

## **General Secretariat (SG)**

Geneva, 19 January 2016

Ref: CL-16/07

Contact: Mr. Preetam Maloor

& all other stakeholders

Subject: Invitation to all stakeholders to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> physical open consultations of CWG-Internet

on 15 February 2016 at the ITU HQ in Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Sir/Madam,

On 13 November 2015 you were kindly invited (see CL-15/43) to participate in the online open consultation of CWG-Internet, launched in October 2015 on the following topic:

## "Access to the Internet for persons with disabilities and specific needs

- What are the different challenges facing persons with disabilities and specific needs (e.g. lack of ICT skill sets etc.) in accessing and using the Internet?
- What possible approaches and examples of good practices are available to address these challenges?
- What are the gaps in addressing these challenges and how can these gaps be filled?
- What is the role of governments in addressing these challenges and gaps?"

You are now invited to participate in the physical component of this open consultation, open to all stakeholders, to be held on **Monday**, **15 February 2016**, from **9h30 to 17h30** at the ITU HQ in Geneva, Switzerland. Input from the open online consultation on the above topic decided by the CWG-Internet will form the basis of discussion at the physical open consultation meeting.

The meeting will start with an expert panel session to share experiences and best practices on the topic of Access to the Internet for persons with disabilities and specific needs. Respondents to the online consultation will also have the opportunity to present their submitted views and to have a fruitful discussion with the other participants, including Members of the CWG-Internet. For those not in the position to participate on site, remote participation is also available upon request.

For further information and updates on the registration process, agenda and meeting documents, please visit the CWG-Internet Website: www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-internet

You are further encouraged to inform other interested stakeholders, who might wish to participate in the aforementioned events.

Yours faithfully,

Houlin Zhao

Secretary-General