



Geneva, 31 August 2020

Ref: CL-20/038

**To:** Ministers, ITU Member States

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**Subject: Invitation to speak at a virtual Ministerial Roundtable on the role of digital technologies during and after the COVID-19 pandemic**

Sir/Madam,

The International Telecommunication Union and the Ministry of Information and Communications of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam have the pleasure of inviting you to join a virtual Ministerial Roundtable discussion on the topic of **"The role of digital technologies during and after the COVID-19 pandemic"** taking place at **ITU Virtual Digital World 2020** in the week of 20-22 October 2020.

The Roundtable will be a unique opportunity to build on the lessons learned from previous initiatives of Member States and ITU around this topic, enabling Ministers to look into the future and explore the significance of connectivity and digital technologies in their national strategies for economic recovery. The Roundtable is a key component of ITU Virtual Digital World 2020, alongside virtual Forums and a virtual Digital World exhibition. This programme of online activities will engage stakeholders and build awareness and momentum, ahead of the physical ITU Digital World 2021 in Hanoi, Viet Nam.

ICTs have taken on a whole new dimension of significance, helping detect, prevent and diagnose diseases, as well as connecting families, communities, organizations and countries for health, work, education, entertainment, news and public announcements. We would be delighted to welcome you to contribute your insights and experiences in these areas, as part of an influential, international panel. A summary document will be prepared after this session to further facilitate the collaboration between the public and private sector.

ITU and the Government of Viet Nam look forward to sharing views and insights with you, and hope you will confirm your interest to [forum.telecom@itu.int](mailto:forum.telecom@itu.int), by 25 September 2020.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of our highest consideration.

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**Houlin Zhao**  
Secretary-General  
International Telecommunication Union

**Nguyen Manh Hung**  
Minister of Information and Communications  
Viet Nam