetings are direct services to members and are organized to achieve greater regional coordination and engage members early on in the WTDC preparatory process.

The most recent World Telecommunication Development Conference ([WTDC-17](#)) was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in October 2017. Convened under the theme "ICT for Sustainable Development Goals" (ICT④SDGs), this conference attracted 1 368 participants from 134 Member States, 62 ITU-D Sector Members, 10 Academia, several observer entities and the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

As can be seen from the final report of the conference, participants renewed their pledge to spread connectivity to all corners of the planet.





MORE THAN

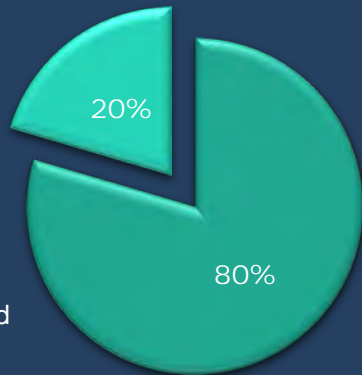
**ITU WTDC**

**BUENOS AIRES 2017**

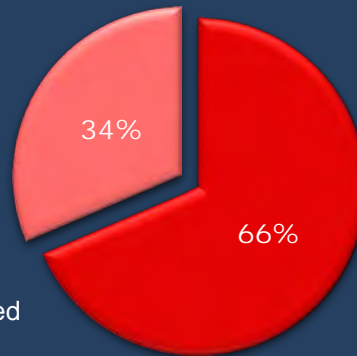
9-20 October  
PRESENT PARTICIPANTS

# WTDC-17

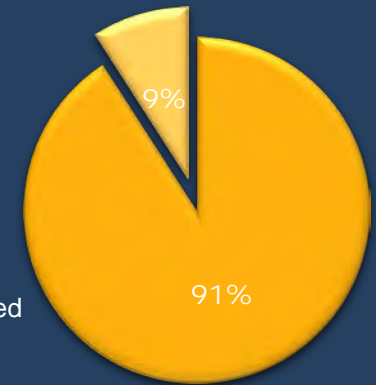
Snapshot of registration statistics by region



Registered  
Not registered



Registered  
Not registered



Registered  
Not registered



## AFRICA region

Number of countries: 44  
Registered: 35  
Not registered: 9



## AMERICAS region

Number of countries: 35  
Registered: 23  
Not registered: 12

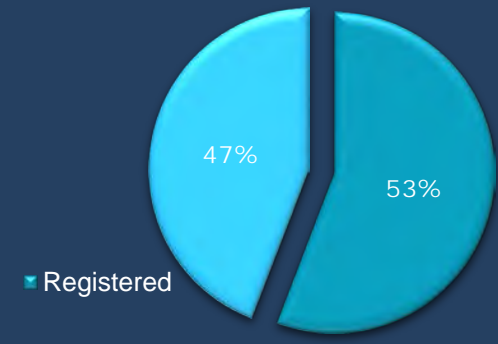
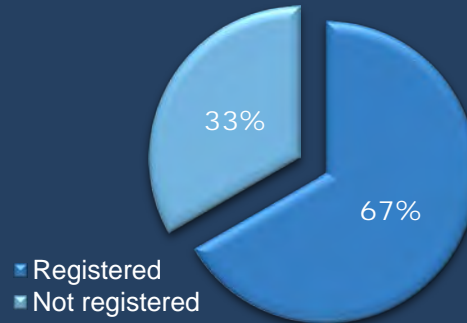
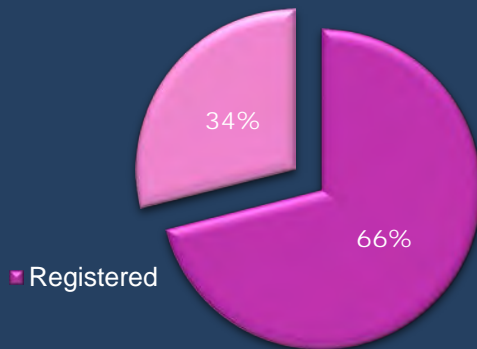


