



Regional Development Forum of the ITU for the Americas Region (RDF-AMS)

(Meeting held back-to-back with PCC I of CITEL)

ICT④SDGs: Towards the implementation of the results of WTDC-17

Organized by the International Telecommunication Union with the support of the Government of Colombia.

26 October 2020 – Online

The Regional Development Forum (RDF-AMS) aims to present the work of the BDT, as well as to expose the new challenges and opportunities to interested parties to contribute efficiently to the work of the ITU in the Americas. The RDF-AMS 2020 will report on results and impact-oriented activities performed in the region, with special emphasis on the five Regional Initiatives for the Americas (AMS-RI) approved by the Member States. In this framework also a new “fit4purpose” BDT will be introduced and partnership opportunities, proposals and recommendations will be strongly encouraged to contribute to its work.

MORNING SESSION 09:30 – 12:00

09:30 – 10:00	<p>Opening Remarks (30 minutes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Germán RUEDA, Vice Minister of Digital Transformation of Colombia- Doreen BOGDAN-MARTIN, ITU BDT Director <p>Colombia has a modern and thriving ICT sector with valuable initiatives that are a reference for the countries of the region.</p> <p>As well, the ITU Development Bureau is renewed in its operation and advances in the use of ICT for the fulfillment of the SDGs deepening its alignment with the United Nations system.</p> <p><i>Questions to be received online and listed for the attendance to prioritize through voting.</i></p>
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10:00 – 11:00	<p>VIRTUAL ROUND TABLE ONE (60 Minutes)</p> <p>A conversation with stakeholders Maryleana MENDEZ, ASIET Secretary General; Mauricio AGUDELO, Development Bank of Latin America, Lucas GALLITTO, GSMA Latin America; Christian O’FLAHERTY, ISOC, on why to partner with the ITU in its activities and projects in the region.</p> <p>Moderator: Randall TREVIÑO, ITU</p> <p>Invited stakeholders will showcase in an informal conversation the reasons to invest in ICT in the Americas, the possible scenarios that the region faces in the short and medium term and how to benefit from Public Private Partnerships as well as involving Civil Society and Academia.</p> <p>The thematic framework for this conversation will be the regional initiatives identified by the ITU membership at the last World Telecommunications Development Conference in Buenos Aires.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rural connectivity. Connecting the unconnected.• Spectrum management moving to digital.• Accessibility• Emergency Telecommunications• Smart cities, digital economy, IoT <p><i>Questions to be received online and published for the attendance to prioritize through voting.</i></p>
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11:00 - 12:00	<p>VIRTUAL ROUND TABLE TWO (60 minutes)</p> <p>This session will revolve around the Theory of Change and thematic priorities that have been identified to guide the work of BDT.</p> <p>An ITU presentation on the thematic priorities will be followed by a conversation hosted by Bruno RAMOS, ITU Americas Regional Director, with the participation of Oscar LEON, CITEL Executive Secretary; Nigel CASSIMIRE, CTU Secretary General; Allan RUIZ, Executive Secretary of COMTELCA; Bernadette LEWIS, Executive Secretary of CTO.</p> <p><i>Questions to be received online and published for the attendance to prioritize through voting.</i></p>
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AFTERNOON SESSION 12:30 – 15:00

12:30 - 13:45	<p>VIRTUAL ROUND TABLE THREE (75 minutes)</p> <p>This session will look forward to the next ITU World Telecommunications Development Conference and the creation of a “fit4purpose” BDT. Conversations held at the Telecommunications Development Advisory Group (TDAG) will be introduced and discussed.</p> <p>Moderator: Miguel ALCÁINE, ITU</p> <p>Participants at this session will be Roxanne McElvane WEBBER, USA FCC and TDAG Chairperson; Nicolas KARAVASKI, Argentina National Office of ICT Director and TDAG Vicechair; Andrea Mamprim Grippa, Citel Focal Point for WTDC 2021 Preparations Santiago REYES-BORDA, Chairman of the Conference Preparatory Working Group for WTDC-21.</p>
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13:45 - 15:00

VIRTUAL ROUND TABLE FOUR AND CONCLUSION (75 minutes)

How to deal with COVID 19 aftermath in terms of Meaningful Connectivity. Sharing ideas for the ITU Americas Region Operational Plan 2021. Network and Digital Infrastructure, Digital Inclusion, Capacity Development, Policy and Regulations, Emergency Telecommunications.

Moderator: **Cleveland THOMAS**, ITU

Participants: **Carlos LUGO SILVA**, Colombia, CRC Executive Director; **Amy ALVAREZ**, AT&T International External Affairs; **Bennette THOMAS**, Dominica, Director of Telecommunications and Technology; **Luighi VITÓN ZORRILLA**, Youth Representative INICTEL .

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Closing Remarks:

- **Carlos LUGO SILVA**, Colombia CRC Executive Director
- **Bruno RAMOS**, ITU Americas Regional Director