

Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability (DCAD)

DCAD at a glance

DCAD works to ensure that ICT accessibility is included in discussions related to Internet governance, aiming to create a future in which all of the world's inhabitants have equal access to the opportunities presented by our Information Society.

DCAD came into being at the 2007 annual Internet Governance Forum (IGF), which remains a crucial platform in conveying the Coalition's message.

Specifically, the Coalition works to achieve the following:

- Improved ICT access for persons with disabilities, the ageing population and for people with underdeveloped literacy or computer skills.
- Improved access to digital TV and IPTV for persons with disabilities, and for people limited to low-bandwidth Internet connections.

DCAD also strives to provide education and training on accessible ICTs to policy-makers, regulators, manufacturers and service providers. This outreach aims to accomplish the following objectives:

- To raise awareness of the barriers to accessibility and suggest solutions to overcome them.
- To provide ongoing education and training at universities and other educational bodies to encourage the adoption of state-of-the-art best practices for ICT accessibility.

Management and contacts

ITU-T accessibility home

www.itu.int/itu-t/accessibility

TSB contact:

Alexandra Gaspari: alexandra.gaspari@itu.int

FG AVA

www.itu.int/itu-t/focusgroups/ava

Chairman:

Peter Olaf Looms: polooms@gmail.com

FG AVA Secretariat:

Alexandra Gaspari: tsbfgava@itu.int

JCA-AHF

www.itu.int/itu-t/jca/ahf

Convener and co-conveners:

Andrea Saks: andrea.saks@ties.itu.int

Floris L. van Nes: F.L.V.nes@tue.nl

Christopher Jones: christopherfg.jones@ties.itu.int

JCA-AHF Secretariat:

Alexandra Gaspari: tsbjcaahf@itu.int

DCAD

www.itu.int/themes/accessibility/dc

DCAD Secretariat:

Alexandra Gaspari: dcadsecretariat@itu.int

www.itu.int/ITU-T/accessibility



Accessibility

Improving access to
ICTs for people with
disabilities

07.2012 tsbpromo@itu.int

ITU-T



Accessibility

Accessibility at a glance

ITU works to increase access to ICTs for people with disabilities by raising awareness of disabled peoples' right to access ICTs, developing international accessibility standards and providing education and training on key accessibility issues.

What is ITU doing to promote accessibility?

- Developing global ICT accessibility standards.
- Encouraging the development of assistive products and services.
- Assisting ITU Member States in fulfilling their obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- Encouraging the exchange of best practices.
- Producing ICT accessibility policy guidelines.
- Raising awareness on ICT accessibility through conferences, publications and outreach programmes.

Focus Group on Audiovisual Media Accessibility (FG AVA)

ITU-T Focus Groups are established in response to immediate policy issues or market needs, and are tasked with mapping a field's standardization demands as input to the standardization work of ITU-T study groups. They have a great deal of flexibility in their working methods and participation is open to all interested parties, including non-members of ITU, free of charge.

FG AVA at a glance

FG AVA's objective is to stimulate the development of international standards improving the accessibility of audiovisual (AV) media to people with disabilities. Its participants include other standards development organizations (SDOs), academic and research institutes, companies involved in the field and disabled ICT users working to ensure that ITU's standards take their needs into account.

Objectives

- To encourage the availability and use of accessibility services, and promote "Accessibility to All" as a universal design principle, in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- To determine how to involve all stakeholders, including potential users, in the development of AV accessibility systems. The principle "nothing about us without us" must be applied to any system development.
- To identify gaps in specifications already supporting the established service requirements of systems defined by both ITU-T and ITU-R.
- To identify current challenges to the interoperability of AV media accessibility services, earmarking these areas for standardization.
- To promote the use of accessibility systems that conform to internationally agreed standards for a given delivery platform.
- To collect the real-world questions most pressing to people with disabilities and people experiencing age-related impairments.
- To understand challenges facing the successful implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- To prepare clear guidelines on the application of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, specifically in relation to the delivery of digital AV media.
- To collect examples of best practices in implementing accessibility services, and prepare guidelines on means to include accessibility services in all new digital AV consumer devices.

- To suggest actions through which ITU can raise awareness of the need for accessibility services and promote universal design principles among AV equipment manufacturers and service providers.

Joint Coordination Activity on Accessibility and Human Factors (JCA-AHF)

JCA-AHF at a glance

JCA-AHF aims to improve access to the information society for people with varied capabilities in managing information and the controls of its presentation. The JCA coordinates the accessibility work undertaken across ITU's sectors and study groups, and acts as the first point of contact for those interested in ITU's accessibility-related activities.

Participation is open to representatives and invited experts from organizations involved in the field, including SDOs, governments, regulatory bodies, private-sector entities and academia.

Objectives

- To coordinate the accessibility work taking place across ITU's sectors and study groups, and act as the ITU focal point for all questions related to ITU's accessibility-related activities.
- To ensure that ITU's standards take accessibility and human factors into account.
- To provide ITU-T study groups with the information and means necessary to avoid duplication of work, thereby ensuring a coordinated approach to the development of standards on accessibility and human factors.