## Profile

Name: **Michelle Fernando** Age: 23 Sex: Female Year of participation: Youth Forum Asia 2004 Country of origin: Sri Lanka Profession: Student University: University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka Field of study: Information Communication Engineering Degree: BSc

Ms. Michelle Fernando (Alumni of Youth Forum Asia 2004) is currently studying her BSc degree in Engineering at University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. She represented her country to participate in ITU-Telecom Youth Forum Asia 2004 organized by ITU.

Ms. Michelle Fernando learnt about ITU-Teleocm Youth Forum from her university. At that time, her department declared the news of forthcoming Youth Forum Asia 2004. Since she was looking for a career in the field of ICTs, Ms. Michelle Fernando believed this event was a great opportunity for her.

Being among so many young people from different countries was obviously the most important thing in her participation. Moreover, meeting the telecommunication industry giants helped her to find a mentor for her future career. Meanwhile, Ms. Michelle Fernando could never forget all the motivation and inspiration she received from this event regarding the development of ICTs.

That special experience radically changed her professional life. Consequently, Ms. Michelle Fernando launched a series of workshops in schools to promote the ICTs and more concretely, she organized some educational training in computer science. Her intention is to continue devoting herself to bridging the Digital Divide, helping in this way the development of her own country. "Participating in ITU-Telecom Youth Forum was a turning point in my life." Said Ms. Michelle Fernando, "I would like to encourage the youth to be part of this wonderful, motivated, dedicated and compassionated activity. Meanwhile, I would like to witness ITU's continuous effort in organizing this event."