

Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)

Ref.: Circular/BDT/PPS/MPS/047 Geneva, 12 December 2024

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- Palestine (Resolution 99 (Rev. Dubai, 2018))
- ITU-D Sector Members
- ITU-D Associates
- Academia
- Chairs and Vice-Chairs of ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2
- United Nations Funds and Programmes,
 Specialized agencies, and IAEA

Subject: Virtual TECH TALKS by the Industry Advisory Group on Development Issues and Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers' (IAGDI-CRO), 12 and 19 February 2025, 13h00-14h45 CET

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to two virtual **TECH TALKS** sessions led by the **Industry Advisory Group on Development Issues and Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers Group (<u>IAGDI-CRO</u>) to be organized on 12** and **19 February 2025** at **13h00-14h45 CET**, under the themes of "Enabling environment for meaningful connectivity" and "Digital transformation", respectively.

The objectives of these two virtual Tech Talks are:

- To bring **industry perspectives from ITU-D Sector Members** to the forefront, highlighting current and future complexities, opportunities and challenges in the rapidly evolving technology landscape;
- To raise awareness of key technological trends and pressing topics related to digital development;
- To **facilitate the exchange of expert insights**, on future digital developments from the industry and private sector perspectives that are driving digital transformation today.

Aligned with the two themes of the ITU-D Study Groups, the IAGDI-CRO will lead these discussions with the aim of exploring cutting-edge digital trends and technologies, fostering forward-thinking ideas that could shape the future work of ITU-D, and inspiring potential Study Group Questions to be adopted at the upcoming World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-25).

Registration to participate is required and it will be accessible here. For assistance with the registration process, please contact: BDTMeetingsRegistration@itu.int.

Finally, should you be interested in contributing to these sessions, please send your request to membershipitud@itu.int by 6 January 2025.

I believe that this is an opportunity for us to strengthen dialogue and share information on innovative approaches related to digital development. The concept note of the virtual sessions is attached hereto.

I look forward to your active participation in this series of TECH TALKS.

Yours faithfully,

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava

Director

Annex 1: Concept Note

Virtual TECH TALKS by the IAGDI-CRO

Background:

The Industry Advisory Group on Development Issues and Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers (IAGDI-CRO) will organise two Tech Talks in February 2025, each aligned with the themes of ITU-D Study Group 1 and Study Group 2. These TECH TALKS aim to inspire forward-thinking discussions on cutting-edge digital trends and technologies that could shape future ITU-D work, including the development of new Study Group Questions to be adopted at WTDC-25.

Objectives:

The main objectives of these two TECH TALKS are:

- a) To bring industry perspectives to the forefront, highlighting **current and future complexities**, opportunities and challenges in the rapidly evolving technology landscape.
- b) To raise awareness of key technological trends and pressing topics related to digital development.
- c) To facilitate the **exchange of expert insights**, on future digital developments from the industry and private sector perspectives that are driving digital transformation today.

These discussions aim to foster stronger collaboration between ITU-D Sector Members, and ITU-D membership. By exploring cutting-edge digital trends and technologies, the TECH TALKS will encourage forward-thinking discussions that could shape ITU-D's future work and inspire potential Study Group Questions to be adopted at the WTDC-25.

Format and of TECH TALKS

Each virtual Tech Talk will be designed to cover themes along the scope of each ITU-D Study Group.

- Tech Talk on Enabling Environment for Meaningful Connectivity
- Tech Talk on Digital Transformation

Each virtual Tech Talk will last 1 hour and 45 minutes and feature a selection of high-level visionary speakers from various industry segments of the ITU-D Sector Members.

The sessions will run as follows:

- Opening Remarks by the BDT Director
- Opening by the Chair of IAGDI-CRO
- High-Level segment with ITU-D Sector Members
- Open discussions

Output

A two-page report will be produced for each Tech Talk highlighting the main discussions and will be submitted as a contribution to the next meetings of both the ITU-D Study Groups and TDAG Working Group on the Future of Study Group Questions.

Interpretation and captioning

Interpretation may be provided in the six official languages of the Union for the full length of the meetings, upon request received until **3 January 2025**. Captioning will be provided in English. Advance registration is required to participate remotely. Instructions on how to connect to the remote participation platform will be sent to registered participants.