## Arab States region

Number of countries: 21 + Res. 99  
Registered: 20  
Not registered: 2

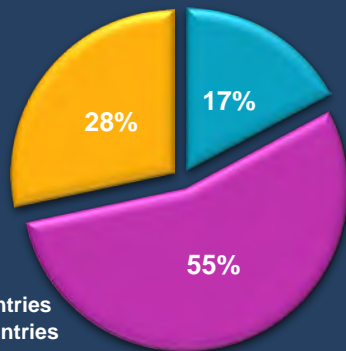
# WTDC-17

Snapshot of registration statistics by region

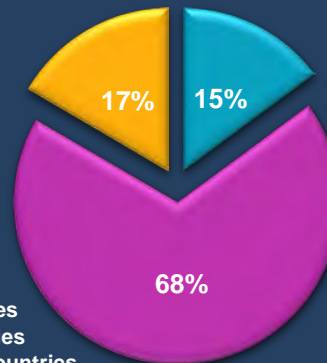


# WTDC-17

WTDC-17 Snapshot of registration statistics worldwide



- Developed countries
- Developing countries
- Least developed countries



- Developed countries
- Developing countries
- Least developed countries



## Member States

Developed countries: 23  
 Developing countries: 73  
 Least developed countries: 38  
**Current total worldwide: 134**

## Distribution of participants

Developed countries: 148  
 Developing countries: 690  
 Least developed countries: 173  
**Current total of Member State participants: 1011**

## Sector Members, Academia and Observers

Number of entities: 83  
 Participants from entities: 197

© ITU BDT/SUP

# WTDC-17

WTDC-17 Snapshot of registration statistics worldwide

- Gender distribution
- VIP presence



Female participants : 341

28%

Male participants : 867

72%



VVIPs: 2

VIPs: 45



**WTDC-17 adopted three blueprints for telecommunication/ICT development worldwide over the next four years:**

**The Buenos Aires Declaration**, which reinforces the political support towards the ITU development mission and strategic objectives. **The ITU-D contribution** to the overall **draft ITU strategic plan for 2020–2023**, to be adopted at the forthcoming Plenipotentiary Conference to be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 29 October to 16 November 2018.

**The Buenos Aires Action Plan**, comprising programmes, regional initiatives, new and revised resolutions and recommendations, and new and revised Questions to be studied by ITU-D study groups. The plan consists of a package of activities designed to help countries promote sustainable development of their ICT networks and services.

Four fundamental objectives were set for ITU-D and BDT as the main focus of their work for the years 2018-2021.

- **Objective 1 - Coordination:** Foster international cooperation and agreement on telecommunication/ICT development issues.
- **Objective 2 - Modern and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure:** Foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs.
- **Objective 3 - Enabling environment:** Foster an enabling policy and regulatory environment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development.
- **Objective 4 - Inclusive digital society:** Foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development.



## Africa regional initiatives



- AFR1:** Building digital economies and fostering innovation in Africa.
- AFR2:** Promotion of emerging broadband technologies.
- AFR3:** Building trust and security in the use of telecommunications/information and communication technology.
- AFR4:** Strengthening human and institutional capacity building.
- AFR5:** Management and monitoring of the radio-frequency spectrum and transition to digital broadcasting.

## Americas regional initiatives



- AMS1:** Disaster risk reduction and management communications.
- AMS2:** Spectrum management and transition to digital broadcasting.
- AMS3:** Deployment of broadband infrastructure, especially in rural and neglected areas, and strengthening of broadband access to services and applications.
- AMS4:** Accessibility and affordability for an inclusive and sustainable Americas region.
- AMS5:** Development of the digital economy, smart cities and communities and the Internet of Things, promoting innovation.

## Asia-Pacific regional initiatives



**ASP1:** Addressing special needs of least developed countries, small island developing states, including Pacific island countries, and landlocked developing countries.

**ASP2:** Harnessing information and communication technologies to support the digital economy and an inclusive digital society.

**ASP3:** Fostering development of infrastructure to enhance digital connectivity.

**ASP4:** Enabling policy and regulatory environments.

**ASP5:** Contributing to a secure and resilient environment.

## Arab States regional initiatives



**ARB1:** Environment, climate change and emergency telecommunications.

**ARB2:** Confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies.

**ARB3:** Digital financial inclusion.

**ARB4:** Internet of Things, smart cities and big data.

**ARB5:** Innovation and entrepreneurship.

## Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) regional initiatives



**CIS1:** Development of e-health to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all, at all ages.

**CIS2:** Use of telecommunications/information and communication technology to ensure inclusive, equitable, quality and safe education, including the enhancement of women's knowledge of information and communication technologies and e-government.

