



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: Circular BDT/DKH/IDA/002

Geneva, 15 February 2023

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- Palestine (Resolution 99) (Rev. Dubai, 2018)
- ITU-D Sector Members
- Academia
- World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators contacts
- National Statistical Offices
- Regulators
- Regional and Other International Organizations
- Regional Telecommunication Organizations
- United Nations' Funds and Programmes, Specialized Agencies and IAEA

**Subject: Invitation to the 18th ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS-23)
Geneva, Switzerland, 3-4 July 2023**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite your organization to participate in the 18th World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS-23), the main global forum on telecommunication/ICT statistics. The symposium is organized and hosted by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and will take place from 3 to 4 July 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The annual symposium brings together government ministers, business leaders, regulators, national statisticians, academics, data producers, analysts, and partners to discuss the latest trends in digital development and the related data aspects. Under the theme "Advancing the measurement agenda to achieve universal and meaningful connectivity", the 2023 edition will highlight the importance of adequately measuring the enablers of connectivity and showcase promising approaches. The work of the [Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators \(EGTI\)](#) and the [Expert Group on Household ICT Indicators \(EGH\)](#) will also be presented.

WTIS-23 is open to all the membership and primarily targets those responsible for telecommunication/ICT statistics in relevant ministries, regulatory agencies, telecommunication operating companies and national statistical offices. Other experts interested in the subject of information society measurements are also welcome to attend the symposium.

To encourage participation of [developing countries](#) and subject to availability of funds, one full, or two partial fellowships may be granted per eligible Member State. A full fellowship covers an air ticket (one return economy class ticket by the most direct/economical route from the country of origin to the meeting venue), and an appropriate daily subsistence allowance intended to cover accommodation, meals and incidental

expenses. A partial fellowship covers either a return economy class air ticket or a daily subsistence allowance. In the case of partial fellowships, ITU will bear the cost of air tickets or daily subsistence allowance while the beneficiary Member State shall cover the remainder of the cost of the participation.

Priority will be given to candidates who submit a written contribution of direct relevance to an item on the agenda. Note that such written contributions should be submitted concurrently with the fellowship candidature.

Member States are encouraged to select their candidates taking into consideration the inclusion of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, and bearing in mind gender balance.

The duly validated [fellowship request form](#) and its annexes, if any, must be returned to the Fellowships Service by e-mail to fellowships@itu.int or by fax: + 41 22 730 57 78, by **15 May 2023** at the very latest. Registration prior to submitting the fellowship request is mandatory.

Registration to the symposium is mandatory and will be carried out exclusively online via this [registration link](#).

Interpretation for the symposium will be provided based on the requests of participants at the time of registration. In this regard, participants who require a language other than English must select their choice from the list on the registration form (Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian or Spanish) forty-five (45) calendar days prior to the opening of the meeting: in this case by **19 May 2023 (23.59 hours Geneva time)**.

Delegates can register for the meetings using their ITU user account credentials (i.e. username and password). For participants who have already created their user account when they registered for any recent ITU meeting, their user account is still valid. Delegates who do not have an ITU user account can create one by following the steps available [here](#). The list of Designated Focal Points (DFPs) for registration can be found [here](#).

For assistance with the registration process, please contact: BDTMeetingsRegistration@itu.int.

Instructions on how to connect to the platform for remote participation will be sent to duly registered participants in a confirmation of registration e-mail.

The [WTIS-23 website](#) provides information about logistics and will be updated with the detailed programme, speakers and additional information closer to the event.

For any enquiries about the symposium, please write to wtis@itu.int.

I hope your organization will be able to participate in this important event.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director