



International Telecommunication Union
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR AFRICA



Addis Ababa, April 8, 2021

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To: Administrations of ITU Member States,
Regulators, ITU-D Sector Members in Africa
and Representatives of Disability
Organizations and other relevant NGOs

Subject: Workshop for Contribution to the Regional Assessment Report of Member States on ICT Accessibility in Africa Region (South African English speaking countries)(15 April 2021)

Dear Sir/Madam,

We have the pleasure to invite you to a workshop aiming at supporting ITU members in their efforts to advance in the development of inclusive digital societies in their countries by developing their capacity to evaluate and further monitor related ICT accessibility implementation themselves.

ITU has already done a lot in ICT/digital accessibility as a key requirement to ensure digital inclusion of everyone regardless of gender, age, ability or location. Several resources have been developed which we encourage you to make use of : <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Digital-Inclusion/Persons-with-Disabilities/Pages/ResourcesOnICTAccessibility.aspx>. We encourage you further to visit and learn more about ICT Accessibility

Moreover, and in line with ITU Strategic Goal Nr. 2 and its target 2.9 calling on all ITU members to enable accessible environments, including for persons with disabilities in all countries by 2023, ITU Regional Office for Africa would like to provide tailored support to the countries from our region through five (5) **interactive online knowledge development workshops to contribute to “How to assess and monitor countries’ ICT accessibility level of implementation”**, divided by sub-regions and languages. These workshops will be based on the new ITU toolkit and self-assessment “*Towards building inclusive digital communities*”, which is available at: <https://www.itu.int/pub/D-PHCB-TOOLKIT.01-2021>. A video tutorial on the topic is also available at: <https://youtu.be/O5WoLcZygNM>

This letter invites all countries in South Africa (Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Eswatini, Zambia and Zimbabwe) to an **online workshop in English only to be held on Zoom at the following link** <https://itu.zoom.us/j/92351094669?pwd=L0ZOTIRnVDR0UmpPQXh2dTdqQmdMUT09> on **Thursday 15th April from 11:00 to 13:00 GMT \14.00-16.00 EAT (GMT+3)**.

Participants should preferably include ICT Accessibility Focal Points at the Regulatory Authorities and ICT Ministries through staff in charge of the topic of digital inclusion in the respective organizations. In the event there is not such responsible persons, we hope that this workshop will encourage you to nominate such a focal point for ICT Accessibility issues, as a catalytic staff who may further achieve knowledge and contribute to build inclusive digital society in your respective country. ITU would also like to encourage participation of representatives from National Disability Representatives of Disability Organizations and other NGOs working at national levels on the issues of ICT accessibility.

Further details on access to the online workshops, agendas for the different meetings and additional resources will be available at the website of the ITU Regional Office here: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Africa/Pages/default.aspx>

Should you need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact the ITU Regional Office, by calling +251 11551 49 77 or by email to Ms. Ida Jallow, Program Coordinator (Ida.Jallow@itu.int) and Ms. Mapisire, Cynthia, Administrative Assistant (cynthia.mapisire@itu.int).

Sincerely Yours,

[Original Signed]

Andrew Rugege
Regional Director for Africa and
Liaison to ECA and AU