

Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)

Ref.: BDT/DIR/DM/218 Geneva, 2 November 2022

ITU-D Sector Members
Broadband Commissioners
P2C Community
UN Permanent Missions in Geneva

Subject: Invitation – Partner2Connect (P2C) Annual Meeting, 8 December 2022, 0930-1830 CET,

ITU Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Sir/Madam,

With almost 3 billion people still offline lacking the optimal and affordable connectivity needed to seize the transformative power of the Internet, the <u>Partner2Connect Digital Coalition (P2C)</u>, the only UN pledging platform on connectivity is more than ever empowered to drive faster progress and deliver affordable access for all through bold, creative and action-oriented partnerships.

In the past year, the Coalition has significantly grown evolving into a true multi-stakeholder platform where resources, partnerships and commitments are being mobilized to connect the unconnected. Together, we have achieved very significant <u>Milestones</u> including over **500 pledges** and the mobilization of over **US\$28 billion** for connectivity projects around the world. Our Coalition is now ready to present its achievements and to report progress on implementation at its very first <u>Partner2Connect Annual Meeting</u>, which will be held on **8 December** from **0930-1830 CET in the Popov Room, ITU Headquarters in Geneva.**

I cordially invite you to join this event and to engage with high-level representatives and pledge makers from government, industry, civil society, and other sectors. Over the course of this one-day meeting, attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the progress made on the implementation of pledges submitted through the Coalition, celebrate the announcement of new pledges and commitments, discuss the challenges and opportunities for connecting the unconnected at specific breakout sessions, as well as network and share experiences, which will further advance global digital transformation.

I encourage you to use this opportunity to **submit your progress reports** on the implementation of your pledges and to **submit new pledges** to our platform, which could be featured during the event.

The program will also include the **9**th **Annual** <u>EQUALS in Tech Awards</u> Ceremony, where we will celebrate those initiatives, projects, organizations, and institutions around the world that have displayed extraordinary commitment to reducing the digital gender divide.

I invite you to register for the **Partner2Connect Annual Meeting** by clicking on this <u>link</u>, indicating whether you will attend in person or virtually.

Please visit our <u>event's page</u> for updates on the program, speakers, and all related logistic information. Should you require <u>interpretation</u> for this event, please notify the P2C Secretariat at: <u>partner2connect@itu.int</u> no later than **7 November**.

Finally, please be advised that for this event, there are sponsorship opportunities available. Sponsorship will be on a first come first served basis. If you are interested in sponsoring the networking breaks for this event, please contact bdtpartners@itu.int.

I very much hope you will be able to accept this personal invitation and look forward to receiving your confirmation. If you have any questions regarding the **Partner2Connect Annual Meeting**, please do not hesitate to contact the P2C Secretariat at partner2connect@itu.int.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Doreen Bogdan-Martin Director