



General Secretariat (SG)

Geneva, 13 March 2013

Ref: DM-13/1005 ITU Member States and Sector Members
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Subject: **Update on preparations for the Fifth World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF-13) and the Strategic Dialogue**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to my letter DM-12/1024, I am pleased to inform you that preparations are advancing well for the forthcoming World Telecommunication/ICT Policy Forum (WTPF-13) and Strategic Dialogue, which will be held in the Centre International de Conférences Genève (CICG), in Geneva, Switzerland on 13-16 May 2013.

Strategic Dialogue

In accordance with past practice, a Strategic Dialogue will be held on the day before the opening of the WTPF-13, Monday, 13 May 2013, from 14.30-18.00 in the CICG. High-level speakers will address the theme of "Building our broadband foundations for the future". The detailed programme is available at <http://www.itu.int/go/wtpf-13/dialogue>.

Fifth WTPF

This global Forum provides a venue for discussing strategies and policies of high current policy interest in the changing telecommunication environment, with non-binding outcomes. The WTPF-13 will allow an exchange of views on international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet. WTPF-13 shall not produce prescriptive regulatory outcomes; however, it shall prepare reports and adopt opinions by consensus for consideration by Member States, Sector Members and relevant ITU meetings. As with previous Forums, the WTPF will be open to Member States and Sector Members. The public and the media are also invited to attend. The detailed programme is available at <http://www.itu.int/en/wtpf-13>.

Report by the Secretary-General

The Informal Experts Group held its last meeting on 6-8 February 2013. It reviewed the comments on the fourth draft of the Secretary-General's Report and agreed by consensus on the following six draft opinions to be included in the final version of the Report.

- Opinion 1 Promoting Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) as a long-term solution to advance connectivity
- Opinion 2 Fostering an enabling environment for the greater growth and development of broadband connectivity
- Opinion 3 Supporting Capacity Building for the deployment of IPv6
- Opinion 4 In Support of IPv6 Adoption and Transition from IPv4
- Opinion 5 Supporting Multistakeholderism in Internet Governance
- Opinion 6 On supporting operationalizing the Enhanced Cooperation Process

The final draft of the Secretary-General's Report will be available at <http://www.itu.int/en/wtpf-13/Pages/report-sg.aspx>.

Documentation

The WTPF-13 will be conducted in a paperless manner to the greatest extent possible. Participants are invited to bring their laptop PCs with them to work at the Forum. Documentation will be made available on the website of the Forum. To respond to Decision 5 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010) and proposed measures for reducing expenditure, a maximum of two paper sets of all documents will be made available, upon request, to Member States and Sector Members at the Forum venue. Delegations wishing to receive documentation are invited to submit their requests to sg-registration@itu.int by 29 April 2013.

Comments by the membership on the Secretary-General's Report during the Forum

Member States and Sector Members will have an opportunity to make additional comments on the Secretary-General's Report at the Forum, in particular with regard to the review and adoption of the Forum Opinions. In order to ensure the timely translation and thorough consideration by delegations, written contributions to be presented during the Forum should be sent to wtpf2013@itu.int by 29 April 2013. It is strongly recommended that contributions do not exceed three pages.

Registration for the Forum and the Strategic Dialogue

Participants are encouraged to register as soon as possible at the Forum website: <http://www.itu.int/en/wtpf-13/Pages/participation.aspx>. Registration is required for **all participants** of the Forum and/or the Strategic Dialogue, including representatives from Geneva-based Permanent Missions, as Permanent Mission badges will not give access to the CICG. **Remote participation** will be available; this option may be selected upon registration. **Badges** for the Forum and the Strategic Dialogue will be **photo badges** and can be collected at the Montbrillant reception of the ITU.

Opening hours of badging desks:

Friday 10 May 2013: 14.00-17.00 hours

Sunday 12 May 2013: 15.00-18.00 hours

Monday 13 May 2013: 07.30-12.00 and 13.30-17.00 hours

Tuesday 14 May 2013 to Friday 17 May 2013: 08.30-12.00 and 13.30-17.00 hours.

Fellowships

Subject to the availability of funds, participants from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and countries with a GDP per capita less than 2,000 USD (with priority to LDCs) may apply for a partial fellowship if duly authorized by his/her administration. Two partial fellowships per eligible Member State and Sector Member will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis. Conditions and procedures to apply for a fellowship are available at <http://www.itu.int/en/wtpf-13/Pages/fellowships.aspx>. Requests for partial fellowships should be submitted online, at registration, by 4 April 2013.

General information for participants

General information for participants may be found at the WTPF-13 website: <http://www.itu.int/en/wtpf-13/Pages/default.aspx>.

Voluntary Contributions

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to appeal to the Union's membership to make voluntary contributions towards a Trust Fund that has been established to cover the costs of the 5th WTPF and particularly to assist representatives from LDCs to participate.

I look forward to working with you to ensure the success of the fifth WTPF.

Yours faithfully,

[signed]

Dr Hamadoun I. Touré
Secretary-General