



General Secretariat (SG)

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Contact: Ms Monika Gehner

Telephone: +41 79 529 89 30

E-mail: ITU160@itu.int

To:

- Member States of ITU
- Sector Members
- Academia
- Associates
- UN
- Resolution 99

Subject: Invitation to contribute to ITU's 160th Anniversary commemorations

Dear Madam/Sir,

As we approach ITU's 160th Anniversary in 2025, we reflect on our remarkable journey since 1865, during which the Union has played a pivotal role in advancing global telecommunications and bridging digital divides, and how to create a digital future for all.

In just the last decade, digital technologies have moved to the forefront of the global agenda, shaping how we live, work and connect. This milestone underscores the rapid progress made and the Union's vital role in driving this transformation.

The 160th Anniversary is not just a celebration of our history but a recognition of the critical moment we face today—a moment where digital technologies are more essential than ever in addressing global challenges and ensuring sustainable development for all. This anniversary offers an opportunity to reflect on our shared journey, celebrate our achievements, and recommit to our mission of creating a digital future for all.

I invite you to join our campaign from 1 January to 31 December 2025 and encourage you to co-own the commemorations, as an opportunity to:

1. **Celebrate 160 years of innovation and multilateralism** in times of divides;
2. **Engage ITU members, host countries, partners, citizens and UN agencies** in showcasing how technology has historically advanced social good and **mobilize collective efforts** to accelerate progress toward bridging the digital divides and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals; and
3. **Promote gender equality in digital transformation by empowering girls and women through access to technology, education, and leadership opportunities**, particularly significant as 2025 marks Beijing+30 and is the theme of World Telecommunication and Information Society Day.

To advance the above goals, consider contributing to the 160th Anniversary commemorations in the following ways:

1. **Create content:** Share with us your stories, case studies, and testimonies that highlight ITU's impact on your nation or organization - and post them on your digital channels. Consider media briefings and contributing opinion pieces in mainstream media to amplify these narratives.
2. **Organize your own events:** Host anniversary events and activities that align with ITU's mission. These could include workshops, local community roundtables, webinars, publications, or exhibitions of historic and emerging technologies developed in your country.
3. **Advocate and join the conversation on social media:** Join the global conversation on social media by sharing your experiences and insights using the official anniversary hashtag (#ITU160). Launch digital campaigns that highlight how technology and ITU-led initiatives have advanced social good in your country/region/organization and share stories that inspire girls and women to pursue careers in science and technology.
4. **Join the ITU160 Membership Organizing Committee:** Champion the anniversary commemorations by becoming a member of the ITU160 Membership Organizing Committee. You will receive an invitation to a virtual briefing to be held on 9 October during the Cluster of Council Working Groups and Expert Groups.
5. **Be a partner by providing financial, in-kind or Junior Professional Officer/loans/secondment support:** We will share opportunities for in-kind support and/or sponsorship ahead of the virtual briefing.

I invite you to embrace this opportunity to celebrate ITU's 160th Anniversary by actively participating in these initiatives. Your engagement is vital in showcasing the power of multilateralism, our successes and shared commitment to advancing a digital future for all.

For any questions, intentions and commitments regarding the commemorations, please contact the ITU160 Secretariat at ITU160@itu.int. Updates will be communicated also via the dedicated [ITU160 website](#).

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Doreen Bogdan-Martin