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| The International Teleocmmunication Union - Connecting the World. | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 19 August 2022 |
| **Ref:** | **TSB Circular 034FG-AI4NDM/MM** | **To:**- Administrations of Member States of the Union;- ITU-T Sector Members;- ITU-T Associates;- ITU Academia |
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| **E-mail:** | tsbfgai4ndm@itu.int | **Copy to:**- The Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Study Groups;- The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;- The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau |
| **Subject:** | **Seventh meeting of ITU/WMO/UNEP Focus Group on “Artificial Intelligence for Natural Disaster Management” (FG-AI4NDM) and Fifth Workshop on “AI for Natural Disaster Management”, Athens, 24-26 October 2022** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

# It is my pleasure to invite you to attend the seventh meeting of the ITU/WMO/UNEP Focus Group on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Natural Disaster Management (FG-AI4NDM), scheduled to take place in Athens, Greece, 25 to 26 October 2022.The meeting will be preceded by the Fifth Workshop on “AI for Natural Disaster Management” that will take place on 24 October 2022, at the same venue. The workshop and meeting are being kindly hosted by the General Secretariat of Telecommunications and Posts of the Ministry of Digital Governance, Hellenic Republic.

# 1 Background

The ITU/WMO/UNEP [Focus Group on AI for Natural Disaster Management (FG-AI4NDM)](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm) examines the potential of leveraging AI for natural disaster management. Accordingly, it is helping to lay the groundwork for best practices on the use of AI for detecting and forecasting natural disasters and providing effective communications during the advent of disasters.

This Focus Group was established by ITU-T Study Group 2 at its meeting on 18 December 2020, FG-AI4NDM is Chaired by Ms Monique Kuglitsch (Fraunhofer HHI) and supported by Ms Elena Xoplaki (Justus Liebig University Giessen), Mr Jürg Luterbacher (World Meteorological Organization), Mr Muralee Thummarukudy (United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification), Ms Rakiya Abdullahi Babamaaji (National Space Research and Development Agency, Government of Nigeria), Mr Srinivas Chaganti (Department of Telecommunications, Government of India), and Ms Yan Chuan Wang (China Telecommunications Corporation), who serve as Vice-Chairs.

The FG-AI4NDM structure is as follows:

1. **Working Group on Data for AI (WG-Data)**
* ***Chair(s):*** Allison Craddock (Jet Propulsion Laboratory - NASA) and Rustem Arif Albayrak (NASA Headquarters)
1. **Working Group on AI for Modeling (WG-Modeling)**
* ***Chair(s):*** Jackie Ma (Fraunhofer HHI) and Andrea Toreti (Joint Research Centre - European *Commission*)
1. **Working Group on AI for Communications (WG-Communications)**
* ***Chair(s):*** Ivanka Pelivan (Fraunhofer HHI) and Thomas Ward (IBM)
1. **Working Group for Mapping AI-related Activities in Natural Disaster Management (WG-Roadmap)**
* ***Chair(s):*** David Oehmen (UNFCCC)
1. **Working Group for Educational Materials (WG-Educational Materials)**

The first virtual workshop and meeting of FG-AI4NDM was held on 15-17 March 2021, during which the
FG-AI4NDM working structure, the preliminary list of deliverables, related working methods, and future meeting plans were established. In addition, the first use case proposals were approved and associated topic groups were established.

The second virtual workshop and meeting of FG-AI4NDM took place on 23-25 June 2021 to advance on the topic groups and discuss new use case proposals.

The third virtual workshop and meeting of FG-AI4NDM was scheduled on 30 August -2 September 2021. During this meeting, additional use case proposals were discussed and evaluated, and the baseline text for certain deliverables were presented.

The fourth virtual meeting of FG-AI4NDM was organized on 20 October 2021.The meeting was dedicated to advancing the draft deliverables within the different working groups, based on the incoming written contributions.