**CIS3:** Development and regulation of infocommunication infrastructure to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe and resilient

**CIS4:** Monitoring the ecological status and the presence and rational use of natural resources.

**CIS5:** Fostering innovative solutions and partnership for the implementation of Internet of Things technologies and their interaction in telecommunication networks, including 4G, IMT-2020 and next-generation networks, in the interests of sustainable development.

## Europe regional initiatives



**EUR1:** Broadband infrastructure, broadcasting and spectrum management.

**EUR2:** A citizen-centric approach to building services for national administrations.

**EUR3:** Accessibility, affordability and skills development for all to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development.

**EUR4:** Enhancing trust and confidence in the use of information and communication technologies.

**EUR5:** Information and communication technology-centric innovation ecosystems.

## TDAG mandate

The Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG), reviews priorities, strategies and financial matters of ITU-D. It meets once every year to advise the Director of BDT on the implementation of whatever WTDC Action Plan is in force, including issues relating to the budget and the operational plan of ITU-D. In addition, TDAG provides guidelines for the work of study groups and recommends measures to foster cooperation and coordination with ITU-R, ITU-T and the General Secretariat, as well as with other relevant development and financial institutions.

## Participation in meetings

TDAG is open to representatives of administrations of Member States, representatives of ITU-D Sector Members, and to chairmen and vice-chairmen of study groups and other groups. Academia may participate in accordance with Resolution 169 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference. The Director of BDT can also invite representatives of bilateral cooperation and development aid agencies and multilateral development institutions to participate in TDAG's meetings.

## Access to documentation

All documents for TDAG are available to those eligible to participate in its meetings, and can be accessed using a TIES account. To request a TIES account go to <http://www.itu.int/TIES>.

## TDAG bureau

The TDAG bureau is comprised of 15 members, including the TDAG chairman, the ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 chairmen, as well as 12 other vice-chairmen.

## What are ITU-D study groups?

ITU-D study groups enable all Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia to share experiences, present ideas, exchange views, and achieve consensus on strategies to address ICT priorities. The study groups conduct their work primarily in the form of study Questions. WTDC-17 approved 14 Questions for the period 2018-2021.

## Aims and goals

ITU-D study groups offer a neutral and worldwide platform to support countries in achieving their development goals through reports and recommendations to the ITU membership.

**Study Group 1** addresses matters related to the enabling environment for the development of telecommunications/information and communication technologies and deals with seven Questions.

**Study Group 2** addresses matters related to information and communication technology services and applications for the promotion of sustainable development and also deals with seven Questions.

## Final Reports for the 2014-2017 study period

### Study Group 1 Questions



### Study Group 2 Questions



[www.itu.int/ITU-D/study-groups/](http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/study-groups/)  
<https://www.itu.int/pub/D-STG-SG01>  
<https://www.itu.int/pub/D-STG-SG02>



## People-centred, service-oriented and results-based

The work of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) is people-centred as can be seen from the many areas of action in this slide. In a world in which ICTs play an increasingly important role in socio-economic development and in building a knowledge-based information society, BDT works to ensure that no one is left behind, no matter their circumstances or the remoteness of their place of origin.

### Key areas of action



Climate change and e-waste



Digital inclusion



ICT applications



Innovation



Cybersecurity



Capacity building



Technology and network development



Regulatory and market environment



Emergency telecommunications



Spectrum management and broadcasting



Least developed countries and small island developing states



ICT statistics and indicators



The **Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR)** is held annually, and brings together heads of national telecommunication and ICT regulatory authorities from around the world. Launched in 2000, GSR has grown into the world's most important and influential meeting of the global ICT regulatory community. It has earned a reputation as the global annual venue for regulators to share their views and experiences on the most pressing matters of the time.



A blue banner for the ITUCBS 2018 event. On the left, the text reads: 'GLOBAL ICT CAPACITY BUILDING SYMPOSIUM', 'ITUCBS', 'SANTO DOMINGO 2018', 'Developing skills for the digital economy and society', '18-20 June 2018', 'Santo Domingo Dominican Republic', and 'www.itu.int/cbs2018 #ITUCBS'. On the right, there is a silhouette of a human head filled with colorful dots (orange, red, yellow, blue) connected by lines, symbolizing digital connectivity. Below the head, it says 'Hosted by' with the 'id indotel' logo and 'Organized by' with the 'ITU' logo.

