



## General Secretariat (SG)

Geneva, 8 September 2021

Ref: **DM-21/1020**  
SG/TSB  
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To The United Nations;  
Specialized agencies of the United Nations  
and the International Atomic Energy Agency;  
Regional telecommunication organizations;  
Intergovernmental organizations operating  
satellite systems;  
Other regional or international organizations

Subject: **World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-20)**  
**(1 to 9 March 2022)**  
**Global Standards Symposium (GSS-20) (28 February 2022)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to DM letter [DM-20/1019](#), [DM-21/1004](#) and circular letter [21/6](#), and as agreed during the Virtual consultation of councillors 2021, I have consulted with the Indian Administration regarding the ongoing restrictions on work and travel due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I have to inform you that, as a result of these continued restrictions, the Indian Administration has withdrawn its invitation to hold the WTSA-20. Therefore, the next WTSA will be held from 1 to 9 March 2022, preceded by the Global Standards Symposium (GSS-20) on 28 February 2022, both in Geneva, Switzerland.

I wish to express my gratitude to the Indian Administration for offering to host WTSA-20, for its cooperation and flexibility in adapting to COVID-19, and for proposing the fall-back option to hold WTSA in Geneva at the same dates.

In accordance with Article 25 of the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union and Section 3 of the General Rules of Conferences, Assemblies and other Meetings of the Union as well as Resolution 145 (Antalya, 2006), I therefore have great pleasure in hereby inviting your Organization to send observers to WTSA-20 and the Global Standards Symposium (GSS-20).

Under separate cover you will soon receive the relevant Circular of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB) containing information on the organization and arrangements of WTSA-20 and GSS-20.

In line with ITU gender equality and mainstreaming policy and Resolution 198 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) on empowerment of youth through telecommunication/ICT, I would also like to take the opportunity to encourage you to include women and young people in your delegation, as part of my commitment to the [International Gender Champions](#), and ITU [reports on the representation of women in all ITU meetings](#).

Yours faithfully,

*(signed)*

Houlin Zhao  
Secretary-General