



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/DDR/DM/155

Geneva, 17 July 2020

- Administrations of ITU Member States (LDCs, LLDCs, SIDSs and countries with economies in transition)
- State of Palestine (Resolution 99)

Subject: Survey on the barriers for Member States participation in ITU remote meetings

Dear Sir/Madam,

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has affected nearly all countries, on a global scale. This has resulted in a number of measures undertaken to contain the spread of the virus including isolation, home teleworking and travel restrictions.

The ITU has introduced several measures to continue to provide uninterrupted services to its Membership during the pandemic, while also safeguarding the safety of staff and delegates. In this respect, you may be aware that all physical meetings at the ITU Headquarters in Geneva and elsewhere remain suspended until the situation stabilizes. All meetings have been transitioned to virtual platforms and it remains uncertain what the 'new normal' will look like, as countries around the world respond to different stages of the pandemic.

In particular, ITU recognizes that some Member State representatives may face specific barriers to their effective participation in remote meetings, and that specific financial, technical and capacity building support may be needed to address them.

In this regard, BDT is undertaking a survey to determine barriers to remote participation that may hamper participation in virtual/online meetings. The survey focuses on those Member States eligible to receive fellowships to support their participation in ITU meetings. The results of the survey will help us to design and deploy targeted assistance for these Member States.

We would be grateful to receive your inputs and response to the survey available at the following [link](#) by **Friday 31 July 2020**

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Director