GLOBAL ICT CAPACITY BUILDING SYMPOSIUM

# ITUCBS

## SANTO DOMINGO 2018

*Developing skills for the digital economy and society*

18-20 June 2018  
Santo Domingo  
Dominican Republic

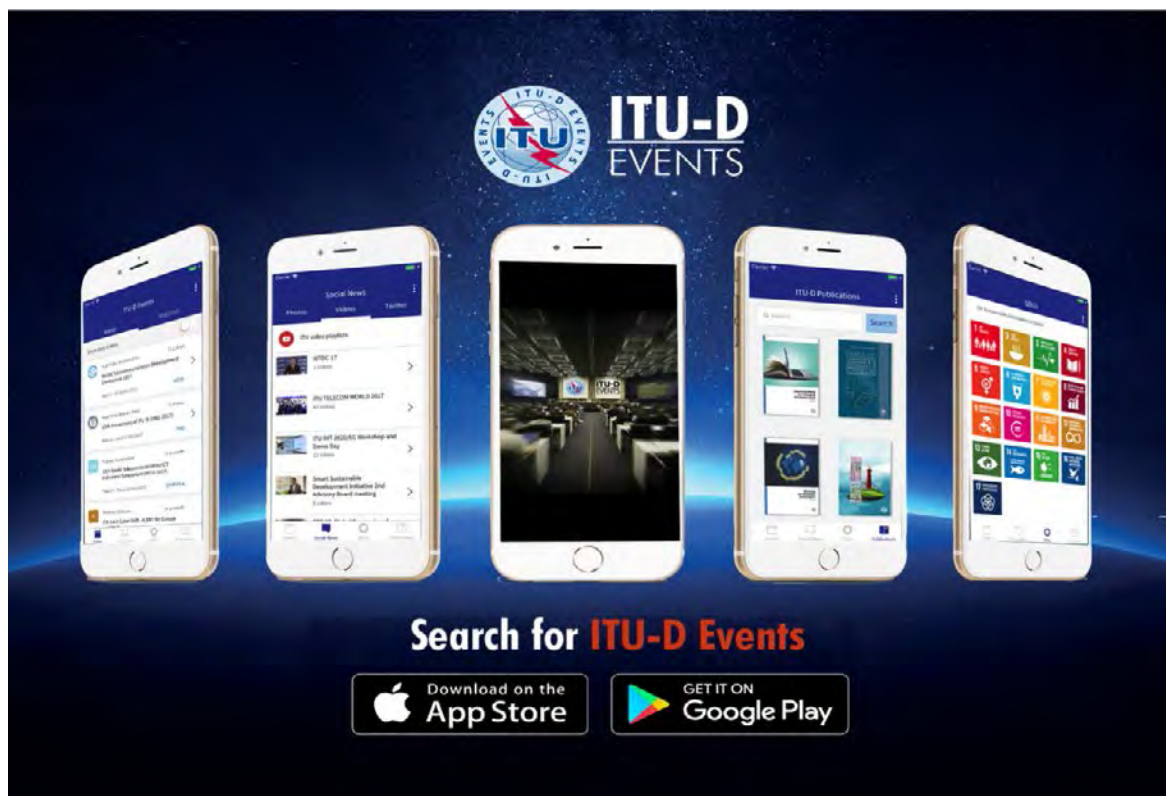
[www.itu.int/cbs2018](http://www.itu.int/cbs2018) #ITUCBS

Hosted by  Organized by 

The ITU **Global ICT Capacity Building Symposium (CBS)** is the main global event for capacity development in the field of ICTs. The Symposium brings together stakeholders from around the world to discuss trends and developments in the sector and their implications for capacity building and human skills development.

The **World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS)** is held annually. WTIS has evolved to become the main global forum for telecommunication and information society measurements. It brings together delegates from all over the world, ranging from government ministers and business leaders to regulators, national statisticians, lead academics and ICT data producers and analysts.





