



Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)



Ref.: BDT/AMRO/C/115/2022

Brasilia, 31 May 2022

To:

- Administrations of ITU Member State.
- ITU-D Sector Members; Affiliated and Academic entities
- Regional Organizations in the Americas Region
- National Regulation Authorities of ITU Member States

Subject: ITU Policy and Economics Colloquium IPEC 2022 – Mexico City, Mexico, from 22 to 26 August 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is our great pleasure to invite your organization to participate in the ITU Policy and Economics Colloquium IPEC 2022 which will take place virtually and physically in Mexico City, Mexico, from 22 to 26 August 2022. The event is organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in partnership with the Instituto Federal de Telecomunicaciones – IFT, Mexican National Regulatory Authority.

This year, the ITU AMERICAS IPEC 2022 will include the Digital Regulation Training Course for the Americas Region (22 to 24 August 2022) and the Regional Economic Dialogue (RED-AMS) (25 to 26 August 2022).

The Digital Regulation Training Course will seek to allow participants to be better equipped to navigate the emerging challenges associated with digital transformation while protecting users and creating competitive environments for the ICT industry to thrive, this by better understanding collaborative approaches to regulation, and gaining insights on the latest developments and global trends. The course will have limited capacity of participants, so you are invited to apply as soon as possible. It will be face-to-face only. Those who meet the requirements will be issued a certificate of approval of the Course.

The Regional Economic Dialogue (RED-AMS) will focus this year, among other interesting subjects, on regulatory and economic challenges to achieve digital transformation; economic incentives to foster affordable access; financing the investment for effective deployment of digital infrastructure and innovative policy and regulation for future emerging technologies. The RED-AMS will be organized hybrid, so that you can participate physically and virtually. The preliminary agenda for both events are available in Annex 1.

Participants are requested to submit an update about the telecommunication/ICT sector in their respective countries using the ITU Questionnaire on Tariff Policies. It must be completed online on the website: www.itu.int/ITU-D/icteye/ at "Survey Login". If you do not have the identification information to connect (username and password), please contact Ms. Carmen Prado-Wagner (tariffs@itu.int).

In order to build on progress and to optimize the knowledge transfer, it is recommended that the Administrations, when possible, appoint representatives with expertise, experience and responsibility on regulatory, economic and financial issues.

All participants are invited to register online for the Digital Regulation Training Course by the August 15, 2022 at ITU ACADEMY (<https://academy.itu.int>) and for Regional Economic Dialogue (RED-AMS) by August 19, 2022 in the following website: www.itu.int/go/regitud.

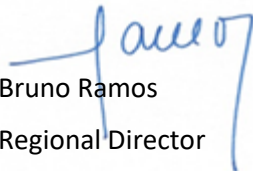
IPEC 2022 will be conducted in English and Spanish with simultaneous interpretation. The presentations will not be translated, however all of them will be published on the event website. All necessary practical information will be published shortly in the following website: <https://www.itu.int/go/ipec2022>

Both events, the training course and RED are free of charge, however the participating entities must cover the transportation, lodging and per diem expenses of their delegates. It is important that participants consider in advance the requirements to enter in Mexico, prior to travel.

Mr. Rodrigo Robles (rodrigo.robles@itu.int) of the ITU Americas Regional Office is at your disposal should you need any further information.

I look forward to your participation in this event.

Yours faithfully,


Bruno Ramos
Regional Director

ITU Digital Regulation training course for the Americas Region

Preliminary Agenda

Day 1: (Monday 22 August)

- Introduction to digital regulation and collaborative regulation

This introductory session will provide an overview of the ITU/World Bank Digital Regulation handbook and platform, followed by an overview of the collaborative regulation G5 benchmark for digital transformation.

- Competition and economics

This session will examine how the new digital environment is affecting the structure of communication services markets, undermining established patterns of competition and creating new market dynamics that require substantially different forms of economic regulation. The session will therefore address the transition from traditional forms of telecommunications regulation to the new digital environment to understand what aspects of the legacy framework need to be retained and what needs to be modified or replaced to be effective and relevant in the digital economy. The objective of the session is to provide good understanding of traditional telecommunications regulation and explain why and how it is having to adapt to meet the challenges of the digital economy.

Day 2: (Tuesday 23 August)

- Consumer protection

This introductory online presentation will describe the main outcomes of the ITU-D Question 6/1 on Consumer information, protection and rights: Laws, regulation, economic bases, consumer networks.

- Consumer protection and empowerment -

This session will examine the importance of consumer protection and consumer empowerment in a digital environment, the roles of regulators and international bodies in the consumer support framework and highlight specific consumer issues, such as traditional issues of quality of service, contracts, billing, and complaints, as well as emerging issues linked to digital products and services, including nuisance calls (spam).

Day 3: (Wednesday 24 August)

- Spectrum challenges for emerging technologies

This introductory online presentation will describe the importance of spectrum allocation for deployment of 5G and emerging technologies.

- Emerging technologies

Technological innovation has transformed everyday life and disrupted established industries. Artificial intelligence (AI), big data, blockchain, machine learning, Industry 4.0, and the Internet of Things (IoT) are not just buzzwords: they impact agriculture, communications, energy, healthcare, infrastructure, social welfare, and transportation. While emerging technologies may contribute to positive social change, they can also pose risks and dangers if left unchecked. This session will examine the implications of emerging technologies (e.g., AI, big data, IoT, blockchain, etc.) on regulation and policy, the role of regulators, and the impact of emerging technologies on business, access, and use. The session will cultivate the critical skills necessary for assessing emerging technologies' strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats and introduce frameworks for developing regulatory responses tailored to contexts.

ITU Regional Economic Dialogue (RED-AMS)

Preliminary Agenda

Thursday 25 August

08.30 – 09.00 **Delegates registration**

09.00 – 09.30 **Opening Ceremony**

09.30 – 12.30 **Session 1: Regulatory and economic challenges to achieve digital transformation**

LUNCH

14.00 – 17.00 **Session 2: Economic incentives to foster affordable access**

Friday 26 August

09.00 – 12.30 **Session 3: Financing the investment for effective digital infrastructure deployment**

LUNCH

14.00 – 16.30 **Session 4: Innovative policy and regulation for future emerging technologies**

16:30 – 17:00 **Closing of the Regional Economic Dialogue RED – IPEC 22**
