



General Secretariat (SG)

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Contact: Ms Victoria Sukenik

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To:

- ITU Member States
- ITU Sector Members
- ITU Associates and Adademia

Subject: **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD), 17 May 2020,
"Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the theme for the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2020 (WTISD 2020) is "Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)". The Connect 2030 Agenda sets out a shared global vision for the development of the telecommunication/ICT sector (see [Resolution 200](#) (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference). As we enter the final 10 years of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, WTISD 2020 will represent a unique opportunity for ITU and its membership to commemorate ICT's past and future contribution to the advancement of the Information Society to benefit everyone everywhere.

WTISD marks the anniversary of the founding of ITU on 17 May 1865, when the first International Telegraph Convention was signed in Paris. Information on the past WTISDs can be found on the History of ITU Portal [here](#).

I invite you to actively participate in celebrating WTISD 2020 in your country, and to contribute to national, regional and international initiatives to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs.

I would be grateful if you could let me know by 14 February 2020 of any activities that you intend organizing to celebrate WTISD 2020 and I look forward to you joining us in celebrating the day.

Yours faithfully,

(signed)

Houlin ZHAO
Secretary-General

Annex: 1

Annex 1

WTISD 2020 Call for Action:

As per Plenipotentiary Conference Resolution 200 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), ITU is committed to reaffirm a shared global vision for the development of the telecommunication/ICT sector, under the Connect 2030 Agenda envisaging "an information society, empowered by the interconnected world, where telecommunications/ICTs enable and accelerate social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development for everyone".

ITU calls to endorse the high-level strategic goals and targets set out in the strategic plan of the Union and global broadband targets, inspiring and inviting all stakeholders and entities to work together to implement the Connect 2030 Agenda, contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Member States are invited:

- to continue leveraging telecommunications/ICTs as a key enabler for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs that integrate in a balanced manner the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development;
- to provide data and statistics, as appropriate, to monitor progress towards the achievement of the Connect 2030 Agenda;
- to report national progress towards the achievement of the Connect 2030 Agenda, and contribute to the database that will collect and disseminate information on national and regional initiatives contributing to the Connect 2030 Agenda;
- to contribute to the work of ITU, as elaborated in the strategic plan for the Union for 2020-2023 in Annex 1 to Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), that contributes to the Connect 2030 Agenda.

Sector Members, Associates and Academia are invited:

- to take an active role towards implementing the Connect 2030 Agenda.

All stakeholders are invited:

- to contribute with their initiatives and their experience, qualifications and expertise to the successful implementation of the Connect 2030 Agenda.
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