

IGF
Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt
15-18 November 2009



DYNAMIC COALITION ON

Accessibility & Disability



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16 November
14:00 – 15:30
Room 6,
Alexandrina

Background

The ITU is one of the founder Members of the IGF Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability (DCAD). The aim of the DCAD is to facilitate interaction between relevant bodies, and ensure that ICT accessibility is included in the key debates around Internet Governance in order to build a future where all sectors of the global community have equal access to the Information Society.

This year the ITU will organize two workshops: one on the «Global Internet access for persons with disabilities» (workshop no. 110), is organized in collaboration with the European Broadcasting Union; the second one will be focused on the best practices for web accessibility «Best practices for an Accessible Web» (workshop forum no. 540). Both workshops will highlight the necessity to make the Internet accessible to all, regardless of individual capabilities of different users.

Aims

The Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability will facilitate interaction between relevant bodies, and ensure that ICT accessibility is included in the key debates around Internet Governance in order to build a future where all sectors of the global community have equal access to the Information Society. We are convinced that the entire community can benefit from an “accessible ICT world,» as people can be permanently or temporarily disabled due to personal, environmental (e.g., a phone call in a noisy environment) or cultural (e.g., spoken language diversity) conditions. Moreover, we will all grow old and lose abilities that we take for granted now, thus enlarging the part of the population that would benefit from accessible communication. We cannot allow isolation of a part of the population due to lack of appropriate functionality that prevents the use of ICT resources by everybody to the fullest possible degree

Coordinator

Andrea Saks (ITU/TDI Telecommunications for the Deaf Inc.)