- ✓ All relevant information and documents related to major upcoming ITU-D events in mobile-friendly format.
- ✓ Browsing and searching through the lists of participants and contacting them without sharing their e-mail addresses.
- ✓ Access to ITU's official social media accounts, including integrated photos, videos and Tweets
- ✓ All ITU-D publications, most of which are available for direct free download.
- ✓ The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

[www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/PublishingImages/ITU-D\\_Events/ITUD\\_Events\\_poster.png](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/TDAG/PublishingImages/ITU-D_Events/ITUD_Events_poster.png)

### Electronic working methods

**TIES account.** You will need to register online for an ITU TIES account in order to access meeting documents and other network resources essential to your work.

Learn more at [www.itu.int/TIES](http://www.itu.int/TIES).

**ITU-D website.** The ITU-D website <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D> is a portal for all of our publications, information and resources.

**Meeting room allocation.** Meeting room allocations are shown on screens throughout the ITU buildings and can also be accessed at: [www.itu.int/events](http://www.itu.int/events)

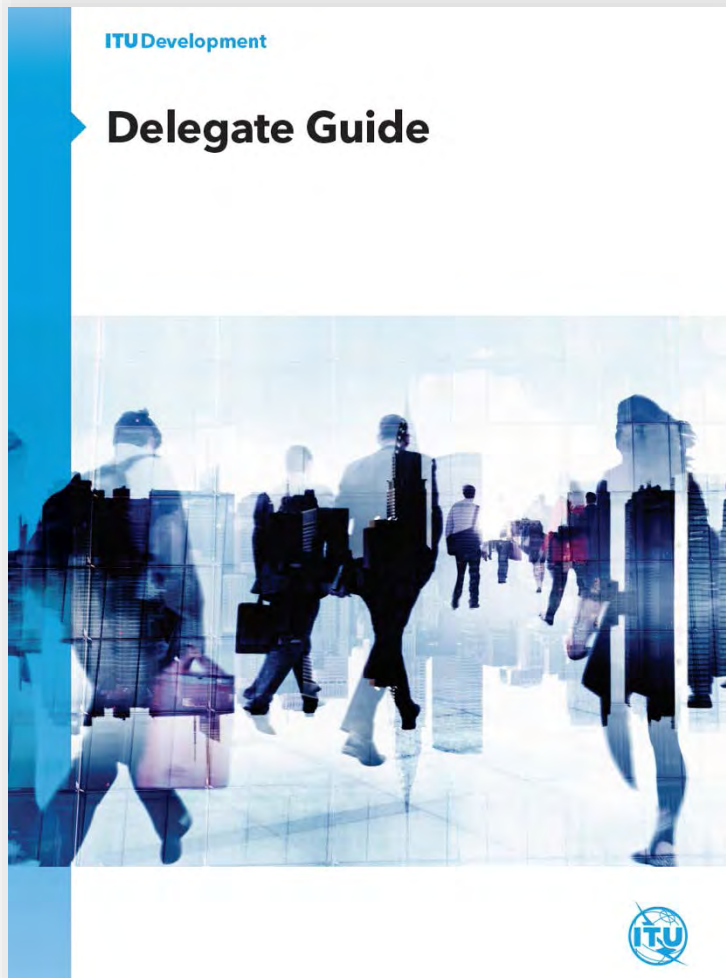
**Wi-Fi.** Connect to the ITU wireless network for delegates “ITUwifi” using the following security code: itu@GVA1211. Further information is available at: [www.itu.int/TIES/services/wifi.pdf](http://www.itu.int/TIES/services/wifi.pdf)

## Access points to ITU premises

The ITU headquarters comprise three interlinked buildings: The Tower Building, the Varembe Building and the Montbrillant Building.

- Delegates shall **ENTER the premises via the Montbrillant Building access point ONLY**. However, they can **EXIT** the premises at any of the three access points (Tower, Varembe, and Montbrillant).
- Long-term delegates, who hold accreditation for one-year validity or more, will be issued the new biometric smartcard, which will allow them to **ENTER or EXIT** at the Tower, Varembe and Montbrillant access points. The issuance of smartcards to long-term delegates is expected to start in April 2018.





The Delegate Guide features more details on the history and inner workings of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector. The Guide is available at the following link  
<https://www.itu.int/md/D18-TDAG23-INF-0001/en>

THANK YOU