The fifth virtual meeting of FG-AI4NDM was held on 26-28 January 2022. The meeting focused on reviewing new use-cases to be incorporated into existing Topic Groups. The fourth virtual workshop on Artificial Intelligence for Natural Disaster Management was organized under the umbrella of the AI for Good on 16 March 2022.

The sixth meeting of FG-AI4NDM was held on 7-9 June 2022. The meeting was geared towards advancing the roadmap and glossary, review of new use case proposals, and building on the deliverables of the various working groups.

Currently, FG-AI4NDM has ten topic groups:

* AI for Flood Monitoring and Detection
* AI for Geodetic Enhancements to Tsunami Monitoring and Detection
* AI for Insect Plague Monitoring and Detection
* AI for Landslide Monitoring and Detection
* AI for Snow Avalanche Monitoring and Detection
* AI for Wildfire Monitoring and Detection
* AI for Vector borne Disease Forecasting
* AI for Volcanic Eruption Forecasting
* AI for Hail and Windstorm Hazard Mapping
* AI for Multihazard Communications Technologies

FG-AI4NDM also has two dedicated Work Stream(s) on “Tools supporting AI for Natural Disaster Management” and “Glossary” respectively.

**2 Workshop of the Focus Group on AI for Natural Disaster Management**

The fifth **workshop on AI for Natural Disaster Management** will take place on **24 October 2022.** This workshop will explore and showcase how AI‑based technologies can be leveraged for supporting data collection and handling, improving modeling for detecting and forecasting natural disasters, and facilitating effective communication.

The workshop programme along with the registration details will be made available on the [FG-AI4NDM webpage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm).

# 3 Seventh meeting of the Focus Group on AI for Natural Disaster Management

The seventh meeting will be organized on **25-26 October 2022**. The draft agenda, the meeting documents, location and logistics along with other relevant information on how to participate in the meeting will be made available on the [FG-AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm).
This seventh meeting will focus on finalizing the deliverables related to the roadmap and glossary, and advancing the deliverables of the working groups.

**Written contributions** are invited to further the deliverables of the working groups. All written contributions should be submitted to the TSB Secretariat (tsbfgai4ndm@itu.int) in electronic format using the templates available from the [FG-AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm). **The submission deadline for contributions to the seventh meeting is 7 October 2022**.

# 4 Registration and Participation Information

The seventh meeting of FG-AI4NDM will be conducted on the [MyMeetings](https://www.itu.int/myworkspace/#/MyMeetings) Platform. The discussions will be held in English only. The Workshop will be organized on Zoom.

Participation in FG-AI4NDM is free of charge and open to individual experts and organizations from all sectors and relevant disciplines, including geosciences, disaster risk reduction, disaster relief, disaster mitigation, artificial intelligence/machine learning (AI/ML), and other areas of information and communication technologies. Experts from all regions, particularly developing countries, including least developed countries (LDCs), and small island developing states (SIDS), are encouraged to contribute to this work.

Anyone interested in following or participating in this work is invited to subscribe to a dedicated mailing list; details on how to subscribe can be found at <http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm-quicksteps>. Each working group and topic group also has a specific mailing list on which relevant information relating to their activities is regularly circulated.

Participants are invited to register online via the [FG‑AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm) as soon as possible. Note that registration is mandatory to attend the workshop and meeting.

The [FG-AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm) will be regularly updated as new or additional information becomes available. Participants are invited to check periodically for new updates.

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| 20 September 2022 | – Pre-registration (online via the [FG‑AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm))– Submit requests for visa support letters (Additional details and documentation needed for visa processing, if any, will be provided in the logistics document for the meeting that will be made available on the [FG‑AI4NDM homepage](http://www.itu.int/go/fgai4ndm)) |
| 7 October 2022 | – Submit written contributions (by e-mail to tsbfgai4ndm@itu.int) |

I wish you a productive and enjoyable event.

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| Yours faithfully,Chaesub LeeDirector of the TelecommunicationStandardization Bureau | Qr code  Description automatically generatedLatest meeting information |