

General Secretariat (SG)

Geneva, 13 July 2020

Ref.: **CL-20/30**

Contact: Ms Béatrice Pluchon - ITU Member States
E-mail: sg-registration@itu.int - ITU Sector Members

Subject: Invitation to the virtual Council Expert Group on ITRs and Informal Expert Group on WTPF from

To:

14 to 18 September 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

In light of the Covid-19 situation, which includes restrictions applicable in Switzerland related to the limitation of the number of participants, as well as the restrictions to international travel, and after consultation with the Chairs of the Council Working Groups and Expert Groups, I would like to inform you that it was agreed that the autumn cluster of meetings will be held virtually and that only the Expert Group on ITRs and the Informal Expert group on WTPF will meet to advance their work.

I am therefore pleased to invite you to participate in their meetings to be held virtually from **14 to 18 September 2020.**

The meeting shall strictly adhere to the timing of 12.00-15.00 (Geneva time: CEST) each day, with no extension. Online registration is mandatory and will open on 15 July 2020 (see Annex).

Please find below the proposed schedule of the meetings:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
14 September	15 September	16 September	17 September	18 September
<u>IEG-WTPF-21</u>	IEG-WTPF-21	IEG-WTPF-21	EG-ITRs	EG-ITRs
English only	English only	English only	with interpretation**	with interpretation**
1200-1500 hours Nominated experts Deadline to submit contributions: in accordance with schedule included in decision 611*	1200-1500 hours	1200-1500 hours	1200-1500 hours MS+SM Deadline to submit contributions: 3 September 2020	1200-1500 hours

^{*} For Decision 611 please refer to https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0128/en

Detailed information on how to register and how to submit contributions, along with other practical information, is attached in the <u>Annex</u>.

^{**} Requests for interpretation should be made upon registration <u>at least 4 weeks before the meeting.</u>

I count on your active participation and goodwill to ensure that these virtual meetings be as constructive as possible.

Yours faithfully,

(signed)

Houlin ZHAO Secretary-General

ANNEX

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

1. Registration

Registration will be carried out exclusively online at https://www.itu.int/en/council/Pages/registration.aspx and will open on 15 July 2020. Detailed information on how to register will be published on the website.

2. Other pre-requested practical arrangements

Participants are reminded that all meetings will be webcast and can be followed via internet.

Working languages

Meeting of the IEG-WTPF-21 will be held in English only.

Interpretation upon request will be offered for the meeting of the Expert Group on ITRs. Requests for interpretation should be made upon registration at least <u>four weeks prior to the opening of the meeting</u>.

3. Documentation

Agendas and Documentation

Draft agendas and documentation to be reviewed at the Expert Groups will be made available in due course on the respective websites. Meetings will be conducted in a paperless manner.

Contributions

Contributions to the Expert Group on ITRs should be submitted as soon as possible to contributions@itu.int.

In accordance with Council Decision 556, all contributions should be submitted <u>no later than **12 calendar days**</u> before the opening of the Expert Group meeting conducted in one language without translation, and <u>no later</u> than **14 calendar** days before the opening of a meeting conducted in all six languages.

Contributions to the IEG-WTPF-21 should be submitted in accordance with **Decision 611** (see https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0128/en).

Implementation of the information/document access policy

As per Council 2016 decision, and confirmed by PP-18, the ITU Information/document access policy entered into force on 1 January 2017. Documents submitted to CWGs/Expert Groups will be made available as per ITU information/document access policy.

4. Dates for the next cluster of CWGs and Expert Groups

The proposed dates for the next cluster of Council Working Groups and Expert Groups are from Monday, 25 January to Friday, 5 February 2021.