



**Telecommunication  
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: Circular BDT/DKS/DI/041

Geneva, 16 October 2024

To:

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- ITU-D Sector Members
- ITU Academia
- Regulators

**Subject: Invitation to participate in and contribute to the ITU Global Youth Summit (GYS-25),  
from 11 to 13 March 2025, in Varadero, Cuba**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that, following the kind invitation by the Government of Cuba, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)'s Global Youth Summit (GYS) is set to take place in Varadero, Cuba, from 11 to 13 March 2025. I am confident that this event will provide a unique global platform for young people to share their ideas and perspectives towards the shaping of a more inclusive and connected digital future for youth worldwide.

In line with Resolution 76 (rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) complemented by Resolutions 11, 37, 45, 46, 55, 58, 67 (Rev. Kigali, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC), as well as the decision made by Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) in 2023 and 2024 and endorsed by the ITU Council, the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) will organize the ITU Global Youth Summit under the theme, ***“Amplifying youth voices in ICT for a Connected Future”***.

The ITU GYS-25 will provide a platform for the shaping of an agenda to advance the right of youth to achieve full economic, social, and digital inclusion. Our aim is to empower youth so that they may use information and communication technologies (ICTs) as a tool through which they can substantively contribute to, participate in, and leverage their social and economic development. It is our fervent hope that the views and ideas to be shared and exchanged by the Youth at GYS will go a long way in providing the youth with an opportunity to explore innovative ideas that will drive social progress and change and lead to equal and equitable access to and use of ICTs by all young people, and pave way for their active participation in the digital society, economy, and environment.

The Summit which I have no doubt will be a resounding success, will result in an outcome document that will be considered by the membership in their preparations for the World Telecommunication Development Conference in 2025. On our part, the outcome document will help us get the messages directly from the youth which will help us in driving the inclusion digital agenda aimed at empowering both current and future generations.

To ensure effective preparations, I am pleased to inform you that the [TDAG Informal Coordination Group on the Youth Summit and the Global Celebration \(TDAG-ICG-GYS\)](#) commenced its work on 25 September 2024. I encourage ITU membership to actively participate in the meetings of this group so that the GYS will achieve its objectives.

I take this opportunity to invite all the membership to support our efforts financially to defray costs associated with this event. This could include financial support in the form of fellowships for their national Generation Connect Youth Envoys (GCYE), and other GCYE participants from LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, or any other form of voluntary contribution.

We also plan to invite the youth to a Youth Celebration Day to be held just before WTDC-25 which will give an opportunity for Member States to include young people in their delegations so they may familiarize themselves with our statutory Conferences and related proceedings.

For more information on the ITU Global Youth Summit and the Informal Coordination Group on the Youth Summit and the Global Celebration, please contact the team at [digitalinclusion@itu.int](mailto:digitalinclusion@itu.int) copying [bdtdirector@itu.int](mailto:bdtdirector@itu.int).

Finally, I would like to reiterate my gratitude for your continued support to the work of the Telecommunication Development Bureau particularly in the areas of digital inclusion and youth empowerment.

Yours faithfully,

*(Signed)*

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava  
Director