



General Secretariat (SG)

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Reference **DM-23/1008**

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To Councillors of Member States of ITU Council

Subject: **Invitation to the Retreat with Councillors ahead of the 2023 Session of the ITU Council**

Dear Councillor,

Further to the circular letter [DM-23/1004](#) sent on 1 May 2023, I have the pleasure to invite you to join the **Retreat with Councillors** taking place physically on **Monday, 10 July 2023, 9:00-18:00** at the Domaine de Penthes, Pavillon Gallatin, Route de Pregny, 1292 Pregny-Chambésy, Switzerland. The Retreat will precede the **2023 Session of the ITU Council** (11-21 July 2023).

Under the theme **“Creating a fit for the future ITU”** and aligned to the key priorities set by the Plenipotentiary Conference 2022 (PP-22), the Retreat will explore opportunities for strengthening ITU governance, processes, and delivery as One ITU, towards the achievement of the strategic goals of the Union.

Through a series of interventions by selected experts followed by break-out sessions, you are invited to join the ITU Management team in open and frank discussions aimed at clarifying ITU’s priorities and how to implement them. More details of the Retreat can be found in the Annex.

I look forward to welcoming you personally in Geneva and I would be grateful if you could **confirm your participation** at the Retreat at your earliest convenience, but not later than **26 June 2023**, to council2023@itu.int.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Secretary-General

Annex: Retreat with ITU Councillors – Concept Note and Draft Agenda



2023 Session of the ITU Council
RETREAT WITH ITU COUNCILLORS

Monday 10 July 2023

(concept note as of 30/05/2023)

1. Introduction

The Retreat with ITU Councillors will explore opportunities for strengthening ITU governance, processes and delivery as One ITU. It will provide ITU Councillors and the ITU Management team an opportunity to exchange views in an informal setting. Ministers participating in the High-Level Segment may wish to be present at the Retreat.

Based on the outcome of the survey conducted during the virtual thematic briefing with Councillors, the discussions at the Retreat will focus on the following topics:

- Topic 1: One ITU in action, and what it means to the membership
- Topic 2: Delivering on the ground - regional presence that is fit-for-purpose
- Topic 3: Strengthening the financial base

2. Administrative Details

Date and time: Monday, 10 July 2023, 9:00-18:00 (Geneva time).

Where: Domaine de Penthes, Pavillon Gallatin, Route de Pregny, 1292 Pregny-Chambésy, Switzerland.

Format: Informal set-up; after selected experts have set the scene and introduced each topic, participants will be invited to share their views in open discussion and break-out sessions. Participants will be seated in groups throughout the day to facilitate discussion and exchange of views. Open discussion will be encouraged over scripted interventions.

Interpretation: the retreat will be in English only.

Confirmation of participation: Participation in the Retreat is **by invitation and limited to one Councillor per Council Member State only**. To confirm your participation please contact council2023@itu.int by **26 June 2023**.

3. Draft Agenda

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|----------------------|---|
| 9:00 – 9:10 | Welcome <i>Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General, ITU</i> |
| 9:10 – 9:45 | Firestarter presentation on state of the world <i>Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, WEF</i> |
| 9:45 – 10:20 | Firestarter presentation on reform of a UN Agency |
| 10:20 – 10:55 | Firestarter presentation on the UN Agenda |
| 10:55 – 11:30 | Firestarter presentation on future technologies <i>Vint Cerf, Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist for Google</i> |
| 11:30 – 12:05 | Firestarter presentation on innovative financial management |
| 12:05 – 12:40 | Firestarter presentation on women in decision-making |
| 12:40 – 13:00 | Open discussion |
| 13:00 – 14:10 | Buffet Lunch |
| 14:10 – 15:15 | Breakout session 1: One ITU in action and what it means to the membership |
| 15:15 – 15:30 | Coffee break |
| 15:30 – 16:30 | Breakout session 2: Delivering on the ground – regional presence that is fit-for-purpose |
| 16:30 – 16:45 | Coffee break |
| 16:45 – 17:40 | Breakout session 3: Strengthening ITU's financial base |
| 17:40 – 18:00 | Closing |