



## Accessible Americas

*Information and Communication Technologies for ALL*

Online Event

From 25 to 27 November 2020

### TENTATIVE AGENDA

#### DAY 1: NOVEMBER 25<sup>th</sup> 2020

<b>Opening</b> 14:00 – 14:10 <b>(Brasilia time GMT -3)</b>	<b>Announcements: General information about the event</b> <b>Lucas Delattre, Master de Ceremony</b>
14:10 – 14:15	<b>Welcome remarks</b> Stephen Bereaux, Deputy to the Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)
<b>Session 1</b>	<b>The global pandemic crisis and ICTs in benefit of Persons with Disabilities (PwD)</b>
14:15 – 16:00	<p>The world is going through an unprecedented experience in which ICTs represent almost the sole opportunity for people to communicate to each other and have access to information amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. While recognizing the critical importance of accessible communication, to promote discussions and interchange experiences on key resources used to address communication in accessible formats it is vital to ensure that no one is left behind, especially in crisis situations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In this session, speakers are invited to share experiences and challenges they have faced or are still facing during the COVID-19 pandemic, from the perspective of access to digital information products and services and their impact on health and independent life. Speakers are also invited to share the importance of addressing accessible digital information and communication products and services for PwD.</li><li>• Questions and answers related to the role of ICTs especially during the COVID-19 pandemic and steps to be considered at the country and regional levels. Identify priority areas (policy and regulation, trainings and capacity building) for developing and delivering vital information in situations of crisis.</li></ul> <p><b>Moderator: Bruno Ramos, Director, Americas Regional Office, ITU</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ricardo Rosas, Director, CEDETI (Centro de Tecnologías para la Inclusión), Chile</li><li>• Allan RUIZ, Executive Secretary of COMTELCA</li><li>• Paola Rueda, Business Consultant and Mother of disabled son, Colombia</li><li>• Xavier Torres, CONADIS President</li><li>• Pablo Julio Pla Feria, Joven Club General Director, Cuba</li></ul> <p><b>Questions and answers</b></p>

#### DAY 2: NOVEMBER 26<sup>th</sup> 2020

<b>Session 2</b>	<b>COVID-19 Response: ICTs helping countries to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic</b>
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<p>14:00 – 16:00 <b>(Brasilia time GMT -3)</b></p>	<p>This session aims at discussing the steps forward towards recovery backed by regional and global activities and resources made available in support to governments and stakeholders during the COVID-19 pandemic and consequent recovery period. This session is also dedicated to the importance of ICTs as a facilitator for digital inclusion and what countries could do to accelerate the process. Countries are expected to share good practices on how ICTs are helping them to cope with the COVID-19 pandemic, including from the perspective of emergency situations, and have questions and answers on regional good practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In this session, the ITU Guidelines in Accessible Communication (COVID-19) – ITU Toolkit and self-assessment in ICT accessibility is going to be presented, as well as ITU self-paced training courses on: ICT Accessibility - The key to inclusive communication; Web Accessibility – The cornerstone of an inclusive digital society, and on How to ensure accessible communication in crisis and emergency situation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Ana Veneroso, Programme Coordinator, ITU</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roxana Widmer, Senior Coordinator- Digital Inclusion, ITU</li> <li>• Beverly Beckles, CEO, National Centre for Persons with Disabilities, Trinidad and Tobago</li> <li>• Ileana Gama, Director, Information and Accessibility, IFT, Mexico</li> <li>• Guiselle Mejía, Director, 911 Emergency System, Costa Rica</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions and answers</b></p>
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**DAY 3: NOVEMBER 27<sup>th</sup> 2020**

<p><b>Session 3</b> <b>(Brasilia time GMT -3)</b></p>	<p><b>Thinking about an inclusive Americas: Sharing projects and possible cooperation opportunities in benefit of PwD</b></p>
<p>14:00 – 15:40</p>	<p>This session will provide the participants with the opportunity to reflect upon concrete actions that can be implemented in cooperation with governments, private sector, industry, civil society, and academia to ameliorate services, reduce inequalities and improve quality of life for PwD. Special focus will be given to the exchange of good practices on ICT projects that represent an opportunity for cooperation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In this session, speakers mainly from academia, private sector, industries and governments are expected to deliberate on how to collaborate for the achievement of common targets.</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Maria Celeste Fuenmayor, CITEL, OAS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ángel Jaramillo, Director, Information Technologies Engineering, UDLA</li> <li>• Maite Capra, POETA, Trust of the Americas</li> <li>• Monica Ackerman, Digital Accessibility Lead, Scotiabank</li> <li>• Adrián Mazón Villegas, SUTEL, Costa Rica</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions and answers</b></p>
<p>15:40 – 16:00</p>	<p>This session is devoted to a presentation by the Accessible Americas 2021 host country. The way forward towards the 7<sup>th</sup> face-to-face Accessible Americas: ICTs for all. <b>MINCOM, Cuba</b></p>
<p><b>Closing</b></p>	<p><b>Closing remarks: Bruno RAMOS, Director, Americas Regional Office, ITU</b></p>