



Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

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Bangkok, 18 May 2021

ITU-D industry Members from Asia-PacificITU partners

Subject:Invitation to ITU- Industry Meeting for Asia and the Pacific, 27th May 2021, 10:00 –12:00, Bangkok Time

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the ITU-Industry Meeting for Asia and the Pacific from **10:00** – **12:00** Bangkok time, **27** May **2021**.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought to focus several challenges and opportunities where digital technologies has proven to be a game changer. In recognition of the urgency, the Secretary-General of the United Nations also published the <u>Roadmap for Digital Cooperation</u> to highlight the importance of digital technology in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in July in 2020. The ITU as the specialized UN agency in digital technology with Membership across government entities, industry, international organizations, research institutions and academia has been supporting the acceleration of the digital journey of its Members through a wide range of initiatives including the implementation of ITU's Buenos Aires Action Plan and the regional initiatives in Asia and the Pacific.

The role of the industry is crucial in full realization of digital transformation and sustainably connecting the underserved and unconnected by 2030. Partnerships with the ITU industry members, which have technical, financial and operational resources, would greatly contribute towards the common goal.

This meeting is being organized to update the ITU industry members and partners on upcoming events and activities of the ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in 2021 and explore their interests in collaborating in the implementation of ITU's regional initiatives. The meeting will also discuss the framework of such collaboration in a form of informal working group, among others. A detailed concept note and agenda is attached for your consideration. All information related to the meeting, including presentations, practical information, registration forms will be available on the ITU website at: http://www.itu.int/go/IOP0

We look forward to the active participation of your senior representatives in the meeting. The meeting will be paperless, conducted in English and will not require any participation fees. The deadline for registration (available on the same event website) is **25 May 2021**.

Mr. Calvin Chan (email: <u>calvin.chan@itu.int</u>) and Mr. Andreas Christiono (<u>andreas.christiono@itu.int</u>) are at the disposal of participants who require further information and/or assistance in participating in the meeting.

I look forward to your active participation and contribution to the success of the event.

Yours sincerely,

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Atsuko Okuda Regional Director